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Twenty-Ninth Year—No. 8858.

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REDS PIERCE INNER DEFENSES OF KHARKOV

Mexico Urged to Enter War

BRITISH TROOPS FIGHT WAY OUT OF BURMA TRAP

(By the Associated Press) Climaxing a bloody five-month battle against hopeless odds, the last weary remnants of the British army in Burma have crossed into Manipur state in eastern India, it was reported today, while the Vichy radio declared Japanese troops had advanced 80 miles into India along the Bay of Bengal.

Quote Vague Reports
The Vichy broadcast quoted vague and unconfirmed reports that the invaders had reached a point within 16 miles of Chittagong, only 210 miles from the great Indian metropolis of Calcutta.

The withdrawal of the last British force, estimated at 5,000 men, followed a dogged retreat from the bomb-ridden city of Mandalay and a Japanese thrust which separated the British from their Chinese allies commanded by the American Lieut.-Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell.

At last reports, Gen. Stilwell's forces were stubbornly resisting a Japanese advance up the Burma road some 125 miles into China proper.

Claim Chinese Defeat
In eastern China, a Tokyo broadcast credited Japanese forces with inflicting a heavy defeat on the main body of the 22nd Chinese division in a battle 17 miles northwest of Kuehsienchen, in central Hopen province.

Other far Pacific developments included:
Battle of Australia—Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reported that long-range allied bombers again heavily pounded Japanese ships in the harbor of Rabaul, New Britain, and scored a smashing victory over enemy fighters which tried to intercept them.

Shoot Down 7 Planes
A communication said gunners in the big bombers—presumably including giant American flying fortresses—shot down seven of 17 Japanese planes attacking them. All allied planes returned safely.

Other united nations bombers raided the Japanese seaplane base in the Louisiade archipelago, off the southwest coast of New Guinea, sinking an enemy seaplane and leaving shore targets in flames.

The Japanese countered with two heavy raids on Port Moresby, key allied base in southern New Guinea, first attacking the airfield with 13 fighter planes and then striking at ships in the harbor with 25 heavy bombers.

New Air Conditioning Installations Banned
Washington (AP)—The war production board today prohibited new installations of air conditioning and commercial refrigerating equipment in theaters, restaurants, hotels and for all other uses except to meet military and essential civilian needs.

The order also places rigid restrictions on the production and sale of such equipment.

After 90 days, the production of beer dispensers, carbonated beverage coolers, individual room coolers, florists' boxes, fountain-type soda fountains, and low-temperature refrigerators designed to store frozen foods or to "quick-freeze" food, will be stopped completely.

Purchase War Bonds Through Local Agencies, Kruger Asks
An urgent request has been made by C. F. Kruger, chairman of the Wood County War Savings staff, to all purchasers of war bonds and stamps to make these purchases through local banks and post offices and not through out-of-city or out-of-state banks. It has come to his attention, Mr. Kruger said, that concerns buying considerable quantities of bonds had made the purchases elsewhere than through local agencies for resale to the public or their employees, under the voluntary payroll allotment plan. The reason for the request to clear the purchases within the county is to make possible the allocation of all sales to the county.

No Credit Otherwise
Credit for the purchases, if made out of state, might not be given to the county if the purchasers do not clear through county institutions, he said. He made it clear he was not criticizing anyone for previous purchases through out-of-state agencies. "Every purchase is a demonstration of patriotism. I can not dis-

Planes and More Planes Needed, Says President, as Fronts Are Expanded

Washington (AP)—Declaring that more transport planes are needed, President Roosevelt told a press conference today that we are getting into actual fighting more and more and at more places all the time.

The chief executive spoke of increased American fighting in various parts of the world during a discussion of his order permitting the war department to take over control of all the planes of commercial air lines.

"Need All We Can Get"
"We need all the planes we can get," he said. Every kind is being taken over, he added, including what he termed puddle jumpers and one- or two-man ships. He asserted that almost anything that can fly is useful to the government.

The president did not elaborate on what new fronts American men might be fighting soon. Nor did he care to answer a question as to whether American troops had taken part in the British occupation of the French island of Madagascar near strategic united nations supply lines in the Indian ocean.

The airline order means that domestic airline travel will be placed on a full wartime basis in the near future, with the army operating or controlling the nation's entire fleet of more than 300 transport planes.

Mr. Roosevelt recalled at his conference that it was not so many years ago that the American people got along without commercial flying services and without air mail and suggested that probably they could get along with a limited amount of these services now.

The people, he said, will understand. He said he was inclined to think there was an increasing necessity in this country for curtailing private plane travel.

Less Travel This Summer
Asked whether his words should be taken to mean that he thought there would be no shortage of railway coach traveling facilities, the president remarked that people could stand up. He said, however, he should not think there would be any problem for the time being, particularly since more people would be sticking at their jobs this summer and not going away, either by automobile or train.

Sub Saves Philippine Gold from Invaders
Washington (AP)—A submarine which carried ammunition to the embattled fortress of Corregidor was revealed officially today as the vessel which brought out a vast amount of gold, silver and securities from the Philippine islands, last February.

The story was told today by the navy, but the value of the wealth thus saved from the Japanese invaders was not disclosed in the official release, the navy saying merely that "it represented a large part of the negotiable wealth of the islands."

This property belonged to both the Philippine commonwealth and the banks, mines and residents of the islands.

The mission was carried by a submarine commanded by Lieutenant Commander Frank W. Fenno jr., 39, of Westminster, Mass.

Praises Spirit
Praise was expressed by Mr. Kruger for the response being made throughout the county by individuals, by industries and business houses up to date. He said the campaign still was not to be regarded as a success and that there must be no let-down anywhere in the county, if the May quota of \$124,000 in war bonds and stamps is to be realized.

If the purchases are not cleared, as he urged in his statement, Mr. Kruger said he felt certain the quota would not be obtained.

Hundreds of Local Anglers Out Today
Many hundreds of fishermen from Wisconsin Rapids and Wood county fanned out into the surrounding countryside early this morning to their favorite streams to inaugurate the trout fishing season which started at 5 a. m.

Others drove north and east to spots well-known to anglers in this vicinity.

One of the finest of the first-day catches was a five and three-quarter pound rainbow trout taken by Orville Marti, 340 Fifteenth avenue north, city, at Lake Wazeecha at 11:30 o'clock today. He fished with Irv Schmitt, city, on the east side of the bridge to land the fine specimen.

DEMAND HEARD AFTER MEXICAN SHIP IS SUNK

Mexico City (AP)—An extraordinary session of the Mexican congress to declare war on the axis was urged today by Senate Leader Leon Garcia who said he would make such a motion at this afternoon's meeting of the permanent congressional commission.

"Absolutely Indispensable"
Garcia, spokesman for President Manuel Avila Comacho in the upper chamber, told newspapermen:

"In view of the extreme gravity of events provoked by the torpedoing of the *Potrodo Del Llano* (a Mexican oil tanker) it is absolutely indispensable for our country to declare war on the Nazi-Fascist powers."

"I will propose that congress be convoked with all urgency for an extraordinary session to discuss declaring war on the axis, which I shall move."

Miami, Fla. (AP)—Mexico's efforts to preserve neutrality in the present war were strained today after an axis submarine stalked and sent a torpedo crashing into the illuminated Mexican flag painted on her side.

Fourteen men died, including the captain and deck officers who had gathered on the bridge when the undersea boat began its cat-and-mouse game half an hour before the torpedo finally came. Twenty-two survivors reached shore, but Rodolpho Chacon, 54-year-old seaman, died at a hospital of internal injuries.

The ship, the 7,500-ton *Potrodo Del Llano*, became an inferno. Thousands of persons gathered on the sands of Miami Beach, after the torpedoing Wednesday night, and for hours watched the flames and towering pillar of smoke from the tanker before it sank.

Demand Reparations
In Mexico City, the government addressed a note to Germany, Italy and Japan last night demanding "complete satisfaction and a guarantee of damage reparations" by May 21, threatening otherwise to "take a position in accordance with Mexican honor."

There were calls for a declaration of war on the axis. Foreign Minister Ezequiel Padilla called the sinking an "outrage to the Mexican flag." It was the first Mexican ship to be lost in this war.

Identity Was Plain
Eduardo Sibaja y Ramirez of Vera Cruz province, a quartermaster on the torpedoed tanker, said every light was ablaze and four spotlights shone on the flags painted on each side of the ship.

To Ask Governor for Pardon for Dingman
A new attempt to win freedom for Elmer Dingman, alias Elmer Smith, slayer of Fred Beel, Marshfield policeman, and now serving a life term at Waupun for first degree murder, was disclosed today by Dingman's attorneys at Milwaukee.

An application for "pardon, commutation of sentence or other relief" will be made to Gov. Julius P. Heil at Madison June 8, it was announced today by Harold V. Schoencker and Stewart G. Honeck, attorneys for Dingman.

Beel's killer was sentenced here October 10, 1935, by Judge Byron H. Park following a trial which attracted state-wide attention. An appeal to the state supreme court made last year to review the evidence, was denied.

Coral Sea Heroes Toast Those Who Didn't Return
Sydney, Australia (AP)—Three sailors at a hotel bar drank slowly, thinking of things far away.

Suddenly, glass tinkled. The men had broken their drinking glasses in unison.

"What did you do that for?" beligerently asked the hotel keeper. "You'd better go away. We're toasting comrades who didn't come back."

U.S. Cruiser and Destroyer Sunk by German Aircraft in Arctic Ocean, Nazis Claim

Berlin (From German Broadcasts)—(AP)—German aircraft were declared in a special announcement today to have sunk a United States cruiser of the 9,100-ton Pensacola class and a destroyer in the Arctic ocean between North Cape and Spitzbergen.

Sink 2 Other Vessels
"Further, an ice-breaker of 3,000 tons and a merchant vessel of 2,000 tons were destroyed," the announcement said, and "a 10,000-ton freighter was so heavily hit that it took fire from stem to stern."

DNB said the cruiser was bombed Thursday "north of North Cape," caught fire and sank at midnight last night. It was accompanied by several destroyers and one of these also was hit by bombs and sunk, the news agency reported.

(The long interval between the reported hitting and sinking of the cruiser suggests adequate time for removal of personnel. The site is on the allied supply line from Britain to Murmansk and Archangel, northern Soviet ports.)

Two Separate Actions
DNB cited two separate actions as accounting for the icebreaker and the merchant ships in the Arctic.

The ice-breaker (presumably a Russian craft) and the 2,000-ton merchant vessel were caught in a fjord of Spitzbergen, the Norwegian Arctic outpost island, DNB said, but it qualified its report of the fate of the latter with the statement that she was "so severely damaged that her total loss must be reckoned with."

The 10,000-ton freighter was reported fired by the bombs of Nazi combat planes near the Arctic coast north of Murmansk.

(The locale of the action—apart from the German claims, which might have been drawn to gain information on disposition of United States naval power—was the first indication that American fleet units were operating so deeply on the supply route to Murmansk and Archangel.)

Bombers Attack Flotilla
The German radio, quoting a German military source, said that the United States "flotilla" was sighted by German reconnaissance planes Thursday morning and that bombers attacked at about 5 p. m.

"The German formation broke through a heavy anti-aircraft barrage and heavy bombs dropped on the ships which fled on a zig-zag course," said this account.

"A heavy United States cruiser received several direct hits and was in flames immediately. Destroyers Bring Help

"At midnight the whole flotilla was stopped. Destroyers brought help, but the cruiser had received such heavy damage that it sank 187 miles north of North Cape, according to the observations of a German reconnaissance plane.

"One of the four escorting destroyers picked up survivors of the United States cruiser. As was seen later, one of the destroyers received fatal hits, the others turned westward steaming at full speed."

(The Pensacola class of U. S. cruisers consists of the Pensacola and Salt Lake City, each 9,100 tons with a crew normally of 663 men.)

3 Die in Accident Near Rhinelander
Rhinelander, Wis. (AP)—The body of Leonard Pence, 18, of Jeffries, was recovered from Noisy creek today, raising to three the death toll of an automobile accident last night.

Orville Pence, 20, of Crandon, Leonard's cousin, and Junior Ross, 18, Jeffries, were injured fatally in the accident which happened north of here on Highway 17 when the car carrying the trio struck a concrete bridge rail.

Some walked only with assistance. Others were carried on stretchers. Two men carried in were swathed in bandages. Others were shielded only by blankets. Some showed evidence of severe burns.

It was a slow, sad procession but some men waved an unbandaged arm or hand to hospital nurses on a nearby balcony.



MAC ARTHUR HONORS WAR DEAD—Gen. Douglas MacArthur stands with bowed head at a shrine in Melbourne, Australia, honoring Australia's dead in World War I. At right is Melbourne's Lord Mayor, Frank Beaurepaire.

Boy, 16, Rescued After 13 Hours Pinned Under Rock in Oregon Cave

Portland, Ore. (AP)—James Harper, 16-year-old Hill military academy student who was trapped beneath a 1,500-pound boulder in a cavern for 13 hours, died shortly before noon (2 p. m. CWT) today.

Portland, Ore. (AP)—Alive but injured critically, 16-year-old James Harper was removed today from a rock tunnel in which he had been pinned for 13 hours.

Strapped to a stretcher, he was passed down a long line of men and taken to a hospital.

Joked With Rescuers
The boy had lain under a shabby arch of rocks, with a 1,500-pound boulder on his lap pinning his legs. For hours after the slide he had joked with rescuers. He was released at 6 a. m., Pacific War Time.

Captain Louis J. Glick, army medical corps, remained with the boy throughout the night as rocks teetered over their heads, administering sedatives to dull the youth's pain.

A group of miners working under Fred J. Rosenberg, mining engineer, lifted the heavy boulder with a jack and then pulled Harper through a narrow, twisting passage by a rope under his arms. He was then passed from hand to hand down a boulder strewn slope where his mother, Mrs. Opal Harper, was waiting.

Captain Glick said the full extent of Harper's injuries could not be determined immediately.

Since 5 p. m. yesterday the Hill military academy student from Yakima, Wash., lay in a tunnel-like aperture formed by rocks which had fallen from a sheer cliff of Rocky butte, on which the academy is located.

Companions Escape
He was trapped there when the rocks closed the hole— forbidden to academy students—75 feet from its entrance. His two companions crawled to safety.

William Mahan, 18, son of a Fort Lewis hostess, said, Harper and another student, named only as "Red," were exploring one of the many openings into the rocks at the base of the cliff overlooking the Columbia river just east of here.

Harper was in the rear, crawling on hands and knees, when a sudden slide separated him from his companions. There was still room to get through, he thought, and grabbed a rock to pull himself.

With the pull, the heavy boulder slowly settled on his legs above the necks.

CRUSHED BY TRACTOR
Milwaukee (AP)—Donald Rust, 15, of the town of Greenfield, died today of injuries suffered Sunday when the tractor he was operating tipped over, crushing his beneath.

PLYMOUTH CHEESE
Plymouth, Wis. (AP)—Cheese quotations for the next week, Wisconsin cheese exchange: Twins 20 1/4; daisies 21 1/4; horns 21 1/4; cheddars 20 1/4.

AXIS TROOPS AT GATES OF KERCH, ENEMY REPORTS

BY ROGER D. GREENE (Associated Press War Editor)

With American-made tanks blazing the way, Russia's armies were reported to have crashed through the inner defenses of Kharkov in at least two places today after sweeping seven miles beyond the Donets river and smashing more than 150 German tanks in two days.

London diplomatic quarters said they heard Adolf Hitler was so stunned by the unexpected power of the Soviet offensive that he had instructed his ambassador to Tokyo to increase pressure on Japan for an attack against Russia.

Put Von Bock in Command
A British broadcast said Hitler's crack Field Marshal Fedor Von Bock, who "almost" took Moscow in the Nazi offensive last year, had been put in command of Kharkov's defense.

The broadcast said that during the past 24 hours Gen. Bock had tapped his reserves heavily in a futile attempt to stem the Soviet drive against Kharkov, Russia's "Pittsburgh" in the Ukraine.

The Germans claimed they were inflicting severe losses on the Russians and asserted they had destroyed 145 red army tanks in the Kharkov fighting so far.

Nazis at Gates of Kerch
In the Crimea, Hitler's field headquarters asserted that Russian defenders of the heights before Kerch, short cut to the great Caucasus oil fields, had been driven back and that German-Rumanian columns were at the gates of the town.

The Nazi commander mentioned tersely that fighting was continuing in the battle for Kharkov.

Soviet front-line dispatches said the red armies steadily were pressing forward, crushing Nazi counterattacks, capturing a number of nearby communities, and advancing over roads littered with hundreds of German bodies, smashed tanks and cannon.

"Heavy Defeat" for Germans
Red Star, the Russian army newspaper, said the battle was "another heavy defeat" for the Germans, who have held Kharkov since last October.

The newspaper said both sides threw in powerful tank forces and that Soviet tanks forced a water barrier, split the Germans' troop lines.

Citizenship Day to Be Observed On Air Sunday
Sunday is "Citizenship day" and will be celebrated in south Wood county in conjunction with the president's recently proclaimed "I Am An American Day" with a 15-minute radio program over station WFHR at 8:15 p. m. Sunday.

The program will honor the "21ers," those young men and women who have reached voting age since the third Sunday of May, 1941.

Charles Hagerstrom post No. 9, American Legion, cooperating with S. G. Corey, county superintendent of schools, will award citations at the conclusion of the broadcast to all who have reached their 21st birthday anniversary in the past year.

Youths are urged to appear at the station Sunday evening to receive their certificates. American Legion representatives and others will appear on the program.

Post Commander John Podratz said today that no outdoor ceremony would take place in south Wood county this year because of the difficulty in arranging transportation.

At Marshfield, youth groups will hold a parade Saturday afternoon in honor of the occasion.

THE WEATHER
For Wisconsin Continued cool tonight with scattered frost except in extreme northwest portion; rising temperature Saturday forenoon.

COOL
Today's Weather Facts—Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 75; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 36; temperature at 7 a. m., 36. Precipitation, trace.