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# Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

TIDE TURNS

Collapse of the axis forces in Russia and Africa appears imminent from today's dispatches. Such an eventuality would free allied troops for action against Japan. Watch for the big news in the NEWS-REVIEW.

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ROSEBURG, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1941.

VOL. XXX NO. 106 OF THE EVENING NEWS

## FILIPINOS SCORE VICTORY OVER JAPANESE

## DISASTERS STRIKE AXIS ON RUSSIAN, AFRICAN FRONTS

### Hitler Army Units Fight Each Other

### Napoleonic Retreat Turns Into Chaos; Fronts Broken, Rout Follows

(By the Associated Press) A great, perhaps decisive turning-point marked Europe's war on two fronts today as Britain announced officially that the axis front in north Africa has been completely shattered and Russia declared that Adolf Hitler's invasion armies were fleeing in chaos.

A soviet broadcast reported bitter hatred flaring among the axis forces, asserting that Russian cavalry in the Donets basin had captured retreating German, Italian and Rumanian troops when they fell to fighting one another.

The broadcast said Rumanian soldiers joined with the Italians against the Germans.

Exactly one month to the day after Britain's desert armies struck back into Libya in their second north African offensive, British middle east headquarters announced: "Axis forces in eastern Cirenaica (Libya) are now in full retreat . . . the enemy front has everywhere been broken . . . yesterday our troops relentlessly pursued the enemy for a distance of nearly 30 miles . . ."

Thus in staccato sentences, the British command foretold the apparent beginning of the end of the African campaign, while on the Russian front, the story of axis disaster was even greater.

History Repeating Premier Joseph Stalin is quoted as describing the ill-fated, fleeing Germans as "resembling the forces of Napoleon" in the bloody

(Continued on page 6)

**In the Day's News**

By FRANK JENKINS

**EN ROUTE** to Portland. At all the railroad bridges, and at the important highway bridges as well, there are soldier guards, carrying rifles. One feels certain there are armed guards at the railroad tunnels as well.

We are at war. THEY are good-looking, alert, typically American. It takes only a glance to see that anyone fooling around these guarded bridges would get into plenty of trouble, plenty quick.

THESE are the same boys who a few weeks ago—as a matter of fact, only a few days ago—were resentful at the fact that they had to be taken away from their schooling, or their jobs. All that is gone.

One look at them and you know there is no longer resentment. They are where they are now—TO DO A JOB. There is no complaining.

IN recent years, heads have been shaken over American youth. Many and many an older has said: "I can't understand them."

Age NEVER HAS understood youth. It is likely that in the Neanderthal age the Old Man of the tribe, gazing at the crop of youngsters coming on shook his head and gloomed: "I don't know what the world

(Continued on page 2)

### Langer Ouster As U. S. Senator Recommended



William Langer

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Chairman Hatch (D-N.M.) announced today the senate elections committee voted 13 to 3 in favor of a resolution recommending that Senator William Langer (R-N. D.) be denied a seat in the senate.

The action climaxed a year's consideration of charges involving moral turpitude which grew out of Langer's actions as an attorney and former governor of North Dakota.

Langer has been serving in his post since last January 3, pending final outcome of the proceedings. The senate membership must finally decide whether he shall be unseated.

Hatch said the committee's report would be made to the senate as soon as possible but declared it was his understanding the case would not be taken up by the senate until after the holiday season.

In the hearing before the committee on the charge of unfitness to hold office, Langer denied that money he admitted receiving for the sale of North Dakota land had any connection with the profits made by a Minneapolis firm on the sale of bonds to North Dakota agencies.

Prosecution attorneys asserted that \$58,800 Langer received in 1937, 1938 and 1939 equalled 25 per cent of the profit on county bonds and 10 per cent of the profit on state bonds sold to the agencies by the Minneapolis firm, the V. M. Brewer Co., while the accused senator was governor of North Dakota.

### U. S.-Based Plane Attacks Sub-Boat

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 18.—(AP)—A submarine has been attacked by an airplane based on the continental United States, Maj. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commander of the second air force, reported today.

The time and place of the attack and the nationality of the enemy vessel were not disclosed by the General, who told of the attack by a Second Air force plane in a letter of commendation to the officers of his command.

He said the action took place "after the Japanese attack on Hawaii Sunday, Dec. 7."

"Combat units performed with high efficiency and special commendation must be paid to the alertness and promptness of the airplane commander and crew of a squadron in this air force in spying and attacking a submarine, the general said in his letter.

### U. S. Army To Be Expanded To Maximum

### Druff System Will Be Used, Stimson States; Age Limit Unsettled

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Secretary Stimson announced today the war department was planning to expand the army to the greatest strength needed and would depend for the increase entirely on the selective service system.

All voluntary enlistments are to be halted as soon as "the present rush subsides," Stimson told a press conference.

An immediate increase of more than 150,000 men already has been recommended in a bill which Stimson said was on President Roosevelt's desk.

Meanwhile administration leaders were confidently predicting senate approval of the legislation making men of 19 and 20 liable for military service, though the house yesterday refused to lower the induction age from 21, as President Roosevelt and the war department had requested.

The house passed unanimously a bill raising the maximum age from 35 to 44, inclusive, and requiring all men from 18 through 64 to register with the government.

For Larger Army. In the army expansion plans, Secretary Stimson today announced:

All reserve officers not yet called to active duty have been ordered to take physical examinations, but he said this step did not mean they necessarily would be called out immediately.

After January 1 all graduates of officer candidate schools will be ordered to duty immediately. Previously those so desiring have been awarded certificates of capacity and permitted to return to their former enlisted ranks.

Commanders of the four air (Continued on page 6)

### Five Plead Guilty To Charges Here

Five men held in the Douglas county jail on various charges each entered pleas of guilty when arraigned in circuit court late Wednesday on district attorney's informations. In each case sentence was postponed to permit further investigations into the records of defendants.

Those arraigned were: Harold E. White, charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Orvel Carter, accused of larceny of a gun and personal property from a home in Drain. Carter was recently returned from California.

John J. Conners, accused of taking an automobile from Myrtle Creek and abandoning the machine in Albany. He recently was arrested in eastern Oregon.

Robert Lee Bays, alleged to have forced entrance into the locked cab of a locomotive at Drain and stealing suitcases containing personal property. Charge was burglary not in a dwelling.

Ronald Veach, charged with the theft of an automobile belonging to J. J. Fox of Roseburg. The automobile was recovered at Rogue River, where Veach was arrested.

### Oregon's VFW Head Dated Here



Patrick W. Kelley post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Roseburg, will receive an official visit at its meeting tonight from the state commander, Louis E. Starr, above, of Portland. On the program are an address by Mr. Starr, a showing by him of motion pictures of the organization's recent national convention in Philadelphia and refreshments.

### German Warships Bombed by RAF

LONDON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The RAF bombed the German battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in daylight today with a powerful force of its heaviest bombers, the British announced.

An air ministry communique said "the ships are believed to have been hit."

Bombers and their fighter escort shot down eight German planes with a loss of six RAF craft in the attack, the ships said.

The ships were at the harbor of Brest in occupied France, where they have frequently been attacked by British planes.

### West Point Appointment of Son of Hero Who Sank Jap Warship Asked by Roosevelt of U. S. President in 1956

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—In an unusual token of appreciation of a deed of heroism, President Roosevelt has addressed a letter to the President of the United States—whether he may be in 1956 requesting the appointment as a West Point cadet of Colin P. Kelly, III.

Now less than two years old, Colin P. Kelly, III, is the son of 26-year-old Captain Colin P. Kelly, Jr., who scored three bomb hits and sank the Japanese battleship Haruna off Luzon Dec. 9.

Captain Kelly, of Madison, Fla., lost his life in the action which destroyed the first Japanese warship in the war which began Dec. 7 with the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

The president's letter, dated yesterday, follows: "To the President of the United States in 1956:

"I am writing this letter as an act of faith in the destiny of our country. I desire to make a request which I make in full confidence that we shall achieve a glorious victory in the war we are now waging to preserve our democratic way of life.

"My request is that you consider the merits of a young American youth of goodly heritage—Colin P. Kelly, III, for appointment as a cadet in the United

### Three Ousted For Raid On Pearl Harbor

### Adm. Kimmel, Generals Short, Martin Replaced For Lack of Alert

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The United States entrusted supreme command of its Pacific fleet today to Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, one of the highest officers in the navy's top councils.

Nimitz, a forceful Texan and proud of it, was ordered to sea from his post as chief of the bureau of navigation, where he was rated in service circles as second only to Admiral Harold R. Stark, chief of naval operations.

By reputation a man able and sure in action, Nimitz succeeds Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, who, with two other top-ranking officers of the Hawaiian area, was relieved of command, pending the outcome of the investigation which President Roosevelt ordered on the Pearl Harbor sneak attack.

The navy and war departments acted simultaneously last night in removing the officers whose responsibility for the lack of alert preparedness will be subject to examination by the president's investigating board.

Army Relieves Two. Kimmel was the only navy man affected. The army relieved Lieutenant General Walter C. Short of command of the Hawaiian military department, and Major General Frederick L. Martin of command of the air forces in Hawaii.

Lieutenant General Delos C. Emmons of the air combat force already has reached Honolulu and replaced Short. General C. L. Tinker, of the air corps, is en route to take over the air command.

The appointment of Emmons marks the second time the army (Continued on page 6)

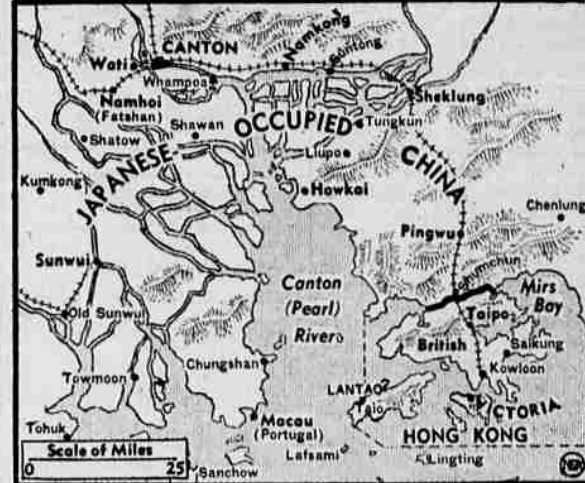
### Referendum on Cigaret Tax Hit by Ruling

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 18.—(AP)—Attorney General Van Winkle held yesterday that referendum petitions against the two-cent per package cigarette tax, passed by the 1941 legislature, were insufficient because the State Retail Grocers' association, sponsors of the referendum movement, failed to detail its expenditures in its campaign against the tax.

If Secretary of State Snell accepts the ruling, the tax would become effective. However, a court fight is expected.

## Jungle Unit Hurls Invaders Back in North Luzon Battle

### Hongkong Garrison Defies Japanese



Above map shows the location of Hongkong island, where British forces continue to resist the siege of the Japanese, operating from Kowloon, channel terminal of a railway line from Canton. Chinese land forces are attempting to relieve the British by attacking the Japanese in the rear. For the second time yesterday, the British garrison rejected the Japanese demand for surrender, Commander Sir Mark Young telling the Japanese leaders he was "not prepared to receive any further communications from them on the subject."

### Oregon Third In Per Capita Buy Of Defense Bonds

### State Sets National Lead as Goal, Meeting Told; Speed-Up In Douglas County Planned

The state of Oregon, already third in the nation in per capita sales of defense bonds, will make every possible effort to gain leadership in this important defense activity, it was declared here last night.

Ray Conway, associate state administrator of defense bond sales, told a meeting of county committeemen at the blue room of the Umpqua hotel, that only Washington, D. C., and New York state are ahead of Oregon in per capita sales of stamps and bonds.

Douglas county, it was stated, is high in the standing of Oregon counties, and the order placed by the Douglas county court for \$100,000 worth of bonds to be delivered in December and January is the largest individual purchase so far made in the state and the largest known by any governmental department in the nation.

Speed-Up Planned. The meeting last night was attended by chairmen and representatives from each of the 20 sub-committees of the county organization. H. O. Pargeter, county chairman, reported that plans are being worked out to provide a general speed-up of the local sales campaign. The payroll committee, it was stated, is working out a plan whereby employees may arrange with employers for a payroll allotment to be converted into bonds. Emphasis also is to be placed upon the presentation of stamps and bonds as Christmas gifts.

The meeting was attended by representatives from all parts of the county. Glen Jackson, regional associate administrator, from Medford, was in attendance for a short time, but was compelled to leave early to attend a meeting at Klamath Falls today.

### Sutherland Parents of Crash Victim Get \$5,000

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has signed a bill for the payment of \$5,000 to Ivan and Nellie Witche, Douglas county, Ore., in settlement of claims arising out of an accident in which their son, William Dale Witche, 16, was killed.

The accident occurred July 31, 1940, near Sutherland, Ore., when a trailer loaded with logs, on which the son was riding, collided with an army truck.

### Foe Making No Progress, Manila Says

### Hongkong Still Holds On, But Situation Becomes Perilous at Singapore

(By the Associated Press) Filipino jungle fighters were today officially credited with a slashing victory over Japanese troops in the 12-day-old battle of Luzon island.

A bulletin from Manila headquarters said Filipino invaders in the Vigan area, 200 miles northwest of Manila, Monday and threw them back many miles before darkness halted the fighting.

Army headquarters also announced that the entire Philippine army is being inducted into the United States army of the far east "in order to amalgamate all defense forces and effectuate the maximum cohesion and coordination."

A Manila dispatch timed 4:40 p. m. Thursday, Manila time (2:40 a. m. eastern standard time) said Japanese aerial squadrons had renewed raids on Nichols and Zebian fields but had inflicted little damage.

Earlier, an army communique said the situation in the Philippine theater "remains unchanged"—indicating that the Japanese (Continued on page 6)

### One Army Plane Crashes, 2nd Lost; 6 Dead, 8 Missing

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(AP)—The war department announced today an army plane carrying Major General Herbert A. Dargue, commander of the 1st air force, had been missing since December 12 on a transcontinental flight.

There were seven other passengers in the plane, five of them officers and two enlisted men.

Secretary of War Stimson said the ship was last reported near Palmdale, Calif., and it was believed that it had crashed or been forced down in that vicinity.

General Dargue is a veteran flying officer, and usually pilots his own plane.

Those listed as missing with him were: Col. Charles W. Bundy and Lieut. Col. George W. Ricker, both of the war department general staff.

Major Hugh F. McCaffery, Mitchell field.

Captain J. G. Leavitt, First Lieutenant Homer C. Burns; Staff Sergeant Stephen Hoffman and Private Samuel J. Van Hamm, Jr., all of March field, Calif.

BAKERSFIELD, Calif., Dec. 18.—(AP)—Six men were killed today in the crash this morning of an army bomber at Muroc dry lake, in the Mojave desert, 70 miles southeast of here, the coroner's office reported.

Coroner Houze was en route to Muroc, an army bombing field. Names of the victims were not learned.

5 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT DID YOU GET THAT SURPRISE FOR DAD? Buy Christmas Seals