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Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

NAVAL SHOWDOWN

A big Jap armada is reported heading for the south Pacific, evidently bent on a supreme effort to regain control of the Solomon Islands. Watch NEWS-REVIEW news for a decisive naval combat.

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U. S. MARINES REPULSE REINFORCED JAPS

Hold Widened In Battle On Guadalcanal

Heavy Casualties Dealt Invaders; Big Jap Fleet Said On Way to Area

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—(AP)—The navy announced today that an enemy submarine had torpedoed and sunk a medium sized United States merchant vessel off the Pacific coast. The attack occurred several days ago and survivors have landed at a west coast port.

(By the Associated Press)
United States marines have succeeded in enlarging their hold on strategic Guadalcanal island in the Solomons, the navy announced today, and in a two-day offensive have inflicted "many casualties" on the Japanese.

The navy also announced that two Japanese light cruisers had been damaged by U. S. marine corps aircraft in an attack on a force of two cruisers and four destroyers, October 9 and 11, and said 15 Japanese planes had been destroyed.

A direct hit left one of the enemy cruiser down by the bow off New Georgia Island, 150 miles northwest of Guadalcanal, and minor damage was inflicted on the second cruiser.

The marines' feat in expanding their gains was achieved in the face of Japanese reinforcements which were reported to have landed on the island recently under cover of darkness.

Meanwhile, President Roosevelt's disclosure that allied strategy calls for "new offensives against Germany and Japan" was followed today by Chinese reports that a big Japanese armada, including four aircraft carriers and seven battleships, had been sighted "some time ago" en route toward the south Pacific.

The report, if true, suggested that the Japanese were diverting their major naval strength to meet the united nations offensive heralded by Mr. Roosevelt, powerfully reinforcing their badly damaged forces in the southwest zone of operations.

In the Solomon Island campaign.

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NAVY SEIZES 3 EXPLOSIVES PLANTS ON BRIBERY CHARGE

Graft Said Disguised As Service Fees

Vice President of Firm, U. S. Inspector Placed Under Arrest by FBI

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—(AP)—The navy took possession today of the plant of Triumph Explosives, Inc., at Elkton, Md., and two subsidiaries at Milford, Del., and the White House announced that the FBI had arrested a plant vice president and an army and navy inspector on bribery charges.

A White House statement said the inspectors were charged with accepting bribes in the guise of "service fees" and that the navy's preliminary investigation indicates that more than \$1,000,000 in management "irregularities" may be involved.

The navy took over the plants under terms of a presidential executive order, which said it was desirous that they be operated "effectively and safely."

Those arrested, the White House said, were Josef Ben Decker, executive vice president of Triumph; J. A. McCambridge, until recently civilian army inspector at the Triumph plant, and Reginald Gregory, chief civilian navy inspector at Triumph.

Audit Bureau "Bribery"
The two subsidiaries taken under governmental control are the Milford Ordnance company and the Sussex Ordnance company. All have been placed in charge of Commander A. B. McCarty, acting for the army and navy.

Details of the bribery charges were not immediately available from the White House. It said more arrests were expected.

The arrest of Decker, McCambridge and Gregory, the White House said, resulted from an audit by the renegotiation section of the navy procurement office, which "uncovered numerous instances" of bribery in the Triumph company management.

The Triumph company had received the navy "E" for production achievement.

Army Plane Crash Kills Ex-U. of O. Football Star

PORTLAND, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Dale Lasselle of Portland, former widely known University of Oregon football player, was killed in a plane crash Oct. 3 somewhere in England, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Lasselle of Portland, learned today.

He was a captain in the U. S. army air force.

No particulars of the crash were received.

He is survived by his parents, his widow, four brothers and a sister.

Runaway Balloon Ties Up Traffic in Seattle

SEATTLE, Oct. 13.—(AP)—A runaway army barrage balloon, trailing 1,000 feet of cable across buildings and short-circuiting power lines in the downtown business district, blocked out a large section of the city shortly after 6:30 a. m. today. Trackless trolley riders accumulated in droves on street corners waiting for service to be restored and a fire started in a city light substation. Complete service was not restored until 8:05 a. m.

Seattle Seeks Slayer of Shipyard Stenographer

SEATTLE, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Law enforcement officials investigating the death of Mrs. Hazel Shaw, 34-year-old shipyard stenographer, whose body was found beside a south end street Saturday night, were questioning today every person known to have talked with her during the previous 24 hours.

A second autopsy last night showed death resulted from strangulation. She had been criminally assaulted.

Roosevelt's Proposal to Lower Draft Age to 18 Finds Congress Ready to Act

Lawmakers Plan Speedy Legislation to Carry Out Recommendation; Rationing Of Manpower Needed, President Says

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Congressional leaders took President Roosevelt's call for an army of strong young men to carry the war to the axis as their cue today for speedy action on legislation to lower the draft age from 20 to 18.

The president, in telling the nation last night that he believed it would be necessary to lower the minimum age limit for selective service to 18, said:

"We have learned how inevitable that is—and how important to the speeding up of victory."

Churchill Asks Germans to Quit Prisoner Chaining

LONDON, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill announced today that Germany had been requested to rescind her action in shackling British and Canadian prisoners and that if the nazis agree Britain immediately would cancel her reprisal measures.

Churchill said that the Germans violated the Geneva convention when they chained up 1,376 prisoners taken at Dieppe on Aug. 19 and that representations had been made to Berlin, through Switzerland, urging the nazis to desist.

If the Germans will desist, he continued, "the counter-measures of similar nature which the (British) government felt themselves forced to take will immediately be withdrawn."

It was the prime minister's first report on the negotiations since Germany announced last Friday that the Britons and Canadians had been tied up for alleged binding of the hands of nazis seized in British raids on Dieppe and Sark island. Britain retaliated by fettering a similar number of nazi prisoners Saturday.

"The British government has never countenanced any general order for the tying up of prisoners on the field of battle," Churchill said in response to the German accusation which set off the whole controversy.

Teacher Leaps to Death In Willamette River

OREGON CITY, Or., Oct. 13.—(AP)—Before the eyes of his wife and sister, Charles W. Wilson, 42, former mathematics teacher at the Oregon City junior high school, leaped to his death yesterday from the Willamette river bridge here, the Clackamas county coroner's office reported.

The coroner said Wilson had been despondent over ill health and recently had been granted a leave of absence from the school. The body was recovered.

Frederick Berchthold, Ex-OSC Teacher, Dies

EUGENE, Or., Oct. 13.—(AP)—Frederick Berchthold, 85, former Oregon State college English professor, died here yesterday. Before his retirement in 1934 he had been associated with OSC for a half century. He was a native of Switzerland but of English parentage.

His son, Chester, Eugene, and two grandchildren survive.

Shipyard Workers in England Go on Strike

LONDON, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Between 230 and 300 shipyard workers went on strike today at Middlesbrough, Yorkshire, protesting that a transfer from piece work to an hourly wage scale had cut their earnings.

Chairman May (D-Ky.) of the house military committee, who previously had said he would have to be convinced of the need of drafting younger men, declared that in the light of the president's speech his committee would expedite hearings on the necessary legislation.

"If the commander-in-chief says he needs them," May said, "I will cooperate in every way and I am sure the congress will go along."

Senator Gurney (R-S. D.) said he would press for an immediate hearing by the senate military committee on his bill to draft 18 and 19 year olds, and Democratic Leader Barkley of Kentucky said he was sure the American people as well as congress "will react favorably" to the president's recommendations.

2nd Front Plan Indicated.

Mr. Roosevelt, who suggested that legislation might also be needed to solve the manpower problem on the home front, alluded indirectly to a second fighting front again by declaring that one of the major decisions of strategy already made "relates to the necessity of diverting enemy forces from Russia and China to other theatres of war by new offensives against Germany and Japan."

"All of our combat units that go overseas," he said, "must consist of young, strong men who have had thorough training. A division that has an average age of 23 or 24 is a better fighting unit than one which has an average age of 33 or 34."

"The more of such troops we have in the field, the sooner the war will be won, and the smaller will be the cost in casualties."

War's Aim Summarized.

The chief executive, after reviewing his recent inspection tour and reporting that allied strength was "on the upgrade" while that of the axis was waning, declared the objective of today was clear and realistic.

"It is to destroy completely the military power of Germany, Italy and Japan to such good purpose," he said, "that their threat against us and all the other united nations cannot be revived a generation hence."

"We are united in seeking the kind of victory that will guarantee that our grandchildren can grow and, under God, may live their lives, free from the constant threat of invasion, destruction, slavery and violent death."

"... And we Americans and our allies are going to win," he declared, "and do not let anyone tell you anything different."

"Germany and Japan are already realizing what the inevitable result will be when the total strength of the united nations hits them—at additional places on the earth's surface."

Must Ration Manpower.

The president, who said that "we are getting ahead of our enemies" in the battles of transportation and production, declared that in order to keep stepping up production it will be necessary to solve "a formidable problem in the mobilization of manpower."

"It is not that we do not have enough people in this country to do the job," he said. "The problem is to have the right numbers of the right people in the right places."

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Nazis Renew Assaults On Stalingrad

Besiegers, Weakened by Heavy Losses, Now Face Severity of Winter

MOSCOW, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Weakened but still attacking, the Germans struggled to get a fresh offensive going against Stalingrad today while red army troops were reported cutting into several sectors of the Mozdok area by vigorous counterattacks.

Renewal of the assault upon Stalingrad, after a three-day lull devoted to artillery duels, found both German and Russian soldiers muffled in great coats against the autumnal chill.

Italian troops and tanks appeared in the fight.

The Russians said their fire held off the invaders after a minor penetration of a single street yesterday. Red army rifle and artillery batteries held the Germans northwest of the city and in the suburb, dispatches said. Russian motorized infantry was reported checking all enemy attacks against the left flank south of the burning and smoke-hazed city.

Troop units involved in the assaults ran to single regiments, however, compared with as many as five divisions previously hurled against the defenses.

New Messerschmitt planes, an improved German pursuit type, remained in action over Stalingrad, but the army newspaper Red Star said the Russian air force had found the answer to them by fighting in layer formations and had downed several.

Winter's Grip Spreads.

Amid scenes of desolation, Stalingrad's soldiers dug in with heavy overcoats as protection against the seasonal chill. Photographs of long lines of German prisoners showed they were already wearing their winter uniforms.

The cold of the coming second winter of the war spread gradually down the front from the

(Continued on page 6.)

New Registration Of Voters Fails To Offset Purge

Registration of voters in Douglas county failed to keep pace with the purge of the registration books. County Clerk Roy Agee announced today in reporting a total of 12,825 persons qualified for the forthcoming general election, a gain of 225 since the 1942 primary election held in May.

Registration at the general election in November, 1940, was 15,774. Agee reported, but immediately following that election the list was purged of the names of voters who had died or moved from the county, as well as those who had failed to cast a ballot during the preceding two years. The purge resulted in the removal of 3,730 names.

In the 1940 election, the registration showed 8877 republicans, 6,550 democrats and 347 non-partisan and miscellaneous registrations. Following the purge of names, the records listed 7,075 republicans, 4,747 democrats and 222 in the non-partisan and miscellaneous group. At the 1942 primary election there were 7,394 republicans, 5,042 democrats and 164 in the miscellaneous group. The books for the coming November election list 7,450 republicans, a gain of 56 since the primaries; 5,145 democrats, a gain of 103 since May, and 230 miscellaneous, a gain of 66.

Two years ago the democratic total was only 5751 less than the republican figure, the closest the democrats had ever been to the republican total. But this year, the republican lead will be far greater because of the ground the democrats have lost in the past two years.

Ex-Wilbur Boy In Bomber Unit



—NEWS-REVIEW PHOTOGRAPH

Eugene F. Blosser, above, a grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Blosser of Roseburg, is now serving as a sergeant-mechanic with the 4th bomber squadron of the 24th bombardment group at Spokane, Wash. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Ward Blosser of Vancouver, Wash., but resided for a number of years with his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Smith, at Wilbur, where he was graduated from high school with the class of 1935.

Oregon Deer Hunter Killed by Own Rifle

BURNS, Or., Oct. 13.—(AP)—Harney county recorded its first deer hunting fatality of 1942 Sunday, Coroner H. Z. Smith reported today. The victim was Warren Watson, 29, garage owner here.

Smith said the accident was unwitnessed but it appeared that Watson accidentally discharged his own gun as he dismounted from a horse.

Registration for Gasoline Ration Scheduled to Start on November 9

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Registration for gasoline rationing will begin November 9 in all parts of the country except the already-rationed east.

The office of price administration, announcing this today, said that while car owners in the east need not re-register, they must, like the rest of the country, provide additional information concerning the tires they own.

In gearing gasoline rationing more closely to the tire conservation program, OPA made these innovations in the plan now operated in the east:

1. Periodic tire inspections as to requirement for any renewal of ration, as well as any application for tires or recaps.
2. Certification that the applicant owns no more than five tires for any vehicle.
3. Revocation or reduction of ration for drivers who exceed the 35-mile-an-hour speed limit.

The registration beginning November 9 will be for "A" coupon books, with the rationing plan to go into effect November 22.

Each applicant will be required to list the serial number of all tires he owns. If he lists more than five tires for each car, he will be denied an "A" book until he shows he has disposed of the excess tires.

OPA said it would announce shortly details of the periodic tire inspection program.

All car owners registering next month will receive "A" books containing coupons for mileage at the rate of 2,880 per year. Applications for supplemental rations, which the OPA said would receive "most careful scrutiny," may be filed any time after the

basic "A" book has been received.

What Must Be Shown

To qualify for a supplemental ration, the application must show that he needs more than 150 miles per month of occupational driving, and that he has formed a car-sharing club for carrying three or more persons, in addition to himself, to and from work regularly.

If the applicant has not formed a car-sharing club, he must prove that alternative means of transportation are inadequate, and that it is impossible for him to carry others.

Price Administrator Henderson said the plan was designed to reduce the national average passenger car mileage to 5,000 a year, as recommended by the Baruch committee.

"In order to achieve this average," Henderson said, "we must remember that only essential driving can be permitted, and that the vast majority of cars will receive less than the average mileage. Through this patriotic curtailment of driving, it will be possible for this country to live within its rubber supply and to carry on our activities essential to winning of the war."

Of the 2,880 miles a year driving (based on 15 miles to the gallon) provided by the "A" book, 1,800 is presumed to be for occupational driving, and the remainder for "necessary family driving."

Motorists with more than five tires may sell the excess tires to the government, OPA announced. Details of the plan will be announced in the near future. Motorists presumably will receive prices in line with present ceilings on used tires.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
SAN DIEGO. And a roof, thank heaven, to sleep under. But it was a narrow squeak. Ten minutes more and it would have been the street.

WHEN the war began, the hotel men of the Pacific coast thought they were looking bankruptcy in the eye.

As it has turned out, it was quite something else they were looking at. The big city hotel men, that is.)

Portland, with relatively few hotels to start with and priorities putting the kibosh on the building of any more, has a wild and woolly shipbuilding boom that makes a room in a hotel just something to dream about, as a marine in a foxhole down in the Solomons dreams about luscious blondes.

Seattle has a shipbuilding boom, an airplane building boom and a navy yard besides. So that's that.

The cities around San Francisco bay have shipbuilding and other assorted war industries, with a navy yard at Vallejo. In San Francisco, the hotels are crowded with service men waiting for a convoy out and with their relatives who have come to see them off.

BUT San Diego is the payoff. It has a navy base and a marine base, and nobody outside the statisticians of the war and navy departments has ever been able to count the camps of various sorts located around here and make the total come out the same twice in succession.

On top of that, San Diego is one of the leading airplane construction centers of the country, with great plants that go on growing like mushrooms on a hot and steamy night.

Add to that the parents, wives and other relatives who come to see their boys in the service and

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Willkie to Reply To Critics of His Second Front Talk

EDMONTON, Alberta, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Wendell Willkie intimated here last night that he would have something to say about "flippant statements made by certain public officials" concerning his second front utterances in Moscow after he arrives in the United States.

Willkie planned to leave today on the final leg of a globe-girdling flight which took him to Africa, the middle east, Russia, China, Siberia and Alaska. "I have collected much material and reached certain conclusions about our war effort, and about other countries and our relations with them," Willkie said. "I have already reported some of my conclusions to the American people, and some to the president."

"I shall report to my fellow citizens further and in full, and to the president, if he wishes, on such subjects as he desires to discuss with me."

"Incidentally," Willkie continued, "as to flippant statements made by certain public officials concerning the expression of my opinion in Russia on the question of a second front, I did not deem it appropriate or in good taste for me to reply to such personalities or flippancies while I was in other countries. I felt it my duty while abroad to uphold the hand of the president and all other united nations officials, which I continued to do even after such remarks were made."