

THE WEATHER

Fair and colder.

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DES MOINES, IOWA, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 8, 1941—EIGHTEEN PAGES

UNITED STATES AT WAR! JAPS BOMB OUR BASES

Hundreds of Casualties in Hawaii; Guam Attacked; U. S. Forces Into Battle

AMERICA UNITES FOR THE GREAT STRUGGLE

LOS ANGELES, CAL. (AP)—A Tokyo radio station, in a broadcast picked up by NBC's listening post Sunday night, said Japan had attacked Hong Kong, China and the Malay states. No details were announced.

Japan without warning went to war against the United States Sunday with air and sea attacks against Hawaii.

Three hours later Tokyo issued a formal declaration of hostilities, which included war against Great Britain.

An electrified United States immediately united for the struggle ahead. President Roosevelt was expected to ask congress for a declaration of war today.

The British parliament was called to meet today when it was expected a declaration of war against Japan would be issued. Prime Minister Winston Churchill is said to have said "within the hour" of the Japanese attack on the United States.

Puerto Rico and the East Indies declared war on Japan and ordered general mobilization soon after the Japanese raid on Hawaii. Costa Rica followed suit.

A National Broadcasting Co. observer radioed from Hawaii that waves of Japanese planes estimated to total 150 swept over Honolulu, Pearl Harbor and Hickam air field at 8:10 a. m. Sunday (12:40 p. m. Sunday, Iowa time).

This observer said 350 soldiers were killed at Hickam field, the army air base, with numerous casualties at other points of the surprise attack.

Latest, the war department in Washington, D. C., gave the White House a preliminary estimate of 104 dead and more than 300 wounded in the armed forces alone as a result of the bombing of the island of Oahu.

These figures did not include civilian casualties in the raid on the principal island of the Hawaiian group.

The radio broadcast said the 29,000-ton United States battleship Oklahoma had been hit and set afire at Pearl Harbor, the great Pacific naval base of the United States.

The broadcaster said two other ships in the harbor also were attacked.

Governor Poindexter of Hawaii, talking with President Roosevelt by telephone at 4:30 p. m. (Iowa time), reported a second wave of Japanese planes just coming over Honolulu.

United States army airmen engaged Japanese fighting planes over Honolulu. In the city below them, the White House announced, a heavy loss of life had been inflicted together with extensive property damage.

The White House also announced Sunday night that the navy had advised the president of a Japanese attack on the island of Guam.

Guam is a dot in the Pacific west of Hawaii and entirely surrounded by Japanese-mandated islands. Squadrons of enemy planes were reported over Guam but there was no immediate indication whether there had been any damage or loss of life.

United States army bombers and pursuit planes roared into the air from bases in the Philippine islands and headed northward at dawn today, soon after word reached Manila of the outbreak of hostilities.

The White House said it had reports of an air attack on Manila, but later said it had been unable to get substantiating reports. The White House was advised, it was said, of this attack and that it learned if the ship was tor-

Tokio Raids U. S. Base at Pearl Harbor: Artist's Conception



This is the approximate scene at sea off the great United States base at Pearl Harbor in the Hawaiian islands Sunday. Japanese bombing planes, based on aircraft carriers, took Nippon's war right into American waters, 3,800 miles from Japan, while Tokyo's envoys were still talking "reconciliation" in the state department at Washington, D. C. Japanese aircraft carriers are distinguished by low, horizontal smoke stacks. This artist's conception by Oscar Parkes was made in the early 1930s when the Kawa (left) and the Akagi were launched. In Washington indignantly Secretary of State Cordell Hull terminated his conference with the Japanese ambassadors Sunday by issuing the following statement in a document: "In all my 30 years of public service I have never seen a document that was more crowded with infamous falsehoods and distortions—infamous falsehoods and distortions on a scale so large that I never imagined until today that any government on this planet was capable of uttering them."

ped. Observers believed Japanese submarines were strung over a wide area of the Pacific.

The United Press said the United States struck back at the Japanese surprise attack on Hawaii with the thunder of big naval rifles.

After the fleet steamed out of the Pearl Harbor base, the sound of gunfire was heard off Oahu, the island on which Honolulu is located, and gunflashes were seen.

The United Press said the Japanese sent dive bombers, torpedo planes and parachute troops against Pearl Harbor and Hickam army air field.

The planes, clearly bearing the insignia of the Rising Sun, were reported to have swarmed over the Hawaiian bases from aircraft carriers at sea—3,400 miles from their home bases.

Francis McCarthy, writing for the United Press from Honolulu,

Japan.—Continued on Page Two.

At a Glance
The War
Historical Scrapbook

Dec. 8, 1941.

Japanese warships without warning bombed Honolulu and American defense bases in Hawaii, killing and wounding hundreds of soldiers and civilians. Three hours later declared war on the United States and Britain.

President Roosevelt hurriedly assembled his advisers; there was belief he would ask a declaration of war today. The Dutch East Indies, Costa Rica and Canada declared war on Japan.

Japanese forces swept into Shanghai's International settlement, sank a British gunboat, claimed capture of an American gunboat, and attacked American Guam. Unconfirmed reports said American Wake Island had been captured by Japanese.

This placed Japanese naval action well east of Hawaii, toward the United States mainland. There was no information whether the transport had been sunk or whether there had been loss of life.

Another American vessel, believed to be a cargo vessel, was sending out signals of distress 700 miles west of San Francisco, the White House was advised. It was said of this attack and that it learned if the ship was tor-

LONDON.—British reaction to Japanese war (Page 6).

Burn Japanese Code Books



Shortly after President Roosevelt reported Japan's attack on the United States Sunday, the Japanese embassy staff started burning codebooks and state papers on the grounds of the embassy at Washington, D. C. In New Orleans, La., a crowd of 300 hooded as members of the Japanese consulate here began burning papers in wire baskets in the consulate's back yard. A 24-hour police guard earlier was placed around the consulate.—WIRE-
PHOTO UP.

Blackout Ordered For Sitka, Alaska
SITKA, ALASKA (AP)—A blackout was ordered Sunday night at this site of a naval air station as police officials began a roundup of questionable characters.

18 BOYS FROM CLINTON.
(The Register has been advised.)
CLINTON, LA.—A check-up here Sunday showed that 18 boys from Clinton are aboard navy vessels off the Philippines or Hawaii.

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California on Alert for Any Raid Alarms

LOS ANGELES, CAL. (AP)—Air raid listening devices went into action at scores of southern California defense factories Sunday, alert for any sign of a raid on this area, which contains the largest aggregation of Japanese in the nation.

First to take precautionary steps were the huge aircraft factories busily engaged in maximum capacity production of large bombers and fast fighting aircraft, including the sleek P-38 interceptors. Regular air patrols in this area may be established immediately, it was understood.

Brig. Gen. William O. Ryan, commanding the fourth interceptor command, which embraces all of the southwest section of the United States and extends north to Oregon, immediately summoned all its men to "activate your observation posts immediately."

The command also has jurisdiction over west coast artillery and the lookout system.

Away From Docks.

Nearly 1,000 members of the Sixth regiment, California state guard, were mobilized in a nearby Compton armory under orders of Brig. Gen. J. O. Donovan.

The Compton unit is charged with patrolling nearby oil fields and refineries.

Simultaneously, immediate mobilization of 10,000 men in the major disaster committee of the civilian defense committee was ordered.

California.—Continued on Page Seven.

WAR MESSAGE BY ROOSEVELT LIKELY TODAY

Congress Ready to Enter Conflict.

Bulletin

WASHINGTON, D. C. (AP)—Senator Tom Connally (Dem., Tex.) announced from the White House steps Sunday night that President Roosevelt would address a joint session of congress today at 12:30 p. m. (11:30 a. m., Iowa time).

By Richard Wilson.

(The Register's Washington Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A state of war exists between the United States and the Axis powers.

Whether this is to be recognized officially by congress is only a matter of form.

The war came with lightning rapidity Sunday afternoon with the Japanese attacking America's Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii and the American naval base at Guam.

Receipt by the American government during the night of declarations that a state of war exists from Germany and Italy as well as from Japan would occasion little surprise in the state department.

The president met Sunday night with his cabinet and his legislative leaders to formulate the next step. This may include a war message from Mr. Roosevelt to congress today or tomorrow.

Support.

At the same moment from reading a statement of isolationist and interventionist—came declarations of support, with such men as Senator Burton K. Wheeler (Dem., Mont.) and Representative Hamilton (Rep., N. Y.) in the vanguard of those ready to declare war.

There was little doubt of the readiness of congress to move immediately into formal war when the president gives the sign.

This studied Japanese attack burst on the capital after two weeks of the most colossal diplomatic deceit on record.

Even at the moment the Japanese bombers were heading over Pearl Harbor, the Japanese envoys who have been turned to see Secretary of State Cordell Hull to hand him the Japanese response to the United States' original declaration of policy of Nov. 26—chiefly a statement of principles opposing aggression.

Hull's Reply.

Mr. Hull read this response carefully, and then he turned to see Ambassador Kichisaburo Nomura and Special Envoy Saburo Kurusu and

"In all my 50 years of public life, I have never seen a document that was more crowded with infamous falsehoods and distortions on a scale so huge that I have never imagined until today that any government on this planet was capable of uttering them."

Kurusu and Nomura were described by Japanese sources as as-

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