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BRITISH BOMBERS SMASH AT KRUPP WORKS

JAPS TURN ATTENTION TO BURMA

Hero's Father Turned Down



Official U. S. Navy Photo

Frederick F. Bulkeley, 74, father of Lieut. John D. Bulkeley, U. S. Navy torpedo boat hero of the Philippines, is shown with Chief Yeoman John S. Ervin at the Navy Recruiting Bureau in New York City. Although Bulkeley said he was ready for action and wanted to join up, he was regretfully turned down. Lieut. Bulkeley took Gen. MacArthur from Batavia to Australia by mosquito boat. (Central Press)

Japanese Intensify Corregidor Attacks

Seven successive bombing raids made within 24 hours; anti-aircraft fire believed to have hit several planes.

Washington, March 27.—(AP)—The War department reported today that the Japanese, increasing the intensity of their aerial bombardment of Manila Bay harbor defenses, made seven successive attacks on Corregidor in the last 24 hours, with the island under bombardment almost continuously from early morning until midnight Thursday.

The aerial attacks were resumed early today. The department said in a communique, however, that most of the bombs fell in the bay, and those which struck the island caused little damage. Anti-aircraft fire was believed to have hit several planes.

In Batavia, the department said there were number of sharp clashes between patriots, and troops and truck movements behind the Japanese lines indicated that increased activity could be expected.

A patrol of American-Philippine troops made a successful raid on a strong enemy position, the communique said.

Cotton Prices Are Higher

New York, March 27.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 30 to 65 cents a bale higher. About mid-day the list was 10 to 40 cents a bale higher.

Aussie Forces Back On Island

Canberra, March 27.—(AP)—Army Minister Francis Forde announced today that all of the Australian imperial force which the government intended to bring back for defense of this continent already has returned, and that General Sir Thomas Blamey has been appointed commander in chief of all allied land forces in Australia under General Douglas MacArthur.

General Blamey has arrived from the Middle East, where he was in charge of Australian forces.

Major General Sir Leslie James Morshead, who was knighted for his brilliant defense of Tobruk, succeeded General Blamey in the Middle East.

Quezon And War Cabinet In Australia Labor Law Change Gains Favor With Tar Heel Solons

Japan's Invasion Armies Exert Fierce Pressure to Knock Out Chinese Defense of Burma; Jap Ships Around Andamans.

(By The Associated Press) Japanese fleet movements in the Indian ocean suggested today that a new storm may be brewing far north of the Australian war theatre as Japan's invasion armies exerted fierce pressure to knock out Chinese defenses of Burma.

Burma is the gateway to both India and China.

Meanwhile, President Manuel Quezon and his Philippine war cabinet rejoined General Douglas MacArthur in Australia—less than a week after the Tokyo radio broadcast reports that Quezon was dead.

U. S. Army headquarters said Quezon had left the Philippines with the approval of both the American and Australian governments. Indications that Japan may temporarily have switched her greatest pressure from the Australian to the Burma-India theatre, particularly since the arrival of General MacArthur and United States reinforcements, were seen in a marked decrease of Japanese aerial thrusts against the "down under" commonwealth and in the reported presence of Japanese warships in the Indian ocean.

British headquarters in India said a Japanese cruiser and several destroyers had been sighted in the waters around the enemy-captured Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal, within striking distance of Calcutta and other Indian bases.

Simultaneously, a Tokyo radio announced the arrival of Japanese fleet units at Rangoon, Burma.

In the battle of Burma—the critical struggle for the eastern gateway to India—British headquarters reported that severe Japanese pressure was falling upon Chinese forces cut off from the north at Toungoo, on the Rangoon-Manitlay road.

Japanese troops were said to have blocked the Chinese route of withdrawal eight to twelve miles north of Toungoo.

Hard hitting "flying tigers" of the American volunteer group struck 70 miles deep into neighboring Thailand to blast Japanese airfields at Chienmai and Lampan, destroying more than ten enemy planes.

In the dwindling battle for the approaches to Australia, allied fighters plane-slightly broke up the 20th and by two Japanese bombers on Port Moresby, in southern New Guinea, shooting down one in flames and driving the other off before it could inflict any damage.

Department statisticians, their cup of woe will run over. Bureau figures that by the end of the present calendar year highway revenue will be 60 percent under the 1941 collections—leaving the department a revenue of only about \$16,000,000 with half of that pledged to debt service.

But even Burch is an optimist, or didn't calculate far enough into the future, when compared to the office of emergency management in Washington. The OPM figures that by the end of 1944 five out of every six private passenger automobiles in this country will be parked permanently—or for the duration. That would mean only about 110,000 private cars running in North Carolina. But that is not the whole story. Those which are left, according to this estimate, will be used only a fraction as much as they have been run in the past.

If that comes true there won't be any money for maintenance as long as the State continues to pay its bond debts from highway revenue.

Moslem Leader



Mohammed Ali Jinnah

Mohammed Ali Jinnah, leader of India's minority of 77,000,000 Moslems, told his followers that they must reserve judgment on the proposals of Sir Stafford Cripps for the future of India. The president of the All-India Moslem League insists the Moslems are a nation and that he would reject any solution that did not provide for separate and autonomous Moslem and Hindu states. Jinnah accepted an invitation to confer with Cripps.

Gandhi And Cripps Meet

Indian Nationalist Leader in Conference With Britain's Special Emissary.

New Delhi, India, March 27.—(AP)—Mahandas Gandhi, Indian leader, met this afternoon with Sir Stafford Cripps, Britain's special emissary.

The little nationalist leader came here from his humble retreat in Wardha to confer with Sir Stafford, entrusted by the British war cabinet with seeking unanimous Indian acceptance of Britain's proposal for greater autonomy for India and Indian support for Britain's war effort.

Congress party circles expressed belief a frank exchange of ideas between Cripps and the little nationalist leader might speed deliberations of the party's working committee, which will consider the proposals Sunday.

While details of the British plan re-

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Tea Comes Under Ban

Washington, March 27.—(AP)—The war production board today ordered the nation's tea consumption cut in half to conserve dwindling tea supplies.

The order was intended, the board said, to stretch the stocks of tea on hand in this country on January 1—when it was said would have lasted six months unless restricted—to a full year's supply.

The order does not take into account tea received at a normal rate from the Far East during January and February, and WPB said there was "reason to believe" that tea would continue to enter this country in ships returning from voyages taking military supplies to the west-

Tendency Among Congressmen, However, is to Wait Developments Before Making Commitments on Specific Measures.

Washington, March 27.—(AP)—Sentiment is developing among Congress members from North Carolina in favor of amending labor legislation to create greater war production, but at the same time there is a tendency among them to wait and see what is offered before making commitments.

The members were polled on their views toward stipending the 40-hour work week, time and a half pay for overtime and double time pay for Sunday work for the duration of the war.

Senator Robert R. Reynolds said he favored suspension of the short week and of extra pay provisions, but he warned he would not vote for these changes unless a 6 per cent ceiling be placed over all war profits at the same time.

Representative Graham A. Barden of New Bern, member of the House labor committee, said he was "in favor of suspending anything and anything that is obstructing or hindering our war program."

"I think a 24-hour a day soldier is entitled to more than a 40-hour work week of supplies," Barden added.

Representative Carl T. Durham of Chapel Hill, member of the House military affairs committee which is soon to consider special labor legislation for war industries, said he favored "anything to win the war, whether it is a 40 or 50 hours work week."

Durham agreed with some other members of the Tar Heel delegation, however that he would have to study whatever legislation was offered before making commitments.

Others to take this attitude included Representatives Harold D. Cooley, of Nashville, A. L. Bulwinkle of Gas-

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British Drive Into Libya

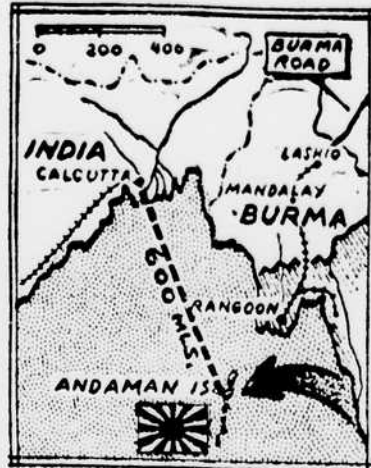
Cairo, March 27.—(AP)—British patrols advanced 40 miles in Libya to inflict casualties on axis troops in a fortified post at Haleb el Ebeba, between el Mechili and Timimi. British general headquarters announced today.

The raid was carried out on the night of March 25-26.

The main force of German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's African army is strung out along the line between Timimi and el Mechili, Haleb el Ebeba is about 40 miles from the nearest point to our advanced positions," the communique said.

Two German planes, one of which later crashed into the sea, were shot down by anti-aircraft batteries at Tobruk. An Italian plane also was destroyed somewhere over the Libyan front.

Japs On Andamans



This map shows the location of the Andaman Islands which belong to India and have just been seized by the Japanese. The strategic Andamans are about 600 miles southeast of Calcutta, which has become a vital supply port of the United Nations, and is only 800 miles northeast of Ceylon, site of the important British naval base at Trincomalee. (Central Press)

Axis Agents Rounded Up

Brazilian Police Seize Eighty More Axis Aliens in Breaking Big Spy Ring.

Rio de Janeiro, March 27.—(AP)—Eighty more Germans, Italians and Japanese were arrested today in the Sao Paulo region as Brazilian police pressed ahead with a nationwide campaign against an Axis espionage network which officials described as "the biggest and most widespread spy organization ever discovered in the western hemisphere."

Two hundred alleged secret agents already had been taken into custody and four high powered radio stations seized.

Attention centered primarily on the heavily populated Japanese colonies in Sao Paulo state. Japanese there were said to be working closely with nazi spy circles as well as maintaining daily contact with Tokyo by means of powerful short wave radio at coastal points.

Some arrests were promised as police pressed a sweeping investigation into the operation of an intricate and far flung organization they said had been relaying military information to Berlin as a world clearing house for the German espionage system.

"The organization is not yet eradicated," said one source, "but it is hoped that this initial blow will lead to a cleanup of South American leaks to Berlin."

Among those already under arrest, police said, were a German admiral and a number of other nazi government and army officials who allegedly held key positions in the espionage network.

Stock Market Still Sluggish

New York, March 27.—(AP)—Further softness of blue chips served to chill bidding confidence in today's stock market.

The list was unable to develop a definite trend at the start and, while fractional advances were observed here and there, next the fourth hour losses of one to two points or so were plentiful. Dealings, sluggish most of the time, were intermittently active.

House Committee Approves Huge New War Appropriation

Washington, March 27.—(AP)—An \$18,302,187,148 emergency appropriation bill carrying funds for 31,070 new Army warplanes and for an army which may reach 3,600,000 by the end of this year was sent to the House today by its appropriations committee.

Recommending that all but \$1,000,000,000 be turned over to the War department, the committee asked for \$8,900,000,000 for airplanes, complete with spare parts, radio and ordnance. Congress provided funds in January for 33,000 planes and Lieutenant General H. H. Arnold, air corps chief, said another 23,550 would be requested soon.

Retaliatory Raid Beaten Off Later

Tons of Explosives Dumped on German Munitions Factory at Essen; Other Nazi Bases Raided in Aerial Offensive.

(By The Associated Press) Giant four-engined British bombers, perhaps 250 strong and carrying tons of explosives, smashed at Germany's great Krupp munitions works and other nazi war foundries in the Ruhr last night, pressing the spring aerial offensive in one of the heaviest assaults of the war.

By daylight, RAF fighters beat off a retaliatory German thrust, turning the raiders back after a brief fight high over the English southeast coast.

The air ministry said today the huge bomber force concentrated on Essen, home of the Krupp works, striking in squadrons after squadrons, and also pounded enemy airbases in German-occupied Holland, and oil refineries near Ghent and the docks at Le Havre, France.

The air ministry acknowledged the loss of 13 bombers, the German high command said nazi anti-aircraft gunners and night fighters shot down 16 in raids over western Germany.

It was the second successive night of heavy RAF assaults on the Ruhr industrial valley, and British quarters pointed out that the RAF's attempt to "blatten" the Krupp works came just when the production of tanks and munitions are vitally needed for Adolf Hitler's spring offensive.

Europe stirred uneasily in anticipation of Hitler's next move. A report that King Boris of Bulgaria had agreed to break off relations with Soviet Russia and supply 200,000 troops for Adolf Hitler's next drive coincided with Red army claims to fresh gains in its battle for final victory in 1942.

A London Daily Mail dispatch reported this Bulgarian concession to German pressure for manpower from the junior axis partners.

"Bulgarian divisions are moving toward the southern frontier, particularly toward the lower Maritza valley," it said.

Such a movement would indicate a threat to Turkey.

A British dispatch said the Germans were fortifying Kiev and blasting ice on the Dnieper river at that nazi-occupied capital of the Ukraine—this despite the fact that Red army spearheads were still about 200 miles away when last reported. Guerrilla bands were said to be active about the city.

Russian and Red army men had slain hundreds of Germans to recapture another central front commu-

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Federal Aid Road Funds To Be Scarce

Raleigh, March 27.—(AP)—W. Vance Bane, chief highway engineer, reported to the State Highway and Public Works Commission today that "the picture is not very rosy" for obtaining federal funds for road building.

Bane said it was virtually impossible to get federal aid funds even for strategic roads, unless those roads also were access highways to military reservations.

Bane and Chairman Ben Prince were given the authority to close any roads running through land which the Army might want for military purposes. Roads already have been closed in Moore county, where an airport is being enlarged. Prince said other roads might be closed in Wayne county, if the Army takes over the Goldsboro airport, and in Scotland county, if the Army decides to build a field at Maxton.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Rain ending in west portion late this afternoon and early to night not much change in temperature.