

# JAPAN DRIVING HARDER AT JAVA

New Landings in Celebes Reported; Dutch Break Up Enemy Air Fleet.

BATAVIA, Feb. 11 (U. P.).—Japanese landing forces drove forward against stubborn Dutch defenders at three points on the southwest arm of Celebes island today in an attempt to gain new footholds for an apparent thrust toward Java, 500 miles to the southwest.

A Netherlands Indies communiqué reported that Dutch fighter planes intercepted and broke up a large airplane fleet, which attempted to raid the Soerabaja naval base in eastern Java. The Japanese planes were driven off without bombing the base.

Additional Japanese landings were effected at Macassar, capital of Celebes; Bangmipa, at the entrance to the Gulf of Bone, and Djemberonto.

The outnumbered Dutch defenders on Celebes were reported carrying out a scorched-earth policy.

There were indications that the Japanese in Borneo were nearing the southwest coast.

Neither the Makassar nor the Bandjermasin, Borneo, garrisons could hope to hold back the Japanese indefinitely, it was said.

## REALTORS TO HEAR JACKSON

Clarence A. Jackson, executive vice president of the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce and State Director of Civilian Defense, will address members of the Indianapolis Real Estate Board at a meeting tomorrow noon in the Hotel Washington.

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## Nippon Leader



Gen. Masaharu Homma commands the Japanese troops battling the outnumbered forces of Gen. Douglas MacArthur in the Bataan sector of Luzon Island in the Philippines.

## JAPS WORSHIP ON EMPIRE DAY

Note 2602d Anniversary as Troops Pound British At Singapore.

TOKYO, Feb. 11 (Official Broadcasts Recorded by United Press in New York and San Francisco).—Japan celebrated Empire Day—the 2602d anniversary of the nation's founding—today as Japanese troops pounded at the remaining British positions on Singapore Island.

Flags were displayed throughout Japan and crowds gathered to pay homage at the imperial palace and at the national shrines.

(Tokyo radio predicted last week that Singapore would have been taken by Empire Day.)

Emperor Hirohito donned ceremonial robes, and, with members of the imperial family, Premier Hideki Tojo and high military and naval officials, participated in services worshipping his ancestors.

Toshikazu Homma, internationally known commentator, writing in the magazine "Reconstruction," said the fall of Singapore "means the complete retreat of British arms from the entirety of East Asia because without Singapore the British will be powerless to withstand any influence, either politically or militarily."

## CAPTURE OF BURMA TOWN IS REPORTED

LONDON, Feb. 11 (U. P.).—A British military commentator said today there was no confirmation that the Japanese had crossed the Salween River "in force" and captured Martaban on the Burma front.

A Daily Mail Rangoon dispatch said that it was believed British forces had withdrawn from Martaban, on the west side of the Salween estuary opposite Moulmein. The Imperial command had reported that there was fighting north of Martaban.

## NAZIS BOAST OF LINER SABOTAGE

Claim They Fired Normandie; Newspapers Score Official Carelessness.

NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (U. P.).—Nazi Germany set out today to make the greatest possible use of the Normandie disaster, seeking to sell its English speaking enemies on the proposition that its saboteurs had caused it.

While the Navy began assembling its experts to decide how the 85,423-ton liner was to be lifted from her side and set on an even keel again, New York newspapers assailed the official carelessness, which, they said, had caused it.

One, The Mirror, called it "another Pearl Harbor" and said another "Roberts report" was indicated.

### Sabotage, Nazis Say

The National Broadcasting Company's listening post heard the Berlin radio, in an English language broadcast, say that the fire had been of "imaginary origin."

"It blasted the plans for transforming the liner into an aircraft carrier," the Nazi announcer said. The broadcast seemed the start of a campaign designed to weaken American and British public morale by suggesting that German agents had been responsible for the tremendous loss.

All American authorities reported that the fire had been set by sparks from an acetylene torch which was being used near large stores of inflammable materials.

### Urges Speedy Salvage

It was understood that a naval board of experts would go over the huge ship, the second largest afloat, within a day or so to decide on methods of salvaging her. Though the problems involved were admittedly tremendous, no competent authority would call it impossible.

The need for speed in salvaging the Normandie, if she is to be salvaged, was evident. Her tremendous bulk, flat on her side at her Hudson River pier, was pressing into the oozy mud of the river bottom.

## U. S. DISPLEASED BY VICHY EXPLANATION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11 (U. P.).—The future of troubled Franco-American relations, now disturbed by reports of French pro-Axis activities in Africa, depended today upon the broader question of whether Vichy is swinging toward undisguised military collaboration with Germany.

A conference yesterday between Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles and French Ambassador Gaston Henry-Haye, and promises of continued inquiries to the Vichy government, indicated that the United States was not satisfied with Vichy's original reply to inquiries concerning reports that supplies had reached Axis armies in Africa from French territory.

The United States naturally would not continue to recognize a regime which was engaged in giving active military assistance to the enemy. However, evidence thus far has not warranted an assumption that Vichy plans all-out collaboration with Hitler.

Henry-Haye told reporters that he was confident France would justify herself.

## CARD PARTY PLANNED AS ORPHANS' BENEFIT

Children of the General Protestant Orphans' Home, 1404 E. State Ave., will receive the benefits of the proceeds of a card party sponsored by the ladies' auxiliary of the orphanage at 2 p. m. Friday at the Wm. H. Block Co. auditorium.

The General Protestant Orphan Association, founded in 1857, is a member of the Council of Social Agencies and is supported by the Indianapolis Community Fund and private contributions.

Mrs. Charlotte Reis is president of the auxiliary; Mrs. Edward Wiebke, vice president; Mrs. William Wagener, secretary; Mrs. Edward G. Lake, recording secretary, and Mrs. Fred Baase, financial secretary.

## CITY YOUTH HONORED BY EASTERN COLLEGE

David J. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew F. Smith, 2009 N. New Jersey St., has been appointed chairman of the honor system committee at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn.

Mr. Smith is a graduate of Shortridge High School and is a junior at the university.

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Sgt. Joseph L. Lockard

## HONORS THRILL HIS KID SISTER

Youth Who Gave Pearl Harbor Warning Promoted, Sent to Officers' School.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Feb. 11 (U. P.).—This is, in Ethyl Lockard's own words, her day to strut.

The reason is that she is the kid sister of Staff Sgt. Joseph L. Lockard, who has been decorated with the Distinguished Service Medal for warning that planes were off Pearl Harbor an hour before the Japanese struck last Dec. 7. A superior officer disregarded the warning.

When Ethyl heard the news, she breathed:

"What a guy!"

Her joy was tempered only by the fact that it was too late for her to bask in reflected glory at high school. That detail, she promised, would be taken care of today.

Although her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Lockard, were more restrained—they said their son had done no more than his duty, and "that is what he has been taught to do since the day he could talk"—Joseph's elation was unbounded.

Joseph is her only brother, and she fondly recalled that he had, in her pigtail days, taken her fishing and taught her the secrets of mummy-peg and skin-the-cat.

To top it all, Ethyl and her parents will see Sgt. Lockard soon. Besides being decorated, he was promoted from private to sergeant and designated to attend the officers' candidates school at Ft. Monmouth, N. J., beginning March 13.

## LANDIS OFFERS BILL FOR \$40 PENSIONS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Rep. Gerald W. Landis (R. Ind.), long a leader in the Townsend Plan Congressional bloc, today introduced a pension bill of his own in the House. It provides for \$40 monthly for all persons who have reached 60 and are not included in the new Federal income tax payments of \$269 for a single person and \$539 for a married couple.

Rep. Landis said it was appropriate to offer his bill on the eve of Lincoln's birthday, because of the martyred President's interest in the common people. "Better take care of the old folks before we take care of fan dancers, useless office help and others," Rep. Landis said. On Feb. 5 he introduced a bill to repeal the Congressional pension plan.

## DISCIPLE PARLEY JULY 28

The 1942 international convention of the Disciples of Christ will be held at Grand Rapids, Mich., July 28-Aug. 2.

## Russia:

MOSCOW, Feb. 11 (U. P.).—White clad Russian ski troops, attacking in a heavy snow storm, today captured Makhachi, an important communications center nine miles behind the German lines in the Bryansk sector southwest of Moscow.

Hundreds of Germans have been killed in the fighting of the siege of Leningrad, the Red Army communiqué also announced equally severe fighting was reported on the southern front.

The Russians said that one unit operating on the Leningrad front annihilated 1500 German officers and men in one day's fighting and destroyed 46 blockhouses.

## Russian Ski Troops Take Town 9 Miles Behind German Line

(Radio London, commenting on the destruction of the blockhouses said the action "suggests that our allies are now coming up against the main German defense lines.") On the southern front the arrival of reinforcements in one sector was the signal for German counter attacks, but they were repulsed.

Pierce fighting raged at Rzhev, northwest of Moscow, and at Kharkov in the Ukraine. A fresh German army corps had been thrown into the fighting at Rzhev, where two separate battles were in progress. The Red Army had encircled the city, except possibly in the southwest.

## Today's War Moves

By LOUIS F. KEEMLE  
United Press War Analyst

The fall of Singapore, expected at any time, will be Japan's greatest stride forward in the conquest of the southwest Pacific since the attack on Pearl Harbor Dec. 7.

Pearl Harbor and the subsequent sinking of two of Britain's capital ships in the China Sea increased Japan's initial naval and air superiority in the Pacific to an extent which now is beginning to be felt fully. Allied prospects of catching up before the Indies are lost now seem at best an outside chance. It takes no prophet to guess the probable course of events in the next few weeks. Japan clearly has telegraphed her punch at the strategic island of Java.

With Singapore and Amboina, secondary Dutch naval-air base gone, the Japanese intend to take over Soerabaja on Java.

### Air Superiority Tells

That would be the last good base in the Indies from which the United Nations can operate. They would be forced back to comparatively remote Australia.

The Japanese already have been making passes at Port Darwin, the only big Australian base on the north coast, and at Thursday Island, the excellent harbor in the Torres Strait.

The Japanese design is to force the Allies back to the southeastern coast of Australia while they entrench themselves solidly in the Indies.

Singapore's present position is due in large part to Japanese air superiority. It is evident that the British planes simply were not there.

The same air superiority may prove the undoing of Soerabaja. The Dutch air force is good, but too small.

### Sumatra Is Vulnerable

Possession of Singapore will give the Japanese a distinct advantage. Sumatra, just across the strait of Malacca, becomes highly vulnerable. Also, the way would be opened through the strait to the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

The Japanese may be able to crash through to Rangoon from the land side and cut the Burma Road. If they can't, possession of Singapore would give them an approach by sea through the Strait of Malacca. They also could operate against British supply lines through the Indian Ocean.

## BUTLER SPEEDS UP PRE-MEDIC COURSE

Butler University has streamlined the work in its pre-medical and pre-dental courses for those now enrolled and for those who will complete high school this June. Pre-professional high school June graduates may complete the six semesters required by attending school for four semesters and two summer sessions. A total of 94 academic credits is needed for the completion of this training. The remaining credits for a B. A. degree may be secured at the medical or dental college.

**3 HURT IN BARGE FIRE**  
NEW YORK, Feb. 11 (U. P.).—Seven firemen and a shipyard worker were overcome by fumes early today when a gasoline barge was slightly damaged. The blaze started in the engine room of the Socony-Vacuum barge Albany.

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