

## JAPS HELD OFF IN PHILIPPINES

MacArthur Reports Lull in Fighting After 2d Big Assault Is Halted.

By HARRISON SALISBURY  
United Press Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Japanese forces have sent skirmishing parties against Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Bataan lines, the war department reported today, possibly in an attempt to find an opening for a big new attack.

There was a lull in major operations, the communiqué revealed, and fighting was of a "desultory" nature. The pause in the Japanese attack appeared to reflect Gen. MacArthur's success in beating off the large scale frontal and infiltration efforts which the Japanese have launched in the past week.

The communiqué reported that Japanese patrols engaged in brisk activity but that nothing more than "incidental skirmishes" occurred with "indecisive results." The Japanese air force was inactive.

### Jap Measures Harsher

Gen. MacArthur reported that the Japanese are introducing increasingly harsh measures upon the Philippine areas under occupation.

"Filipinos in the occupied areas," said the communiqué, "have been summarily dispossessed of their means of transportation and other equipment."

Native farmers have been evicted from their homes and forced into labor groups.

"Harvested crops and food stores have been seized by the invaders."

American and Philippine veterans of the hardest school of war—actual combat against great odds—for a second time smashed a major Japanese challenger to their Bataan stronghold and won a new, if brief, respite in their bloody war, it was announced yesterday.

### Attack Paid Troops

Despite a week's hammering by German frontal attacks and deadly bands of skilled infiltration troops, the U. S. forces still packed sufficient punch to counter-attack and regain positions which fell temporarily into Japanese hands.

"In his message to the War Department," said the U. S. communiqué, "Gen. MacArthur warmly praised the troops under his command for their courage and determination."

"Six weeks of hard fighting have made veterans of the soldiers of the Philippine Army."

Their training in the difficult school of actual combat and their battle experience have steadied them and developed their initiative and resourcefulness. They exact a costly toll from each Japanese attack."

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## Russ Sweep on Smolensk



It was just six months ago that the Germans were driving on Smolensk, but now the Russians are doing it, from the other direction. The map shows the Soviet sweep toward Smolensk, encirclement of Nazis at Mozhaisk and drives on other towns as Germans retreat and leave a widening gap of territory retaken by Russians on the Moscow front.

## 4 German Anchor Sectors Menaced by Russ Advance

LONDON, Jan. 19 (U. P.)—Mozhaisk, Orel, Kursk and Kharkov, the four anchor points of the German line on the 600-mile front between Moscow and the Sea of Azov, are all imminently threatened by ferocious Russian attacks, Russian advisers indicated today.

The Russians claimed to be within 60 miles of Smolensk. Loss of this might force the Germans back to the Dnieper River, 300 miles from Moscow.

Mozhaisk was aflame and Russian troops were fighting the way Germans had to hand in the streets amid the flames. Radio Moscow said, while massed fleets of German dive bombing planes sought desperately to impede the attack by bombing the Russian rear.

Red Army tanks and motorized troops were reported to have stormed Orel, 210 miles south of Moscow. The eastern half of the city including the great factories which the Germans had converted into fortresses, was reported recaptured by Red forces.

Russian artillery was bombarding the Germans in the other half of Orel, across the frozen Oka River which runs through it, radio reports said.

The official newspaper Izvestia reported a violent battle in the region of Kursk, 85 miles south of Orel.

At Kharkov, the industrial center of the Donets River basin, 125 miles south of Orel, the Russians were reported fighting their way toward the city through the outer suburbs.

Last night's Russian war communiqué announced the freeing of Polotnyany Zavod, 18 miles northwest of Kaluga on the railroad between Kaluga and Vyazma.

Stockholm dispatches reported that the main railroad between Moscow and Leningrad was in operation again as the result of Russian successes in the north and that food and arms were being sent to Leningrad, long under siege.

Interest centered on the battle for Mozhaisk, which apparently was one of the fiercest of the war.

Mozhaisk is the peak of the present German salient pointed toward Moscow from the west. It is 60 miles from Moscow and 165 miles northwest of Smolensk, on Napoleon's road of disaster.

planes, maintaining a threat to the Japanese flank and delaying the offensive against Singapore and the East Indies. Gen. MacArthur has reported a lull in fighting today.

CHINA—Chinese continued their drive against the remnants of the Japanese column about 70 miles north of Changsha, where Japanese reportedly lost 75 per cent of their forces, estimated at from 80,000 to 120,000 men.

BATAVIA—Japanese bombed Balik Papan, an oil port on the eastern Borneo coast, and also attacked Sabang Island, north of Sumatra and close to the Malaya fighting zone, seeking to interfere with Allied aid from the East Indies to the defense of Singapore, and indicating preparation for new invasion thrusts. Dutch defenders of Celebes Island were believed to be fighting strongly in the Minahassa sector.

BURMA—Allied defense forces braced for an expected Japanese invasion following patrol clashes in Tavoy sector of southern Burma where the British were said to have the situation in hand. The German radio also reported fighting at Niki, northeast of Rangoon.

Authorities said he would not be permitted to return to Burma.

A few hours earlier, the German radio broadcast Tokyo newspaper allegations that the sultan and other dignitaries of British Borneo had offered "co-operation" to the Japanese and had asked their people to stop resistance.

There was no indication when, how or where U Saw got in contact with Japanese agents.

He left London Nov. 5 after expressing disappointment to his wife that the British was not ready to make Burma a dominion. He went to the United States, saw Secretary of State Cordell Hull at Washington, and had got as far as Honolulu on his way when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor Dec. 7. He left Lisbon Jan. 3 for Cairo by airplane.

NEW AXIS PACT SIGNED

BERLIN, Jan. 19 (German broadcast recorded by United Press in New York and London)—Germany, Japan and Italy have signed a new military convention outlining "common operations against common enemies" and guaranteeing successful termination of the war, Radio Berlin said today.

THE 1000 members who own or are able to ride a horse have been listed and they will carry messages in event communication lines and transportation facilities are disrupted, E. A. Crane, president of the association, said.

HORSE ASSOCIATION OFFERS DEFENSE AID

The Indiana Saddle Horse Association today offered its services to Governor Schricker and the Marion County Civil Defense staff in case of war emergency in the Hoosier State.

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Surprisingly Quick Relief. No Cooking. Saves Money.

Here's a medicine for coughs due to colds that you mix in your own kitchen. It's easy to prepare, that child could do it, but it's so effective that once tried, you'll never again be without it in your home.

Make a syrup by stirring 2 cups of granulated sugar and one cup of water a few moments, until dissolved. No cooking needed—no trouble at all.

Then get 3/4 ounces of Pineal from any druggist, put it into a pint bottle, and add your syrup. This gives you a

## 23 DIE AS 3D TANKER SINKS

Vessel Is Set Afire in Stepped-Up War in Atlantic.

(Continued from Page One)

marine. The submarine made no effort to board the ship or to pick up survivors.

"Then we rowed for about 1 1/2 hours until practically exhausted, then rested. We rowed some more and at five minutes of 6 we spotted a naval vessel. We sent up flares and she had us aboard at 6:10 a.m."

Ross F. Terrell, able-bodied seaman from Jersey City, N. J., another survivor, said there was not much of a jar when the torpedoes struck the tanker.

"We were struck by two torpedoes—one right after another," he said. "The oil splattered all over the ship and for 300 feet all around. The ship was ablaze from stem to stern immediately and all the surrounding water for about 300 feet in all directions caught fire. Flames leaped at least 100 feet in the air."

"I jumped into a lifeboat which we pulled into the wind in order to escape the flames. Then we rowed out beyond the circle of fire."

All Struck Without Warning

The other two ships sunk since last Wednesday were the Panamax-registered tanker Norness, torpedoed three times off the eastern end of Long Island, and the Coimbra, a tanker flying the flag of an Allied nation, sunk about 75 miles from the port of New York.

Two of the Norness' crew were unaccounted for, and 39 have been rescued. The number rescued from the Coimbra has not been revealed.

The tactics of the attacking submarine were the same in all three cases—the launching of more than one torpedo at the boat without warning.

It was recalled that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill flew all the way when he returned to London last week. Speculation here was that he elected to go by plane instead of boat because of the submarine menace off the Atlantic Coast.

AN EASTERN CANADIAN PORT, Jan. 19 (U. P.)—A British freighter was reported in a sinking condition today after running aground a few miles off the Nova Scotia coast.

## GABLE TO RETURN BODY TO HOLLYWOOD

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the tail of the twin-motored ship intact.

The body of Miss Lombard lay beneath one wing, almost buried in the snow.

Those who saw the wreck agreed that all must have died instantly. The plane seemed to have plunged squarely into the side of the precipice a few hundred feet below the summit.

CAA Opens Investigation

The plane had plowed through treetops and telescoped against the cliff, leaving the tail only a few feet from the face of the rock. Bits of wreckage and passengers' hats, handkerchiefs and pieces of clothing festooned the pine trees.

Three civil Aeronautics Authority inspectors went to the wreck yesterday and began their official investigation.

Cause of the crash remained a mystery pending release of the CAA report.

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