Give Navy Expansion Bill Okay

House Sends Measure To Senate

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The House unanimously passed and sent to the Senate today legislation to authorize construction of an additional 150,000 tons of naval fighting ships.

The expansion measure was approved after a brief explanation by Chairman Vinson, Democrat, Georgia, of the House Naval Committee, who said that the additional tonnage did not include any battleships.

RAPS OKLAHOMAN

A brief flurry of criticism developed when Representative Johnson, Democrat, Oklahoma, wanted to know why the Navy should continue building battleships after the destruction of such ships by air attack demonstrated that "we can't win this war with battleships."

In reply, Vinson said that "the more the gentleman talks the more ignorance he displays about military strategy," and added that the United States must have all types of naval ships as well as aircraft.

Later, Vinson ordered that his remark about "ignorance" on Johnson's part be stricken from the record, saying that the Oklahoman was "in error as to his conclusions."

Vinson said the proposed additional ship building, which he explained was all that the existing facilities of the nation could accommodate in the calendar year 1942, would be made up of aircraft carriers, destroyers and submarines but he made no reference to the possible numbers.

PREPARED BEFORE WAR

He told the House emphatically that the bill had no connection with "what happened at Pearl Harbor," because it had been in preparation for some months.

Questioned by House Minority Leader Martin, Republican, Massachusetts, and other members as to why certain shipyards had not been made use of in the current program, Vinson replied that he hoped every such yard would be operated on a 24-hour-a-day schedule, but reminded the members that the Navy must reserve some facilities for repair work.

A few minutes later the House passed legislation authorizing naval construction shore projects which were included in the $10,000,000,000 Defense Bill sent to President Roosevelt yesterday.

Singapore Is Threatened

Continued From Page One

south of Shanghai, where they claimed to have recaptured several strategic points.

HEAVY GUNFIRE

Continuous heavy gunfire was reported from both Hong Kong and the Japanese occupied mainland point of Kowloon following the announcement that British forces had withdrawn to the island of Hong Kong.

On the Malayan front, the British announced that mechanized Japanese troops operating under cover of dive-bombers had smashed their way into southern Kedah, the 100-mile-long northwestern Malaya state bordering Thailand.

British and Indian defenders withdrew after a five-day Japanese offensive which the British claimed cost the attackers heavily.

The Japanese thrust apparently carried them some 40 miles along the road to the great British naval base at Singapore, 400 miles away. The British were reported fighting desperately against better-equipped Japanese.

Where the British were now standing was not clear but on the east coast, they were believed entrenched somewhere south of Kota Bharu, whose airdrome the Japanese have captured. British air raiders and Netherlands submarines were believed checking further Japanese seaborne reinforcements

WAR DEVELOPMENTS IN THE FAR PACIFIC—This map illustrates late developments of war in the Far East. Hong Kong (1) was the target for Japan's greater East Asia offensive. The British admitted withdrawal from Kowloon, on the China mainland, but hoped the Chinese armies at Pingsham (shaded arrow) might slash at the Japanese rear. Nichols Field at Manila was bombed again as Japan sought to dislodge Japanese (2) from footholds on the north and west coasts and from Legaspi to the southwest. The Japanese drove down the Malay peninsula (3) but met bitter resistence. A Japanese spearhead fought at Kuantan (4) and in Kedah province on the west coast. The Dutch Navy accounted heavily for Japanese transports.

Say 3 Nazi Units Ruined

Victory Report Made By Russians

Continued From Page One

to cover them. It said a major battle was being fought in the Kalinin sector, one of the anchors of Moscow's defenses 90 miles northwest of the capital.

TROPHIES TAKEN

"According to preliminary and incomplete figures," said the special announcement, "during the occupation of the town of Klin troops of the Western Front captured from the Germans the following trophies:

"122 tanks.

"18 armored cars.

"More than 1,000 trucks.

"80 guns.

"120 mine-throwers.

"250 machine-guns.

"800 automatic rifles.

"Over 10,000 shells.

"Over 2,000,000 cartridges and a large quantity of other war material.

"Counting of the trophies is in progress.

"In the fighting area of Klin, the Germans lost over 13,000 men killed and wounded. The 14th Motorized Infantry Division of General Puerst, the 36th Motorized Infantry Division of General Von Werkstein, the 7th Division and the 900th Training Brigade of Colonel Krause were routed during the occupation of Klin."

Reports reaching London from Stockholm said the Russians were exerting great pressure also on the Lake Ladoga front, and threatening the Germans along the Neva River east of Leningrad. If this advance continues as appears probable, it was said, both communications between Moscow and the besieged northern city will have been restored.

TYPHUS PLAGUES NAZIS

Louse-borne typhus was reported in Bern, Switzerland, to have been added to such German handicaps as sub-zero cold and supply difficulties. The Kahnas correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet said some German troops were infected by an epidemic which had spread eastward from the Ostmark area of Poland.

City News Briefs

WOMEN'S CLUB PARTY

The Charlotte Business and Professional Women's Club will hold its Christmas dinner party this evening at 7:30 o'clock at Hotel Barringer.

VIRGINIA ASHER CLASS

The Virginia Asher Bible Class will meet tomorrow night at 6 o'clock at the First Presbyterian Church.

PHILLIPS-FIDELIS PARTY

Phillips-Fidelis Sunday School Class of the Second Presbyterian Church will hold its Christmas meeting and party tonight at 7:30 o'clock in the clubroom of the church.

PETERSON BIBLE CLASS

The Peterson Bible Class, which usually meets on Thursday morning of each week, will have its Christmas meeting tonight at 7:30 o'clock at the home of Mrs. W. T. Rowland at 1715 Winthrop Avenue. Mrs. T. B. Whitlatt will tell of the Christmas story. The usual food shower will be brought.

VIOLA YOUNG CLASS

The Viola Young Class of St. John's Baptist Church will meet at 8 o'clock tonight at the community house. Members of Mrs. M. J. Mitchell's group will be hostesses. Miss Janet Robinson will tell the Christmas story.

GOES TO FT. MONMOUTH

First Lieutenant Edwin J. Chatham of Charlotte, an officer of the 30th Signal Company of the 30th Infantry Division, at Fort Jackson, has been ordered to Fort Monmouth, N. J., for temporary duty as a student at the Signal Corps School.

ATTEMPT ENTRY

An attempt was made to enter the home of B. A. Reynolds at 426 E. Seventh Street about 1:30 A. M. today. Mrs. Reynolds was awakened by the noise of a screen being raised and when she called out she would be intruder fled.

AREME SHRINE

Areme Shrine No. 3, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, will initiate seven members tomorrow night at the Masonic Temple. A supper will be served at 6:30 o'clock and the ceremonial will begin at 7:45, after which a Christmas party will be held.

MRS. COUCH ILL

Mrs. H. M. Couch is confined to her home at 435 Hermitage Road, where she is recovering from a sinus infection.

AT MERCY HOSPITAL

Miss Ruby Kiffer of 724 E. Tremont Avenue is in Mercy Hospital for treatment.

UNDERGOES OPERATION

Mrs. Howard C. Hull, 1101 E. 24th Street, underwent a major operation this morning at Presbyterian Hospital.

Marines Hold Wake Island

Continued From Page One

rough "V" formation is about four and one-half miles long by one and a half miles wide. A great variety of tropical birds live there and they and the crabs and the turtles had it all to themselves until Pan-American Airways established a base for Pacific flights.

Midway, under the Navy Department since 1903, is two main islands, the largest of which is only 850 acres, and several islets. This group is surrounded by a broken coral reef about five miles in diameter, which might prove valuable in defense.

CLEAN WASH TUBS

Wash tubs, unless carefully cleaned after each using, acquire a scum that is very difficult to remove when it becomes dried onto the surface. Always wash out the tubs with hot suds water and rinse with clear water after each using.

Await New Jap Blows

Philippines Fighters Use Lull To Prepare

Continued From Page One

quarters said at 4 P. M. (2 A. M., EST) only, "no change in the situation on the ground."

Defense forces are utilizing the lull to smooth out their organization and array their forces to meet the expected new onslaught.

Secretary Knox's announcement that the United States Fleet was seeking the enemy in the Pacific created an enthusiastic furore among Manila's civilians but members of the armed forces took it calmly with the general reaction, "we knew they'd go into action in time."

Hundreds of civilians rushed to grab extras and news of the announcement in Washington spread like wildfire word of mouth.

Previous communiques had said that the Army had things well in hand at Vigan and Aparri in Northern Luzon, and at Legaspi on the extreme southeastern tip of the Island, where the Japanese were reported to have landed limited numbers of troops last week.

An official announcement, meanwhile, said the Major Gerald H. Wilkinson of the British Army had been assigned to Lieut.-Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters to provide liaison between the British and United States forces in the Western Pacific.

The Army urged volunteers to report at Sternberg Hospital in Manila to donate blood so that the supply for transfusion to members of the fighting forces may be maintained.

Benigno Ramos, a Filipino radical leader who now is serving a penitentiary sentence for sedition, wrote President Manuel Quezon that all Filipinos should forget past differences and offer their loyalty to the United States and the Commonwealth.

"HIDEOUS MURDER"

Ramos characterized Japanese air bombings as "the hideous murder of our civilian population" and declared that he himself was ready to take up arms in defense of the country.

Ramos was accused of being the brains behind the Sakdal uprising in 1935 and for four years thereafter he was a refugee in Japan. Upon his return to Manila he was convicted of sedition in connection with the activities of his party, which since has been outlawed.

President Quezon had been scheduled to deliver a radio address today but the broadcast was postponed until Thursday afternoon.

Says Planes Will Win War

SEATTLE.—(AP)—Rear Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, former commander of the Asiatic fleet, says the United States will win the war of the Pacific through control of the air but it will take time.

Japs Claim Enemy Hurt

Say Bulk of American Fleet Destroyed

Continued From Page One

key positions within less than ten days," Tojo said:

"The encircling front against Japan, the strength of which the enemy had exaggerated and given wide publicity in an attempt to intimidate us, has been shattered at various places. The anti-Japanese encircling front is on a fair way to collapse."

WARNS OF DANGERS

However, Tojo warned the Diet—which was summoned in special session to approve emergency war measures—of the dangers of overoptimism.

"A war remains waiting to be fought," he said.

The Premier reiterated assertions that Japan had declared war only after exhausting all possible means of a peaceful settlement, and charged the United States and Britain with responsibility for the conflict.

"Japan though aiderd in her desire for peace, had no course left her but to rise up with arms to safeguard her prestige," Tojo said.

Foreign Minister Shigenori Toko, who also blamed the United States and Britain for the war, said that "all Asiatic peoples had come forward to cooperate closely with Japan, realizing our real objective is to secure the emancipation and prosperity of the Far East."

RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA

Referring to Japan's relations with Soviet Russia, Togo said:

"There is no change in the Imperial Government's attitude for insuring security in the north . . . As for the Soviet Government, they repeatedly have enunciated their intention is to abide by their neutrality pact with Japan."

Telling of the sinking of the British battleships Prince of Wales and battle cruiser Repulse, Navy Minister Admiral Shiget Aio Shimada said the Japanese Southwestern Pacific Fleet learned of the British ships leaving Singapore on Dec. 9, the day before the sinkings, but was unable to reach them for a surface battle.

The Japanese aircraft carrier went into action the following morning immediately upon discovery of the British Fleet off the Malayan coast, he said.

Normandie Taken Over

French Will Be Given Compensation

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The United States Government today took over the big French luxury liner Normandie.

The State Department announced that the U. S. Maritime Commission would take the liner over under existing law and that fair and adequate compensation would be made to the owners.

taken by the United States in the

The action was described in the announcement as similar to that taken of the Swedish vessel Kungsholm, and other vessels of other friendly powers.

NEGOTIATIONS

Disclosure was made that negotiations had been underway with the French Government for purchase of the Normandie and that the French expressed willingness to sell on but conditions for payment attached to the proposal were rendered impracticable by the entry of the United States into war.

The announcement made no mention of the use to which the Normandie would be put.

No mention was made of the status of other French vessels now in American ports.

The 140,000,000 Normandie is one of the largest and finest ships afloat. The 83,423-ton liner has been at a Hudson River pier since the beginning of the war.

The crews on all French ships in United States ports were retained by the Coast Guard December 12 for what was described by a State Department official "as a measure of necessary protection to the crews and vessels."

Anti-American Filipino Group Plotted To Aid Japs

MANILA.—(AP)—The Philippines Secret Service announced tonight that the leader of the anti-American GANAP organization had confessed that GANAP had plotted to help the Japanese conquer the Philippines.

The announcement said the confession of the leader, Ramon Mantile, had implicated many of his fellows. Twenty-seven members of GANAP, including Mantile, were arrested shortly after the Japanese attack began and were charged with illegal association bordering on treason.

U. S. Navy In Grim Hunt For Jap Fleet

Continued From Page One

appeared substantially unchanged, with the Japanese landing forces still holding three widely separated beachheads on the main island of Luzon. Enemy raids were reported on the Olongapo naval base, near Manila, and on Nichols Field.

There was disquieting news, however, from the Malay Peninsula where Japanese mechanized troops, teamed with dive bombers, had smashed forward more than 50 miles on the 400-mile road to Singapore, the mighty British bastion which Japan must take before she can proceed safely against the wealthy Dutch East Indies.

The tide was also running against the British at Hong Kong. The defenders had been forced back onto Hong Kong Island from surrounding positions and Tokyo claimed that the fall of that British base was only a matter of days away. This, however, seemed undue Japanese optimism.

WIDEN WAR THEATER

The Japanese also announced a widening of the war theater, reporting that they had landed expeditionary forces on British North Borneo at dawn today despite a heavy gale. Tokyo some announcement said that occupation of the U. S. base on the island of Guam had been completed Dec. 13. This indicated the American garrison had been able to hold out five days.

As for the report of Secretary of Navy Knox on Pearl Harbor, which shows Sunday's the reaction of officials and unofficial Washington was generally one of relief. Capitol Hill, which has been hard for days with horrendous reports that had most of the fleet wiped out, expressed satisfaction that the losses were not too great.

There was unsparing criticism, however, for the lack of vigilance and the unpreparedness which made the Japanese surprise attack possible. The words "unbelievable" "amazing" "incredible" were used to describe the revelations which Knox made yesterday in his report.

Although Knox announced that President Roosevelt was instituting a formal investigation, there was some outcry in Congress for a separate inquiry of its own "to fix responsibility." Senate leaders seemed to feel that the President's inquiry would forestall any congressional investigation, but on the House side there was considerable agitation for a complete airing of the whole affair to fix responsibility for the losses.

LOSSES REPORTED

The losses, as Knox reported them, were: the battleship Arizona, a 32,600-ton decommissioned veteran of 1916; the decrepit Utah, a former battleship of 19,500 tons which was launched in 1909, and the 4,200-ton mine layer, Ogalala.

An unspecified number of ships were damaged, some so lightly that they already have been able to rejoin the main fleet, and others so severely that repairs will require from a week to several months. Among those requiring major work was the old battleship Oklahoma, 29,000 tons, which capsized but can be righted and repaired.

The report disclosed that Japan had temporarily upset the capital ship ratio in the Pacific between American battleships — a gain already canceled as few days later when U. S. bombers blasted two Japanese battleships out of action near the Philippines. The Japanese ships were of the 29,330-ton Kongo class, and the Army bombers claimed that one of them—the Haruna—had been sent to the bottom.

Knox made no attempt to explain away the complete surprise of the Japanese attack. "The United States services were not on the alert," he said flatly, adding that this fact called for the investigation by the President.

"We are all entitled to know it," he said, "if (as) there was any error of judgment which contributed to the surprise, (if) if there was any dereliction of duty prior to the attack."

But for all the smashing surprise, Knox reported, the Japanese had failed to win the big stake they gambled for so recklessly—the knockout of the main U. S. Fleet.

The main body of the fleet, with its battleships, "its aircraft carriers, its heavy cruisers, its light cruisers, its destroyers and submarines are 'uninjured,' the Secretary announced, "and are all at sea seeking contact with the enemy."

The known Japanese losses in the Pearl Harbor raid were listed as 41 aircraft and three submarines—one of them a two-man undersea boat which succeeded in penetrating into the inner harbor despite its outer anti-submarine defenses.

The mention of the two-man submarines created considerable surprise, but Knox said specifically that no new weapons of any kind had figured in the attack.

While this might be interpreted to mean that the navy was aware that Japan had such submarines, the belief was expressed here that both the army and navy stood to gain valuable information from one submarine captured, the aircraft shot down and the airmen taken prisoner.

TERRIBLE PRICE

But it was information purchased at a staggering price in dead and wounded. The navy had a total of 2,729 killed, and 656 wounded—a heavy blow to a fleet manned by specialists of years training. The army had 168 killed, 396 wounded and 26 missing.

"The extremely heavy navy losses were attributed to the fact that some of the less ships capsized, trapping their crews below decks as they rolled over in their death plunges.

Secretary Knox attributed much of the Japanese success to Nippon's fifth column. "I think," he said, "that the most effective fifth column work of the entire war was done in Hawaii, with the possible exception of Norway."

The Army losses, Knox said, were severe as far as aircraft were concerned but replacements had either arrived or were on their way.

Despite the blasting of high explosive and incendiary bombs, he reported, Navy dry docks, oil storage depots and other vital bases facilities, escaped without serious damage.

OPERATE FROM CARRIERS

The Secretary estimated that between 150 and 300 Japanese planes participated in the devastating attack, swooping in on Pearl Harbor from all directions. All were single-engined ships, operating from carriers. The size of the attacking air fleet indicated that Japan must have risked a good portion of her eight plane carriers for the raid. The listed capacity of her largest carrier is 60 planes, the others carry a much smaller number, some types accommodating only 24.

Although the base was caught flat footed by the attack, Knox acknowledged, the guns on ship and shore were blazing away at the first minute. Intense anti-aircraft fire of value was performed by officers and men in the action that followed.

Probe Is Considered

Legislators Talk of Pearl Harbor Inquiry

Continued from Page One

in the Pacific, and I have no doubt that the Navy will make up ten times over for each ship lost."

Senator Lee, Democrat, Oklahoma, characterized the sinking of a battleship and five other craft and the damaging of others as "tough", but added "it can't be helped now, and the fellows who were at fault this time will not be at fault again."

Representative Isac, Democrat, California, who was aboard a transport sunk by a torpedo in the World War, asserted "the damage isn't irreparable, and the Pacific fleet still is adequate for the job."

Senator Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, who frequently has opposed Administration foreign policy steps in the past, said he was glad there was to be an investigation.

"But it would seem to me," Wheeler added, "that what we need is a new Secretary of the Navy. It is impossible for me to understand how a catastrophe like this one could have happened if we had a Secretary of the Navy who was on the alert."

CONNALLY ASTOUNDED

Chairman Connally, Democrat, Texas, of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee called Knox's statement that the navy and army were not on the alert at Pearl Harbor "amazing," "astounding" and "almost unbelievable".

"The naval commander and the army general should be investigated vigorously," he continued. "There is the responsibility and it ought to be determined whether either or both are inefficient or criminally negligent. They must be one or the other."

Speculation developed, meanwhile, over the possibility that Secretary Knox's report was the basis of the navy's own succession question. The bill to increase by for new ship building be limited to 150,000 tons at present.

A bill introduced simultaneously by Representative Vinson, Democrat, Georgia, and Senator Walsh, Democrat, Massachusetts, House and Senate chairmen of the Naval Affairs Committees, shortly after the Pacific losses, called for a 500,000-ton expansion.

The House committee, following a conference with high navy officers, reduced the authorization to the lower figure yesterday — just a day after Knox's return — and Vinson said Knox's action was taken at the navy's request upon "reexamination of its needs".

Delta Epsilon Sigma Initiates Five Dukes

DURHAM.—Five advanced students in the College of Engineering, Duke University, were last week initiated into Delta Epsilon Sigma, honorary engineering fraternity. Honorary membership was extended to Edward K. Kravitz of the engineering faculty.

New student members are Frederick Kent Boutwell, Durham, John Gillespie Gall, Greensboro, Pa.; Sidney Lee Gulledge Jr., Albemarle, Paul C. Sherrill, Durham, and Richard B. Wells, Wayne, Pa.

"Say I Saw It In The News, Thank You."

From The War Dept:

Official Communique

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The War Department announced today that Army bombers had renewed their attack on Japanese vessels off Legaspi on the island of Luzon in the Philippines, seriously damaging an enemy transport.

Enemy air activity was of a minor character, said the Department's 12th communique of the war, reporting on the situation up to 9:30 A. M., Eastern Standard Time, today.

Four Japanese fighting planes were shot down, the communique said without indicating whether they were bagged by anti-aircraft fire or by American fliers.

No ground operations were reported in the Philippines and the communique said there was no change in the situation reported from other areas.

The text of the communique:

"1. Philippine theater:

"Enemy air activity was of a minor character. Four Japanese fighting planes were shot down.

"American Army bombers renewed attacks on Japanese vessels off Legaspi, seriously damaging one enemy transport.

"No ground operations reported.

"2. No change in the situation reported from other areas."

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