

MacArthur's Epic Philippine Stand Great Allied Aid

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

Washington, Feb. 18.—(UP)—Douglas MacArthur's epic stand in the Philippines is the most brilliant of the entire Japanese campaign spread over the battlefronts, military experts estimated today.

His outnumbered and weary "fighting like demons"—MacArthur was described as 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 States in defending their other Pacific bastions, it is ridiculous to think of MacArthur's resistance as a "desperate fight," said a military official.

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

More than 200,000 of these troops are some of the best shock troops of the Japanese war machine in the Philippines, either as MacArthur's defenders on the peninsula or policing Manila and the occupied areas.

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

But so long as the fighting rages on the Philippine peninsula the Japanese cannot divert many men or weapons for their big thrust at the Bataan road, at Sumatra and Java and 2,000 miles to the south across the China sea.

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

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

MacArthur were to be driven from the island of Luzon and back to the 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 siege against largely to diversify 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' line 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 his "rescue" in congress and other quarters today.

\$10,000 Suit Filed After Fatal Wreck

Suit for \$10,000 damages has been filed in DeKalb 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 is averred that Elzey and Lee were coming to Decatur at the time of the accident and that Lee was intoxicated. The accident occurred May 28, 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 bank 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 Knoblauch, 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. Busche 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 250 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 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.

Approve 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

DECATUR 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 tonight; 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 bomber 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, right, Second Lieutenant Louis M. Abrnathy, Arthur J. Kush and Thomas C. Day; Sgt. Joseph R. Tokar, Corp. John J. Duffy and Pvt. Donald J. Rahr. 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-A 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, he stated.

The 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, 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 Haug, who survives.

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

Funeral services have not been arranged.

Abe Boch Dies Last Night At Fort Wayne

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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 halt further 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.

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 today 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 defense plants.

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Lenten Meditations

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

"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, quiets 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.

Man Is Fined For Leaving Accident

Root Township Man Fined This Morning

Jesse Garcia, Mexican of Root township was fined \$1 and costs amounting to \$11.50 this morning by Mayor Forrest Elzey on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident.

Garcia was arrested in Root township this morning by Sheriff Ed Miller on the charge, to which he entered a guilty plea when arraigned.

Garcia's car, it was charged by city police, was involved in a collision with an auto driven by Robert Helm of this city at the intersection of Third and Monroe streets Monday night.

The officer alleged that Garcia fled from the scene following the accident, in which no one was hurt. The cars were slightly damaged.

Unable to pay the fine, Garcia was taken to jail to "lay it out."

First Lenten Sermon Here This Evening

The first of the series of Lenten sermons will be given this evening at St. Mary's Catholic church by Rev. Joseph J. Seimet, pastor.

The distribution of ashes will take place following the service. Beginning next week the Lenten sermons will be given on Tuesday evenings. The Way of the Cross will be made every Friday evening.

Hoosier Farm Women To Hear Townsend

Indianapolis, Feb. 18.—(UP)—M. Clifford Townsend, former governor of Indiana and now agricultural coordinator in the U. S. department of agriculture, will address the more than 2,000 Hoosier farm women expected to attend the annual convention of the social and educational department of the Indiana farm bureau here Feb. 24 and 25.

Townsend's talk will highlight the final day's session of the convention, which will be devoted principally to discussions of the woman's part in the "food for freedom" campaign.

British Press Fires New Blast At Government

Churchill Defense Of Government Is Termed Inadequate

London, Feb. 18.—(UP)—A fresh blast of critical newspaper editorials made it plain today that Prime Minister Winston Churchill's defense of his government in parliament had intensified instead of diminished the demand for a radical change in the direction of the war and a merciless purge of the cabinet.

Churchill's statement that the successful flight of three German warships from Brest to German ports had improved the naval situation was called weak and unsatisfactory.

"From this account we ought to have arranged with the German government 10 months ago to convey them under an escort of 'air umbrellas' to Helgoland," said the Independent Daily Mirror.

Even the conservative Times said that what troubled the public was the contrast between a German harbor and the bottom of the English Channel as a refuge for the ships.

It was indicated that when Churchill faces the house of commons, probably early next week, for a full dress war debate, he would have rough going and might be compelled to make concessions, such as a major cabinet reorganization which he has long refused.

Political quarters said that many of Churchill's own supporters felt his attitude that he alone was responsible for everything, was too truculent and self assured.

Newspapers took the view that if anything were needed to show the necessity for a cabinet shift, it was Churchill's speech yesterday.

"When he is confronted with the mildest inquiries into his generalship, Mr. Churchill becomes as sensitive as a prima donna charged by a music critic with singing a false note," said the Independent Daily Sketch. "Once the nation is assured that its leadership is not only acknowledges its mistakes but is solidly bent on repairing them, the spirit necessary for the prosecution of the war will spread from the highest to the lowest in the land."

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1,216 Registered On Third 'R' Day

Registration Here Far Under Estimate

A total of 1,216 previously unregistered men registered for selective service Monday, it was revealed this morning by the Adams county draft board, simultaneously with the announcement by the state director that the information could be given to the newspapers.

This figure is far below the number that had been expected to be registered.

It had been previously estimated that about 1,500 would register. The total at the Legion home in Decatur was 725, in Berne it was 267, in Geneva 122 and in Monroe 102.

Three of this number will be cancelled because the youths were not of age. Fifteen were from out of the county and will be sent to their respective boards. Of course, some cards are expected to be received here from boards where Adams county men registered when they were unable to get to their home county on registration day.

The ruling from the war department, which was received yesterday, was released today by the local draft board.

The draft board and Legion committee in charge of registration today expressed their thanks to the following persons who served as registrars:

Decatur: Joe Laurent, A. J. Baker, Albert Miller, Elmo Smith, C. V. Millikan, Vernon Aurand, Ed Jaber, T. C. Smith, George Harding, R. J. Kunder, Mrs. Albert Miller, Rose Nesswald, Alice Lenhart, Dorothy Elcher, Leo Ehinger, Frank Liniger, Francis Costello, Naomi Bornmann, Ireta Fryback, Leo Kirsch, Leo Gillig, Zelma Roop, Doris McRae, Walter J. Bockman, James K. Staley, Dallas Brown, W. L. Linn, Carrell H. Cole, Justine Everhart, A. B. Kleinhenz, Urcile Chase, Ralph E. Roop, Marie DeBolt, Dorothy Hoffman, Mildred Darwacher.

Berne: E. M. Webb, Jacqueline

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More Of Japan's Ships Destroyed By Allied Forces

Annual Farm Banquet Held Tuesday Night

Dr. Thurman Rice Banquet Speaker

Approximately 275 men and women attended the 18th annual Adams county farmers' banquet, held Tuesday night at the Monmouth school building.

Dr. Thurman B. Rice, chairman of the department of bacteriology and public health in the school of medicine at Indiana university, and assistant director of the Indiana division of public health and education, was the principal speaker, talking on "Nutrition."

Proper nutrition is of great importance to citizens of the United States, particularly in these war days, as the people must stay well and efficient for all-out war effort, Dr. Rice stressed.

A properly balanced diet need be no complicated list of recipes, the speaker said. For a balanced ration, he suggested from one-third to one-half of the food eaten be taken from three groups—milk, vegetables and fruit. Eat anything else wanted, he said, always being sure they are clean, unspoiled and not poisonous.

Ridiculing the present day balldoo over vitamins, the speaker closed by asserting that the normal person will obtain a sufficiency of the necessary vitamins by proper nutrition.

Dr. Rice was introduced by Dr. Myron Habegger, of Berne, secretary of the Adams county medical society.

Awards Presented

Roy Price was toastmaster of the banquet meeting.

Awards were presented during the evening as follows:

Gold medal coin—milk medals, presented by Henry Aschelman, to: bronze—Harry Lehman, Henry Macke and Melvin Bauck. Silver—Floyd Shoaf, Archie Smitley and John Gresley. Gold—Martin Galmeyer and Christ Kuipstein.

Individual cow certificates (for lifetime production of over 2,000 pounds of butter fat), presented by Roy Price to: Peter B. Lehman. Presented by Mr. Lehman to: Ben and Noah Mazell and Jacob J. Schwartz and son.

Herd certificates, presented by Mr. Lehman to: silver—Otto Ewel and son. Bronze—Calvin R. Lechty and son; and Henry Aschelman.

Elmer Baumgartner, cashier of the First Bank of Berne, presented the 5-acre corn club cup to John P. Elcher, 16-year old junior in the Berne high school. He raised 105.7 bushels per acre on his five acres last year. Three gold medals, five silver medals, and 14 bronze medals will be presented at the annual corn club banquet, T. F. Grainger, president of the First State Bank of Decatur, congratulated the winners in the corn club work.

E. W. Busche discussed club activities and institutes held during the past year. He also presented Adams county, through county agent L. E. Archbold, with the Purdue agricultural conference at

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Former Decatur Man Dies In Fort Wayne

Funeral Thursday For A. J. Brickley

Funeral services for A. J. Brickley, 75, former Decatur cigar store and pool room operator, who died yesterday at the home of his son in Fort Wayne, will be held Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Sloan funeral home in that city. Burial will be in Prospect cemetery near Ossian.

For a number of years the deceased operated the Brickley pool room on South Second street here, moving to Fort Wayne from here. For the past two months he had been living with his son, Vaughn.

Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Nettie Millette; two sons, Tony and Vaughn, both of Fort Wayne; two brothers, Ora and Otis of Popular Bluffs, Ark.; two sisters, Mrs. Lulu Smith of Bluffton and Mrs. Anna Preskey of Oklahoma, and four grandchildren.

The body may be viewed at the Sloan funeral home until time for the services. Rev. Samuel Burgess will officiate.

American Fighter Planes Pace Drive On Shipping; Large Transport Is Sunk

By United Press
American, Dutch and British forces inflicted heavy casualties on Japan's invasion armies today but the enemy offensive maintained pressure against the outer defenses of Java and the Burma road.

In the Dutch East Indies, American fighter planes led counterattacks against the invaders and united nations headquarters said that another large Japanese transport had been sunk.

Two other transports were hit and many barges carrying Japanese troops were destroyed as the American and Dutch air forces attacked enemy forces landing in Sumatra. The American fighters were credited with shooting down four Japanese planes without loss to themselves in one engagement and a Dutch bomber got two more.

The Japanese again attacked the Allies main naval base at Soerabaja, on the eastern end of the island of Java, losing five of 21 planes (or about 25 percent) in two onslaughts which the Dutch said did little damage to the harbor.

The Japanese still were pressing a huge pincer operation against Java, attempting to move in from both Sumatra on the west and from Borneo and Celebes on the north.

Enemy air attacks on the islands of Ball and Timor, where Koe-pang was attacked today, indicated that the northern arm of the pincers was seeking to push down to the smaller islands east of Java.

If that maneuver proves successful, Java would be encircled and the main shipping routes to Australia would be in danger.

The direct assault on Java was expected at any time. The Dutch government called upon the people by radio to be prepared for a last ditch fight against the enemy's imminent push toward united nations headquarters on Java.

Dispatches said American evacuation of Batavia was in progress, but that the island was calm and prepared to make a strong defensive fight with all of the support that the Allied powers, and especially the United States, can muster.

Netherlands Lt. Gov. H. J. Van Mook, conferring in Australia on defense operations, said that the United States would send everything possible to aid in holding the strategic island of Java and expressed confidence that American fighting power and war production would prove effective in the impending battle to cling to the Allied East Indies base.

Australia, too, was intensifying mobilization of every ounce of fighting strength against the invasion forces moving down on that subcontinent from the north.

In Burma, the Tokyo radio broadcast a claim that Japanese troops had broken through the Bittu river defense line established this week by the British and were driving the defense forces back toward Rangoon, the terminal of the Burma road supply line to China.

These Japanese radio reports

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War Bulletins

London, Feb. 18.—(UP)—A British plane en route to Britain was understood today to have crashed at sea off the south coast of England and it was feared all aboard, including a senior American officer, were lost.

Washington, Feb. 18.—(UP)—The house and senate naval affairs committees today prepared to investigate the causes of the fire that swept the U. S. transport Lafayette, formerly the French luxury liner Normandie, at her pier in New York harbor two weeks ago.

Belfast, North Ireland, Feb. 18.—(UP)—United States army authorities today placed Eire "out of bonds" for United States troops in the British Isles.

Washington, Feb. 18.—(UP)—Secretary of labor Frances Perkins denied reports today that she had told friends she plans to resign.

"If and when I resign it will be made known through the regular channels," Miss Perkins said.