

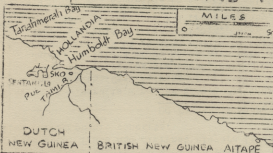
VOL 2 NO. 136

H.Q. NO. 11 L OF C SUB AREA

TEL EXT.

THURSDAY 27 APR 44

WHERE ARE THE JAPS?



CAPTURE OF HOLLANDIA AIRFIELD IMMINENT AUSTRALIANS 4 MILES FROM MADANG

Gen. MacArthur's H.Q. reported yesterday that the fall of Hollandia airfield was imminent. Actually there are three airfields - the main one at Hollandia and two subsidiary ones. The former, well built and set up, has four runways and is equipped with workshops and installations.

14,000 JAPS MISSING:-

But, asked Allied troops, particularly those who are seeing action for the first time, where are the Japs? It was anticipated that the 14,000 who were known to be in the area would put up a stiff fight. After the landing had been so easily made, however, Allied commanders assumed that the Japs had withdrawn inland to better defend the airfield; but troops cautiously advancing on the dromes have not yet the solution to the case of the missing Jap.

SAME AT MADANG? Australian troops who are only 4 miles from Madang, believe that, like Hollandia, it too will be deserted, and that the Japs are retreating to Wewak.

WORLD NEWS AT HOME

MR. CURTIN INDISPOSE

It was reported from Washington last night, that the Prime Minister, Mr. Curtin is unwell. Rising blood pressure and neuritis have forced him to cancel appointments....Yesterday, however, Mr. Curtin conferred for a short time with President Roosevelt and later, with Mrs. Curtin, attended a dinner given by Mrs. Roosevelt. Other guests included Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey and members of U.S. and Australian military staffs.

LT-GEN. GORDON BENNETT reported yesterday that he had retired of his own volition, but added that he had had no alternative. There was nothing else I could do, he told reporters, after I was given a position of lessening administrative importance. Mr. Forde said that Gen. Blamey had approved Gen. Bennett's resignation.

NEWS from FAR and NEAR

RUSSIA. While Moscow continues to report inactivity in land fighting, the Germans claim that Red troops are engaged in a major drive into Bessarabia....However units of the Black Sea Air Arm continue to hammer ships attempting to maintain communications between the Crimea and Rumania. Yesterday Red pilots reported that they had damaged at least 5 ships.

BURMA. Allied troops yesterday captured a strategic hill on the Imphal Plain.

PACIFIC WAR. While U.S. planes made their 41st raid on the Kuriles, islands north of Japan, U.S. troops captured another small Aloutian Island.

HITLER AND MUSSOLINI are conferring on the advisability of replacing Germans on the Cassino front with Italians.

BRITAIN

BRITISH SOLDIERS TO GET MORE PAY. Though details are sketchy it appears that most infantry will go to married men, particularly those with families. Granted on the eve of the invasion, the increase is most appropriate.

AIR WAR. For the 9th successive day Allied planes were over Germany yesterday. Several hundred Fortresses and Liberators met no opposition when raiding Brunswick and returned without loss.

LONDON. In the House of Commons yesterday Labour members challenged the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement that wages had risen 11% more than the cost of living. Contrary to Sir John Anderson's statement, said one, while wages had risen 20%, the cost of living had risen 28%.

NEWS from HOME

NO MILK ! WOULD'N'T IT GET YOUR GOAT ?

Milk rationing has increased the demand for goats far beyond the supply. N.S.W. goats give more milk than the goats of other states and the establishment of an experimental goat dairy is urged by the officers of the N.S.W. Agriculture Department. Up to six or eight goats can be fed on the rations of one cow.

SHARKS AMONGST SHIPPING. The Federal Minister for Repatriation, Mr. Frost yesterday charged Shipping Companies with being "the biggest sharks in the world". He said, that after agreeing on a flat rate of £14 sterling for the voyage of Australian service-men to Australia, the companies had raised the figure by stages to £120 sterling. The Federal Govt. now meeting the full costs of their transport.

THIS CORSET SHORTAGE. Minister Dedman shown a letter to a newspaper, complaining that he should provide women with corsets, instead of making football outfits available to Geelong League Club, said that corsets were not prohibited or regulated, but he would go into the reason for the shortage later.

RATS ! Federal State and City Council Health Officials are to confer at an early date in Brisbane, on the best method of coping with the big increase in the number of rats in Qld., especially Brisbane, with a view to mitigating the chance of the introduction of rat borne diseases, such as bubonic plague. More rats are infesting Brisbane waterside area and along the coast at present, than Federal Health Officials have ever known before.

SNOW IN N.S.W. First snow of the season fell in the southern, central and northern parts of N.S.W. early this week. It was the most extensive at this period of the year, for some time. Sydney felt the cold blast that whipped across the snow covered country. Snow has fallen at Katoomba, Lithgow, Yetholme, Oberon, Kosciusko, Orange and Blayney.

PYJAMA GIRL. Ten people have sworn definitely, that the Pyjama girl was Linda Agostini. Five have said it was Anna Philomena Morgan and six have said it definitely was not Morgan. All witnesses who said it was not Morgan, stated that they had not seen her since 1930. If she was living in Sydney as suggested, it would have been thought that such people would have seen her between 1930 and 1934, said Mr. Head assisting the coroner.

ADELAIDE NEWSLETTER. Aircraft production activity in S.A. would probably be extended when heavy bomber production programs got under way, Minister for Aircraft Production Senator Cameron, said yesterday. War Cabinet has sanctioned construction in Aust. of a cruiser costing £4,500,000, Minister for Navy Makin said here yesterday. New cruiser and the new destroyer announced the other day, would have guns and armorplate made in Australia. Harold James Box was hanged in the Adelaide gaol at 8 a.m. yesterday for the murder of Lance Brown, City Company Director. Dick Bigg a 16 year old Balaklava boy is the first civilian to be treated with penicillin in S.A. He has been suffering from a rare disease of the lung since December 1942.

OBOES WANTED. Authorities of the Melbourne Conservatorium are worried about the lack of professional tutors for wood instruments. They have 30 students waiting. A scarcity of good oboe, flute and clarinet players is such, that some have to travel up to 500 miles for symphonic concerts.

DO YOU WRITE TO P.O.W.? IF SO -

There is a new procedure for addressing mail to prisoners - Writers who know the Camp Address of prisoners are to include it in their letters. Where two addresses are known, mail should be sent to the camp nearest Japan. Soldiers whose names have been communicated by Jap authorities, but whose locality is unknown should be addressed - C/o P.O.W. Bureau Tokyo. Those reported missing or P.O.W., whose address is unknown, should be addressed to Japanese Red Cross Society, Tokyo

BUTTER REDUCTION. According to a public opinion poll held in Melbourne suburbia, a butter reduction would be unpopular with seven out of ten consumers, even if only 25%

INVASION PREDICTION. Because the weather would not be right till then, the Western Europe invasion would not happen for 3 weeks, said Dr. Thomas Wood, author of the book "Cobbers", who is visiting Australia to publicise the British war effort. Dr. Wood said he was not prophesying.

- AROUND THE AREA -

PICTURES. Camp: "Submarine Patrol" Capitol: "Ladies in Retirement" and "Two Latins from Manhattan" Pioneer: "White Banners" and "Daredevil Drivers".

DANCE. At C. of E. Rec Centre to aid Queen of Personnel in A.W.C. Red Cross Drive.

LOCKY MEETING. Tomorrow night Amenities H.C. 1915.

FOUND. Whistlet Watch. Ring M1. Ext. 3

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