

# Headquarters To Indies

Japan's bicycle-led invasion army advance 240 miles from Singapore. British artillery outposts and roams, and officials here talked of headquarters to the Netherlands East Indies.

Apparently preparing the public for startling news, authorities announced that should the general headquarters be transferred to the East Indies, or should the general headquarters here be superseded by the Supreme Allied headquarters in the Indies, the public must realize that this was part of the common strategy decided upon with the approval of Australia and it was not to be interpreted in any sense as a lessened determination to hold Singapore. The officials said such a move would represent a co-ordination of the Allied command.

## Speed Drive

The tempo of the Japanese advance down the west Malaya coast has been stepped up. The British fell back Thursday from the slim river line on the Perak-Selangor border, in the face of heavy Japanese air, tank and infantry attacks. A communique said the withdrawal was made in the lower Perak front after Japanese tanks had penetrated the defenses. The Imperials were withdrawn mostly from Perak into Selangor Province, and the Japanese were within 50 miles of Kuala Lumpur, capital of the Federated Malay States.

## Surprise Move

# Expense Reduction

Government expenditures. It was the last named that surprised the House. Only last session, as premier, Mr. Patten openly challenged Hon. E. L. Maitland, K.C., then Opposition Leader, to find one item of government expenditure that could be reduced. Thursday, Premier John Hart rose to name E. T. Kenny, W. T. Straith, Dr. J. J. Gillis, F. L. E. V. Finland and Harold Finch as the usual committee to select committees. Mr. Patten then rose to declare that while premier he had promised a re-alignment of expenditures at the House and that this should be carried out.

the battle zones under the plan to hit the invader with all the might that Russia can command while he is still on the run.

## 'First Phase'

The recent Russian counter-offensive, dispatches said, is merely the "first phase" of the Russian grand strategy.

The preparatory phase "is now concluded," the dispatches said, and Stalin has ordered into action his reserve armies which were described as "splendidly clothed and supported by brand-new tanks, guns and planes."

Meanwhile it was reported authoritatively that one of the main sieges in Russia—that of Sevastopol in the Crimean peninsula—has been broken.

The long beleaguered Russian garrison at Leningrad is threatening to crack the encircling Nazi lines, it was said.

The Russian offensive plans call for shoving the Germans into headlong flight "in 100 separate Napoleonic retreats," the dispatches said.

The Russian defenders-turned-attackers have made new landings in the Crimea, it was reported, after already dislodging the Germans from most of the Kerch peninsula.

(The British radio, heard by C.B.S. in New York, reported from Kuibyshev that the Germans were forced to abandon the siege of Sevastopol to meet the threat of Russian forces advancing in "an ever-widening arch toward the Crimean seaport from landing points on the peninsula.")

The 100,000 or so Germans trapped in the Mzhaisk pocket west of Moscow were reported increasingly hard-pressed as the result of a Russian advance from newly recaptured Mestchovsk on the fringe of the pocket.

"I believe there should be a special committee to study war problems and one to study post-war problems," he said. "And I believe we should have a committee of the whole House to go thoroughly into the whole question of how to cut down expenditures."

Premier Hart promised his consideration and the House then adjourned.

When the House resumes it will still be short several members. Hon. George S. Pearson is representing the government in Ottawa at conferences on the Japanese. Hon. R. W. Bruhn is recovering from an illness and last night C. S. Leary, Dr. J. J. Gillis and Glen Braden had not yet arrived from their interior districts.

# Affects Goering

STOCKHOLM.—(UP)—Henrich Himmler, chief of the German Gestapo, has established his own headquarters on the eastern front it was announced officially Thursday, giving increasing support to reports that Himmler has been the chief beneficiary of Hitler's purge of Field Marshal Walter Von Brauchitsch.

The announcement coincided with renewed recruiting drives for Hitler's S.S. bodyguard and indications that Himmler at last has succeeded in persuading Der Fuehrer to allow him to create an S.S. airforce.

Such an airforce has been Himmler's dream for years but he has long been blocked by the stubborn opposition of Hermann Goering to all attempts to infringe upon his monopoly of German airpower.

Creation of an S.S. airforce, if confirmed, would be the first evidence that even Goering has been affected by repercussions of the Brauchitsch purge.

LONDON.—(UP) — Reports from Stockholm that Heinrich Himmler, German Gestapo chief,

## 'FINNS LONG FOR PEACE'

LONDON —(BUP) — Finland is longing for peace, the Finnish newspaper Uusi Suomi said today, according to a Helsinki broadcast heard by the Exchange Telegraph News Agency.

"War is evil, and has its destructive consequences which we know only too well," the newspaper said.

may have been allowed to establish an S.S. airforce fibed today with widely circulated rumors here that Himmler has established machine gun nests in principal German cities to guard against possible revolution.

# Ottawa Denies Japanese To Move From Vancouver

OTTAWA.—(BUP)—A department of external affairs official Thursday denied rumors that British Columbia's Japanese would be transported away from the Pacific coast to inland areas.

The official issued the denial as high officials of the Canadian army, navy and government and a delegation from British Columbia began conferences on the fate of the 24,000 Japanese living in British Columbia.

No official statement was issued after Thursday's meeting, but it was expected that the study would be completed and a statement would be forthcoming today.

The External Affairs Department

ment official, who would not be quoted directly, indicated that the Dominion government was definitely opposed to the demands that the Japanese in B. C. be moved wholesale to inland points.

## The Weather

Today's Forecast: "Warmer." Thursday's temperatures: High 35, low 27.

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