

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Final

ESTABLISHED 1898

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1912

18 Pages—Price Five Cents

JAP PLANES BLASTED BY ALLIES

Sikhs, Indian Minority Group, Reject British Plan

PLANS HIT HARD AT BATAAN DEFENSE LINE

Forced To Halt Before They Reach Main Points

Hand-To-Hand Combat Rages

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The War Department reported today that the Japanese in a heavy attack on the right center of Lieutenant General MacArthur's line in Bataan, captured some of the advanced positions but were halted in fierce hand-to-hand combat before they reached the main American defensive line.

A number of minor air raids on outposts occurred yesterday. A communiqué said that Japanese planes shot down two heavy Japanese bombers.

APR. 1 (AP)—

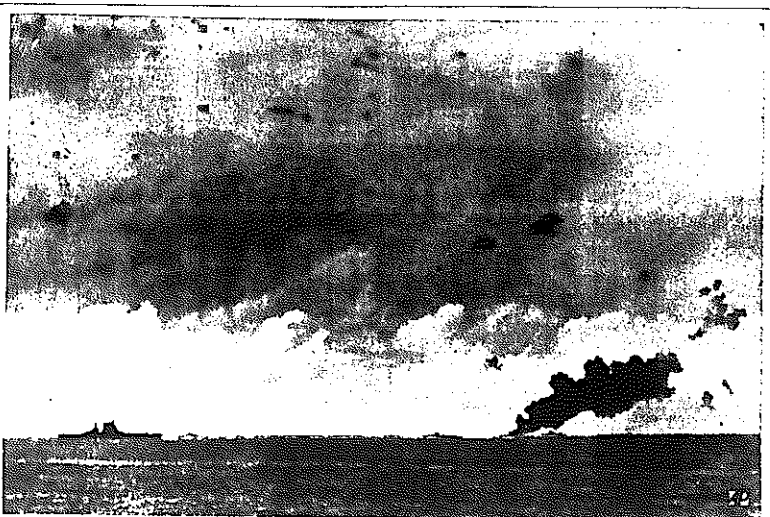
A formal apology was received from the Japanese Imperial High Command to the Philippines for the recent landing of a base force in Batavia. A Japanese Army spokesman said in a radio broadcast that the landing was unauthorized.

The text of the communiqué, the spokesman said, was based on reports received by the Japanese.

A Philippine official said that the Japanese Imperial High Command in Manila had issued a statement that the Japanese had no intention of attacking the Philippines.

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JAP BOMBERS DOWNED IN ATTACK ON U. S. WARSHIPS—The blots of smoke all over the sky are anti-aircraft shells bursting as 18 Japanese bombers attack a task force of the United States Fleet somewhere in the southwest Pacific. A column of smoke rises (right center) from a Japanese plane which was disabled by Lieut. Edward H. O'Hare and then tried a suicide dive at the U. S. aircraft carrier (left). But it was stopped by concentrated gunfire and exploded as it plunged into the sea. O'Hare was credited with bagging six of the 18 Jap planes downed in this engagement.

Bailey for Loan Limit

Offers Small Business Restriction Plan

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Senator Bailey, Democrat, North Carolina, introduced today in the Senate a bill to amend existing legislation to limit the amount of money that any individual or corporation can loan to a small business.

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Great Nazi Drive Appears In Offing

Spring Battle in Russia May In- volve 12,000,000 Germans and Reds

By Associated Press
Soviet front.
Indications that "iron hordes" may be near for the German drive were seen in recent communiqués reporting Nazi offensive thrusts, after months of stalling the bitter defensive nature of German operations.

Two important centers in Poland for the Hitler sale of German Army gasoline have been discovered and high German officers of the Army, Air Force and Gestapo have been arrested, it was said.

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Chinese Lose Toungoo

But Japs Forced To Pay Awful Toll

By Associated Press
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First Flat Rejection Of London's Proposal

Cripps Mission Losing Ground

NEW DELHI, India, (AP)—The Sikh All-Parties Committee, one of India's minority groups, issued the first flat rejection today of British offer of postwar dominion status for India.

The Sikhs, a Hindu warrior caste, rejected the plan as submitted by Britain's special envoy, Sir Stafford Cripps, on the grounds that it would leave them at the mercy of the Muslim majority in Punjab Province.

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New Blows At Two Japanese Bases Struck

12 Planes Hit in Latest Raids; 33 Re- ported Put Out in Previous Attacks

By C. YATES McDaniel
MELBOURNE, Australia, (AP)—United States and Australian bombers, operating in the face of heavy tropical storms, struck destructive new blows at two Japanese bases north of this continent today.

A communiqué said it was believed six enemy planes were destroyed on the ground, six others were damaged and many fires and explosions were touched off by Australian bombers which attacked Keapung, on Timor, while an Allied force scored numerous hits with heavy bombs on an airfield runway at Salamaua, New Guinea.

The continuation of the aerial offensive by Australia's defenders came on the heels of an official recapitulation listing 33 enemy planes as put out of action in three days. Four were reported destroyed, including probably destroyed and seven—including four flying boats machine-gunned in a previous raid on Keapung—were damaged.

All three attacks were made without loss to the United Nations air forces.

There was growing optimism among Australian observers that the Japanese now can be held off in New Guinea although they were cautious not to over-emphasize the enemy's recent withdrawal from the island of Markham Valley.

Nevertheless, they said, the withdrawal means that Japan's hold now is confined to the narrow coastal strip where her position may be made precarious. The vital point in these informant's view is that the Japanese now are in a position to be held off.

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3 Crewmen Of Panamanian Ship Picked Up After 48 Hours Adrift

CHICAGO, (AP)—A small boat from a torpedoed Panamanian merchant ship was hoisted at 48 hours after it was picked up after 48 hours adrift on the stormy Atlantic.

Assures F. R. Mexico Will Back Cause of Democracy

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Dr. E. R. Riquelme, Mexican Foreign Minister, today assured President Roosevelt that his country would do "all possible" for the common cause of democracy in the present war effort.

"Hunger Revolts" By Nazi Workers Reported

LONDON, (AP)—The Moscow radio reported today that "hunger revolts" took place a few days ago among workers of Essen, the German munitions center, and declared police guards and armed storm troops formations were being increased at German war factories.

Say 22 Allied Planes Ruined

TOKYO, (AP)—Japanese broadcast today reported today the destruction of 22 Allied planes during Japanese air attacks on Darwin, Australia, and Port Moresby, New Guinea.

Destroyed Enemy Sub in Hawaii Area in January

WASHINGTON, (AP)—Destruction of a Japanese submarine in the Hawaii area in January was credited to First Lieutenant James Valerius Edmundson, of the Army Air Forces today by Secretary of the Navy.

Queron and MacArthur Make Call on Curtin

MELBOURNE, Australia, (AP)—President Manuel Queron of the Philippines, accompanied by General Douglas MacArthur, paid his first call on Prime Minister John Curtin of Australia today.

New Pacific War Council Holds First Meeting At White House

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The new Pacific War Council, representing seven United Nations actively fighting in the Pacific theater, met for the first time today in what members said afterwards was a tremendously valuable conference.

Seated around a White House oval table with President Roosevelt were officials of Australia, New Zealand, China, The Netherlands, Canada and Great Britain.

1,200 Dutch Jews Dead

LONDON, (AP)—The Netherlands Government in exile announced today that 1,200 Dutch Jews, sent by the Germans to enforced labor in the East, had died.

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WEATHER

Continued rather cold tonight with scattered frost.

Today's Temp: H. 55; L. 33
Sunset Today 7:44
Sunrise Tomorrow 7:00
Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 5-B.

Note To Readers
Illustrated from Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and other enemy cities are published by The News with the caption that they are not reliable. These illustrations are intended for propaganda purposes. This should be taken into consideration when reading the stories referred to in this source.