

HUNDREDS HOMELESS IN WILLAMETTE FLOOD THAT DEALS FIVE MILLION DAMAGE

Roseburg News-Review

VOL. XLVII NO. 228 OF ROSEBURG REV

ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1943.

VOL. XXXI NO. 208 OF THE EVENING NEWS

RUSSIAN TIDE HEADS FOR CAUCASUS AFTER TRAPPING 22 NAZI DIVISIONS; WESTERN GERMANY BOMBED BY RAF

Axis Forces At Elista in Ring of Steel

Red Offensive in Area Of Stalingrad Has Cost Invaders 312,000 Men

MOSCOW, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Leaving the Kalmyk capital of Elista far in its rear, the red army has driven to the shores of the great lake east of Salsk in an offensive aimed directly at the Caucasus after trapping 22 divisions at Stalingrad and killing or capturing 312,650 of the enemy, the Russians reported today.

The rush to the shores of the lake, now frozen and snow covered, carried the Russian troops to a point about 40 miles southwest of Elista in the biggest single day's jump of the offensive below Stalingrad.

The Russian winter campaign thus had put the German forces in the Caucasus in an increasingly dangerous position after building a wall 37 miles thick at its narrowest point around the 22 German divisions trapped at Stalingrad.

The German garrison at Elista was virtually encircled, with the Russians having passed by both on the south and the north.

The lake spreads northwest to the approaches of Salsk, only about 90 miles away, and its frozen surface, it was believed,

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FOR the moment, our global war has become almost a one-ring circus. The ring that holds our attention to the practical exclusion of the others is Russia.

The possibilities that are shaping up there are impressive indeed.

THE Russians' great winter offensive in the south that has been holding our breathless attention develops another prong—making three in all. The point of this new prong is already thrusting at the gates of Kotelnikovsk, 100 miles southwest of Stalingrad on the railroad leading to Tikhoretsk, south of Rostov.

It is WIDER than a mere prong, for the Russians are reported to be within 40 miles of Elista, 100 miles southwest of Kotelnikovsk.

One guesses from this that they are sweeping around to the south in a movement that has POWER behind it.

THIS impression of power behind the Russian drive is strengthened by dispatches reporting that in four days the Russian columns approaching Kotelnikovsk from THREE directions advanced nearly 50 miles.

In the big surge that carried them to within two miles of the city's outskirts, they advanced nearly 15 miles.

The hopeful implication back of these gains is that German resistance is beginning to crumble.

BOLSTERING this implication, the soviet high command says

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Hitler Ignores Reverses to Arms of Germany in 'Pep' Message to Nation, Declaring Nazis Never to Be Conquered

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Strictly on the defensive and devoid of new victories over which to boast, Adolf Hitler reverted to a favorite theme today in his New Year message to the German people by blaming the allies and the "Jews" for starting the war and promising there never would be a repetition of 1918.

In a special proclamation broadcast by the Berlin radio, Hitler pictured Germany as a peace-loving nation and himself as the leader who sought only to save his countrymen from their enemies and insure their future welfare.

The proclamation was bare of reference to developments on the Russian front, where the German armies are reeling under the blow of a six-week-old soviet offensive, and likewise ignored the axis rout in Libya and the allied landings in north Africa.

It abounded, however, with praise for the German people in enduring the hardships of war and praised the courage of the German troops, who, Hitler declared, would overcome all obstacles to achieve the final victory.

"Germany will never be conquered and never will capitulate," the fuhrer asserted. "Our strength, the courage of our troops and the faith of the German people, as well as the achievements of our brave allies in Europe and Asia, give us the right to believe in victory."

Hitler coupled this statement with a warning that the winter would be a hard one, but tempered this by declaring "that it can-

not possibly be harder than the last."

Goering, Goebbels Prattle
Reichsmarshal Goering echoed Hitler's predictions of victory in some misty future by issuing an order of the day to the air force which said:

"We do not know what the future is holding in store for us. We know one thing for certain—in the end the strength of the sword of Germany and her allies will master any fate and open a more beautiful world to our peoples."

Propaganda Minister Goebbels also broadcast a New Year's eve message to the German nation in which he described 1942 as "a blessed year for us—one of the most dangerous but also one of the greatest and one of the most decisive years in the history of our people."

"A survey of territories conquered during the past year," Goebbels declared, "shows that the German war potential has been augmented. Once this augmentation has been fully exploited it will give the war a decisive turn."

Goebbels, like Hitler and Goering, predicted eventual victory, but he was equally vague as to when and how it would be achieved.

"The duration of the war," he said enigmatically, "depends on the problematic expanse of the conflict."

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Ban on Barbarism Post-War Task, Roosevelt Says

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—President Roosevelt declared today that it was a "supreme necessity" to plan for the post-war peace and to carry forward after the war the unity now being displayed by the united nations, to prevent another world cataclysm.

The president issued a statement at a press conference opening the New Year, asserting the united nations "are passing from the defensive to the offensive," and adding:

"The unity achieved on the battle line is being earnestly sought in the not less complex problems on a different front."

"In this as in no previous war men are conscious of the supreme necessity of planning what is to come after—and of carrying forward into peace and common effort which will have brought their victory in the war."

"They have come to see that the maintenance and safeguarding of peace is the most vital thing in the lives of each and all of us."

The statement was issued on the first anniversary of the signing here last January 1 and 2 of the "Declaration by 26 united nations."

"Our task," he said, "on this New Year's day is three-fold: first, to press on with the massed forces of free humanity until the present bandit assault upon civilization is completely crushed; second, so to organize relations among nations that forces of barbarism can never again break loose; third, to cooperate to the end that mankind may enjoy in peace and in freedom the unpreceded blessings which divine providence through the progress of civilization has put within our reach."

North France Also Blasted; Mines Laid

Two Axis Supply Ships, Destroyer Sunk by Subs Off North Africa

LONDON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—The RAF started off the New Year by bombing targets in western Germany during the night, the air ministry announced today.

Railway targets in northern France also were attacked and mines were laid in enemy waters, a communiqué said. Loss of two bombers in the night operations was acknowledged.

The specific targets which were attacked in Germany and the size of the raiding force were not immediately disclosed.

Britain, meanwhile, spent a raid free night.

The British aerial operations last night followed up attacks by RAF bombers and fighters yesterday on railroad yards and assembly shops in occupied France and Belgium.

Six locomotives were reported damaged and bomb bursts were seen in the target areas in these assaults. No planes were lost, the air ministry said, though two fighters were reported missing following a sweep over the Pas de Calais area. Two enemy planes also were listed as destroyed over the continent.

New Blows in Tunisia

Allied submarines and planes scored new successes in the Tunisian battle of supply as patrols on both sides tested the battle lines, possibly as a preliminary to the decisive test of strength.

Two more axis supply ships and perhaps a destroyer have been sunk by British submarines off the gulf of Tunis and off Bizerte, the admiralty announced.

From Cairo, British headquarters announced two new aerial assaults on the east coast port of Sfax where docks, railway sidings, a power station, warehouses and other buildings were

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Mobsters Recaptured by FBI



Two of the country's most-sought public enemies, Roger Touhy, left and Basil "The Owl" Banghart, are shown in Chicago after their capture by G-men who had previously killed two companions of the desperadoes. The entire Touhy gang, 7 in all, who escaped from Stateville penitentiary at Joliet, Ill., last October 9, were either dead or captured.

Wake Island Raid Catches Japs Asleep

U. S. Bombers, in Night Raid, Destroy Most of Foe, Start Huge Fires

(By the Associated Press)

American bombers were disclosed today to have raided Japanese-garrisoned Wake island in a terrific mass attack the day before Christmas, and delayed reports from the Pacific said possibly more than half of the Japanese forces there were killed.

Not one of the raiding bombers was lost, reported Olen W. Clements, Associated Press correspondent, who rode in one of the planes.

He said 76,000 pounds of bombs started immense fires in the attack, which began one minute after midnight and caught the Japanese asleep on the island where for 16 days a year ago United States marines made one of the most gallant last stands in military history.

The base from which the bombers struck was kept a secret.

Other Jap Bases Blasted

Allied headquarters in Australia announced a continued aerial offensive in which Japanese airfields were attacked at Lae and New Guinea; Gasmata, on New Britain; and Buka, on Bougainville island in the Solomons.

At least 23 Japanese planes were listed as destroyed or damaged, and of this number United States Lockheed Lightnings, new star performers in the skies over the southwest Pacific, were credited with shooting down nine and damaging two others at Lae.

This announcement supplemented an air force report that 1,286 Japanese planes had been destroyed, 250 possibly destroyed, and 313 damaged in the south Pacific since the war began.

Allied losses over the same period were described as comparatively small.

The heaviest toll of Japanese planes was taken in the New Guinea area.

Buna Mop-Up Continues

In land fighting on the north-east coast of New Guinea allied troops were mopping up along the edges of their corridors driven through Japanese defenses near Buna. Heavy fighting was said to have developed on the Sananda track north of Buna.

From bases in India, RAF Blenheims attacked the Japanese-held Burma port of Akyab and an airfield at Shwebo again yesterday.

A New Delhi communiqué said British land forces penetrating in

Woman Is Drowned in Pass Creek

Auto Hits Slide, Dives Into Stream; 2 Hurt in Crash on Lower Umpqua

Two traffic accidents, one at-

tended by death of a woman, marked the storm-flood situation in northern Douglas county yesterday, according to reports received at the local office of the state police. At Pass creek, near Drain, during the night, an automobile occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Nick Skrebensky, 3117 Albina ave., Portland, struck a slide on the Pacific highway and was hurled into the swollen stream.

Skrebensky managed to save himself without injury, but his wife was drowned. A search for her body was still in progress at 10 o'clock this morning, the police office announced. The search was being headed by State Policeman Sherman and Coroner H. C. Stearns.

At Paradise creek, 10 miles west of Elkton, on the lower Umpqua highway, a truck and an automobile collided, throwing both vehicles into the stream, the police office was informed. No details of the accident or names of the persons involved were learned, Police Sgt. Paul Morgan stated. He added that meager information thus far received indicated that the victims, badly injured, were aided by the Scottsburg patrol and taken to a hospital in Eugene.

Scattered reports available indicate that the general flood situation in Douglas county is easing. The North and South Umpqua rivers, as well as Deer creek, in the Roseburg area, are somewhat lower this morning. Estimates of damage are unobtainable but it is believed that it will be comparatively light.

Coastguardsmen tried to reach the sinking plane last night, navy headquarters reported, but were prevented by a 15-foot surf and rocky beach.

Of the missing men, two were officers and the other five enlisted men, the navy reported. Names were not immediately available.

Legless Child Has Gift From Fellow Sufferer

ORANGE, N. J., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Legless Mary Drury had a medal for valor today from an unidentified sailor in Boston who told her in an accompanying note:

"You deserve this more than I do."

Mary is the little girl who lost her legs under a railroad train just before Christmas as she hurried home from school, with a package of ice cream to celebrate her ninth birthday.

She received many Christmas presents from persons who read of her plight. Among the gifts was a crisp, new five-dollar bill from another sailor convalescing in New York navy yard hospital, he wrote:

"This is the last one I have but I want you to use it for something for yourself. I know how you feel when you're laid up in a hospital."

Ceiling Price Too Low; Milk Deliveries Halt

BATESVILLE, Ark., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Approximately 70 per cent of Batesville's milk supply was shut off today when two major dairies quit making deliveries in protest against the OPA ceiling price on their product.

Some consumers in this 5,267 population town drove to the dairy plants, four miles from the city, for milk but most of them did without, including 35 babies.

Operators of the Stipes and Mack farm dairies, asserting they were "losing heavily" at the retail ceiling price of 12 cents a quart, said there would be no more deliveries until OPA gave them some relief. The companies said feed prices and cost of milk purchased for resale had continued to raise while their prices were frozen.

Portland Killer to Get New Death Sentence

PORTLAND, Jan. 1.—(AP)—Circuit Judge Dodson will re-sentence Wednesday William E. Wallace, Portland, to die in the lethal gas chamber at Salem for the first degree murder of Benjamin J. Finkell, former lottery resort capper, here Aug. 8, 1941.

The state supreme court recently denied Wallace's petition for a rehearing. The death sentence is mandatory on such a conviction in Oregon.

Further Evacuation Order Issued as Torrent Mounts; Farming Lowlands Awash

Communities in Eugene District, West Springfield Hardest Hit; Glenwood Buildings Crumble; Benton, Linn County Residents Warned of Crest Approach

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Evacuation orders went out today to more flood-plagued Willamette valley communities as a new crest mounted in the wake of an inundation that already has done damage estimated at \$5,000,000.

C. C. Mongold, resident U. S. army engineer at Eugene, hub of the current Willamette river flood, told residents of Santa Clara, Riverwood and Goodpasture island to quit their homes in those fertile farming lowlands.

Between 1,000 and 2,000 residents left or were evacuated from their homes yesterday, mostly in West Springfield, where muddy water stood three feet deep today in the business and residential sections, and in Glenwood.

But the new order was expected to affect almost 1,000 additional persons who were in the path of floodwaters that were rising one-tenth of a foot each hour receding momentarily from a 16.7-foot to 15.8 at 8 p. m. last night. Eugene's flood stage is 12 feet.

Linn, Benton Areas Periled

In Linn county to the north, County Agent Floyd Mullen at Albany warned residents to prepare to move from lowland areas that were expected to be flooded for the first time in 15 years. A similar warning was issued by Benton County Sheriff Harper at Corvallis. Flood crests were forecast for tomorrow in these down-river areas.

No deaths have been reported from any point in the far-flung Willamette flood area although scores of residents were taken from their homes in boats.

Frederick Wiese, a Willamette community farmer, was believed drowned after his team of horses returned to his home after breaking away from his wagon. Sheriff Harper, a deputy and another farmer started a search and found Wiese marooned in a tree, wet and cold. His wagon had been caught in a rushing flood current and overturned.

EUGENE, Ore., Jan. 1.—(AP)—Evacuation of hundreds more residents of Lane county's lowlands continued at full swing this morning, as the Willamette river held stationary at 16.7 feet, considerably short of the predicted 18.5 feet, after rising approximately a foot in the last 12 hours, and reaching yesterday's peak.

Possibility that the 18.5 peak would not be reached here was seen in reports that the McKenzie river, which raised during the night, had dropped .2 of a foot between 4 a. m. and 5 a. m.

The flow into the Cottage Grove reservoir, which was only four feet from its crest at 8 a. m. today, was also down slightly.

The increase in the McKenzie during the night brought peril to the Thurston farming community and Springfield civilian defense workers and the McKenzie river boatmen were evacuated.

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Senator Asks Halt Of War Drafting Of Farm Labor

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.—(AP)—A halt to the military drafting of farm labor was called for today by Senator Aiken (R-Vt.) as the only way to avert "the gravest food crisis in the history of this nation."

"If agricultural workers aren't assured in 1943, we may witness an alarming food shortage before the end of this year," Aiken told reporters.

Taking cognizance of reports that War Manpower Commissioner McNutt had announced he would "go as far as necessary" to give agriculture all the workers needed to plant and harvest the crops, Aiken expressed hope "he will act speedily."

At the same time, Aiken expressed hope McNutt and other administration leaders would limit the armed forces to a size that can be fed.

"The time has come to determine the maximum number of men we can put into the army and navy and still feed and maintain them while allowing food and equipment for all the united nations," Aiken, a leading republican farm bloc member, declared.

"Some times it looks like everybody sympathizes with the farmer's plight, but no one does anything about it."