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BRITISH ATTEMPT TO WRECK ST. NAZAIRE

British Naval Force Sails To Meet Japanese

Great Battle For India Impending

Major British Naval Armada Sighted En Route to Indian Ocean, Where Japanese Warships Are Reported Near Andamans.

(By The Associated Press) Signs of a great impending battle for India increased today as the Rome radio reported that a major British naval force had been sighted en route to the Indian ocean within 24 hours after Japanese fleet units were reported operating in those waters.

The broadcast said a British force which passed the Cape of Good Hope, in southernmost Africa, included two large battleships, two aircraft carriers, several cruisers and smaller ships.

Japanese warships were reported near the enemy-captured Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal within striking distance of Calcutta or Ceylon, and at Rangoon, Burma.

Allied prospects were brightened momentarily in the battle of Burma today by courageous Chinese counter attacks which wiped out an invading Japanese force on the airfield of Toungoo, eastern base of a defense line before the threshold of India.

Chinese authorities said the tough, war-wise veterans sent south by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, their morale boosted by reinforcements, had "liquidated" the Japanese detachment at the airfield and continued to counter attack Japanese reinforcements moving upon the city.

British withdrawals were implied, however, in the rich Irrawaddy river valley to the west. The New Delhi communique said "our lines had to be straightened on the Irrawaddy front in consequence of recent developments in the Toungoo area."

Fresh aerial action was reported in the south Pacific. Allied bombers fired a Japanese vessel in a raid yesterday on shipping at Koepang, capital of Dutch Timor, the second attack there in two days, a Melbourne announcement said.

Japanese fliers struck feebly at the airports of Port Moresby, capital of New Guinea, and Kokoda village in the Owen Stanley range. Allied fighters destroyed two raiders and one of the defenders was shot down in a dog fight over Port Moresby.

BRITISH BOMBERS ATTACK AIRDROMES

London, March 28.—(AP)—British bombers attacked airdromes in the occupied Low countries last night but bad weather prevented large scale raids over the enemy territory, the air ministry announced today.

The ministry said mines were laid at several points during the night. Four planes were reported missing.

French Group To Germany

Vichy, March 28.—(AP)—The French government announced today establishment of the first civilian representation in Germany since diplomatic relations were broken at the outbreak of war in 1939.

Eight civilian employees will be sent to Germany to open a "department of French labor in Germany" to deal with problems connected with the employment of French workmen in German factories.

(Official German sources have set at approximately 100,000 the number of French workmen engaged under voluntary contracts to replace German technicians called for army duty.)

The only previous representation in Germany, since the armistice in 1940, has been the embassy—without diplomatic status—for prisoners of war, headed by George Scapini, and the French delegation to the armistice commission.

Bataan Wounded on the Way to Australia



C. P. Phonephoto

Wounded United States and Filipino soldiers are shown tightly packed aboard the vessel *Maetan* on the way to Australian hospitals after being removed from Bataan Peninsula. The vessel was sent into the war zone to pick up the men after General MacArthur appealed for aid. The American Red Cross released the photo.

Six Attempts To Wreck Trains

Kinston, March 28.—(AP)—Officials of the Atlantic and East Coast Railway, revealing that six efforts to wreck trains in this vicinity had been made within the last ten days, announced today a \$500 reward would be paid for information leading to the arrest and conviction of any would-be wrecker.

The announcement said two of the instances of attempted sabotage took place last night at two places below Kinston where trains were wrecked on the rails. No serious damage was done as the trains were moving slowly because of heavy traffic on the line.

Other attempts were reported to have been made near Dover, Cherry Point, and Goldsboro.

Two Arrests Ordered

Justice Department Acts to Stamp Out Sabotage of Morale and Loyalty of Soldiers.

Washington, March 28.—(AP)—The government ordered two arrests today to make it difficult to plan today that it would tolerate no suspected sabotage of the morale or loyalty of men in the armed forces.

Prosecution proceedings were instituted in Chattanooga, Tenn., against George W. Christians, organizer of the "Crusader White Shirts," on charges of distributing propaganda which advocated insubordination, disloyalty and mutiny in the Army to bring about a "reign of terror."

Almost simultaneous action was taken against Rudolph Pahl, of Denver, Colo., who was charged with attempting to undermine the morale of the military forces.

Attorney General Biddle announced last night that he had directed the two arrests and cited quotations from some of the alleged propaganda. If the men, both native-born Americans, should be convicted, they face a maximum penalty of ten years imprisonment and \$10,000 fines.

MOSCOW BOMBED London, March 28.—(AP)—Reuters heard a DNB broadcast from Berlin today saying that Moscow was bombed last night.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA Colder tonight with scattered frost.

Senate Group Plans Aviation Gas Probe

GREEK FREIGHTER REACHES LISBON

Berlin (From German Broadcast) March 28.—(AP)—Dispatches from Lisbon reported today that a 5,500-ton Greek freighter had arrived from the United States en route with a cargo of food for distribution in Greece by the Red Cross.

Nazi Invasion Preparations Are Reported

London, March 28.—(AP)—The German high command is preparing to "execute" 200,000 air-borne troops in a spring smash against anti-air power stations and gasoline tanks, a responsible London source said today.

"It will not be the sort of invasion the public has learned to expect," he added. "Hitler will see to that, it will be a smart blow."

If such a force, comparatively small for an invasion, were to damage vital centers, such as power plants and gasoline tanks, the German high command would feel the need to send in men, transport planes and guns well worth while.

RAF PLANES BOMB INVASION BASES

London, March 28.—(AP)—RAF bombers and fighters hammered at invasion ports along the coast of German-occupied France tonight despite an intense anti-aircraft barrage which was clearly audible across the channel.

Highway Commission Finds Way To Get Out Of The Red

Daily Dispatch Bureau In The Sir Walter Hotel, BY BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, March 28.—Are you in debt? Don't let it worry you. Just tell the boss to raise your wages effective last July.

Is your war-wrecked automobile business running in the red? The solution is simple. Write all the people you sold cars to last year and tell them you have raised the price retroactively and that they owe you some more.

Precedent? Plenty of it and from a high source, too. Yesterday the State Highway and Public Works Commission, faced with a \$358,000 prison system deficit for the fiscal

Chairman Truman Discloses Evidence Warranting Investigation of Entire Wartime Program for High Octane Gasoline.

Washington, March 28.—(AP)—The Senate investigating committee has uncovered evidence warranting an investigation of the whole wartime aviation gasoline program, Chairman Truman, Democrat, Missouri, disclosed today.

He said the committee was probing to determine whether Standard Oil of New Jersey had helped establish an oil refining plant in Germany. In addition, Truman said, the committee has received information that while "oil major companies, including the Standard Oil group, had received government contracts to produce the 100 octane fuel used in American airplanes, independent firms were not sharing in this business."

"We have reports," Truman told reporters, "that the big companies have been given the inside track and that they probably will be able to pay for the plants the government is building for them out of the profits they make on the sale of gasoline to the government."

Truman said he expected the committee to look into this matter after it had concluded its current investigation into the synthetic rubber program.

A. C. L. BRAKEMAN DIES IN ACCIDENT

Fayetteville, March 28.—(AP)—Lieut. Owen G. Ady, 38, of near Warsaw, an Atlantic Coast Line brakeman, was struck by a shifting engine and killed in the ACL's yards here early today.

year ending two months hence, just raised the price the highway division pays the prison division for labor from \$1 to \$1.15 per prisoner per day. But the increase is not only for the future. It's for the past, too. The highway division suddenly finds itself owing the prison system several hundred thousand dollars. And now it turns out that Oscar Pitts, prison director, was made up of nothing more tangible than newspapermen's imagination.

Wonder if the highway commission has got time enough to help a man out with a somewhat similar problem.

(Continued on Page Eight)

Cripps Says Progress Is Being Made

Britain's Special Envoy to India Expects to See Gandhi Again; Text of British Proposal to Be Made Public Monday.

New Delhi, India, March 28.—(AP)—Lord Stafford Cripps, Britain's special envoy to India, said today he was "entirely confident" that he would see Mahatma Gandhi in the near future with a view to settling a long-standing problem.

Referring to a proposal submitted by the Indian National Congress to the British government, Cripps said he thought it was "entirely feasible" and that he expected to see Gandhi soon.

In the interview yesterday, he also said the British government would accept the proposal, but he thought it was "entirely feasible" and that he expected to see Gandhi soon.

He said that as a result of these talks, he had made only one change in the government's proposal—rewording a sentence which he had said was not clear.

Sir Stafford made it clear that he was sticking to his original plan to stay in India a fortnight. He told the newsmen that the text of the British proposal would be released for public consumption Monday.

Qualified sources predicted that the publication would disclose Britain was offering India a post-war federation of dominions status with each province or state free to decide for itself whether it will join the federation or remain outside.

Provinces remaining outside would be free to form another federation of similar status and thus two dominions could result.

War Powers Act Signed

Washington, March 28.—(AP)—President Roosevelt signed today the war powers act, an omnibus measure carrying more than a dozen new emergency powers to facilitate prosecution of the war.

Among its broad provisions are increased authority to take over machine and property for war production, penalties ranging up to two years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for violation of priorities orders, and free postage for all persons in the armed services.

Blimp Base Completed

Commissioning Ceremonies for Elizabeth City Base Set for Next Wednesday.

Elizabeth City, March 28.—(AP)—The Navy's new \$6,000,000 base for lighter-than-air craft at Elizabeth City, described by officers as "a potent warning to enemy submarines on patrol in recent months in coastal waters," will be commissioned next Wednesday.

The new base, first to be constructed on the coast south of Lakehurst, N. J., includes railroad facilities, a giant hangar, personnel quarters and administration and recreation buildings. Construction was authorized by contract signed July 25, 1941, by the bureau of yards and docks and is now almost complete. The station covers several hundred acres.

War restrictions will bar the general public from the grounds but the commissioning ceremonies will be broadcast over a regional hookup. Governor Bragenton will attend the ceremonies.

Broadcasts to India



The Maharajah of Kashmir, ruler of the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir, gave his impressions, after a visit to Middle East positions of British Imperial Army, at the Elizabeth City Broadcasting Station in Cairo, Egypt. His talk was broadcast throughout India. (Central Press)

Philippine Raids Made

Defenders of Islands Strike at Japanese; Corregidor Gunners Down Bomber.

Washington, March 28.—(AP)—The War department reported today that the Philippine defenders made two successful raids on the Japanese and that anti-aircraft gunners on the fortified island of Corregidor shot down one heavy enemy bomber.

A communique said the raids were on the Bataan peninsula and at Zamboanga, some 300 miles to the south of the island of Mindanao.

In the latter raid, American-Philippine patrols penetrated enemy lines to within less than a mile of the city to attack an outpost and succeeded in capturing it.

On Bataan, American artillery, blasting at enemy troops and tank concentrations, silenced one Japanese battery, the communique said.

The bomber was shot down during the fourth successive day of sustained continuous air attack on Corregidor. The War department said that the anti-aircraft gunners forced the raiders to such heights that bombing missed virtually all targets.

Maritime batteries on Corregidor and adjacent fortified islands shelled enemy air landings on the main island of Luzon Bay.

BULGARIA BELIEVED READY TO ENTER WAR

Bern, Switzerland, March 28.—(AP)—Bulgarian Premier Bogdan Philov declared in a speech today that Bulgaria was ready to fulfill her part in the axis and said the destruction of bolshevism was necessary for establishment of a new order. Italian news agency reported in a dispatch from Sofia.

The premier's speech was regarded as the first official indication that Bulgaria may have decided finally to join actively in the war against Russia.

U.S. Subs Sink Jap Vessels

London, March 28.—(AP)—The London Star's Sydney correspondent said today that American submarines in the Pacific had sunk five Japanese destroyers, an aircraft carrier and about 30 transports, and supply ships in the last two or three weeks.

Five cruisers, another aircraft carrier and 30 transports and supply ships were damaged, the paper said, adding that all the sinkings occurred "around Australia."

The correspondent said he had gained his information from "authoritative sources."

Germans Say Daring Raid Is Failure

Spectacular Sea-Borne Attempt to Storm Nazi U-Boat Base Said by Germans to Have Resulted in 'High Bloody Losses.'

(By The Associated Press)

A spectacular British sea-borne attempt to wreck the port of St. Nazaire on the French coast, key base for Germany's U-boat offensive in the battle of the Atlantic, was declared by the German high command today to have been crushed with "high bloody losses" and the capture of 100 prisoners.

In a special bulletin, the Nazi high command acknowledged that the British succeeded in landing troops in the attack last night but asserted they were routed in an attempt to storm the big shipyard and to penetrate the town itself.

The communique said a former American destroyer laden with explosives, blew up under the fire of German shore batteries as the British sought to ram it against the gates of the harbor locks in an attempt to destroy them.

"The mass of enemy motor torpedo boats and assault boats was also destroyed or heavily damaged by artillery," the communique declared. "On the German side, not one war-ship was lost," the Nazi bulletin asserted. "Also, in the submarine base no damage whatever occurred."

"After dawn, German torpedo boats encountered a superior British destroyer formation which broke off the engagement after having received several hits."

The German high command said a destroyer, four large torpedo boats and nine smaller ones were destroyed by Nazi defense forces in beating off the assault.

A British communique said units of the army, navy, and air forces made a "smart raid" on St. Nazaire early today and announced that a further report would be issued "as soon as our forces return."

DNV, the German news agency, said British aviation units—presumably parachute troops—also participated in the attack.

St. Nazaire is on the Bay of Biscay, at the mouth of the Loire river. The raid marked the farthest British thrust into southern France and followed a series of other air-land attacks by British commandos on the French channel coast and other points in the north.

Russian Arctic fighters detaching the port and railroad of Murmansk were reported swooping low and art upon the invading forces of Lieutenant General Edmund Dietl, who won oak leaf decorations for his knight's cross in the 1940 battle of Narvik.

At least ten German transports were said to have been destroyed by Soviet submarines in connection with the flanking Russian troop movements, said Red Star said Russian aircraft had sunk a German destroyer and damaged another.

LIBYAN ACTION

Rome (From Italian broadcasts), March 28.—(AP)—The Italian high command reported today several dozen prisoners were taken in a night action between advanced units southwest of Timimi on the Libyan front.

Seamen's Home Is Raided

Hoboken, N. J., March 28.—(AP)—Sixty FBI agents and policemen swooped down today on the Seaman's Home, Deutsches, better known locally as the "Seamen's Institute," and took into custody 60 to 80 residents who are potentially dangerous aliens.

Those taken into custody were photographed and finger printed on the spot, then held at the institute until their quarters had been searched.

The search proceeded slowly. Most of the residents still were there four hours after the raid, which occurred before 6 a. m. EWT.

E. E. Conroy of Newark, who led the raid, said a short wave radio transmitter had been found in one man's room. Subversive literature also was seized, he said.