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British Troops Occupy Tripoli

PAPUA CLEARED OF JAPANESE

WOMEN HELP BUILD ROADS IN WESTERN CHINA



Asian divided Chinese soldiers to build roads in China's northwest are a number of Chinese girls and women, members of an industrial cooperative. The growing importance to China's war effort of her vast and formerly remote northwest makes it necessary for roads to be constructed in this section of the country. Industrial cooperatives, to which many women belong, have been pressed into the emergency. (Central Press)

Last Pocket Of Few Japs Is Wiped Out

Australian-American Forces Exact Toll Of Dead In Regaining New Guinea Sector

By VERN HAUGLAND
Somewhere in New Guinea, Jan. 23—(AP)—Organized Japanese resistance in Papua ended at 2:05 p. m. local time, today when the last two remaining pockets of an enemy which once numbered 15,000 were wiped out by victorious American and Australian forces.

The last to fall was a group of Japs on the coast northwest of Samaranda. Attacked in the early morning by Australians, the enemy resisted bitterly but withdrew a short distance. Artillery and mortar softened the new defense and an afternoon attack crumpled the enemy.

Two days ago the Americans cleared the main Japanese pocket two miles from the coast, using heavy artillery and mortar fire. A small unit was left on the north side of Soputa track.

A total of 475 dead were counted in that area.

At 7 a. m. yesterday, 33 Japanese members of this unit attempted to escape, and Americans killed 32 of them and imprisoned the remaining one.

The Americans subjected the few remaining Japs to well organized mortar and artillery battering starting in mid-morning. Shortly after midnight the Americans reported the Japs cleared out.

Fourteen Jap stragglers were killed south of Gona. As far as is known the only remaining Japanese in Papua are isolated soldiers, according to reports from the swamps. These are being hunted down.

Some 1,200 Jap casualties have been counted in the Samaranda area to date. A total of 898 were previously killed in the Gona area, making a total Jap dead list of 2,100 in this sector.

The Americans yesterday captured three Jap field ammunition dumps, twelve motor trucks, and much other equipment. Today they captured large quantities of rifles, light, medium and heavy machine guns, mortars, grenades, and technical equipment, including signaling devices and two anti-aircraft guns. The Australians captured a log wireless transmitting set near Samaranda. Examination showed it was in perfect condition, capable of reaching Tokyo. Evidently the Japs were surprised and hadn't had time to destroy it.

SEVEN CHILDREN DIE AS FIRE LEVELS HOME

Brighton, N. Y., Jan. 23—(AP)—Seven children perished today in a fire which destroyed their two-story home in this northern New York town.

Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Shultz, escaped by jumping from a second-story window but not before being burned critically.

McDougle Bill Starts Flow Of Oratory

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By LYNN NISBET

Raleigh, Jan. 22—(AP)—Unanimous adoption of a joint resolution authorizing study of enlarged facilities for feeble-minded children was accompanied by the most spontaneous outburst of oratorical support in the house accorded any other measure of the session so far.

Offered by Representative McDougle of Mecklenburg, who asked for immediate passage, the resolution brought an earnest appeal from both a dozen corners.

F. E. Wallace of Kinston led off with a stirring appeal based on his intimate knowledge of the fine work being done at Caswell Training School in his city, of inadequacies

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ROMMEL IS DRIVEN FROM LIBYA



This map shows the latest movements of Marshal Rommel's Afrika Korps and the Allied forces on the African front. The British eighth army has captured Tripoli after occupying Homs and Tahuna (1), and the nazis are believed to have escaped into Tunisia. U. S. planes bombed the road between Aoua and Garone (2). Liberators attacked Medenine (3). The nazis have attacked southwest of Pont du Falls (5) where they pushed the French back seven miles. Allied bombers based in Tunisia raided Tunis and Sousse (4) and fighter planes based on Malta flew north to sweep Porto Lampedusa (6), Sicily.

Flynn Inquiry Nears End As LaGuardia Testifies

HULL 'AIDS BRITISH FOR AFRICAN VICTORY'

Washington, Jan. 23—(AP)—Secretary of State Hull said today that the fall of Tripoli to the British constituted one of the most overwhelming, outstanding and important victories of the war.

This government and the people of the United States rejoice in the achievement of the British eighth army in capturing the north African city from the axis forces, Hull asserted.

RAF Raids Ruhr Valley

Second Successive Night Attack Made On Germany; Nazi Planes Retaliate

London, Jan. 23—(AP)—For the second successive night British bombers were reported today to have stabbled during the night at western Germany, which embraces the great industrial Ruhr valley and such important centers as Dusseldorf, Essen, Duisburg, Cologne and Frankfurt.

First news of the raid came today from the Berlin radio, which said scattered bombing had caused civilian casualties and some property damage.

The RAF had been over Germany on twelve previous nights this month, including the heavy attacks on Berlin last Saturday and Sunday.

German planes struck back by bombing several places in northeastern and southern England last night, but the raids were not on a heavy scale and while damage was done casualties were reported light.

A number of German raiders gliding in above the clouds, bombed and machine gunned a village in southern England early this morning, causing considerable damage. There were casualties, including some killed, it was reported.

BRITISH WARSHIPS BOMBARD ZUARA

London, Jan. 23—(AP)—British light naval units today bombarded Zuara in Tripolitania, 60 miles west of Tripoli, the admiralty announced. Good results were said to have been achieved and large fires and explosions were observed.

The attacking warships suffered neither damage nor casualties, the admiralty said.

Eighth Army Lunges On After Nazis

Rommel Is Expected To Attempt Stand Behind Mareth; Reds Score Gains

(By The Associated Press)
Fire-blackened Tripoli, the pride of Premier Mussolini's vanquished African empire, fell to the assault of British shock troops at 5 a. m. today and vanguards of the triumphant British eighth army lunged on in pursuit of Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's columns retreating into Tunisia.

The forward groups entered Tripoli early this morning, British headquarters announced.

Coinciding with this United Nations news—expanding Prime Minister Churchill's pledge that the fascist empire in Africa would be torn "to latens and shreds"—the Red Armies of Russia piled up fresh triumphs all along the 1,200-mile Soviet front.

In swift succession, the Russians reported they had captured the rail hub and German air base of Salak, 100 miles southeast of Rostov, stormed to within 100 miles of the great Donets valley industrial center at Voroshilovgrad after a ten-mile advance, and captured nine towns south of the Volga-Luka on the Moscow front.

The fall of Salak rained out a main base of the German plane-transporting service to supply the remnants of 22 Nazi divisions trapped before Stalingrad.

On the north African front, an Italian communique admitted that axis troops had evacuated Tripoli after bitter fighting and Berlin likewise conceded the loss of the Libyan capital.

At least part of Rommel's battered forces, estimated at approximately 60,000 troops, had already fled across the Libyan frontier and were reported in contact with Colonel General Jürgen von Arnim's axis army behind the Mareth line, 60 miles inside Tunisia.

Military experts said it was expected that Rommel, despite the exhaustion of his troops, would attempt a new delaying action behind the French-built Mareth fortifications, a triple line system of concrete emplacements and pill boxes extending 60 miles inland from Zuara, on the Tunisian coast.

Despite the fall of British troops forming into Tripoli at dawn found the city in flames. Axis demolition squads were reported to have added to the havoc wrought by allied bombs and shells.

The fall of the axis citadel crossed a 1,500-mile sweep across the desert from El Alamein, Egypt, the farthest point of Rommel's offensive toward the Suez canal, and left the axis bottled up in a 300-mile strip of territory along the African north coast.

While Rommel was apparently making good his escape into Tunisia, leaving only bare grounds to delay the onrushing British, allied warplanes were reported blasting the littered axis positions from east and west.

The fall tonight of our fighters' efforts was directed against enemy transport columns withdrawing westward along the coastal road into Tripoli. The British command said "Great damage was inflicted on excellent targets. Small shipping attempts to leave the harbor of Zuara, 60 miles west of Tripoli, was attacked by our fighter bombers and vessels were destroyed."

Great Record By Fortress

Melbourne, Jan. 23—(AP)—One American Flying Fortress squadron operating in the Southwest Pacific has flown more than 1,000,000 miles on 620 missions in the last six months, during which it has destroyed 33 Japanese fighters in combat and more than 20 aircraft, sunk a heavy cruiser, and sent two merchant ships and a transport to the bottom. The disclosure was made in Sydney today by Sergeant Pilot Mervyn Bell of the Royal Australian Air Force, co-pilot of one of the planes in the squadron.

Bell was enthusiastic about his American flying mates, declaring: "The Yanks are the greatest team I have ever seen."

U.S.-Owned Wheat Placed On Market

Government Moves To Keep Prices From Advancing Above Parity Level

Washington, Jan. 23—(AP)—The government tossed its 255,000,000 bushel stock of wheat on the market today in a move to keep prices from advancing above the parity level.

The wheat was offered at prices equivalent to parity at the point of storage. Parity prices vary according to point of storage and quality of the grain, but the national average December 15 was \$1.27 a bushel.

Officials said that the bread grain has been advancing and that today's action was expected to keep market prices from going above parity as long as government stocks were available at that price.

The selling order followed reports that the government was considering placing a ceiling on wheat, similar to that established on corn recently, to prevent the development of a new price advance on wheat. These ceilings were raised recently after advancing wheat prices cut the sellers' margin to a point where many claimed they were being forced to operate at a loss.

INCREASED PRICES EXPECTED FOR MILK

Charlotte, Jan. 23—(AP)—The OPA district office here today forecast a slight increase in the retail price of milk in North Carolina to compensate for the rising costs of feed and other expenses of the dairy-meat.

The actual amount of the increase was not mentioned by OPA officials here who, as such detail, were being worked out in Washington.

Murder Trial Nears Jury

Raceland, Jan. 23—(AP)—Argument by the jury was expected to begin today in the trial of W. A. Harris, a farmer, charged with the revenge slaying of Eugene Bill and Bill's sister and his mother near here last August 27. The State concluded its testimony yesterday.

The State alleges that Harris shot the three to death to avenge the death of his son, Johnny Harris, at the hands of Eugene Bill a few days before at Bill's filling station.

Robert L. Moran, former Bronx commissioner of public works, told the Senate foreign relations committee today there was "nothing wrong" with an arrangement by which New York city employees laid paving blocks in the courtyard on the estate of Edward J. Flynn.

Moran took the stand as the first witness in the committee's third day of public hearings on the qualifications of Flynn, former Democratic national chairman, who has been attacked by Republicans as unfit to be minister to Australia.

Mayor LaGuardia of New York city was on the witness list for an appearance later in the day.

The elderly Moran, who retired on a pension last year after eight and one-half years' service as Bronx commissioner, depicted the paving block project as an affair in which private trucks were used to haul materials and on which Bronx employees worked on their own time.

Coast Guard Cutter Lost

Washington, Jan. 23—(AP)—The presumed loss of the Coast Guard cutter Natuck, which has been overdue in the north Atlantic for several weeks and has an estimated crew of 30 aboard, was announced today by the Navy.

The Navy's communication No. 239 said:

"In the Atlantic, the U. S. Coast Guard cutter Natuck has been overdue in the north Atlantic for several weeks and must be presumed to be lost. The next of kin of personnel in the Natuck have been notified."

"In the south Pacific, U. S. forces on Guadalcanal continued mopping up and patrol operations."

Paving Deal Is Defended

'Nothing Wrong' With Arrangement, Former Bronx Commissioner Says

Washington, Jan. 23—(AP)—Robert L. Moran, former Bronx commissioner of public works, told the Senate foreign relations committee today there was "nothing wrong" with an arrangement by which New York city employees laid paving blocks in the courtyard on the estate of Edward J. Flynn.

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AIR AND SEA SEARCH MADE FOR BIG PLANE

San Francisco, Jan. 23—(AP)—Search was made by air and on today for signs of a four-engine transport plane which crashed a crew of nine and four local officers passenger.

Identity of the men on the plane has not been disclosed. The Navy said it would lead the four-engine airplane, operating for the naval transport system, crashed a crew of nine and four local officers passenger.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Somewhat warmer this afternoon and tonight.