

U. S. FLEET SINKS OR DAMAGES 30 JAP SHIPS IN GREAT VICTORY OFF SOLOMONS

Roseburg News-Review

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FOR appraisal and analysis of the results to be expected from the British and American campaign in north Africa, let us turn to Josef Stalin, who has proved himself to be one of the war's great realists.

In a letter to Henry Cassidy, Associated Press correspondent in Moscow, he answers three specific questions that had been put to him by Cassidy.

The first question concerned the Russian view of the African campaign.

Stalin says it is an OUTSTANDING DEMONSTRATION of the growing might of the allies' armed forces and proves that British and American leaders have organizing ability of a high order.

In his second question, Cassidy asked how effective the African campaign has been in relieving pressure on Russia and what ELSE Russia wants.

Stalin replies that it has created the prerequisites for a second front in Europe and has shifted the political and military situation in Europe IN FAVOR of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition. He indicates rather plainly that he is satisfied.

In his third question Cassidy asks what Russia can and will do to join the allies in the west to finish Hitler off and Stalin replies that the red army will fulfill its task with honor as it has been fulfilling it throughout the war.

THE Stalin letter is reassuring. Coming from a straight talker, such as Stalin has proved himself to be, it disposes rather effectively of the fear that Russia dissatisfied with her allies and might make a separate peace.

THE fascinating possibility that the Germans may be abandoning Africa isn't borne out by later news. More axis planes coming AWAY FROM Africa have been shot down, but they seem to have

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Block System for Home-to-Home Dissemination of War-Activity Information to Be Organized Here

Appointment of Mrs. Homer Grow to organize the "Block System" in Roseburg was announced here today. Mrs. Grow will be assisted by J. Ross Hutchinson, director of the U. S. citizen service for Roseburg, and Robert Hellweil, chief of the air raid wardens.

Miss Dorothy Potter, field representative for the civilian war service was in Roseburg Monday to assist in starting the organization.

The object of the block system, she reports is to have an organization through which information can be taken quickly to the homes regarding every phase of government activity in which individuals participate. This will be a permanent organization which will continue for the duration of the war, and during the rebuilding of normal processes following the war. The second important function of this plan is the carrying back to the government agencies the reactions of the people to suggested plans of conservation, distribution and other important actions demanding cooperation of individuals.

"The block system," Miss Potter declared, "takes the govern-

ALLIES WIN FIRST TUNISIA CLASH

Vanguard Of Pincer Force Repels Nazis

Rommel Continues to Dodge Pursuers; Reds Take New Toll of Foe

(By the Associated Press) Adolf Hitler's airborne invaders of Tunisia were reported to have been driven back today in their first clash with the vanguard of a powerful American-British expeditionary force driving into the French north African protectorate.

An Algiers radio broadcast said the Nazi setback came in a skirmish with allied reconnaissance forces, spearheading a thrust by perhaps 150,000 American and British soldiers.

Other British-American troop columns were reported sweeping into Tunisia from the south.

All signs pointed to an imminent showdown battle.

The American consul at Tunis, who escaped to reach Algeria, said French troops near Tunis had thrown back German patrols and that "the French population is eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Americans."

Rommel Still Elusive.

On the other side of the giant allied "vice" in the Mediterranean, Britain's triumphant 8th army was officially reported to have occupied the Libyan port of Derna, 150 miles east of Benghazi, and seized the town of Mekeili, 45 miles inland from Derna, in company.

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Roosevelt Broadcast Billed for Tonight

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—(AP)—President Roosevelt will address the nation tonight at 7:30 P.M.T.

The president's broadcast, scheduled in connection with the New York Herald Tribune's annual forum, will give him an opportunity, if he so chooses, to discuss recent American victories in the Pacific and in the Mediterranean.

His announced topic is "The united nations—their creed for a free world."

ment story to the people and takes back the reaction of the public to the government. This system furnishes a channel through which information can be quickly disseminated or collected."

The program, it is stated, calls for the organization of the residents within each block of the city. The city will be divided into zones, corresponding to the divisions used for civilian defense operations. Zone wardens will assist in selecting personnel.

"Most of the work and responsibility will fall upon the women of Roseburg, as this is largely a home visiting service," Mrs. Grow reported. "The work can be done in spare time without any definite schedule. Thus many women who have been prevented from helping with aircraft warning service at the filter center or with other defense or war work, demanding definite periods of time, can assist in this service. While the danger of an air raid may seem remote, we already have food shortages and numerous other problems which must be met. We earnestly ask the help and cooperation of all women of Roseburg in this organization."

Oregon Eagles' Head Will Visit Roseburg Aerie



First visit to Roseburg in four years of a state president of the Eagles lodge is slated for tonight, when an officer of that rank, George D. Field, above, of Portland meets with the local aerie. The important lodge session will be followed by an equally interesting program.

Rumanian Priests Face Spy Charges

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 17.—(AP)—The federal grand jury today indicted two priests of the Rumanian orthodox church and an editor on charges of espionage.

The priests are Father Gligheorie Moraru of Dearborn, Mich., identified in the indictment as leader in north America of the Free Rumania movement; and Father Stephan Opreanu of Detroit, Opreanu and George Zamfir, Detroit editor of Rumanian publications, were named as agents of Moraru.

Louis M. Hopping, assistant district attorney, said Moraru twice visited the former King Carol of Rumania in Mexico and received \$13,000 from him to further the movement.

One of the four counts in the indictment charges violation of the espionage act. The others alleged the defendants acted as agents of an enemy power, failed to register as foreign agents, and disseminated propaganda without labeling it as such or furnishing files to the government.

3 Days' Ship Launching Latest Kaiser Record

VANCOUVER, Wash., Nov. 17.—(AP)—A Henry J. Kaiser shipyard claimed another record today—a three-day ship launching.

A tank landing craft slid into the Columbia river from his Vancouver yard here last night, just two days, 23 hours and 40 minutes after keel-laying.

Size of the vessel was secret, the navy announcing only that it was smaller than the 10,500-ton Liberty freighters with which Kaiser has set construction speed records.

Idaho Voters Pass \$40 Monthly Pension Bill

BOISE, Nov. 17.—(AP)—The Idaho senior citizens' grant act, placed on the Nov. 3 general election ballot by initiative action, was passed by a majority of more than 2,000 votes, official returns showed today.

The act provides \$40 a month pensions for needy aged plus medical allowances and other benefits.

City Assured Milk Supply Until Jan. 1st

Distributors' Decision Made Pending Action of OPA, Council Advised

The milk situation in Roseburg is far more serious than most people realize, the city council was told at its regular mid-monthly meeting last night. Councilman O. J. Feldkamp, a milk distributor and dairyman, reported on the situation at the request of Mayor W. F. Harris, stating that producers and distributors have reached an agreement which will maintain a milk supply for the city until Jan. 1, unless word is received from the office of price administration on the request for authority to increase retail prices prior to that date.

"The people of Roseburg can be extremely thankful that we have some producers who consider the public's welfare as well as their own," Feldkamp told the council. The majority of the producers are ready to quit delivering milk right now. There are a few, however, who have always been concerned with the needs of the public. We could have been getting higher prices for our milk since last March, but these producers were not anxious to raise prices beyond the point where it would be possible to make a fair return on their work and investment. Now they are holding the producers together to keep the city supplied with milk, and if it was not for the efforts of these four or five producers, Roseburg would be without milk today."

Feldkamp pointed out that there is no ceiling price on butterfat, but that retail prices of milk are controlled. The producer, he said, can sell his butterfat and use the skimmed milk as feed for poultry and livestock and make a larger profit than by selling the whole milk to the

(Continued on page 6.)

Churchill's Assertion That British Empire Proposes to 'Hold It's Own' Draws Jolt From Wendell Willkie

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—(AP)—With a plea for early agreement among the allied nations on the aims of the war, Wendell Willkie says "every one of us" is obligated to speak out "freely and frankly across the oceans."

"Unless we have a similar idea of what they are thinking in England and in the commonwealth, there can be no hope of agreement," he told the New York Herald Tribune forum last night.

Willkie, who recently made a tour of the global war front, rebuked Prime Minister Churchill for his assertion last week that "we mean to hold our own."

"We should work today," he declared, "to make available presently to all the united nations, and when the war is over, to all the world, access to the materials indispensable to economic self-development."

"This cannot be accomplished by mere declarations of our leaders, as in an Atlantic charter, particularly when one of the two principals to that instrument has in the last few days seemingly defended the old imperialistic order and declared to a shocked world, 'we mean to hold our own.'"

"Its accomplishment depends primarily upon acceptance by the

Admiral Dies in Clash With Japs Off Solomons



Among the American casualties of the naval battle off the Solomon Islands the last six days was Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan, 52, pictured above. He commanded the cruiser San Francisco, into which a burning Japanese plane crashed on November 12. Admiral Callaghan, former naval aide to President Roosevelt, was the third of his rank killed since the attack on Pearl harbor.

Surgeon Loses Appeal From Damages Award

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 17.—(AP)—The state supreme court upheld unanimously Tuesday a Multnomah circuit court judgement granting Mrs. Cecelia M. Carruthers \$5,244 damages against Dr. Ben I. Phillips, Portland physician and surgeon.

The court found that Dr. Phillips was negligent in failing to remove sponges after an operation.

The opinion, by Justice Brand, upholds Circuit Judge Redding of Portland.

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Filibuster On Anti-Poll Tax Grips Senate

Southern Bloc Resists Attempt to Force Vote On Bill to Erase Law

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—(AP)—A well-organized group of southern senators opposed to the anti-poll tax bill took advantage of every parliamentary stratagem today to hold back the fourth attempt by administration forces to bring the measure before the senate.

Two attendance roll calls, two record votes on tabling appeals from rulings of Vice President Wallace, and numerous points of order and parliamentary inquiries were used as time-consuming devices, to start the fourth day of argument.

The southerners insisted that the journal of yesterday's proceedings be read in full, and made it clear they would offer various amendments and corrections, "designed to make the record speak the truth."

Senator Russell (D-Ga.) and Senator Connally (D-Tex.) spearheaded the early onslaught by the southerners. In reserve, however, were two Mississippi democrats, Senators Bilbo and Doney, both fortified with piles of law books and apparently prepared for lengthy speeches once they obtain the floor.

The southerners' immediate objective was to prevent Majority Leader Barkley (Ky.) from calling up the bill during the so-called "morning hour," or first two hours of session. Under the senate's rules, Barkley's motion to take up the bill would not be debatable if made during the morning hour, but it could not be made until routine procedure, such as approval of the journal, had been completed.

Southern Bloc Scored

Overnight, each senator had received a letter from President Philip Murray of the C. I. O. urging speedy enactment of the legislation. Murray said the nation "stands aghast and enraged at the tactics of a small bloc * * * which is seeking to frustrate majority rule in this nation."

Murray asserted that a "small

"Missing" Actress Only Taking Rest

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Nov. 17.—(AP)—Barbara Bennett, whose desire for a little rest caused southern California police officers to lose a lot of it, is safe at home and says she can't understand what all the fuss was about.

While the widespread search for her was on, Miss Bennett, she said, was in seclusion in a rest home and knew nothing of the alarm her absence had caused. She was reported missing Saturday morning by her husband, Addison Randall, screen cowboy.

Miss Bennett, former wife of singer Morton Downey, left her apartment Friday evening, presumably to keep a dinner engagement at the home of James Doane, actor's agent, and Mrs. Doane.

"But I changed my mind," Miss Bennett explained, "and didn't go there. Instead I went to another friend's home and telephoned the Doanes that I wouldn't be at the dinner."

"I decided I needed a rest, so I went to a rest home where I registered under an assumed name."

Loss of Nipponese Includes 11 Warships, Possibly 40,000 Troops On Convoyed Vessels

American Losses in Three-Day Combat Listed as Two Cruisers, Six Destroyers; Japs So Confused During Engagement They Blast at Each Other

PEARL HARBOR, T. H., Nov. 17.—(AP)—Japan's naval hordes swept down on the Solomon islands to disaster in their all-out effort to smash American power in the south Pacific.

In a savage three-day conflict that sent the foe's battered naval remnants into hiding, 23 Nipponese ships were sunk, seven were damaged and possibly 20,000 to 40,000 Japanese troops were lost in the swirl of sunken transports.

First details of the battle that raged from November 13 to 15 were released by the navy last night. Further reports may boost the staggering toll taken of enemy ships but already the victory was hailed by naval officers unofficially as the greatest of the war thus far, and perhaps of modern times.

The partial reports listed the sinking of a Japanese battleship, three heavy cruisers, two light cruisers, five destroyers, eight crowded transports and four cargo ships. The American losses were given as two light cruisers and six destroyers.

Thus, in 11 months of war, Associated Press records show, that 365 Japanese ships have been sent to the bottom of the Pacific as against 84 American vessels, including those at Pearl harbor.

Of these losses, 119 were Japanese warships and 50 were American.

Gas Ration for East States Cut

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—(AP)—A reduction in the value of basic gasoline ration coupons from four gallons to three gallons in the 17 eastern seaboard states has been approved at least tentatively by the office of price administration, an informed government source said today.

The reduction is expected to be announced shortly along with additional measures to save fuel oil, he said. There was no indication, however, of curtailing household rations of fuel oil for heating below the present 65 degree standard, and OPA officials have expressed reluctance to do this.

The cut in gasoline rations will apply only to the Atlantic coast states whose supply is affected by acute shortages of transportation, and is not expected to affect the four-gallon basic ration to be instituted December 1 in the rest of the country under the nationwide mileage rationing program, he said.

Bonneville Halt Order On Projects Rescinded

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—(AP)—Countermmanding a previous order directing a shutdown of construction of transmission lines and substations today, the war production board has ordered the Bonneville power administration to continue construction of war vital projects.

The lines affected by the order carry Columbia river power to defense plants, the interior department said at a hearing last week when it appealed the WPB directive which originally ordered cessation of non-essential activities.

Japanese Wins Legal Battle With Gen. DeWitt's Evacuation Order, but Loses in Curfew Regulation Test

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 17.—(AP)—The future of the army's restrictions on west coast citizens is in doubt.

In a test case decision yesterday Federal Judge Fee questioned the right of Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt to issue regulations governing civilians in the western defense zone without a proclamation of martial law.

Observers here said the decision, if upheld, might ultimately affect numerous army proclamations, including:

The order evacuating persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and citizen, from the coastal area; the order evacuating others termed "potentially dangerous" by the wartime civil control authority, and even the order for a coastal dimout, although most cities since have passed ordinances which probably make the dimout legal.

Judge Fee ruled that while the curfew did not apply to citizens, it did affect aliens. Then he ruled that Yasui was an alien, because he had been a paid agent of Japan and by his actions had shown a decision to be loyal to Japan.

Judge Fee set Wednesday for sentencing.

In San Francisco, spokesmen at General DeWitt's headquarters said that "all military orders and proclamations of this headquarters remain in full force and effect," and declined to comment further on Judge Fee's ruling.

When full details of those three short but fiery engagements northwest of Guadalcanal on November 13-15 become known, they will tell a story of not only the greatest naval battle ever staged at night, but also of the fiercest slugging combats in all naval history.

It was a most costly demonstration to Japan that not only have American forces complete control of the land, sea and sky there, but also they have the force to carry on an offensive.

"I think they brought everything they had," said Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet, significantly.

"As a result, all the enemy forces were either destroyed or driven back, and a major victory was obtained by our gallant forces."

If he were a Jap commander, he said, "I'd be sweating and bleeding if I had to explain such a loss."

Our over-all loss of personnel was relatively small while that of Japan was tremendous, he said.

With a further note of optimism, Admiral Nimitz recalled that months ago he mentioned that "we were behind the eight-ball" but now "things are looking up all the time. I don't think we are so close to the eight-ball now. However, we have not reached the stage where we can roam care-free over the ocean."

The admiral said he was certain the victory would result in the immediate strengthening of the hold we now have on Guadalcanal and the eventual expulsion of the enemy from that strategic island.

Japs Short on Supplies.

The Japs on Guadalcanal, he said, are suffering from the lack of two things: beans and bullets.

"They have hands of men in the upper reaches of the island

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