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Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

Earn Extra Money through Want Ads to help pay Santa's Bill

Twenty-Eighth Year—No. 8732.

Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Wednesday, December 17, 1941.

Single Copy Five Cents

U.S. SUBS SCORE SUCCESS IN TWO ATTACKS; JAPS TRY HIT-RUN RAIDS TO DIVERT FLEET

Rebuke House Military Group



JAP BOMBERS PASSED OVER—Japanese bombers roared over Honolulu December 7 in a surprise attack and left this wrecked corner. It once was a thriving business district, but incendiary bombs set a fire that destroyed 20 buildings.

British Acknowledge Jap Landing on Borneo; Dutch Hit Destroyer

ERVIN SCHMIDT DIES IN ACTION

Pittsville, Wis.—Ervin Oscar Schmidt, 25, whose death in action in the Pacific with the U. S. navy was reported Wednesday by a telegram to his parents from the navy department, was a native of Germany who had come to America in 1923.

Joined Navy Oct. 1, 1940

He had served in the navy since October 1, 1940—the day of his enlistment falling on the 17th anniversary of the day he arrived as a boy in this country. He was born in West Prussia in 1916, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Schmidt who live on a farm near here.

The Schmidts lived in Marshfield for eight years before moving to their farm. Ervin went to Marshfield schools and had served in the Civilian Conservation Corps at Camps Wabeno and Argyle for several years before joining the navy. He trained for three months at Great Lakes and was recently at Honolulu.

The telegram announcing his death said he had been "lost in action."

Sent Christmas Gifts
Christmas presents to his parents and other relatives had recently arrived from Hawaii.

Surviving besides the parents are two brothers, Arthur and Otto, both at home, and three sisters, Mrs. Gordon Swensen, Rockford, Ill., and Irma and Mary Rose, at home. Otto Schmidt has made application to join the navy.

Films of Europe to Be Shown Thursday

"Europe at Peace and at War" will be the subject of the vocational school's film forum program in room 12 of the Witter building beginning at 7 o'clock Thursday evening, December 18.

Films to be shown are "Land of the Midnight Sun," "The Viking Trail," "Village Symphony," "Valley of the Rhine," and "A Day in Moscow." The program will be the last of the series before the Christmas holiday interim.

6 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT TO BUY SWEATER FOR WILLIE! BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS

Singapore—(P)—Japanese forces have landed in Sarawak, a British area on the northwest coast of Borneo, it was announced today as the Japanese threw their land, sea and air forces into a spreading offensive around the south China sea.

The Japanese evidently were aiming for a quick knockout of British and Dutch strongholds, seizure of vital resources and control of the sea lanes by which reinforcements could reach the allies.

Their effort apparently was to strike heavy and scattered blows before resistance could be organized and coordinated, but this seemed to be at least partly frustrated.

Dutch Hit Destroyer
The Dutch disclosed that one of their planes, supporting British resistance to the enemy landing at Hongkong, was shot down.

HONGKONG QUIET
The official communique today said that Japanese-besieged Hongkong had spent a quiet night apart from some shelling in the early morning hours. Little damage was reported, all Americans in the British crown colony were reported to be safe.

Miri, Sarawak, had scored a direct hit on a Japanese destroyer. Oil was an obvious objective at Miri but the Batavia radio said "everything was destroyed before the Japanese could land... even oil plants at the port of Miri have disappeared."

The Japanese landed at Miri and nearby Lubong, both only a short distance from the Sarawak border with British North Borneo. A communique said British forces destroyed oil refineries, wells and other machinery and withdrew before the invaders landed.

Drive at Singapore
This was the newest spread of Japan's tactics of scattered blows, all correlated with the chief drive.

See—FAR EAST—Page 9

Collect Christmas Gifts for Battery E Men in Camp

To bring Christmas cheer to the men of Battery E, 120th Field Artillery, at Camp Livingston, La., who are unable to return to their homes here for the holidays, the local Red Cross chapter today announced that it will sponsor the collection of cigarettes, candy and other gifts to be sent to the battery members.

Boxes have been placed in Heilmann's store on the west side and the Daly drug and jewelry store on the east side, in which gifts for the soldiers may be deposited. Those wishing to help in preparing the community's Christmas presents to Battery E are urged to turn in their gifts at the two collection centers without delay. It will be necessary to ship the box on Monday in order that it will reach its destination by Christmas day.

The gifts will be sent in one large container, and the battery members will divide them among themselves as they see fit.

Mrs. Lundquist, 36, Succumbs at Hospital

Mrs. George Lundquist, 36, of 230 Twelfth avenue south, died at Riverside hospital at 12:45 o'clock this afternoon. The obituary and funeral arrangements, which are in charge of Baker & Son, will be printed in Thursday's issue of The Tribune.

INDUCT YOUTHS UNDER 21, PLEA OF MC CORMACK

Washington—(P)—House Democratic Leader McCormack of Massachusetts rebuked the house military committee today and asked the representatives to approve legislation to require military training for men from 19 to 44, inclusive, rather than 21 to 44, inclusive.

Criticizing the committee for rejecting a request by President Roosevelt and the war department that men below 21 be inducted into service McCormack said:

"We cannot have too many leaders in this crisis. I can not accept their (the committee members') judgment instead of that of the president of the United States and his military advisers.

"They should not challenge the judgment of the president and of General Marshall."

McCormack was referring to General George C. Marshall, army chief of staff.

He said the committee might be "great military leaders and great tacticians" but he could not accept the committee's decision on age limit.

Seek to Restore Limits
McCormack said Rep. Andrews (R-N. Y.) would sponsor an amendment to restore the war department's age brackets.

Andrews told the house "I propose an all out war, with seven million in the army, two million in the air corps, and one million in the navy." He said his amendment would make the house measure conform to that approved unanimously by the senate military committee.

Strong administration pressure, springing from a strongly worded letter from President Roosevelt endorsing the 19 through 44 age limits, was being exerted however in behalf of the senate bill.

Both measures call for the registration of all men from 18 through 64, inclusive, which, including the 17,500,000 already registered, would affect an estimated 41,000,000 men.

There were indications that the major fight over the legislation in the house would involve the age limit for active service. Other amendments may be offered, however, which would preclude active military service for men under 20 unless they had been trained for at least 12 months.

Still others were designed to direct the war department to induct married men whose wives or other dependents are not entirely dependent on them.

"Tokens" Not Enough
In a prepared address before a national meeting of state defense bond sales chairmen and administrators, Morgenthau said that "token contributions" from the wage earners would not be enough and added:

"I mean a real investment, the very limit that each person can afford without actually taking food and other necessities from himself and family."

Intensification of the defense bond sales is necessary, Morgenthau said, if the government is to succeed in financing the expanding costs of the war "while avoiding the immense and dangerous evils of inflation."

"Fighting Two Wars"
"We are in reality fighting two wars—one, the great struggle on all the continents and all the oceans, and the other a war against an insidious enemy here at home. That enemy is inflation.

"The most effective course for us, as we have known from the very beginning, has been to enlist current income and to divert excess spending, to persuade our people to set aside a part of their pay every pay day in defense bonds and stamps."

Farmers as well as wage earners are expected to make regular purchases of bonds in the drive to make "every pay day bond day," he said.

House-to-house canvasses and voluntary pay off deductions will form the basis of a nationwide drive to get everyone into the habit of buying defense savings bonds.

A sales goal of \$1,000,000,000 a month was announced yesterday at a conference of representatives of the 48 states and treasury officials.

Radio Appeal Boosts Empty Stocking Fund to \$254.32

A total of \$254.32 was available today for use by the Empty Stocking club in packing Christmas baskets for needy families of the community, as a result of \$77.50 in new contributions received during the past 24 hours.

The second radio talent auction conducted last night by station WFHR produced "bids" amounting to \$76.50. This sum, added to the \$36 raised by the first talent auction Monday night, brought to \$112.50 the amount collected for the Empty Stocking club by WFHR.

The largest contribution received in last night's auction broadcast was \$25 from the Pulp & Sulphite Workers union, Local No. 94. Other large "bids" included \$6.50 from the Ad Libitum club and \$5.00 from the Ford garage.

In addition to the proceeds from

FDR Appeals for Speeding of Production

Washington—(P)—President Roosevelt told a labor-industry conference to curb wartime strikes today that the war was "going to go on for a long time" and appealed for unanimous agreement by Friday night on a plan to speed up defense production without hindrance.

"I want speed," the chief executive said in an informal address to the conferees.

"Speed now is of the essence, just as much in turning out things in plants as it is among the fighting forces. It is just as necessary to turn out equipment as it is to drill an army, or build up a navy after the equipment is turned out. Speed is very, very much of the essence."

Warning against any feeling that we could "mop up" and bring a quick end to the war in the Pacific, the president told the group there was "a very real danger to the world" because of what he called a new philosophy which would end for all time private industry and trade unionism.

"It is a real danger," he asserted, "we haven't won the war by a long shot. It is going to go on for a long time."

SENATE VOTES POWERS TO FDR

Washington—(P)—Legislation granting President Roosevelt censorship and other extraordinary powers to carry on the government war effort neared enactment today when the senate approved a compromise version of the measure. (See earlier story on Page 12.)

Need Only House Action
Only final house action is necessary to send the bill to the White House.

Presidential Secretary Stephen Early said the government hoped to have a censorship plan ready at once, in rough outline, for Mr. Roosevelt's approval.

Early said an advisory committee composed of Vice President Wallace, Attorney General Biddle, Postmaster General Walker, and Lowell Mellett, director of the office of government reports, had been working on various plans for some time and that they would be submitted to Byron Price, newly appointed censorship director.

Price is expected here Friday to take over his new duties. He has been granted a leave of absence as executive news editor of the Associated Press. The war powers bill is expected at the White House soon, possibly today.

The censorship setup will be different from that created in 1917 under George Creel, Early said. Government departments and agencies will continue to issue press releases, as at present, but those bearing on the war will be approved first by an interdepartmental committee to be established under Price's direction. In the first World War all war information was filtered through Creel's office of information, which had its own reporters covering the government departments.

Albania Declares War Against U. S., Report

Bern, Switzerland—(P)—Stefani, the Italian official news agency, reported today from Tirana that Albania had declared war on the United States.

British Report Progress
On the North African front, British imperial headquarters reported that heavy British pressure was being maintained on the left flank of Hitler's battered desert armies and that new progress was registered despite fierce sandstorms during the past 24 hours.

A hint that the Italians may already be pulling out of North Africa cropped up in a British admiralty communique reporting that a Fascist submarine carrying an Italian general and 10 other military officers from Libya to Italy had been sunk in the central Mediterranean.

Activity in Bulgaria
In between the Libyan and Soviet fronts, fresh military activity was reported in Nazi-dominated Bulgaria, which anti-axis observers long have expected Germany to use as a springboard for an invasion of Turkey and thence into the middle east.

Dispatches from Ankara, Turkey, said Bulgarian airfields were being enlarged and increased, with repair facilities for German planes.

NOMINATED ENVOY
Washington—(P)—Spruille Braden, now ambassador to Columbia, was nominated by President Roosevelt today to be ambassador to Cuba.

Stores Open Nights Starting Thursday

Starting Thursday, Wisconsin Rapids stores will remain open until 9 p. m. each week evening through next Tuesday to accommodate Christmas shoppers. The stores will close at 5:30 p. m. Christmas eve. Many establishments have expanded their sales forces to assure prompt service to evening shoppers.

Nekoosa and Port Edwards stores will also remain open evenings, beginning Thursday, closing at 6 p. m. Christmas eve.

See—FUND GROWS—Page 9

REDS RECAPTURE KALININ; BRITISH GAIN IN AFRICA

(By the Associated Press)

Russia proclaimed a series of smashing new victories in the war with Germany today, and for the first time Adolf Hitler's high command wryly acknowledged that the German invasion armies were "shortening their lines" along the Soviet front and were hardpressed on the defensive in North Africa.

Restore Communications
The extent of the German retreat along the whole 1,200-mile Russian battleline was high-lighted by a British broadcast reporting that all communications between Moscow and long-sieged Leningrad had been reestablished.

Soviet dispatches said the red armies were pushing a vast counter-offensive from Leningrad to the Black sea, capturing hundreds of villages and towns in one sector after another, and that in some instances the Germans were running without a fight.

Gloomiest Communique
In perhaps the gloomiest Nazi communique of the entire war—giving the German people at least an inkling that the tide of conquest had been thrown into reverse—the high command reported:

"In the course of transition from aggressive operations to stationary warfare for the winter months, necessary improvements involving the shortening of lines now are being systematically undertaken on various sectors of the eastern front."

But Soviet dispatches pictured the Germans in headlong flight, by no means effecting a strategic withdrawal, with a Moscow communique declaring:

"The fleeing enemy is being pursued and annihilated by our troops."

Reds Retake Kalinin
Red army soldiers who recaptured strategic Kalinin, 95 miles northwest of Moscow, said they found that German troops had built four-tiered plank beds in houses throughout the Kalinin zone "evidently intending to spend the winter there."

Moreover, the official Berlin radio spokesman shifted in a broadcast from comment on the exploits of "our victorious German army" to a discourse on the "unbelievable difficulties" under which Nazi troops were fighting in Russia.

Soviet front-line dispatches said the Germans were retreating, with bloody losses, on both the north and south flanks of the Moscow defense arc.

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Shell Two Islands in "Weak" Attack; No Injuries Listed

(By the Associated Press)

Japan took alarm today at the reported presence of 20 U.S. submarines operating in Japanese waters even as Admiral Thomas C. Hart, commander of the Asiatic fleet, announced that American submarines had gone into action for the first time in the 11-day-old conflict and scored success in two out of three attacks.

U.S. army headquarters in Manila reported also that at least 26 Japanese planes had been destroyed yesterday at Vigan, 200 miles northwest of Manila, where the Japanese still maintained one of their three toeholds on Luzon island.

Washington—(P)—The navy department announced today that there were no injuries to personnel during the Japanese attack on Johnston island, which was reported late yesterday.

The navy described the action by Japanese naval forces as "weak."

Only Slight Damage
Earlier, the war department said the shelling of Kahului, on the island of Maui, by an enemy submarine yesterday caused only slight damage to a loading platform of a pineapple company and that there were no casualties.

In a brief midday, communique, the navy said:

"It has been established that there were no injuries to personnel in the weak attack on Johnston island reported yesterday. The naval situation in the Atlantic remains quiet."

Johnston, 717 miles southwest of Hawaii, was attacked by Japanese naval units at dusk of an unspecified day, possibly Monday, at about the same time that a Japanese submarine attacked the Hawaiian shipping center of Kahului, only about 95 miles from Pearl Harbor.

Report No Injuries
The navy reported that damage from the shell fired in the Maui attack, the army said.

The communique, outlining the military situation as of 9:30 a. m. (C. S. T.) said there was "no discernible enemy activity during the past 24 hours" in the Philippine theater and there is "nothing to report" from other areas.

Text of the communique—No. 14.
"1. Philippine theater:
"There was no discernible enemy activity during the past 24 hours."
"2. Hawaii:
"In the brief shelling of Kahului, on the island of Maui, by an enemy submarine, only slight damage was done to a concrete loading platform of a pineapple company. There were no casualties. About ten shells were fired."
"3. There is nothing to report from other areas."

Japs Claim Success
Tokyo—(Official Radio Received by P)—The navy section of imperial headquarters reported today that Japanese naval units destroyed "most enemy defense facilities" in an attack yesterday on Johnston island and on December 12 on Baker island in the south Pacific.

The navy section also claimed that the Japanese navy, cooperating with the army in operations against the British crown colony of Hongkong, had sunk one gunboat and six torpedo boats and heavily damaged one destroyer, two gunboats and another vessel.

It said Japanese naval units also shelled and heavily damaged Mount Davis fort and other fortifications. The navy's attacks from the sea and air are continuing, it added.

Pulp, Sulphite Union Elects New Officers

Local No. 94 of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite & Paper Mill Workers, at its annual meeting held Tuesday evening elected Clifford Seal as president for the coming year, voted to purchase a \$500 defense bond, and approved contributions of \$400 to the U.S.O. and \$25 to the Empty Stocking club.

Other officers named for 1942 are Paul Suhr, vice president; Sam Craig, recording secretary; Leslie Witte, financial secretary; Arthur Mueller, treasurer; Roy Bates, inside guard; Ernest Meinberg, outside guard; Oswald Sharkey, trustee for three years, and Leonard Witt, trustee for one year.

Installation of officers will be held January 6.

Direct Verdict for Plaintiffs in Action

Judge Frank W. Calkins Tuesday afternoon directed a verdict finding for the plaintiffs, Mr. and Mrs. John Bronk, Milwaukee, in their breach of contract action against Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gorski, town of Port Edwards.

The directed verdict came on motion of plaintiff's attorney, Theodore W. Brazeau, after testimony had been completed in the action. The verdict awards the Bronks \$1,000 damages. Previously, Judge Calkins had denied a motion by James C. Dutton, counsel for the Gorskis, who had moved at the outset of the trial for judgment for his clients on the grounds the plaintiffs had not filed an answer to a counterclaim by the defendants.

The verdict held that the Gorskis had failed to carry out the terms of an agreement entered into last April 15, which provided for exchange of business property owned by the Bronks at Iola for a farm owned by the Gorskis by May 15. The agreement had stipulated \$1,000 damages for failure to carry out the agreement.

THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin: Mostly cloudy and warmer this afternoon and tonight, light showers east tonight beginning in west portion late this afternoon and early tonight. Wind 25-35 mph. WARMER

Today's Weather Facts—Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 31; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 26; temperature at 7 a. m., 28.

