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ARMY NEWS

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DARWIN—SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1941

Phone Darwin 330—PRICE: ONE PENNY

Biggest Battle in History

FIERCE FIGHTING FOR MOSCOW CONTINUES

Battlefield of Mud and Snow

Describing the fight for Moscow as the biggest battle, in the biggest campaign, in the biggest war in the history of man, an American correspondent states that intense pressure is being exerted around Maloyaroslarets on the Moscow front. Both sides are throwing in huge air resources in an attempt to win a decision.

"Despite bad weather the outer defences of Moscow have been broken through on a broad front from the south-west and west in the past few days," the German High Command stated to-day. "Our spearheads fought their way, at some points, to 38 miles from Moscow. We heavily bombed Moscow last night."

Command of the Western front, including Moscow, has been given to General Zhukov, formerly chief of staff of the Soviet Army. Marshal Timoshenko has been transferred to another post.

RUSSIAN THREAT

On the southern front a million and a half men are massed, under Marshal von Rundstedt, against the industrial cities of the Donets Basin.

If the Germans succeed in piercing or by-passing Moscow's defences they will be confronted by vast new Russian reinforcements, on a line east of the capital. Preparations for a winter-long defence in depth

also are going on behind the battlefield.

Very heavy fighting is taking place at Mojaisk, 60 miles west of Moscow.

"If the enemy sets foot in Moscow he will find the city the same as Napoleon found it—a heap of charred ruins," Moscow Radio broadcast to-day.

GERMANS ON DEFENSIVE

The whole Moscow battlefield is now blanketed with snow and swept by icy winds, while the roads are deep in mud.

On the Leningrad front the Germans are said to be on the defensive right down to Lake Ilmen.

Marshal Budenny's forces are struggling heroically to prevent the whole of the Donets Basin falling into German hands.

R.A.A.F AND ARMY Give And Take In Recruiting

MELBOURNE, Friday.—A conference between the Minister for the Army, Mr. Forde, and the Minister for Air, Mr. Drakeford, will be held shortly, regarding a recent Military Board order which requires universal trainees to apply to their commanding officers for permission to join other services.

Every aspect of recruiting would be discussed at the conference, said Mr. Drakeford to-night.

"Probably a formula can be evolved which will allow the closest co-operation between the Army and the Air Force, while permitting both fighting arms to secure their maximum man-power requirements," Mr. Drakeford contended. "There is much room for give-and-take by both services on this question."

STOP PRESS.

At 6300 hours to-day Brigadier D. V. J. Blake, Commandant, 7 M.D., switched on the power for the Press to print the first edition of Army News.

The Brigadier was accompanied by Col. W. D. C. Veale, M.C., D.C.M., Lt.-Col. G. C. Peters, D.F.C., and Capt. A. F. Bechervaise, M.C.

BEST WISHES

The following messages of goodwill were received by Army News, and we have pleasure in printing them in our first issue.

From Brigadier D. V. J. Blake.

"The decision to establish the Army News at Darwin was taken by the Government of the Commonwealth to provide troops serving here, with the amenity of a newspaper of their own. A special staff has been appointed with the necessary plant to produce this newspaper for the early dissemination of the news of the world, and in particular of the States from which we come.

"In addition to the news of the outside world there is the record of our own local events—the Sporting fixtures and Unit happenings of general interest, to which Units can contribute.

Army News is an interesting experiment which will depend largely for its success on the degree of co-operation and goodwill extended by the Units and individuals who, in turn, benefit from this success.

I commend Army News to you and wish it a full measure of success.

D. Blake
Brigadier,
Commandant, 7 M.D.

From Brigadier E. F. Lind,
C.B.E., D.S.O., V.D.

"In the belief that the Army News, by the portrayal of all the truth, and the concealment of none, will assist in the belated development of whole-hearted national effort.

"In the belief that it will assist in the continuation of good-will and efficient co-operation between the three services, in their effort toward worthy achievement.

"In the belief that it will foster the maintenance of the honored traditions of A.I.F. Service, I am happy to wish the Army News success."

(Sgd.) FRANK LIND,
Brigadier, A.I.F.

(A special message from Brigadier Lind to the troops is published on Page 3, col. 1).

From Captain E. P. Thomas,
O.B.E., R.N.

"I desire to express my good wishes for the success of Army News, and my congratulations to those concerned with the publication of this paper, which should satisfy a long-felt need amongst the services at Darwin."

(Sgd.) E. P. THOMAS, Capt.,
Naval Officer-in-Charge, N.T.

From Group Capt. F. R. Scherger,
A.F.C.

"On behalf of the R.A.A.F. in Darwin, I wish Army News 'Happy Landings' for this, its first, and all future issues."

(Sgd.) F. R. SCHERGER,
Group Captain,
Commanding R.A.A.F. Station,
Darwin, N.T.

GREAT BARRIER REEF NOW A DANGER ZONE

The Navy Office at Townsville, released the information recently that all openings in the Great Barrier Reef, from just south of Cairns to the New Guinea coast, had been mined.

Two minefields were also laid well off Thursday Island.

The mined areas extend for almost half the length of the Reef—a distance of approximately 600 miles.

Warning to Shipping

The Barrier Reef, which is the world's biggest coral reef, is notoriously dangerous. A great number of its channels still remain uncharted.

Navigation of the channel between Cooktown and Thursday Island is so difficult that it can only be made by day with the assistance of a pilot.

The Navy Office had already warned shipping on September 13, that the mines had been laid, therefore this move had nothing to do with Japan being granted an airline to Timor, 475 miles north of Darwin.

CRISIS LOOMS IN PACIFIC

Last night the A.B.C. reported that the Pacific crisis had grown worse, according to reports received from both Japan and America.

The U.S. Secretary for War (Col. Knox) has issued an urgent warning of war, and it is thought that Col. Knox voices the opinion of the U.S. Administration.

Col. Knox stated that Japan had no intention whatever of giving up her expansion plans, therefore a clash between the two nations was impossible to avoid in the near future.

The Japanese newsagency Domei, states that America has done her utmost to break diplomatic relations with Japan. The government and people of Japan, claims Domei, are retaining a peaceful attitude towards the U.S.

Mr. Ballock, the former U.S. Ambassador to France, said that America is going into this war almost immediately, whether she likes it or not.

Army Minister's Greetings To Army News



MR. FORDE

The Minister for the Army (Mr. Forde) wired his greetings to-day as follows:

"I am deeply interested in the publication of the first issue of Army News, and I am confident that throughout its life it will serve with true zeal, all forces with which it is concerned.

"I extend to readers of Army News my best personal wishes in the belief that it will serve an important part in the life of Darwin, in its role as a vital Australian Defence Station.

"The publication may at all times count upon my cordial and ready support as Army Minister."



KAFFIYEH (Arab turban) worn by Private J. E. Blackman of Cootamundra (N.S.W.) at the Sydney Showground. He was a guard for war prisoners who arrived from the Middle East last week.

Professor And Girls Risk Lives

LONDON, October 24.—Professor J. B. S. Haldane, Professor of Biometry, at the University College, London, collapsed several times, and once was unconscious for three hours, after being sealed in a steel chamber, representing a sunken submarine, in which gas was injected under pressure exceeding ten times that of the atmosphere.

Four girl students, who were assisting Professor Haldane and Dr. E. M. Case in the experiments to discover a safe method of escape from a submarine, risked their lives in the chamber after a male assistant had been taken to a hospital with a punctured lung.

200 Jews Executed

Two hundred Jews, alleged to be Communists, were executed for attack on two German soldiers at Belgrade, the Yugoslav capital yesterday.

A Message From ETA

Here's a "good luck" message to you and to your new publication—"Army News." We hope that it proves a real winner as the soldiers newspaper, and fosters a real spirit of lively interest in "Digger Doings" among Australia's fighting men everywhere.

Our advertising support of "Army News" is evidence of our good wishes for its success. So may we take this opportunity of suggesting that for good eating and for "keeping your pecker up," you try "Eta" Salted Nuts; on sale at all canteens.

FROM THE MAKERS OF

ETA

Salted Peanuts

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POISED on the edge of the promenade at Bondi, attractive Celia Stowe leans forward to greet the morning sun. Celia is finding the beach the best place to spend the week-ends.