

BRITISH, NAZI WARSHIPS CLASH IN ARCTIC

Nazis Claim Cruisers Of Foe Damaged

Each Side Admits Loss Of Destroyer In Fight Reported Continuing

(By the Associated Press)
Against the black tidings from the Russian front, the German radio today sought to bolster home morale with reports of purported allied losses in a naval battle in the Arctic sea, off Bear Island.

An official Nazi account asserted that several "enemy" cruisers were damaged, a destroyer sunk and four merchant ships torpedoed in a running sea battle which began Thursday morning when German warships and U-boats intercepted a convoy. One Nazi destroyer was listed as sunk.

The British admiralty announced Thursday that British warships had contacted German naval forces in northern waters and that the action was continuing. The admiralty said a German cruiser was damaged and forced to retreat and a Nazi destroyer was seen in a sinking condition.

Bear island lies about midway between Spitzbergen and the northern tip of Norway.

There was no confirmation of the German claims, however, which bore at least surface evidence of covering a Nazi naval failure. It was noteworthy that the German statement claimed destruction of none of the cargo ships of the convoy—presumably bound to or from Russia—and only claimed torpedo hits on four.

The British announced last night the loss of a destroyer, the war-built HMS Blea, but told neither the time nor circumstances of her sinking.

On Russian Front
Adolf Hitler's command acknowledged today that German troops had evacuated Elista, capital of the Kalmuck region in the Caucasus, but denied soviet claims that the triumphant red army had won the key Nazi stronghold of Velikie Luki, 90 miles from the Latvian frontier.

The Germans said Elista was evacuated after the town had been destroyed.

The Germans admitted on Thursday that Velikie Luki was virtually surrounded, with the Russians attacking "from all sides."

Soviet dispatches said the fall of the Nazi-held citadel, 260 miles northwest of Moscow, laid open the heart of an important German transportation system and climaxed a long and bitter siege.

"The German garrison in the town, which refused to lay down its arms, was wiped out," the Russian high command announced.

The Russians declared that Hitler's invasion armies were in hurried retreat across a 1,000-mile front, abandoning vast

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New Year's Fete Tragedies Decline

(By the Associated Press)
Deaths in the nation over the New Year's holiday resulting from violent causes—automobile accidents, drownings, fires, shootings, stabbings, etc.—numbered at least 115 today, almost two-thirds below the total for the same period a year ago.

The recent trend showing a 50 per cent reduction in motor vehicle deaths was indicated in the number of traffic fatalities reported since New Year's eve. An Associated Press survey showed that 74 of the total violent deaths since New Year's eve resulted from automobile accidents.

Of the 265 violent deaths reported on Jan. 2, 1942, automobile accidents accounted for 171 of the total. Principal factors for the decrease in automobile deaths were gasoline rationing and observance of the lower driving speed law.

More than 400 violent deaths were reported throughout the country in the extended Christmas weekend holiday of 1942, and of the total, 250 were listed as traffic fatalities.

Fir Price Schedule Put On Plywood Material

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—(AP)—The office of price administration yesterday placed Douglas fir lumber produced as a by-product in plywood plants under the same schedule of dollar and cents prices which control Douglas fir lumber produced in lumber mills.

Previously most plywood plants did not qualify as lumber mills because the percentage of all logs received at their plants cut into lumber was below the required 50 per cent.

Australia's Leader Urges Aid Increase

Pacific Strength Still Inadequate for Total War Effort, Assertion

(By the Associated Press)
American warplanes, smashing at Japan's invasion armies from Kiska island in the Aleutians to the Solomons, were officially credited today with dealing heavy blows to the enemy.

A navy department communique said U. S. air force fliers yesterday attacked Japanese ships in Kiska harbor, bombed the vicinity of Kukumono "where Japanese headquarters on Guadalcanal island are believed to be located," and blasted the Munda area of New Georgia islands in the Solomons.

(By the Associated Press)
Australia's Prime Minister John Curtin has urged again "to the proper quarters" to strengthen allied forces in the Pacific and drive back Japan's far-flung invasion hordes, it was disclosed today.

Curtin's representations followed a statement on Thursday in which he declared that the "united nations in the Pacific area are being denied resources for their total war effort."

The prime minister had also asserted that Japan was consolidating her conquests and that "delaying an offensive against her makes it certain that the offensive when undertaken will experience greater resistance."

Japs Freshly Maulied
Curtin's argument was underlined by the continued difficulty of Gen. MacArthur's expeditionary force in wiping out the last stubbornly-defending Japanese troops in the Buna sector in New Guinea.

"Fighting is savage and desperate and is continuing," the latest bulletin from MacArthur's headquarters said.

Official dispatches said allied troops had driven another wedge into Japanese positions along the narrow Papuan beach corridor, with tanks and artillery cutting a path for the new thrust to the sea.

Strongly entrenched, the Japanese apparently still held footholds at Giropa point and Buna government station.

Meanwhile, MacArthur's airmen raked Japanese bases in New Britain, hitting an enemy submarine at Widebay and leaving three big ships aflame at Rabaul. Two of five Japanese planes which rose to challenge the raiders were shot down.

Allied fliers also rained 1,000-pound bombs on the Japanese air base.

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Bodies of Flying Boat Crew Sought

WALDPORT, Ore., Jan. 2.—(AP)—Coastguardsmen searched today for the bodies of seven men missing after a navy flying boat crashed in the surf near here.

One survivor, an Ensign Brush, was found on a cliff ledge five miles south of Waldport.

He said the crash occurred Thursday night, but was in a semi-delirious condition and was unable to give details.

Brush told Seaman Dave Roger of the Waldport coast guard station that he and another member of the flying boat's crew climbed on a life raft. The other crew members were on another raft, he said.

His raft overturned in the surf, and the next he knew he was washed onto a beach. Brush told Roger from there he evidently crawled 25 feet up the cliff to a ledge. Coastguardsmen heard his moans and found him there.

"How he ever got on that ledge, I'll never know. He probably would have drowned at high tide if he hadn't, because the beach is covered at that point," Roger said.

His raft was discovered, but there was no trace of Brush's companion. The other raft and a life preserver also were found. There was no trace of any survivors.

Chief Rationing Dates Listed by Federal Office

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—(AP) The office of price administration today listed important rationing dates as follows:

COFFEE Jan. 3.—Last day for using coupon No. 27 in war ration book 1 for purchase of coffee. Coupon No. 28 becomes valid Jan. 4. It will be good for one pound of coffee and valid until Feb. 8.

SUGAR Jan. 5.—Last day on which institutional and industrial sugar users may register at ration boards for January and February allotments.

Jan. 31.—Coupon No. 10 in war ration book 1 is good for three pounds of sugar through this date.

MILEAGE, GASOLINE AND TIRES Jan. 21.—Last day for using No. 3 coupons in "A" books. No. 4 coupons become valid Jan. 22.

Jan. 31.—Last day for temporary "T" coupons to be issued directly by ration board. Beginning Feb. 1, "T" coupons will be issued on the basis of ODT certificates of war necessity. All motorists must have tires inspected by this date.

FUEL OIL Jan. 1.—No. 3 coupons valid all month and first part of February, dates varying among four zones. Coupon No. 2 remains valid until about Jan. 25, exact dates depending on zone.

TYPEWRITERS Dec. 31.—Last day on which holders of typewriter certificates could purchase machines.

WAR RATION BOOK 1 Jan. 15.—Last day for obtaining this book.

Book No. 1, originally issued for sugar but now good also for coffee, will be used in obtaining subsequent books.

Los Angeles Harbor Fire Destroys Fish Canneries

SAN PEDRO, Calif., Jan. 2.—(AP)—A spectacular fire in the heart of Terminal island, restricted military area in Los Angeles harbor, today destroyed two fish canneries and threatened to spread to other installations.

Deputy Fire Chief F. H. Rothemmel said the loss would total several hundred thousand dollars.

There was no statement to indicate how the blaze started.

Canneries of the French Sardinie Co. and the South Coast Co. were destroyed.

Fireboats and all available motorized equipment battled for two hours before bringing the outbreak under control.

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Grain of U. S. Assures Food For Europe

Increased Uses of Corn Shift Major Surplus to Huge Supply of Wheat

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—(AP)—Like a teeter-totter, the nation's ever-normal granary, which may some day soon help to feed a war-stricken world, is shifting from an overabundance of corn to an overabundance of wheat.

Grain trade statistics today showed the ever-normal granary, now ten years old, holds supplies of sufficient size at least to make a good start on the task of feeding Europe. However, the war has brought striking changes in its content.

In the spring of 1941, when the United States began to take up the burden of supplying food first to Britain and later to others of the united nations, stocks of corn in the granary were at a peak, totaling in excess of 500,000,000 bushels. Wheat stocks were about one-half that total.

Lend lease demands, however, have called for greatly increased livestock consumption of corn, as well as industrial products made from corn such as starch, sugar, oil and alcohol. The granary's supply of that cereal has been reduced to less than 200,000,000 bushels, and a large portion was in position for immediate farm consumption.

Wheat Volume Expands
Meanwhile, the granary supply of wheat has expanded more than threefold. By the time farmers complete the sowing of 1942 wheat under government loans, the total in the granary may exceed 700,000,000 bushels. Already it is estimated above 600,000,000 bushels.

This amount of wheat is over and above normal domestic requirements. In fact, according to current estimates, the United States may have on hand as surplus more than 850,000,000 bushels of bread grain by the time the 1943 crop is ready for harvest next summer. This will be more than 200,000,000 bushels in excess of the record carryover last summer and about quadruple what is normally considered a "safe" National reserve.

While the war average annual wheat imports of Europe amounted to about 400,000,000 bushels,

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Portsmouth Battling to Stem Flood

Towns of Proctorville, Point Pleasant, Others In Kentucky Inundated

PORTSMOUTH, O., Jan. 2.—(AP)—The Ohio river hurled its full flood fury at this industrial city of 40,400 inhabitants today after driving 40,000 to 50,000 persons from their homes upstream and causing damage that may reach \$3,500,000.

The residents crossed their fingers and hoped against fresh floods as a company of army engineers helped fill 20,000 sandbags to bulwark a 62-foot flood wall. Scores of families were removed from unprotected outlying communities.

The river, running out of its banks for 760 miles from east Liverpool, O., to below Evansville, Ind., was expected to crest here late tonight or Sunday at 61 feet, 11 above flood stage. It was at 60 today.

Three engineers were killed and four trainmen injured near New Philadelphia, O., in a collision of two freight trains which had been rerouted because of the flood.

Peril Eased Elsewhere
Upstream, the water had dropped below flood level in Pennsylvania, and was receding between East Liverpool and Point Pleasant, W. Va.

Marooned workers prepared to return to war plants in East Liverpool, Wellsville, Steubenville, Martins Ferry, Bridgeport, Bellaire and Marietta, O., and Weirton, Wellsburg, Wheeling, Moundsville, New Martinsville and Parkersburg, W. Va.

The Ohio's crest hit Point Pleasant, 90 miles north of here, last night, reaching 15 feet above flood level. Eight feet of water covered half the town, whose 3,500 population has been doubled by new war workers. A thousand were made homeless.

Huntington, W. Va., a city of 90,000 between here and Point Pleasant, was safe behind an \$11,000,000 72-foot wall completed last month. The river was expected to crest at 61.5 feet, 11 above flood stage.

At Proctorville, O., however, 400 of the town's 950 residents were evacuated, some to Huntington. Hundreds of homes were flooded at Ashland and Catlettsburg, Ky., and water ran seven feet deep in the Catlettsburg business district.

Semi-paralysis of production spread southward, while thousands more folk in Ohio and Kentucky scurried to higher ground.

Youth, Girl Wounded by Gun User Improving

PORTLAND, Jan. 2.—(AP)—Hospital attendants today reported the condition of two youthful gunshot victims had improved.

They are Ethel Santel, 20, and John Guyump, 18, who were shot by Myrl W. Thompson, 57. Miss Santel's former employer, as they returned from a movie Thursday. Both remain in serious condition.

Thompson afterward took his own life.

Chocolate Shop Loses About \$80 in Robbery

Robbery of about \$80 from the cash register of the Chocolate shop, 229 North Jackson street, Roseburg, was reported to the local authorities today. Entrance to the place was effected by smashing a rear window between 1 and 2 o'clock this morning, according to the report of Night Patrolman William Long.

Water Backing Into Reedsport Takes 5 Houses

(By the Associated Press)
The rain-swollen Umpqua river ran into a high tide at Reedsport and backed into city streets. Five houses were swept away and lowland farms and lumber mills were inundated.

It was the worst flood there since 1927, and business men brought out boats to get around the streets. The water did not damage store stock, however, and receded as the tide turned, even higher tides were predicted today and Monday.

Cattle were trapped by waters, and some were saved only by being lifted into hay lofts. Families were evacuated from lowland areas, which remained under water. Extensive damage was done to log booms, many of which were broken up by the surging river.

Roseburg Groups Perform Rescues

Roseburg rescue groups performed timely service last Thursday while the Umpqua river flood was at its most dangerous stage. A man residing on Elk's island, which bisects the river here, was taken off in the city fire department's boat by the department's rescue squad, comprised of Earl Powell, Bud Ellison, Luther Ellison, Bill Umrath, George Singleton and H. V. Planizer.

Responding to an aid call from the Curry estate to the county court, a civilian defense unit, using the fire department boat, rescued a family of six, including two measles-stricken children, from their imperiled home in Garden valley. The family dog, cat and a flock of poultry were included in the rescue, which required portaging of the boat over five stretches. The home fortunately was not washed away.

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Douglas County "Lifer" Will Receive Freedom

Robert Moore, sentenced to life imprisonment for assault about 10 years ago from Douglas county, will be released from the state prison this week, Governor Sprague said Wednesday in announcing that he had given Moore a commutation of sentence.

Moore was arrested March 13, 1933. He gave his age then as 44 and stated he was born in Idaho and had resided in Oregon 14 years, the two last months of that period in Roseburg. He was sentenced to life imprisonment two days after his arrest.

War Bond Quota for Douglas Again Exceeded

The war bond quota for Douglas county for the month of December was set for \$101,250 and the incomplete returns for the first three weeks of the month reached the total of \$112,456, according to an announcement made this morning by H. O. Pargeter, county chairman.

Pargeter stated that Douglas county is the only county in the state of Oregon that has over-subscribed its quota for eight consecutive months.

Slugging, Theft Reported By Myrtle Creek Man

State police are investigating the report of a Myrtle Creek resident named Marcy that he was slugged unconscious and robbed of \$10 by a stranger whom he met by chance while hiking to his home town from Roseburg, in the absence of flood-halted transportation. Marcy said the slugging occurred about 3 o'clock this morning at the railway cut about 2 miles south of Roseburg.

Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

ROSEBURG, OREGON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1943.

VOL. XXXI NO. 209 OF THE EVENING NEWS

Our Job Is to Save Dollars Buy War Bonds Every Pay Day

VOL. XLVII NO. 229 OF ROSEBURG REVIEW

RAMPANT WILLAMETTE SWEEPING CLOSE TO CORVALLIS, ALBANY, SALEM; OHIO RIVER RIPS ITS 50,000 RESIDENTS

Water Inundates All Major Highways, Great Farm Area; Toll of Lives Reaches Six

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 2.—(AP)—An unseasonal flood surged toward the major cities of the Willamette river today, leaving six dead and costing uncounted millions in damage in the upper valley.

Past the Eugene area, where damage was estimated at \$5,000,000, the flood crest swept toward Corvallis, Albany, Salem, Oregon City and Portland.

Water covered all major highways and swirled over farm lands. The cities themselves, on higher ground, have not been touched by flood waters in years, but the Willamette lapped perilously close to city streets at Corvallis, Albany and Salem early today.

Body of Woman In Pass Creek Wreck Recovered

The body of Mrs. Helen Skrebensky, 47, of Portland, who was drowned in Pass creek, near the Douglas-Lane county border Thursday night, after the automobile in which she was riding with her husband struck a slide on the Pacific highway, was recovered yesterday, Coronor H. C. Stoarns reported.

The body was taken to Cottage Grove. Mr. Skrebensky, who was driving the car, managed to save himself without injury.

Mrs. Skrebensky's death was one of six attributed to the heavy storm and attendant floods in western Oregon. Two loggers, J. W. Thorn, Cottage Grove, and Archie Brooks, Wendling, died in a mud slide near Wendling.

Near Albany an automobile slipped into a flooded ditch, drowning Mrs. Marvln H. Smith, 25, and her five-month-old son.

At Springfield an elderly woman, Mrs. Josephine Lee, evacuated from her flooded home near Glenwood, died of shock.

Of the six lives lost, three were by drowning, following automobile mishaps. One vehicle skidded into a creek near Cottage Grove, drowning a woman, and another slipped into a flooded ditch near Albany, drowning a mother and her five-month-old son.

Mills, Farm Flooded
The river dropped steadily at Eugene although it still was above flood level this morning.

Downstream it rose just as steadily, reaching unpredicted

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In the Day's News

BY this time, you're familiar with the importance of BASES in modern warfare. Kotelnikoff, just taken by the Russians, was an important German base.

Huge supplies of war material were accumulated there and fed out to the German forces operating against Stalingrad. These supplies came to Kotelnikoff by way of a rail line leading out of Rostov.

The Russians have now CUT this line, shutting off the supply flow.

BEFORE the present Russian offensive, the German operations against Stalingrad and the Volga were fed by two rail lines—the one just referred to, leading through Kotelnikoff, and another one, branching eastward from the main Rostov-Moscow line at Likhaya.

BOTH of these lines have now been cut by the advancing Russians.

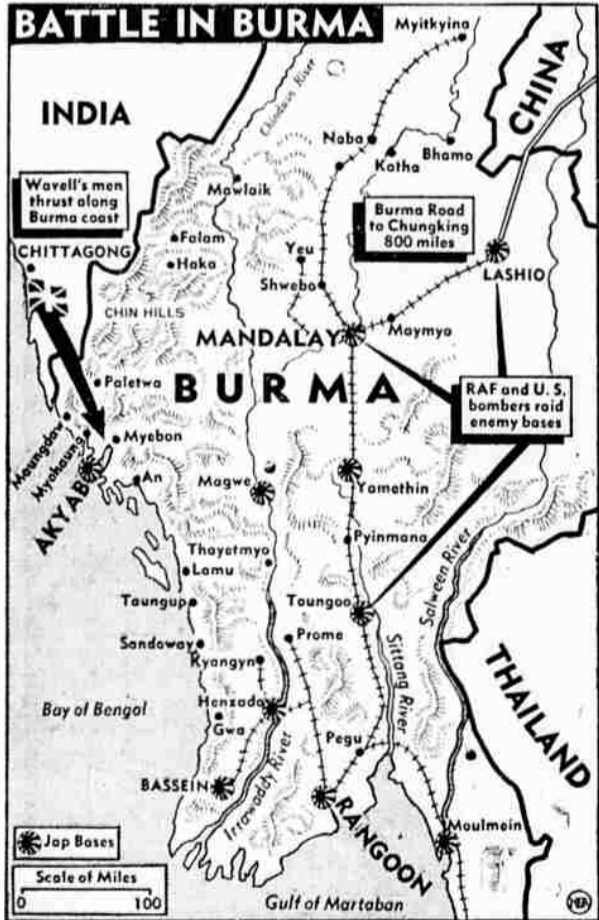
LONDON military authorities think the cutting of these supply lines virtually seals the doom of 22 German divisions (about 300,000 men) now trapped before Stalingrad.

This opinion is based upon the fact that modern armies can't operate without adequate supplies.

THE Germans have been using transport planes heavily in getting reinforcements and supplies to their forces before Stalingrad, but with all their speed transport planes can't take the place of railroads in moving the vast volume of supplies needed by modern armies. They can only supplement them.

And the Russians have been

(Continued on page 2)



War has come back to Burma with British troops on the offensive to retake part of the area wrested from them by the Japs nine months ago. The British drive on Akyab and R. A. F.—U. S. bombings of key Jap bases may culminate in a campaign to regain all of Burma and the vital supply link to China. Immediate aim of the allies is to gain control of Akyab, from which the Japs exercise control over the Bay of Bengal, enabling them also to use it as a base of operations against India.