

MacArthur's Epic Philippine Stand Great Allied Aid

Valiant Defense Of
Island Invaluable
To Allied Cause In
War With Japanese

Washington, Feb. 18.—(UP)—General Douglas MacArthur's epic stand in the Philippines is immobile, one-half of the entire Japanese manpower spread over the battlefronts, military experts estimated today.

With his outnumbered and weary "fighting like demons" in the enemy's own tribute to their leader—MacArthur was described as being one of the greatest rear-guard delaying battles in the history of warfare.

When strategy on this far-flung battlefront is considered, as well as the hopes of the United Nations in defending their other bastions, it is ridiculous to speak of MacArthur's resistance as "a hopeless fight," said a military source.

The Japanese, according to the estimates available in Washington, have between 400,000 and 500 men in action on the fronts facing for more than 4,000 miles from the Philippines to the Pacific Ocean, but not including

more than 200,000 of these troops holding some of the best strongholds of the Japanese war machine in the Philippines, either MacArthur's defenders on the peninsula or policing MacArthur and the occupied areas.

MacArthur's men are understood to number about 20,000, with perhaps two Filipinos for every American. And every man of them knows as he beats off attack after attack that he has virtually no chance of evacuation or reinforcement of men or planes.

But so long as the fighting rages in Bataan peninsula the Japanese will not divert many men or weapons for their big thrust at the Sunda straits, at Sumatra and Java and 2,000 miles to the southward across the China sea.

In fact, the enemy is being compelled to move up reinforcements of troops, artillery and warplanes in preparation for an attempted knockout of MacArthur's days of resistance, communicated in the past 48 hours revealed.

Military observers speculated that the Japanese commander-in-chief in the Philippines, Lieutenant General Masaru Homma, probably will unleash his all-out attack soon in the hope of being able to send a large part of his 200,000 or more men to other fronts.

If MacArthur were to be driven from the island of Luzon and back to Corregidor fortress, Homma would be able to release thousands of men, because the final phase of the battle of the Philippines would then become a seige assignment largely to dive-bombers and Japanese guns around Cavite on the eastern shore of Manila Bay.

Thus, every day that MacArthur's men continue to stem the Japanese from the foxholes of Bataan and the batteries of Corregidor provides a measure of time for the consolidation of the defense of Sumatra and Java as well as the United Nations' life lines of supplies.

For this reason, military informants said, there probably will be no effort to remove MacArthur from the Philippines so long as the battle of Bataan rages, although demands still were being made for a "rescue" in Congress and other quarters today.

10,000 Suit Filed
After Fatal Wreck

Suit for \$10,000 damages has been filed in Decatur circuit court at Auburn by Mrs. Ira Elzey of this city as a result of the death of her husband in an auto accident.

The suit names as defendant Wayne W. Lee driver of the vehicle in which the local man was riding when he was killed.

It avers that Elzey and Lee were coming to Decatur at the time of the accident and that Lee was intoxicated. The accident occurred May 26, 1940 on state road 14, one-half mile west of the Indiana-Ohio line.

It is averred that Lee drove the auto off the pavement onto the curb and caused the car to collide with a cement abutment, killing the local man.

Sugar Beet Growers Hold Annual Meeting

Directors Elected At Annual Meeting

Leroy Pifer, Rockford, Ohio, Ernest Knoblech, Woodburn and J. C. Caley of Markle, were re-elected directors of the Central Beet Growers association at the annual meeting of the members yesterday.

E. W. Bueche of Monroe, president of the association, presided at the meeting, held in the library auditorium.

Fertilization of sugar beets as a means of increasing the yield was the theme of the address made by E. P. Reed of Ohio State university.

Mr. Reed advised 350 to 400 pounds of fertilizer per acre in the growing of beets, stating that that amount should increase the yield two to four tons per acre.

H. W. McMillen, president of the Central Sugar company, explained the reasons for the sugar shortage. The supply from the Philippines has been cut off due to the war and greatly reduced from the Hawaiian islands. Compared to the annual consumption of 7,900,000 tons, the supply this year will be reduced to about 5,600,000 tons.

Beet sugar plants, including the one in this city, are endeavoring to make up part of this shortage through increased production.

J. W. Calland, vice-president of the sugar company, spoke on the growing of American grown sugar beet seed. This country is no longer dependent on foreign grown sugar beet seed. Great developments have been launched in Utah, California and Oregon for the cultivation and growing of sugar beet seed for American farmers.

Mr. Busche explained that there would be ample labor and seed for the beet growers. Arrangements have already been completed by the local industry to provide labor in the beet fields as soon as it is needed.

A number of farmers attended the meeting.

Delay Completion Of City Airport

War Conditions Are Cause Of Action

Decatur's airport will be just plowed farm land for another year at least.

The city council in session at the city hall last night agreed to authorize the owner of the land which was to have formed the airport to cultivate it this summer, because of general war conditions.

The council had previously authorized the signing of a contract with the landowner, Benjamin Eiting, for approximately 35 acres which was to form the airport. Since government regulations require 24-hour guard duty and other requirements at airports, the council believed operation of the airport this summer would not be feasible.

A representative of the civil aeronautics authority is still to be asked to come to Decatur and inspect the land, however. Cessation of the war or a change in restrictions might permit the use of the field, it was pointed out.

Approved Game Reserve

The council also approved a petition of the Adams county fish and game conservation league to establish a bird and game reserve in Hanna-Nuttman Park.

Mayor Elzey, who submitted the petition explained that the club desired to stock quail and pheasants in the wooded section of the park for propagation. No hunting will be allowed in the park, as is the case at present. The club and state conservation department will assume the responsibility of feeding the birds.

TEMPERATURE READING
DEMOCRAT THERMOMETER

8:00 a. m.	19
10:00 a. m.	20
Noon	18
2:00 p. m.	16
3:00 p. m.	16

WEATHER
Colder this afternoon and to-night; occasional light snow.

Patrol Plane Crew Honored for Bombing Sub



For the accurate bombing of an enemy submarine in a driving rainstorm somewhere off the Atlantic coast, the six-man crew of an American patrol bombers receives letters of commendation from superior officers at Governors Island, New York. Brig. Gen. Arnold N. Krogstad, left, First Air Force commander; Rear Admiral Adolphus Andrews, commander of the eastern sea frontier, and Lieut. Gen. Hugh A. Drum, commanding the First Army, are seen at left making the presentations to, left to right, Second Lieutenants Louis M. Abranathy, Arthur J. Kush and Thomas C. Day; Sgt. Joseph R. Tokar, Corp. John J. Duffy and Pvt. Donald J. Maher. Four bombs were dropped from an elevation of 1,000 feet at the stern of the submarine which was still above surface. It was believed that the vessel was destroyed, or seriously damaged.

New Equipment Bid Approved By City

General Electric Bid Is Approved

The city council in regular session at the city hall last night approved the bid of the General Electric company at Fort Wayne for furnishing the switchgear in the improvement at the municipal light and power plant and authorized the board of works to enter into a contract.

The bid of \$11,238, submitted by that company on February 12, was the only one received by the board. It had been previously estimated that the cost would be about \$13,500.

Martin J. Mylott, city light and power superintendent, reported that A-1 priority ratings have been received from the federal government on the switchgear as well as the cable and ducts. Stoker and boiler repair equipment was given an A-2 rating, Mr. Mylott stated. These ratings, extended from the new G. E. plant work, will reduce delivery time considerably.

The city council last night also approved the specifications for an iron removal filter to be installed on the city well at the South Ward lot as submitted by Charles Brodbeck, city water superintendent. The board of works was authorized to receive bids. No date was set.

The council approved a petition of Ferd L. Litterer, city attorney,

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Church Plans Special Evangelistic Service

The Nuttman Avenue United Brethren church will hold evangelistic services each Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock until Easter, instead of the regular prayer service. Rev. L. J. Martin will speak tonight on the subject. "The challenge of the Cross."

Former Auditor Of
County Dies Tuesday

Abe Boch Dies Last Night At Fort Wayne

Abe Boch, 73, former Adams county auditor and prominent resident of Decatur, died last night at 9 o'clock at his home on Sherman street in Fort Wayne.

Death followed a stroke. He had been bedfast for the past eight months.

Mr. Boch was a native of Decatur. He served one term as county auditor and later operated the sale

barn in this city.

He was first married to Beatrice Peterson, who died about 30 years ago. Later he was married to Molly Hank, who survives.

Surviving also are the following children: Dick Boch, of this city; Mrs. William H. Johnson of Blue Creek township, Mrs. Elmon Roof of Marion, Wayne Boch of Detroit and Gertrude Boch of Indianapolis.

Funeral services have not been arranged.

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Mayris Chaney Quits \$4,600 A Year Post In Civilian Defense

Philadelphia, Feb. 18.—(UP)—Mayris Chaney, dancing friend of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, who was appointed to a \$4,600 a year job in the civilian defense program, resigned today.

Miss Chaney offered her resignation to Dean James Landis, OCD director. She had been serving as director of the children's welfare division.

She told Landis that her resignation was intended to help further her controversy. She explained that she had not planned introduction of fan dancing to children, as insinuated by congressional speeches, and that she wanted only to help prepare children for possible air raid.

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Defense Area Class Would Aid Decatur

Classification Aid In Many Respects

Classifying Decatur as a defense area in relation to home building, has several advantages for the whole city, it was pointed out to-day by those who have given a little study to the situation.

Investigation made by several persons show that Decatur is a defense area, due to the proximity to Fort Wayne, which is spotted as the hub of the northeastern Indiana defense area.

A very important reason for having the city officially declared a defense area is the priority it will be given for building materials and equipment, so that emergency orders of materials and repairs can be obtained without delay.

Further information on the matter is expected when a federal housing representative visited the city to make a survey of local conditions and consult with the Chamber of Commerce directors and interested business men in launching a house building program in Decatur.

The need for 50 to 100 new houses has been stressed by industrial management in the city to provide facilities for the many employees who will find work in local

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THE SEER SEES

Rev. 21:5—"And He that sat upon the throne said, behold, I make all things new. And He said unto me, Write; for these words are true and faithful."

As these meditations begin for another Lenten season we are conscious of a tenseness which seems to pervade the very air we breathe. A tenseness sponsored by hatred, hysteria and propaganda. Under such conditions we must turn to the Word of God for there is found the balm of Gilead which soothes the aching heart, quietes the troubled mind and floods the throne of the Eternal God who says, "Behold, I make all things new."

The seer who saw the new Heaven and the new earth was invited to look into the mind of God and observe the opening eons of eternity as ordained by God. What he saw and recorded is given to us that, in the presence of a crumbling, chaotic world, there can be an unquenchable hope flood our souls with the fact that one day, through Jesus Christ our Lord, those who believe on Him who was pierced for us, will live to realize all the aspirations of the human heart, in a new Heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness.

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Lenten Meditations

(Rev. Dwight L. Patterson, Union Chapel U. B.)

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