

TRIPOLI TAKEN BY BRITISH

Roseburg News-Review

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LAST JAP DEFENSES IN PAPUA SMASHED

Allies Gain Heavy Booty At Sanananda

One-Time Nippon Army Of 15,000 Reduced to Few Jungle Stragglers

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, Jan. 23.—(AP)—Organized Japanese resistance in Papua ended yesterday when the last two remaining pockets of an enemy which once numbered 15,000 were wiped out by victorious American and Australian forces. The last fall was a group of Japs on the coast northwest of Sanananda. Attacked in the early morning by Australians, the enemy resisted bitterly but withdrew a short distance. Artillery and mortars softened the new defense and an afternoon attack crumpled the enemy.

Two days ago the Americans cleaned out the main Japanese pocket two miles from the coast along Soputa track, using heavy artillery and mortar fire. A small unit was left on the north side of the track.

A total of 476 dead were counted in that area.

Yesterday, 33 Japanese members of this unit attempted to escape, and Americans killed 32 of them and imprisoned the remaining one.

The Americans subjected the few remaining Japs to well-organized mortar and artillery battering starting at mid-morning. Shortly after midday, the Americans reported the Japs cleaned out.

Stragglers Hinted. Fourteen Jap stragglers were killed south of Gona. As far as is known, the only remaining Japanese in Papua are isolated soldiers wandering hopelessly in the

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE news from all the war fronts is good. Thrillingly good. SHARPLY in contrast with a year ago.

THE Russians are advancing on all fronts.

North of Rostov, they've crossed the Donets in TWO places and have comparatively clear sailing for the 85 miles that lie ahead of them. East of Rostov, they've crossed the Manych, the last natural defense barrier in that direction. They're only 79 miles from Kharkov.

Around Leningrad, they're blasting the Germans out of remaining strong points.

IN Germany, Hitler's own newspaper quoted in a dispatch from Switzerland) grumbles that the German people "should see how difficult the fighting on the eastern front is." It adds complainingly that the Russians "have more soldiers, more tanks, more guns than a year ago."

Some 15 months ago Hitler was boasting that Russia was BROKEN and would NEVER RISE again.

MONTGOMERY'S 8th army, chasing Rommel's once-famed African force, has topped the crest of the Nefusa ridge and has a downhill pull to bombed and burning Tripoli, 50 miles away in the saucer-like Jafara plain.

There are strong hints in the dispatches that units of Rommel's army are pushing on to the WEST. Instead of turning north to take refuge in Tripoli. These hints, if confirmed later, mean that he intends to abandon Tripoli and flee onward to the Tunis-

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Woman Slain in S. P. R. R. Sleeper

WAVES Chief Ex-Local Girl



Ensign Alice Applegate, pictured above, is commanding officer of the WAVES at Pasco, Wash. Formerly a resident of Roseburg, she is a direct descendant of Mrs. Virginia Estes Applegate, pioneer Roseburg resident, who celebrates her 98th birthday here January 28. At the time of her enlistment in the Women's naval reserve, Ensign Applegate was teaching school at Venice, Calif. She now is stationed at the naval air station at Pasco.

Coast Guard Cutter Natssek, 30 Aboard, Lost

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(AP)—The presumed loss of the coast guard cutter Natssek, which has been overdue in the north Atlantic for several weeks, with an estimated crew of 30 aboard was announced today by the navy.

The 225-ton Natssek, which went into service only last June, was commanded by Lieut. Thomas Sargeant LaFarge, 38, who was well known for his murals, stained glass windows and mosaics. His works included frescoes in the New York hospital and in the New York world's fair, and murals in the New London, Conn., post office.

His wife, Mrs. Marie I. LaFarge, lives at Cornwall, Conn.

Two Navy Planes, With 25 Persons Aboard, Lost

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—(AP)—Wide search was made by sea and air today for sign of a naval transport plane with 19 persons aboard which vanished in fog and storm near San Francisco on a flight from Pearl Harbor.

The plane already was reported to be missing yesterday when the navy announced that it was missing.

Another navy plane also was overdue on a flight from Winslow, Ariz., to San Pedro, Calif. The navy said the twin-engine cargo transport land-type plane left Winslow at 5:40 p. m. and had not reached its destination late last night.

The plane carried three officers and three enlisted men, together with cargo and mail.

OPA Chief Of Oregon to Speak At C. of C. Banquet

Richard G. Montgomery, state director of the office of price administration, will be the speaker before the annual membership meeting of the Roseburg chamber of commerce at the Umpqua hotel Tuesday, January 26, it was announced today by Harry Pinniger, secretary. Mr. Pinniger returned last night from Portland, where he personally contacted Mr. Montgomery and made arrangements for his attendance at the banquet meeting here.

In view of the forthcoming expansion of the rationing program, the talk by Mr. Montgomery will be particularly timely, Mr. Pinniger states.

The annual banquet meeting of the chamber of commerce is open to all members and friends. The advance ticket sale will be conducted Monday and Tuesday. Purchase of tickets in advance of the meeting is not required, but it is requested that reservations be made in advance either at the chamber of commerce office or the hotel. Reservations may be made by telephone.

Highway Traffic, Wire Service Are Restored

Traffic and communications were being restored to normal today following the interruptions occasioned by storm conditions. Telephone circuits were opened to principal points throughout the state by mid-afternoon Thursday, lines carrying radio programs were set up and the Associated Press leased wire circuit was restored on the Oregon loop. During the storm, the telephone company managed to keep communication lines open for army uses with but few interruptions. Highway traffic was back on near normal schedule today.

Air Base At Salsk Gained By Russians

Fresh German Forces Routed as Reds Surge Nearer Rostov Goal

MOSCOW, Jan. 23.—(AP)—Soviet troops, smashing through the German defense lines along the Manych waterway, have captured the railroad center and air base at Salsk, 100 miles southeast of Rostov, and dispersed fresh German forces which for a time threatened to slow the Russian advance in southwestern sectors, dispatches from the front said today.

The German high command said that its "disengagement movement in the northern Caucasus is proceeding according to plan." The high command communique, broadcast from Berlin, declared that a Nazi counter-attack had driven the Russians eastward within the Don area. The invasion group trapped before Stalingrad was said to have halted the "deep enemy breach" in its western line.

The German defenses before Salsk failed to halt the red army any more than the rear guard actions of axis units in the central Caucasus, it was reported, and the Russian advance now was said to be proceeding in both of those major sectors at a breathtaking pace.

Reds Advance Elsewhere

Red army drives have carried to within 10 miles of the important Ukrainian city of Voroshilovgrad, drives aimed at reducing its worth as a transportation center and also at flanking Kharkov to the north.

The red army also reported that it took Konstantinovskaya, on the north bank of the Don river 75 miles northeast of Rostov and only a short distance east of where the Donets river flows into the Don.

Campaign lines developing along those rivers, however, fast are being outflanked by pushes along the Sal river valley, south of the Don's course, and down from Kamensky, west of the northern Donets valley.

During last night's fighting, the Russian midday war bulletin recorded by the soviet radio monitor in London said, the same armies that took Salsk and Novy Yegorlik pushed into several more towns in the region, while south of there the trans-Caucasian army was credited with the cap-

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Fisher Hits Move to Cut Income Tax

Oregon Commissioner Says "Prosperity," Not Property, Should Pay

By PAUL W. HARVEY, Jr. SALEM, Ore., Jan. 23.—(AP)—State Tax Commissioner Earl Fisher, answering demands that income taxes be reduced, advised the legislature today that Oregon's property tax is "highly burdensome, too often confiscatory." Fisher, in a letter to Senator W. E. Burke, Sherwood, said that only half of Oregon's families earned enough in 1941 to pay income taxes, and yet many of these families "paid property taxes on homes or low-income properties out of meager earnings."

"The property tax," said Fisher, "has no regard for taxpaying capacity. Its impact on heavily burdened property, or property with little or no income, is highly burdensome, too often confiscatory. Fundamentally, the income tax is a charge on prosperity. Oregon's increase in income tax collections of 130 per cent during the past two years, leading all other income taxed states, is a reliable index of industrial and business improvement in this state."

As a further argument against reducing income taxes now, Fisher showed how federal taxes,

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J. A. Krug Appointed U. S. Power Director

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(AP)—The nation's new power director, taking over today the job of directing the war production board's projected expansion of utilities, may get his first major test in trying to obtain pipe lines and other facilities to avert a natural gas shortage next winter.

Following the appointment of J. A. Krug to the newly-created post, WPA officials expressed the opinion that unless he is successful the gas shortage in some sections might equal the east's current fuel crisis.

In naming Krug, WPA Chairman Donald Nelson said the former TVA official would have responsibility for electricity, gas, water and communications, and that his post would be comparable to those of Harold L. Ickes and William Jeffers as petroleum and rubber administrators, respectively.

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Body Found Near Eugene; Throat Cut

Victim, 21, Wife of Navy Ensign; No Money Taken; Clue to Suspect Given

EUGENE, Ore., Jan. 23.—State Police were attempting to locate a man in a pin-striped suit, believed to be the slayer of attractive Martha Virginia Brinson James, 21-year-old wife of a naval ensign stationed in Seattle, Wash., who was found this morning dead in the aisle of a tourist sleeper of Southern Pacific's southbound west coast train between Tangent and Eugene.

The young woman's body was found by trainmen in front of the lower 13 berth which she had occupied. Her throat had been cut by a blunt knife, which severed the jugular vein, according to Lane County Coroner Poole, who took the body off the train here.

Mrs. James was en route from Seattle to Los Angeles, according to her ticket. Police said she was the wife of Naval Ensign Robert F. James, stationed at the yard boatswain's office, U. S. naval station, Seattle, Wash. She was identified through a birth certificate in her luggage.

The young woman was clad in nightdress, and had been stabbed while lying in her berth, the coroner's investigation showed.

Dr. Jos. Beeman, state police crime detection expert, was expected here this morning to check on whether or not she had been attacked.

Robbery was ruled out as a motive, when investigating officers found \$112 in currency in her purse in the berth.

The suspect was tentatively identified by a marine who occupied upper 13. He told officers he was awakened by hearing a scream, and saw the man in a pin-striped suit leaving the car.

The marine who furnished the clue to the slayer suspect was Pvt. Harold R. Wilson, San Diego, Calif. He told Sgt. Harold Skipworth of the Eugene police force that when awakened by a woman's scream about 4 a. m., he looked out of his berth and saw a man jump from lower 13 and run toward the rear of the car. Wilson said the young woman fell from her berth to the floor

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Fires Ravage Last Outpost Of Italy's African Empire After Heavy Bombardment

Rommel Flees With Remnants of His Shattered Army Into Tunisia to Join Other Forces of Axis; British Planes Again Blast Industrial Ruhr Area

(By the Associated Press) Fire-blackened Tripoli, the last outpost of Premier Mussolini's vanquished African empire, fell to the assault of British shock troops today and vanguards of the triumphant British eighth army lunged on in pursuit of Marshal Rommel's columns retreating into Tunisia.

At least part of Rommel's battered forces, estimated at approximately 63,000 troops, had already fled across the Libyan frontier and were reported in contact with Col.-Gen. Von Arnim's axis army behind the Mareth line, 65 miles inside Tunisia.

Dispatches said British troops storming into Tripoli at dawn found the city, once the stronghold of Barbary pirates, in flames. Axis demolition squads were reported to have added to the havoc wrought by allied bombs and shells, destroying abandoned supplies.

The fall of the axis citadel climaxed a 1,300-mile sweep across the desert from El Alamein, Egypt, the farthest point of Rommel's offensive toward the Suez canal, and left the axis bottled up in a 300-mile strip of territory along the African north coast.

Military experts said it was expected that Rommel, despite the exhaustion of his troops, would attempt a new delaying action behind the French-built Mareth fortifications, a triple-line system of concrete emplacements and pillboxes extending 60 miles inland from Zaris, on the Tunisian coast, to the Matmata mountains.

United nations headquarters in north Africa said German parachute troops were dropped behind the allied lines in Tunisia in a fruitless attempt to break up resistance to the axis tank thrust down the Kehir river and the Ouesseltia valley.

Most of the nazis sky troops were quickly rounded up, it was announced.

German and allied ground forces continued to fight in the Ouesseltia valley, below Pont du Fahs, while American and British planes bombed and shot up the nazis columns.

Inferno for Axis. While Rommel was apparently making good his escape into Tunisia, leaving only rearwards to delay the onrushing British, allied warplanes were reported blasting the tattered axis columns from east and west.

Front-line accounts pictured the 100-mile coastal road as littered with the wreckage of bombed and machine-gunned trucks and other vehicles—a veritable "ribbon of hell."

Once the lair of pirates who waged a losing war with the U.

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Milk Delivery Minimum Upped To Quart Size

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(AP)—A sweeping series of economies in the marketing of fluid milk was ordered Friday by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard, who decreed that deposits must be collected on bottles and other containers and that no more pints or halves or sold in retail stores.

The order, he explained, will conserve bottles and other materials, manpower, delivery equipment, gasoline and rubber tires.

The aim, Wickard stated, is to enable milk distributors to pay dairy farmers more for their milk, where necessary, while at the same time holding consumer prices to a minimum.

The deposit must not be less than 1 cent for each glass container of 4 quarts or less used in the sale of milk or cream for consumption off the premises of the handler. The deposit on milk cans and cases must not be less than 25 cents each.

Ersatz Coffee Coming

Ersatz coffee is headed for grocery store shelves.

The office of price administration announced ceiling prices for coffee substitutes and coffee compounds Friday ranging from 15 to 31 cents a pound.

Housewives were warned that purchase of a pound of coffee compound which contains any coffee in the blend—will require the surrender of a ration coupon. The coffee substitutes—containing no coffee—can be purchased without coupons.

Alcoholic Cut in Beer For Kansas Demanded

TOPEKA, Kas., Jan. 23.—(AP)—Dry Kansas may become even more arid.

A stack of 130 petitions, containing 7,000 names, has reached the Kansas house of representatives. The petitions urge that the alcoholic content of beer, strong-cider beverage sold legally in Kansas, be reduced from 3.2 per cent to one-half of 1 per cent.

Takes Command At Guadalcanal

The army has taken over on Guadalcanal and Maj. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, above, is in charge of the American forces, the navy has announced.

The marines, commanded by Maj. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, have been operating jointly with army troops in the Solomons but for the most part have now been replaced by army personnel.

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U. S.-Held Wheat Put on Market to Block Price Boost

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—(AP)—The government tossed its 235,000,000-bushel stock of wheat on the market today in a move to keep prices from advancing above the parity level.

The wheat was offered at prices equivalent to parity at the point of storage. Parity prices vary according to point of storage and quality of the grain, but the national average Dec. 15 was \$1.37 a bushel.

Officials said that the bread grain had been advancing and that today's action was expected to keep market prices from going above parity as long as government stocks were available at that price.

To Protect Millers. The selling order followed reports that the government was considering placing a ceiling on wheat, similar to that established on corn recently, to prevent the development of a new price squeeze on millers. Prices millers receive for flour are controlled by price ceilings. Those ceilings were raised recently after advancing wheat prices cut the millers' margins to a point where many claimed they were being forced to operate at a loss.

The government wheat was acquired through liquidation of loans to growers.

In determining the sales price, the government will add 23 cents a bushel to the 1942 grower wheat loan rate at the point of storage. The loan rate was 85 per cent of parity.

The government has been selling lower grades of wheat to farmers for livestock feed at prices equivalent to 85 per cent of the parity price of corn to encourage greater production of meat, dairy and poultry products for the war food program. This wheat—feed sales program will be continued. Sales for feed purposes are limited by law to 125,000,000 bushels during the fiscal year ending June 30.

Columbia River at The Dalles in Grip of Ice While Snow Blocks Parallel Highway

PORTLAND, Jan. 23.—(AP)—The Columbia river still was frozen over at The Dalles today as Oregon dug out from one of its worst snowstorms in years.

The river ice pack extended from Crate's point about a mile west of The Dalles to Big Eddy, about two miles east.

The Columbia river highway was reported closed again by snow at Corbett.

Snow which fell throughout the night at Baker had ceased this morning and temperature was moderate.

Grants Pass reported light snow that fell during the night was turning to slush today and all highways were open. The Rogue river continued falling.

Salem and Roseburg reported clear and colder. Milk and mail deliveries still were handicapped at Salem.

The night brought a heavy snowfall at Klamath Falls but the flakes stopped this morning.

Tillamook reported a snow record set 15 years ago was equalled last night but traffic was moving.

Lumber Operations Halt. Lumber operations remained paralyzed throughout the state. War industries continued to operate with reduced crews, but more workers were returning to their jobs hourly.

In Portland, streetcar and bus service improved today and most stores that suspended operations yesterday reopened. The snow-storm was described as the city's worst since Feb. 1, 1937.

Resumption of power service to the Fort Klamath area, without electricity since Wednesday night, was predicted for noon today by officials of the California Oregon Power company.

Eighteen power poles were broken off 10 to 20 feet above ground in a freak dusty windstorm Wednesday night and repairs were

slowed by deep snow that blocked mechanical equipment.

The storm toppled a chimney from a store building at Merrill, collapsed a farm building in the Tule lake lease area and damaged potato cellars around Merrill, Malin and Tule lake.