Today's War Summary

Fate of Singapore

Determined defenders e rallied today for an attempt to throw a ding force of Japanese off the embattled (s). er pinning them down to a ten-mile front Mong western swamps and beaches. Under a hail of British artillery fire sweeping shallow waters of Johore Strait, the Japanese force was, in effect, surrounded and unable to receive reinforcements at least until nightfall before which Australians hoped to cut the invaders to pieces. An initial force gained a foothold under cover of withering artillery and aerial bombardment throughout yesterday and all last night. Tokyo broadcasts claimed that Japanese parachutists took part in the battle and reported the Japanese Navy expected to join in an all-out assault on the island. After several hours of bloody fighting, Major General Henry Gordon Bennett, commander of the Australian forces, said: "We have taken our stand on a strong line and are organizing an attack which, it is hoped, will recover as much as possible of the lost terrain." With the fate of Singapore in the balance, Japanese airmen bombed Batavia for the first time and stepped up air attacks elsewhere in the Indies in a development taken to be a prelude to attempted landing on Java. Reinforced by fresh Chinese and Indian troops, British forces appeared tonight to have stabilized the Salween River front barring the Japanese drive toward Rangoon and China's last important gateway to the sea.

Nazis Desperately Pressed in Russia

Desperately-pressed German troops laid vast minefields in Donets Basin today in the attempt to halt onrushing Soviet forces, but the Red Army surged on over the snow-drifted steppes. The British Broadcasting Corporation reported the recapture of Krasnograd, sixty-five miles southwest of Kharkov, and indicated another advance for the Russians driving westward toward Dnieperopetrovski. Owing to loss of guns and shortage of ammunition, German artillery has virtually ceased to be a factor in the fighting now.

Counter-Offensive Libya Is Stemmed

In Libya the British main force has, evidently, stemmed the Axis counter-offensive which commenced from Agedabia three weeks ago. General Edwin Rommell is having difficulty with his communications due to the pounding of the British who have unquestioned aerial superiority.

REVISION

Several Reductions in Improve-

ment Values Allowed by City

Commissioner This

Morning.

improvements:

lease, \$1455 to \$355.

Edward O'Gara, lot 4, block 25,

K. Sakamoto, lots 11 and 12,

Salvation Army, Fraser Street,

block 33, section 1, \$1755 to \$900.

\$1355 to \$1155, \$2880 to \$2680.

section 5, \$155 to \$1100.

section 1, \$400 to \$300.

+ trol wagon was overturned.

ANGIERS COURT OF TROUBLE

-British Rioting at Spanish oracco Seaport Over Week-end

TANGIERS, Spanish Morocco, After hearing and disposing of eb. 9:-Serious and destructive a number of appeals, City Comti-British riots were staged by missioner D. J. Matheson rose in rabs and Spaniards. An explosion his capacity as judge of the court a quay, a few minutes after a of revision on the municipal aslitish ship left for Gibraltar, sessment roll shortly before noon fourteen persons and in- today and is continuing the sesed seventy-one others. The Bri- sion this afternoon. Post Office was damaged as the following revisions were ordered this morning, all being on RETREAT

llowing the rioting at Tanmartial law has been deby the Spanish authorities. tion 1, \$1855 to \$1800. a result of the incidents at glers, London accuses Berlin section 1, \$1935 to \$1850. rying to stir up Spain against

Cover War

his way to Juneau here he will make his headlarters as a newspaper corspondent, representing the nicago Sun, in the event of + ctual warfare coming to laska, Alan C. Faith was a 🕈 assenger aboard the Princess + ing project across Hays Creek. laska territory. Mr. Faith • were in collision this afternoon at was formerly located in wes- + the corner of Second Avenue and tern Alaska around Anchor- + Second Street. Ed. McDonald, the ge and Seward. driver of the latter vehicle, sustained some scratches. The pa-

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL BRITISH COLUMBIA'S NEWSPAPER

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PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1942.

PRICE: FIVE CENTS

Tomorrow's Tides

21:56 p.m. 16.7 ft. 15:25 p.m. 5.5 ft.

ING GING

SUBS SINK BIG SHIP

Amerikaland, One of Largest Freighters, Is U-Boat Victim -Two Others

NEW YORK, Feb. 9:-The. 15,-000 ton Swedish freighter Amerikaland, one of the largest freighters in the world, was sunk February 2 thirty miles off Cape Hatteras and within 200 miles of New York when an enemy submarine drove two torpedoes into her, it is announced. Twenty-eight missing members of the crew are being sought and eleven have been landed, others being still unaccounted

The Amerikaland was under charter to American interests.

The United States Department of the Navy states that Axis sub-marines are sill operating in a marines are sill operating in a waters off the United States and Canadian coasts.

Survivors of three torpedoed ships were landed at Atlantic ports of Canada and the United States over the week-end. In addition to the Swedish freighter Amerikaland, from which eleven survivors have been landed and twentyeight other crew members are being sought, other victims of enemy U-boat action were an unidentified British freighter, 54 members of the crew of which have been landed at an eastern Canadian port with eleven missing and believed lost, and the American vessel China Arrow 37 members the crew of which have been landed at Lewes, Deleware.

GERMANS

All Nazi Attempts to Regain Initiative Are Foiled By the Russians.

MOSCOW. Feb. 9:-Soviet forces have smashed all German attempts to regain the offensive on the Russo-German front.

A whole Nazi battalion has been annihilated on the Moscow front as the Battle for Smolensk continues.

The Germans are believed to be withdrawing from the siege of Leningrad toward Esthonia. Germany may have decided to fall back from long-besieged Leningrad at the north end of the long Russo-German was front to Esthonia.

Both sides are moving huge reinforcements east of Smolensk in the central sector west of Moscow.

Swift Canadian Co., waterfront Harry Long, lot 2, block 4, sec-

British Cease Falling Back in Campaign on Libyan Desert.

CAIRO, Feb. 9:-British forces and A. M. Davies. L. W. Patmore, lots 32 and 33, have ceased falling back before block 7, section 5, \$1235 to \$1100. General Erwin Rommell's Axis L. W. Patmore, lots 38 and 39, counter-offensive on the Libyan

block 14, section 5, \$6180 to \$5500. Desert west of Tobruk. L. W. Patmore, lot 12, block 15, The British who have followed & Sees Defeat a scorched earth policy of retreat, Mah Wah Kee, lots 23 and 24, are now making a determined block 15, section 5, \$7710 to \$7000. stand west of Tobruk and a turn Fred Lanza, lot 39, block 29, in the tide has started.

British desert fighters, holding Certain adjustments were also positions firmly before Tobruk, allowed in connection with land have thrust out patrols against # BRISTOL, Feb. 9:-Sir Staf- * it was announced today. Mobile + confidently yesterday that since the war began. There were plicants on the spot. He expects that his travels • The military police patrol car will take him.

The military police patrol car miles west of coastal Ain El Ga-

LOCAL TEMPERATURE

Maximum Minimum

Great Liner Normandie, Now United States Navy Vessel, Fireswept Today

NEW YORK, Feb. 9: (CP)—A disastrous fire swept the huge former French liner Normandie at her Hudson River pier today.

The \$60,000,000 liner, now the United States Navy auxiliary ship renamed Lafayette, was being refitted and is estimated to have had 2500 to 3000 workmen aboard when the blaze started. Most of these are believed to have escaped down ladders.

The entire upper deck of the 83,000-ton vessel was ablaze and flames raced through the length of the superliner.

EFFECTIVE

Prince Rupert Tried Out Sunday Afternoon.

out for the first time yesterday torized, are to be formed in the from the central control at for- and will soon be doubled. tress headquarters and were heard plainly from all quarters--in houses and outside. Sound observers were posted at various points and most all of them reported favorably to the district wardens who later met together to check general results.

The air raid sirens are located at Besner Apartments, Besner Block, Armory, Booth Memorial School and Seal Cove air base. All except the last are operated from the master control and went on the air in synchronization.

At many points two or more of the alarms could be heard.

At the meeting with the district wardens who received reports from widely scattered points in their respective areas, some very surprising facts were revealed Section Two did not hear th warning generally, although in one location it came in very clearly. It was heard on Digby Island quite

The results of the reports are being tabulated and, when the maps showing the intensity of the sound are plotted, a reconsideration with a view to changing the position of a siren or installing another one, will be taken up by the committee.

The reports of the district wardens were very comprehensive as Laurent, Liberal; Paul Bouchard, the many individuals who were Canadian Party. asked to note the effectiveness of Montreal-St.Mary - Baoul Perilthe warning did so very willing- lard, Canadian party; Marcel Osly. District wardens reporting tiguy, Gaspard Fauteux, Emil were J. L. MacIntosh, J. A. Teng, Naud, all running as Liberals with-G. T. German, H. A. Breen, G. P. out official Liberal party support. Tinker, J. MacGlashan, J. E. Bod- Welland is the most bitterly die. Reports from the dry dock fought with Premier Hepburn sup-

meeting were Inspector Ernest eral election instead of a plebis-Gammon, J. J. Little, J. S. Wilson cite.

very clearly heard there.

Of Germany

+ feated this year. This would + base on Saturday. + be dependent on full support + A German claim was that one • which should be given even if • at Malta and a cruiser hit. * sacrifice was involved.

INCREASED

Raid Alarm Yesterday in Twenty-Seven New Divisions to Be Formed—Expanding Air Force.

Prince Rupert's newly installed NEW YORK, Feb. 9:- Twentyair raid alarm system was tested seven new divisions, mostly moafternoon and proved very effec- United States Army. The Ameritive. Banshees covering various can air force is to be increased parts of the city were sounded to one million officers and men

ON TODAY

Results of Four Hard-Fought By-Elections in Canada Being Awaited With Interest.

OTTAWA, Feb. 9:(P) - Electors went to the polls in four federal constituencies today after an intensive campaign featuring the conscription issue, party splits in which some Ontario Liberals and Conservatives aligned themselves against the federal government, resurgence of the feud between Premier Mitchell Hepburn of Ontario and Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King, formation of a new Canadian party sponsoring two candidates and sharp

The line-ups are as follows: Welland - Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, minister of labor; Douglas Watt, Independent; Mark Kriluk, Co-operative Commonwealth Fed-

York South - Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, Conservative; J. Norworthy, C.C.F.

Quebec East - Hon. A. E.

showed that the warning was porting Watt and suggesting that, if he is elected, Prime Minister Others in attendance at the Mackenzie King might call a gen-

Bombers Continue to Pound British Mediterranean Fortress.

+ by Britain and United States + British submarine had been sunk A German Messerschmidt was * brought down and four British + planes are missing.

Japanese Still On Offensive in Pacific; Land Near Singapore

Blows Rained on Burma and Netherlands East Indies and Even Fort Darwin in Australia Has Alarm.

After nine weeks of warfare in the southwest Pacific, the united nations are still on the defensive with the Japanese raining blows thick and fast on Singapore, Burma, the East Indies and the Philippines. Fresh assaults have occurred in each area and there are growing indications of all out offensive by the enemy. The Japa-

POSITION IMPROVED

Things Much Better in Burma-Wavell Pays Visit-Is Well Satisfied.

RANGOON, Feb. 9: (P)-At the point where some observers are believing the Japanese drive in the Far East may be broken, General Sir Archibald Wavell, commander-in-chief of the united nations forces in the Far East, visited the Burma front at the week-end. He expressed satisfaction with the defences along the Salween River and said there were grounds for "reasoned optimism."

Lieut. Gen. T. J. Hutton, British commander in Burma, said that the presence of General Wavell had given great satisfaction and confidence to everyone. General Hutton said: "We are in a far sounder position to call a halt to the Japanese than before."

More Chinese forces have joined other reinforcements in Burma.

cleavage among Quebec Liberals. SOAP NOW RATIONE

Is Latest Commodity To Be Limited In Britain

LONDON, Feb. 9:-Soap is the latest commodity to be rationed in Britain. Three ounces per week lanban and elsewhere in the East per person will be the limit for Indies. Batavia had bombs droptoilet soap, four ounces laundry soap, three ounces soap chips or flakes, six ounces powdered soap. Shaving soap is not rationed.

Air Force Mobile Recruiting Party

To Visit Prince Rupert and Other Parts of District Around End of This Month.

Royal Canadian Air Force will Arthur's forces on Batan Peninagain visit Prince Rupert on March sula in the Philippines, but the 4 and 5, it is announced, arriving defenders, while giving some here by train from Terrace on the ground, are hanging on grimly. night of March 3 and proceeding by steamer to Ocean Falls on the night of March 5. The party will consist of recruiting officer, med- Sinking Officer and non-commissionical officer and non-commissionconcerned in the Wartime Hous- the enemy in the El Mechili area, ford Cripps, former British + LONDON, Feb. 9:—Malta report- ed officer, equipped to complete + south of Gebel el Achdar ranges, ambassador to Russia, said ded its toughest day of air attacks the medical examinations of ap-

Feb. 19 to 21—Prince George. Feb. 21 to 24—Vanderhoof. Feb. 24 to 26—Smithers.

Feb. 26 to 28-Hazelton. Feb. 28 to March 3-Terrace. March 3 to 5-Prince Rupert. March 6 to 7-Ocean Falls.

nese have commenced landings in Singapore Island proper. At Rangoon twenty-four Japanese planes attacked the city Saturday and three were brought down. Early yesterday there was an even more intensive assault. Capture of Amboina Island in the Netherlands East Indies gives the Japanese control of the second largest naval base in the whole Far East. More intensive attacks have been started against General Douglas McArthur's forces in the Philip-

The Japanese siege army started its first real offensive by landing on an island commanding the east end of Johore Strait Sunday and today made further landings. The Allied defenders did not oppose the first landing. No details were given but the first landing parties, it was suggested, were merely patrols. Fierce artillery exchanges across the Straits of Johore continue and several enemy batteries were reported put out of action. A British patrol boat sank an enemy vessel, with thirty men aboard, in Johore Straits, most being drowned. Air battles over Singapore continue.

The Japanese, using barges and under cover of heavy artillery and aerial fire, landed at several more points along a ten-mile frontage of Singapore Island today. The British defenders are now endeavoring to mop up the invaders as they land.

Rangoon had its heaviest air raid so far in the war early yesterday. Bombs were dropped on the airdrome and also in the metropolitan area. Desperate efforts are evidently being made by the enemy to knock out Allied air power in Burma. On land the Japanese are bringing up reinforcements and so are the united

Enemy planes have been over New Guinea again, also over Talped on it for the first time to-

Fort Darwin, on the northern Australian mainland, had its third alarm since the start of the war but no planes came over. No further enemy activity against Australian territory is reported today. In China, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces have withdrawn further from Waichang.

The Japanese have started another monster drive with "suicide detachments" and big guns on the A mobile recruiting unit of the remnants of General Douglas Mc-

Destroyer *

* miralty announces the loss of * + the destroyer H. M. S. Mata- + + bello. The vessel had a nor- + * mal complement of 190. No * + particulars are given as to the + + place or circumstances of the +

* sinking.

+ + + + +