

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 communique 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 communique 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 communique, "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 challenge to their Bataan stronghold and won a new, if brief, respite in their bloody war, it was announced yesterday.

Tribute Paid Troops

Despite a week's hammering by Japanese 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. communique, "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 sweeps toward Smolensk, encirclement of Nazis at Moshalsk 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.).—Moshalsk, 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 city might force the Germans back to the Dnieper River, 300 miles from Moscow.

Moshalsk was aflame and Russian troops were fighting the Germans hand 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 communique 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 Moshalsk, which apparently was one of the fiercest of the war. Moshalsk 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.

British Are Forced Back; Climax Near at Singapore

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

BATAVIA — Japanese bombed Balikpapan, an oil port on the eastern Borneo coast, and also attacked Sabang Island, north of Sumatra and close to the Malay 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.

British officials detained Premier U Saw of Burma presumably in the Middle East, charging him with communicating with Japanese and refusing permission for him to return to Burma.

BRITAIN DETAINS BURMA'S PREMIER

LONDON, Jan. 19 (U. P.).—Premier U Saw of Burma was held incommunicado today by British authorities, apparently somewhere in the Middle East, on the charge that he had been in contact with the Japanese since Japan attacked Great Britain and the United States.

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 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 home 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.

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23 DIE AS 3D TANKER SINKS

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

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

"Then we rowed for about 1½ 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 stern 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 Panama-registered tanker Norwest, 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 Norwest's 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 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.

RURAL YOUTH GROUP WILL MEET TONIGHT

A "get acquainted meeting" of the Marion County Rural Youth group will be held at 8 o'clock tonight in the Marion County Co-operative building on Kentucky Ave.

Group singing, discussions of plans for the coming year, the reading of a new constitution to be voted on, reports on the January Rural Youth meeting at Purdue University by Martha DeLong and Ann Jordan, devotionals led by Bob Mahan and refreshments in charge of Charlie Mood will round out the program.

New leaders to assume office at the meeting are Dorothy Steinmeier, president; Mr. Mahan, vice president; Maudelein Chappell, secretary; Herschel Appel, treasurer; Vance Lockhart, recreational and song leader; Evelyn Long, publicity director; Mary Ann Grove, devotional leader, and Phyllis Johns, pianist.

Miss Steinmeier, who is district secretary, has also announced a "farm frolic" at the Franklin school building tomorrow night in conjunction with a district meeting. Boys are to dress in overalls and girls in gingham dresses.

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.

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.

Bad Coughs Yield Quickly To This Home Mixture

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 so easy to prepare that a 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 2½ ounces of Pinex from any drugstore, put it in a pint bottle, and add your syrup. This gives you a

full pint—a family supply—of very wonderful cough syrup. It's thrifty, too—about four times as much for your money. And children take it willingly, because it tastes so good.

This home mixture takes right hold of a cough in a way that's surprising. It loosens the phlegm, soothes the irritated membranes, and helps clear the air passages. Eases the soreness, and lets you rest at night.

Pinex is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, a most reliable agent for soothing throat and bronchial membranes. Money refunded if it doesn't please you in every way.

Japs Closer to Singapore



As Jap troops surge southward in Malaya, British defenders of Singapore are making their stand on the lower part of the Malay peninsula before retreating behind the big guns of the island base itself. British sources today admitted the defenders had retired to within 50 miles of Singapore. Japanese radio reports claimed the invaders had reached Johore Bahru, across the strait from the British fortress.

Battle for Singapore Roars To Climax as Japs Gain

By HAROLD GUARD
United Press Staff Correspondent

SINGAPORE, Jan. 19.—Japanese troops attacked heavily today at opposite ends of a 40-mile line on the west Malaya front and forced a British withdrawal below the mouth of the Muar River 90 miles from Singapore, a British communique said.

The communique also said it was now known that three Japanese planes were destroyed during the heavy raids on Singapore yesterday. The casualty list was put at 56 killed and 135 wounded, mostly civilians, bringing the total casualties in raids Saturday and Sunday to 186 killed and 235 wounded.

Bomb Naval Base Area

The Japanese bombed the naval base area and started fires which it was admitted were serious. Despite the admission of further withdrawals on the west coast, it was understood that the situation at the front was more encouraging.

The Japanese were reported making their gains by infiltration tactics instead of attacking along the whole front, apparently because of the punishment they had taken at the hands of Australian and Indian troops.

I heard this morning something more of the Indians' marksmanship. They shot off the tail of a Japanese bomber, flying high, with a single shot. It was the second enemy plane shot down by Indian anti-aircraft gunners with a single round.

Maj. Gen. Henry Gordon Bennett, commanding the Australians, said that on Saturday the Japanese attacked in the Gemas sector and their advanced units shouted as they advanced:

"Don't fire—we are Indians."

The Australians, however, broke up the attack.

Gen. Gordon Bennett said that Japanese losses were eight times those of the Australians in the first clashes.

The Australians continue to be enthusiastic. They believe they will stop the Japanese.

I talked to a disgusted veteran of the last war, now relegated to the post of guard at a railroad station.

Rescue Squads Busy

As he cleaned his rifle and spat tobacco juice, he said: "We old ones can show the young ones what to do. Gordon Bennett is older than me. What's wrong with me going to the front?"

Rescue squads in Singapore were busy all week-end removing bodies from bombed Chinese homes in a congested suburban area.

A Chinese woman still clasped her baby in death. Two young, pretty Chinese girls were drowned in a ditch which they tried to cross to escape.

"This is Japan's liberation of Asia for the Asians," a Chinese air raid warden said bitterly.

Rumors of Purge Growing After Nazi General Dies

LONDON, Jan. 19 (U. P.).—Radio Berlin broadcast today, two days after the "mystery" death of Field Marshal Walther von Reichenau and amid swelling rumors of a German Army purge, that Field Marshal Walther von Brauchitsch had undergone an operation which would keep him from action "for a long time."

The British Broadcasting Co. said that Moscow believed Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, chief of the German High Command—a post equivalent to War Minister—also was "ill."

Gen. Brauchitsch, ousted by Adolf Hitler as commander in chief of the German armies after the turn-about in Russia, was said to have rallied from the operation despite a serious heart trouble which began two months ago.

Hitler, according to Berlin radio accounts, sent Gen. Brauchitsch a note of encouragement and "hoped for his speedy recovery."

The British press viewed skeptically the German claims that Gen. Von Reichenau had died of "apoplexy."

Radio Moscow, quoting well-informed sources in Stockholm, said Gen. Von Reichenau's death was no surprise—that as commander of the German army in southern Russia, the field marshal aroused bitter dissatisfaction in the inner Hitler circle.

It alleged that Gen. Von Reichenau attempted to curry favor with Hitler by barbarous measures in occupied countries; but nevertheless

HUNGRY BRITONS SEARCHED DUST

Driven Almost to Delirium By Lack of Water and Food in Hellfire.

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for soup," he said. "We searched for anything to eat. At the same time the thirst became agonizing."

A British medical orderly who attended the British wounded held up a pair of blackened hands.

"That's iodine and dirt combined," he said. "We saved all our wounded, but I don't know how it was managed as I became too weak to climb the wadi to obtain medicines from the Germans. They were unable to come to us because of the intense, murderous fire. Nobody dared move."

Another medical officer who used a pen knife to amputate the arm of a German hit by a British bomb won the prisoners some cigarettes from the German commander as a reward for saving the German's life.

"It was a difficult task," he said, "as there were no bandages and it was very hard and dangerous to get any water with which to wash the wound."

British soldiers in another tent told me they knew when the Germans were about to surrender "because they restored many belongings the Italians had stolen from us."

"On the day of surrender they told us two hours in advance," one trooper related, "but we were unable to believe it until we saw the Nazis line up three abreast to await the incoming British troops."

"When we saw the Imperials someone sang 'Auld Lang Syne' and we were all in tears as we hobbled from the caves, which were lower down the wadi than the German main positions."

One Tommy, grinning through a seven-weeks' beard, looked forward happily to a bath.

"Do you know," he asked, "I haven't washed since Nov. 25?"

I drove through the dust-smothered sunlight down Hellfire. Amid the ruins of many weeks' battles I saw twisted and charred Messerschmitts and the relics of British and German tanks. All down the pass I saw the devastating efforts of the British barrage. The Germans had ingeniously built concrete pillboxes with turrets converted from our tanks. An impressive number of German heavy guns had been dug into the side of the wadi.

CONFEREES WORK ON PRICE CONTROL BILL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19 (U. P.).—The Senate-House conference committee today faces the difficult task of compromising the major conflicts in the contrasting versions of the pending price control bill.

The hardest nuts to crack will be those amendments pertaining to agricultural prices. Last night 11 farm organizations came to the support of those amendments.

They would grant the Secretary of Agriculture veto power over any price ceilings for farm products set by the price administrator and would prohibit the pegging of any farm prices below 120 per cent of parity—a provision President Roosevelt has charged would compel inflation.

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