

MARINES CAPTURE MAIN AIRFIELD ON IWO

**British Pledge
Utmost Support
to War On Japs**

**President Roosevelt
And Churchill Met
In Egypt Following
Cairo Conference**

Washington, Feb. 20. — (UP) — Prime Minister Winston Churchill told President Roosevelt in a recent meeting that Great Britain determined to throw every man it had at the Japs as soon as any has been defeated.

White House today disclosed that the president and Prime Minister conferred on the Pacific at Alexandria, Egypt, after the meeting at Yalta in the

announced said Churchill promised to strengthen British forces already fighting the Japanese. Although the White House did not say this point, it is known that powerful British naval units are operating against the Japs.

London, troops under Lord Louis Mountbatten are fighting strongly in Burma.

The Alexandria conference lasted more than four hours, the announcement said. It permitted "most important discussions" on a subject which could not be discussed at Yalta because Soviet Russia is neutral in the Pacific.

"Churchill," the White House said the president in blunt

words that his government was determined to throw everything it had at the Japs as soon as Germany has been defeated and, means would do all it could to strengthen its forces already engaged in that conflict.

White House disclosed that

Roosevelt toured North Africa

at the Cairo conference. In

addition to meeting Churchill, it

was president:

invited Gen. Charles DeGaulle, provisional president of France, to

join him at Algiers. This

was last stopping place on the

Washington." The announcement

directly confirmed reports

Gaulle had turned down the

president's invitation.

DeGaulle conferred with the kings of

Egypt and Saudi Arabia

U. S. warship in the Suez

Canal.

The U. S. ambassador to

Italy and France for further

at Algiers.

Alexandria meeting with

the White House said,

new and important discussions

of at least one subject

they could not take up be-

cause they had to do with Japan and

in the Pacific where Soviet

is a neutral power," it said.

resident's invitation to De-

sent from the big three

place at Yalta six days in

of Mr. Roosevelt's arrival

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Leave Four

Big Fires Burning

In Center Of Tokyo

Bomber Command, Guam,

(UP) — The largest force

ever to hit Japan left at

big fires burning in the

Tokyo, pilots who partici-

pated in the massive raid yester-

day.

Japanese photographs con-

firm that several large fires were

burning in the raid, but it

was announced today by Halsey

R. Bazley, company president.

The route on which Decatur is

listed is proposed to extend from

Columbus, Ohio, to Fort Wayne.

Other cities listed are, Delaware,

Marion, Kenton, Lima, Delphos

and Van Wert, Ohio; Bluffton

and Decatur.

Combination passenger and

pick-up service will be asked over

some of the new routes where

potential traffic appears to justify

such an operation, Mr. Bazley

said. On other routes only air

mail and air express is contem-

plated.

The proposed routes will serve

46 communities in Michigan, 106

in Illinois, 76 in Indiana and 83

in Ohio.

The company announced that

it would file a petition with the

civil aeronautics authority next

week, seeking the establishing of

the air routes.

Temperature Reading

Democrat Thermometer

8 a. m. 26

9 a. m. 28

10 a. m. 29

1 p. m. 33

WEATHER

and a little warmer

and Wednesday; occa-

sional light rain or drizzle

in the west portion Wednes-

day.

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**American Big
Guns Pulverize
Manila's Wall**

**Prepare Final Blow
On Pocket Of Japs
Trapped In City**

Manila, Feb. 20. — (UP) — American big guns were pulverizing Manila's 400-year old wall today for final assault on a one-square mile pocket of stubborn Japanese defenders south of the Pasig river.

With the heavy artillery blasting a path through the thick wall around the original Spanish city, the end of the 17-day old battle of Manila was in sight.

Units of the 37th infantry division were firmly entrenched around the dwindling Japanese pocket and 11th airborne troops were rapidly cleaning up Fort McKinley on the southeast outskirts of the city.

The final phase of the Manila campaign came as paratroops and infantry slowly dug out fanatical Japanese holdouts from the caves and tunnels of newly-invaded corregidor. Other American forces also were cleaning up enemy remnants on Bataan Peninsula.

Despite the impact of the heavy artillery fire, the Japanese were fighting back bitterly from their last positions inside Manila. The pocket, now shrunk to 1/14th of the charter city area, comprised northern Ermita, the walled city of Intramuros and the port district.

Heaviest fighting was reported from the bay front, where the 37th infantrymen pushed three blocks west from the Philippines general hospital and began attacking enemy positions on the University grounds.

Japanese pillboxes at the University were being destroyed systematically by artillery and mortars. But the Americans were meeting considerable fire from Japanese guns around the high commissioner's home, which already was in ruins.

In pushing to the University grounds, the 37th routed strong enemy defenses and captured Santo Theresa college and the German club.

The assault on the 16th century wall was concentrated on the east side of Intramuros. Front reports said the big guns were tearing a hole in the masonry and no signs of life appeared within the walled city.

Most of the buildings, including

Fort Santiago and the Spanish garrison

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**Decatur Is Listed
On Air Mail Route**

**Intermediate Point
On Pick-Up Routes**

Decatur is listed as one of eight intermediate points on air pick-up mail routes to be established by All American Aviation, Inc. it was announced today by Halsey R. Bazley, company president.

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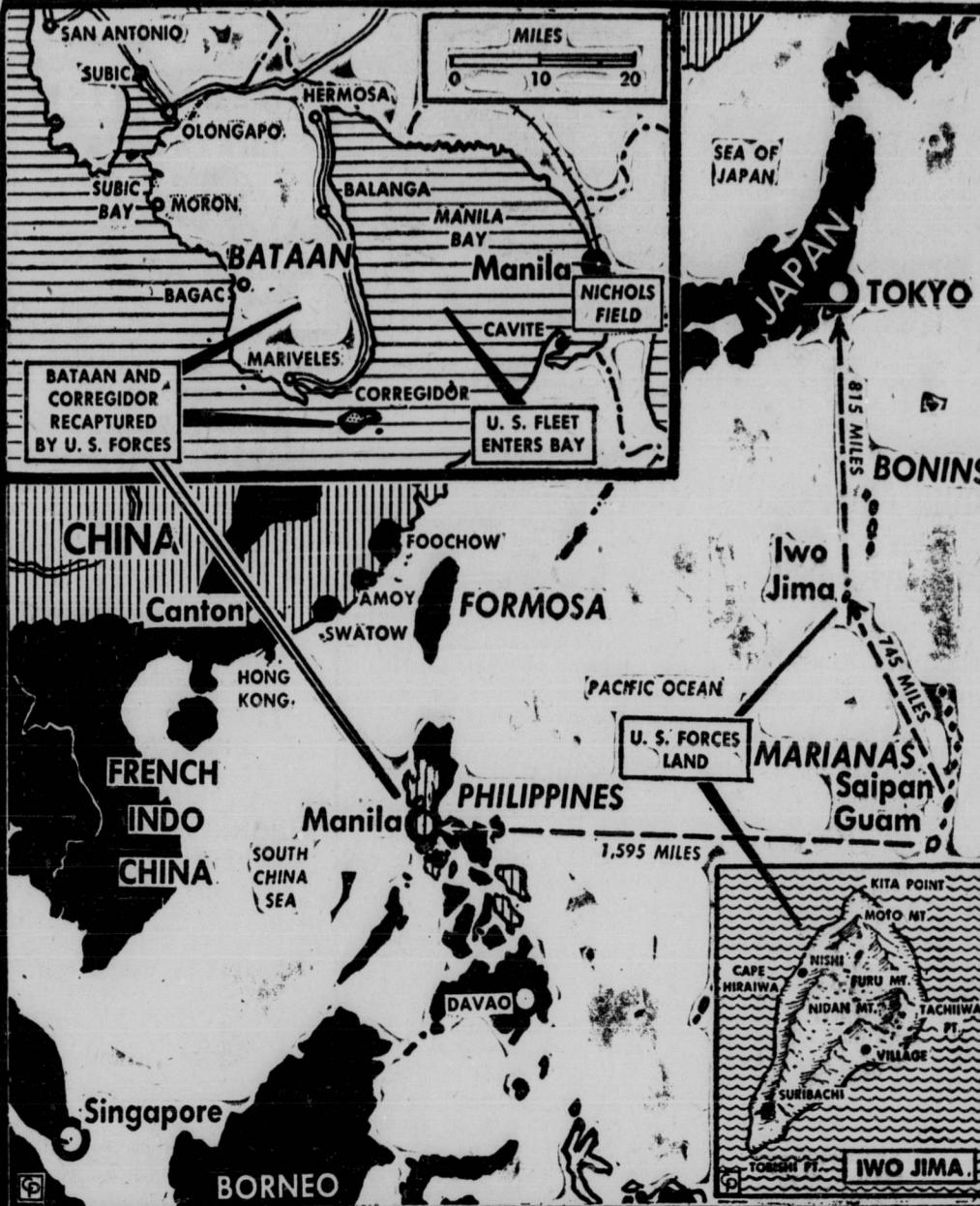
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IWO AND CORREGIDOR UNDER TERRIFIC ASSAULT



TWO DIVISIONS OF U. S. MARINES, 30,000 men, have stormed Iwo Island in the Volcano group from an 800-ship armada and battled inland with flame-throwers in a fight to the death with the Japanese on Iwo Jima only 815 miles from Tokyo. While the Leathernecks were fighting to broaden their 4,500-yard beachhead on the strategic island, site of two excellent air strips, U. S. Army forces were cleaning out hundreds of die-hard Japs from the tunnels and crevices of Corregidor fortress in the Manila bay of the Philippines.

Skip Election Bill Action Is Delayed

State GOP At Odds On Liquor Problems

Indianapolis, Feb. 20 — (UP) — Hoosier senators delayed action on the municipal skip election proposal today shortly after sending to the house of representatives a measure recodifying the state election laws.

During a brief debate, Republicans and Democrats united in an attack on the proposed skip election act to keep present mayors in office another year by postponing elections scheduled for November, 1946, until November, 1947.

The bill was called down on third reading by its sponsor, Sen. Robert G. Miller, R., Indianapolis. He urged its passage as a means of "correcting bad legislation passed in 1933."

Sen. John W. Van Ness, Valparaiso, Republican majority leader in the senate, postponed further debate on the bill by moving that it be made a special order of business at 11 a. m. tomorrow.

Earlier, the recodification bill of the Republican policy committee passed the senate, 43-1. It now goes to the house.

Much of the opposition to the skip election proposal centered around the cost of holding three primaries and three elections within a four-year period.

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Lenten Meditation

(Rev. Glen E. Marshall, Church of God)

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

"For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country."

The writer of Hebrews eleven speaks of men of faith. Men of faith are long-visioned. They see things which are to be. They look beyond the confines of time. "They seek a country." This world doesn't satisfy the heart of any man, much less the man of faith. He seeks a world—a country—beyond. He believes in that country beyond. He has high hopes of reaching it. The Pilgrim's hope is not in vain! His Master, Jesus, has promised: "I go to prepare a place for you." "I will come again and receive you unto myself." The word of God promises a "new heaven and a