

ARUBA OIL AREA IS AGAIN ATTACKED; STIMSON WARNS OF POSSIBLE RAIDS

American Troops
In Dutch Indies
To Aid Defense

Ground Troops And
Pilots Arrive To
Aid Java Defense

Batavia, Feb. 19.—(UP)—Foreign
troops including Americans have
arrived to aid in the defense of
Java. The Aneta news agency said
the agency said the Americans
are a relatively small body. The
foreign forces have received
a hearty welcome from the entire
population, but authoritative sources
said that "their numbers are by
no means large enough yet," the
agency continued.

These sources said that their arrival
"serves as an indication that the
Netherlands Indies do not fight
alone."

American ground troops as well
as bomber and fighter pilots are
seen frequently in Java," according to the agency statement.
Americans are often seen in
caging rooms of the telephone exchange
placing calls to their home
towns, it was said.

"Never in the history of the
Asia-Pacific telephone have so
many calls gone out over the wires
from a certain East Java town
the last six or seven weeks," the
agency continued, indicating the
Americans have been in Java for
some time.

Japanese bombers renewed attacks
on an airfield in western
Java today but Dutch defense forces
still fought stubbornly in
Singapore to stem the enemy invasion
toward this strategic island.

A Dutch Indies communiqué
admitted that damage was inflicted
on the latest Japanese airfield attack
but said full details of the operation
have not yet been received.

Japanese planes flew over a
number of regions of the Indies, ap-
parently on reconnaissance missions
to test the strength of Dutch
defenses, the high command re-
(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

War Bulletins

Ottawa, Canada, Feb. 19.—
(UP)—Loss of the Canadian
corvette Spikenard through
enemy action was announced
today by naval minister Angus
MacDonald. All five officers
and 52 of the 60 ratings aboard
the corvette are missing and
must be presumed lost, the
naval minister said.

Rangoon, Burma, Feb. 19.—
(UP)—British corvette attacks
officially were reported stem-
ming Japan's all out offensive
toward the Burma road supply
line to China today in a climactic battle still raging on
the Bilin river front.

Batavia, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
Allied forces have sunk or
damaged a total of 182 Japanese
ships, including 109
known sunk, up to Feb. 14, a
Netherlands Indies summary
showed today.

London, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
Radio London said today that
the Russians are using a new
secret weapon.

It is a pump, driven by an
electric motor, which squirts
cold water upon the Germans
who are quickly covered with
ice in the below-zero weather.

TEMPERATURE READING
DEMOCRAT THERMOMETER

7:00 a. m. 0
8:00 a. m. 2
10:00 a. m. 3
Noon 9
2:00 p. m. 65
3:00 p. m. 65
4:00 p. m. 16

WEATHER
Rising temperature this af-
ternoon and not quite so cold
tonight; occasional snow flur-
ries in extreme north central
part this afternoon.

Office of inspectors-general,
the know-your-government division
and the position of associate
director of the division of state
and the local cooperation were
abolished as of March 1.

Two Fast Passenger Trains Smash Headon

Lake Worth, Fla., Feb. 19.—(UP)—
Two fast passenger trains of the
Seaboard Airline railroad—the
southbound Orange Blossom special
and the northbound Sun
Queen, both New York to Miami
trains—crashed head on west of
Hollywood today and the Diesel
engines of both trains burst into
flames.

Seaboard officials at Miami said
early reports had three dead—
engineers of both trains and a bag-
gage man.

British Destroyed Great Naval Base

Base At Singapore Useless To Japan

(By Harold Guard)

Batavia, Feb. 19.—(UP)—British
\$400,000,000 naval base at
Singapore, British naval officers
said today, was blown up before
being abandoned to the Japanese.

Demolition of the huge installations
on which 15 years of effort
had been spent was in progress
steadily during the final days of
the Singapore campaign.

Vast quantities of supplies and
equipment were removed by naval
personnel. What could not be re-
moved was destroyed.

This work was well in progress
when I last saw the base Feb. 5.
Before the area was abandoned
Feb. 10, naval officers said, the
destruction was virtually complete.

The base itself, located on the
north side of the island, was fitted
for repair and maintenance of
naval vessels. It had no defenses of
its own, depending for protection
upon the great forts and guns
guarding the sea approaches to
Singapore.

The only guns at the base were
some anti-aircraft installations
and some light field artillery,
moved up when the Japanese
reached the Johore side of the
straits.

I do not believe that any of the
great 15-inch and 18-inch batteries
on which Singapore relied for
defense ever went into action.
They were pointing the wrong
way. The British strategists never
thought an attack from the land
side was possible.

I never heard any of the big
guns fire. Outside of a few guns
of larger caliber, the main batteries
at Singapore were 25-pounders.

When the British forces with-
drew to Singapore island, they
blew up the causeway to the Johore
shore but caused only a 30-
yard break. They knew the Japs
could easily repair this gap
but they also knew that the main
invasion effort of the Japs would
be made at other points along the
straits where better cover was
available. In this, the British

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

Civil Defense Bill Nears Final Action

Provides Fund For Civilian Defense

Washington, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
The deficiency appropriation bill
which provides \$100,000,000 for
the office of civilian defense went
to the house and senate today for
final action.

A conference committee from
the two chambers agreed on a bill
stipulating that OCD may use its
share only for vital civilian defense
equipment, not to pay salaries.
The bill also requires Senate
confirmation of OCD officials
receiving \$4,500 a year or more.

Director James Landis of OCD
has scheduled a press conference
tomorrow at which time he may
announce a major reorganization
of the agencies. Landis already
has made a start towards the
re-organization.

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part this afternoon.

Japs Increase Attack Against MacArthur's Men

Hammer Incessantly At Far Outnumbered Defensive Forces

Washington, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
Strong Japanese forces using
flame throwers and supported by
a non-stop artillery bombardment
are hammering at Gen. Douglas
MacArthur's lines in apparent
preparation for a resumption of
the offensive" aimed at a knock-
out conquest of the Philippines.

Today's war department communiqué,
No. 114 of the war, reported
increasing pressure on Mac-
Arthur's thinly-held lines on
Bataan peninsula and reported
ominously that the Japanese are
regrouping their numerically superior
forces for what probably will be
their all-out, supreme effort.

MacArthur's right flank anchored
in the vicinity of the highway
center of Pilar on Manila Bay was
said to be under particularly
heavy pressure.

For the fourth day the Japanese,
using newly-installed batteries and
trading tons of steel with Mac-
Arthur's guns, laid down a bombardment
of military installations in the
vital allied base. At least four
enemy bombers were shot down.

The first attack on the Australian
continent was made by approximately
75 bombers, accompanied by fighter planes, while 21
bombers participated in the second
raid this afternoon.

Phine Minister John Curtin
said that at least four of the 21
bombers that attacked the city and
port in the second raid were downed.

Curtain's announcement, made
from a sick bed, said that the
bombers had caused considerable
damage but that details were not
available concerning loss of life.

"Our armed forces and civilians
behaved gallantly," Curtin said.

"I have no information regarding
casualties but it must be obvious
that we suffered."

The Japanese planes in their
first direct attack on continental
territory, concentrated on Darwin
itself and on shipping in the harbor,
the only north coast port, a
commune of the royal Australian
air force said.

Details were not immediately
available, but it was hoped here

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Red Cross Center Opened At Berne

Production Center Opened Wednesday

Another branch of the Red Cross
production center was opened in
Berne Wednesday afternoon. Mrs.
William Bowers, production chairman
of Adams county, announced
this morning. Mrs. Bowers and
Mrs. Dallas Goldner, chairman of
the Decatur sewing project, and
Mrs. Dick Bach completed arrangements
with Miss Dorcas Sprunger as
co-chairman.

Spindly enthusiasm was shown
by the 42 persons present at the
meeting and Mrs. Charles Braun of
Berne was appointed sewing chairman
of the branch center, with
Mrs. O. N. Smith as the co-chairman,
while Mrs. Homer Goodin was
appointed chairman of the knitting
with Miss Dorcas Sprunger as
co-chairman.

Garments for sewing were dis-
tributed and include hospital
pajamas and hospital surgical
gowns for both the army and navy.

Grover C. Moser, chairman of
the town board, and board mem-
bers have donated the town hall
to be used as a center for the work
and five Berne factories have vol-
unteered to assist with the cutting
of the garments.

They are the Smith furniture
factory; Dunbar's; Berne Furniture;
Berne Manufacturing, and the
Berne Overall company.

The first allotment of goods was
cut at the Smith factory, where the
power cutting machines were used
and 100 garments cut at one time,
greatly facilitating the enormous
task.

The workers of Berne have se-
lected Thursday and Friday afternoons
and evenings, both, for work

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Workman Is Injured Wednesday Afternoon

Mike McMulty, 603 North Second
street, is suffering from a probable
fracture of the right shoulder, sus-
tained yesterday while working in
the construction of the new General
Electric plant here.

Sheriff Miller And Deputy In Exchange Of Congratulations

Cigars and handshakes were fly-
ing fast and furious at the sheriff's
office in the court house today as
Sheriff Ed Miller and his deputy,
Leo Gillig, "battled for the lime-
light."

Sheriff Miller started the whole
thing when he announced that he
was grandpa again, following the
birth of a second son to his daugh-
ter, Mrs. Mildred Gross, at the lo-
cal hospital last night.

But Deputy Gillig stole the show
from his boss in announcing that
Mrs. Gillig gave birth to a son at
the institution last night. The dep-
uty's family now embraces six sons
and two daughters—"darn near enough
Gillis to whip the Japs by themselves," he declared.

Cal E. Peterson To
Head City Defense

Clother Is Named As City Director

Cal E. Peterson, Decatur clothier,
is the city's new city civilian
defense director.

Mr. Peterson was named to the
post last night by Mayor Forrest
Elzey following the resignation of
George Thomas from the position.
Mr. Thomas submitted his resig-
nation because of business duties
in Fort Wayne which would keep
him from devoting enough time, he
stated.

Mr. Peterson attended last night's
city defense council meeting and
took over supervision of the defense
program already begun.

Members of the city defense
council reported various phases of
their respective division work. In
attendance were: H. Vernon Aar-
and, Brice Roop, Ed Hurst, Walter
J. Krick, Mrs. Arthur R. Holthouse,
James Borders, Forrest Elzey, Dr.
James Burk, Glenn Hill, Lowell
Smith, Avon Burk, Mr. Peterson
and Mr. Thomas, all of the city
civilian defense council; Sheriff Ed
Miller, director V. J. Bormann and
L. E. Archbold of the county de-
fense council.

Ed Hurst, city fire chief, reported
that 33 of the 35 men who will
form the auxiliary fire committee
had been temporarily approved and
selected. As soon as the other two
are named and finally approved,
fire school classes will be started under
the direction of Adrian

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Entire Nation May Go On Rationing Of Oil Products

Washington, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
Petroleum czar Harold Ickes
today "we foresee the possibility
of nation wide rationing" of
petroleum products if other meth-
ods, about which he was "pessimistic,"
fail to solve shortages on both
coasts.

The navy explained that the
exact status of all the individuals
could not be determined because
of interrupted communications
and the elimination of contacts
when the outposts were over-
whelmed.

The lists by classification and
location follow:

Navy personnel at Wake includ-
ed:

Cmdr. Winfield Scott Cunningham,
Long Beach, Cal.; Cmdr. Campbell Keene, naval air station,
San Diego, Cal.

Navy personnel at Guam:

Lowren Augustus Arnett, sea-
man 1st class, Sullivan, Ind.

Marshall Cochran, chief machin-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Darwin, Vital Aussie Base, Is Heavily Bombed

First Direct Attack Made On Australia By Japanese Today

Sydney, Australia, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
A strong Japanese air force of
about 100 bombers protected by
fighters heavily bombed the north
Australian port of Darwin twice today,
inflicting considerable damage on
military installations in the vital
allied base. At least four
enemy bombers were shot down.

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(CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX)

Hoosiers Listed As Japanese Prisoners

Presumed Prisoners From Pacific Areas

Washington, Feb. 19.—(UP)—
The navy department said today
that 1,000 naval and marine corps
officers and enlisted men