

3,000 PLANES SMASH WESTERN GERMANY



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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

WEST of Kiev, the Russians are in Poland.

ANOTHER Russian force is pushing swiftly to the south-west toward Rumania. It is reported as this is written to be only 20 miles from the Bug river. A few miles behind the Bug lies the great Odessa railroad, which has been (and still is) supplying the Germans in the Dnieper bend. It is the last important rail line by which supplies can reach them. It is also their last important route of escape.

Except in winter, the Bug is a historic defense line. It may NOW BE FROZEN SOLID.

THE Germans, retiring toward the Bug, are reported from Moscow to be abandoning huge stocks of war materials. Prisoners taken are reported to be "unharmed and gray from privation, many of them suffering from frost-bite."

Seven hundred miles is a long way to fall back in a year.

DRIVING the Germans back 700 miles in a year is a great Russian achievement.

But let's be realistic. Falling back 700 miles before armies such as Russia's, without ever being driven into disorganized and disastrous rout, is also a great German achievement.

There is as yet no clear and dependable sign of rout and disorder in the German armies facing the Russians. They are still fighting stubbornly.

WHEN it becomes unmistakably plain that the German retreat is turning to a disorderly flight, we shall know that the end is near.

That ISN'T plain yet.

BERLIN, already near destruction, is being heavily again TWICE within 24 hours. Don't underestimate this steady, methodical smashing of the German capital.

Get out your map. Find Berlin on it.

You will note that the city is the center of an amazing spider web of railroads—and you know

(Continued on page 2)

Nazis Battle to Hold Strategic Railroads In Dnieper Bend Area

Loss Means Trap for Half Million Men

Russian Forces Under Votutin Outflank Foe in Encirclement Attempt

MOSCOW, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Gen. Votutin's long-expected drive against the Germans' central Ukraine positions gained momentum in the plains south of liberated Belaya Tserkov today while Marshal von Manstein's troops battled desperately to hold back the Russians from seizing their badly-needed lines of communication.

The nazis were counterattacking repeatedly, seeking to keep control of the railway running from Belaya Tserkov and Tsvetokovo westward to the Odessa-Lvov line. They also were fighting hard in the Smela area to hold the railroad running south to a junction with the Odessa road. Another communications line which the nazis battled desperately to retain was the highway connecting Belaya Tserkov with Zvenigordka, 60 miles to the southwest.

Through this entire network of rail and road communications in the lower middle Ukraine it became a race between von Man-

(Continued on page 6)

Names of 2 Lost U. S. Destroyers Disclosed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—The navy has disclosed that the destroyer which blew up off Sandy Hook Monday was the 1,700-ton U. S. S. Turner, and that the destroyer lost in the Atlantic after being torpedoed on Christmas eve was the 1,090-ton U. S. S. Leary.

The Turner blew up in New York harbor with such violence that men and guns were hurled into the sea. Coast guard cutters rescued 152 enlisted men and two officers, but the names of those missing have been withheld by the navy pending notification of next of kin.

Normal complement of the Leary was 145 men but would be higher in wartime.

Commanders of both ships are listed as missing. Commander James E. Kyes, 37, of Seattle, was chief aboard the Leary while the commanding officer of the Turner was Commander Henry S. Wygant, Jr., 37, of Camp Hill, Pa.

Germany, Japan Capable of Taking Heavy Blows Before Collapsing, OWI Warns

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Bolstered by big reserves of slave labor and by secret police to keep the home front from cracking, both Germany and Japan can take heavy punishment before collapsing, the Office of War Information warned today.

In a report on war progress which weighed past gains against the job ahead, OWI bashed cold water on any ideas about a quick, easy victory.

About 550,000 square miles of axis-conquered territory have been liberated in recent allied offensives, an area bigger than Germany, France and Belgium combined, but this is only a fraction of the territory overrun by the nazi panzers and Nippon's hordes, OWI said.

The 390,000 square miles recaptured from Germany amounts to one-fifth of the area originally taken by Hitler, it was pointed out, while the 160,150 square miles wrested from Japan is a mere twentieth of the territory grabbed by the island empire.

Germany has 300 divisions in the field, and Japan can put 80 divisions of her fanatic troops into battle, OWI estimated.

The strength of the axis in the air, in manpower, in industry and in food reserves is nowhere near broken, the report concluded.

Secret police in both countries

may be able to prevent a behind-the-lines collapse like Germany's in 1918, and the economic strain of waging a war against superior allied productive might is offset to some extent by tremendous reserves of slave workers.

Axis Resources Still Great

"It should also be borne in mind that the territory we have so far liberated lay along the outer extremities and that the closer we get to the enemy's heart, the stiffer the defenses are likely to be," the report said in counseling against hopes for quick triumphs.

The swarms of fighter planes that harass our bomber squadrons on every raid over Germany are proof of the nazis' capacity to produce war goods, OWI avers. The army also concludes that Germany's raw material position is sound with steel production adequate, coal output in excess of need and its oil imports sufficient for vital war requirements.

Geography, logistics and the nature of the Japanese soldier do not support any opinion that conquest of Japan will be relatively quick and easy once Germany is defeated, the report pointed out. Japan is believed to have a two to three years' supply of all war materials stockpiled, and can thus maintain her war economy at least that long. Her weak spot is shipping hard hit by our operations in the Pacific.

Japs Reduced To Defense in South Pacific

Enemy Almost on Run With Rabaul Only Vital Base Still Holding Out

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, Jan. 5.—On the basis of eyewitness observation of all three amphibious landings which sixth army forces have made—At Arawe, New Britain, December 15; Cape Gloucester, New Britain, December 26, and Saldor, New Guinea, January 2—it is safe to say the Japanese are on the defensive throughout the southwest Pacific. In fact, they're almost on the run.

With the exception of one small diversionary raid at Arawe, which suffered heavy losses, all three invasions were accomplished virtually without opposition.

Since those landings, only the opposition at Cape Gloucester has been worth mentioning. There, today's advances from headquarters of General MacArthur told of marines, attached to the Sixth army, killing 200 enemy soldiers Monday in shattering a counterattack made in the Borren bay area. Approximately 1,500 Japanese have been slain at Cape Gloucester since the invasion.

The character of the opposition on the whole reflects credit on the intelligence sections of the various services which chose the sites where the Japanese were expected to be weak.

The smoothness with which each landing was executed—their constituted almost letter perfect teamwork between the navy, army and air forces—left the definite impression, however, that each would have been successful even against a substantial defense.

(Continued on page 6)

Store Bandits Routed By 80-Year-Old Man

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—(AP)—The two gunmen who entered a west side shoe store last night paid scant attention to the aged man behind the counter, proceeded about their apparent larcenous business.

One bandit approached the clerk, John Heyduk, flourished a revolver and told him to put up his hands. Heyduk, who is 80 years old but agile, knocked the gun from the robber's hand.

When he stopped to retrieve it, Heyduk reached under the counter, grabbed a baseball bat and clubbed the bandit. The second robber helped his dazed companion to the store.

Heyduk, who had been watching the store for his son, John, was telephoning police to report the attempted holdup when his son returned.

Willkie's Comment on Russia's Future Dealing With Baltic States, Poland Scored by Moscow Journal

MOSCOW, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Pravda, the official communist party newspaper, attacked Wendell Willkie today because of an article he wrote for the New York Times dealing with Russia and the status of Poland and the Baltic states.

Dmitry Zaslavsky, a Pravda writer, accused the U. S. presidential nominee of 1940 of "muddying the waters" in an effort to entice presidential support from persons who do not trust the soviet union as well as to win sympathy from those who do.

"Such a political gambler destroys confidence," the Pravda comment said. The newspaper added that the Baltic question was the business of the soviet union and one in which "Mr. Willkie should not interfere."

"As to Finland and Poland, without mentioning the Balkans," Pravda said, "the soviet union knows how to deal with them and does not need the help of Mr. Willkie."

The writer accused Willkie of playing "a very peculiar political game."

Zaslavsky said "under the pretext of strengthening confidence in the soviet union, Willkie used words and phrases with the purpose of creating mistrust." He said the article was written by

Snow Blankets Oregon; Only One Highway Closed

(By the Associated Press)

Highway traffic was slowed throughout Oregon today following the first general snowfall of the season, and minor traffic mishaps were numerous.

The weather bureau warned of further snows in the mountain passes and in eastern Oregon tonight. Storm warnings went up on the coast from the California line to Newport and heavy rain or snow with strong winds was predicted for the southern part of the state.

Only the McKenzie highway across the Cascades from Eugene to Bend was closed. Snow was common on other mountain routes, and chains were advised.

The Columbia river highway was slushy with some icy spots. A number of vehicles skidded into ditches in The Dalles region. Snow and ice were reported on the North Bank highway, especially in the Cape Horn area.

The Willamette highway between Eugene and Klamath Falls had six inches of new snow, increasing the depth to 28 inches, but the highway was open. The Pacific highway had three inches of snow at Sexton summit between Roseburg and Grants Pass. At Siskiyou summit there were seven inches.

Burns had the lowest thermometer reading in the state, 19 degrees above zero. Roseburg was highest with 38.

Fires Hit Picture Firm, U. P. Railroad Shops

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 5.—(AP)—Fire swept the West Coast Picture Corporation's two-story concrete building in Portland last night and officials estimated damage to stock and equipment alone at \$25,000.

LA GRANDE, Ore., Jan. 5.—(AP)—Investigators sought today the cause of a fire that damaged four locomotives and other equipment in the Union Pacific railroad shops here yesterday.

The blaze was confined to the roundhouse after a nearly two-hour fight by city firemen and railroad employees.

New Hog Price Level Extended Indefinitely

PORTLAND, Jan. 5.—(AP)—The once-glutted Portland hog market has so improved under the War Food administration's emergency order lowering the support price from \$14.75 to \$13.75 that the new level will continue indefinitely, says Ted Swenson, government market reporter. The directive originally was for a period of 30 days, which ended last week.

2 More Hills In Italy Fall In Allied Push

Air Force Meanwhile Bombs Balkan Railway Lines Used by Germans

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Allied armies in Italy have seized two commanding positions against fierce nazl opposition, it was announced today, and bomber fleets reaching into Bulgaria and Yugoslavia dealt three hard blows to German Balkan communications.

Fifth army troops advancing a little more than a mile west of Venafro stormed a 2,300-foot height in Sammarco ridge, two miles northeast of San Vittore, gaining complete dominance of that bastion of the German winter line on the Rome road.

Indian units of the Eighth army seized a spur on a mountain ridge in pushing forward several hundred yards against enemy machinegun fire southwest of Tommaso near the Adriatic.

U. S. 15th air force Flying Fortresses meanwhile smashed railway yards and a bridge at Dupnitsa, 50 miles south of Sofia, capital of war-weary Bulgaria.

American Mitchells scored five hits on railway yards and the station at Doboj, 55 miles north of Sarajevo in Yugoslavia, and pounded barracks and troop concentrations at Travnik, 30 miles northwest of Sarajevo, tinder box of the first World war.

All allied planes returned, after bagging two enemy aircraft.

Nazis Strengthen Defenses

The Germans, apparently intent on keeping the allies from Rome as long as possible, are building up reserves of mobile motorized troops and are reinforcing their 13 or more divisions with mountain troops.

Prisoners said the Germans are working feverishly on new defenses several miles behind their lines, especially in the areas covering Cassino, and Pescara on the east coast.

In the central sector, the Germans appear to be side-stepping northward to cover their defenses in the coastal area for a

(Continued on page 6)

War Loan Drive Committees for Douglas Listed

Committee members to head the organization for the Fourth War Loan, starting January 12, were announced today by Dr. Ed Boring, campaign chairman for Douglas county. Plans for the drive are being formed. Dr. Boring states, and numerous activities have been outlined to aid in reaching the assigned quota.

The committee members are announced by the chairman as follows:

Executive committee—H. O. Pargeter, H. C. Berg, Harold J. Hickerson, Bruce Elliott, Marshall Fenger, James W. Mess, Harvey Stark.

Payroll committee—H. C. Berg, H. T. Hansen, Paul Helwig, V. V. Harpham, R. L. Preston.

Finance committee—D. E. Carr, Phil Harth, Harrie W. Booth.

Retail stamp sales committee—Jack Fariss, Bruce Elliott, Walter Fisher, L. A. Rhoden, Mrs. Mabel Lewis, L. W. Josse, Ken Bellely.

Women's committee—Mrs. Nell Fitzsimmons, Mrs. Story Iles, Mrs. Tom Parkinson, Mrs. Gene Mills.

School committee—W. M. Campbell, Mrs. Lula Gorrell, Clyde H. Beard.

County organization committee—W. A. Burdick, Reedspott; John D. Webb, Gardiner; H. A. Cool, Drain; E. G. Young, Oakland; Avery Lasswell, Yoncalla; E. C. Hart, Riddle; G. R. Bates, Myrtle Creek; E. R. Harvey, Glendale; J. V. Chenoweth, Sutherlin; Ralph Richter, Camas Valley; John Hamlin, Canyonville.

Speaker's committee—Mrs. W. M. Campbell, H. A. Canaday.

Agricultural committee—E. A. Britton, R. A. Eusembark, G. N. Riddle, Willard Smith, O. C. Brown, Fred A. Goff.

Other departments will be added, Dr. Boring stated, and community committees also will be organized.

Nazis' Naval Base at Kiel Set on Fire

Railroads at Muenster Blasted; Berlin, French Coast Also Assaulted

LONDON, Jan. 5.—(AP)—RAF Mosquito bombers hit wrecked Berlin last night and other British planes pounded targets in northern France, following up one of the greatest daylight aerial assaults of the war by some 3,000 planes, including U. S. smashes at Kiel and Muenster.

Not a single plane was lost in the night raids, which included Mosquito forays over western Germany and minelaying operations, the air ministry said.

The stab against Berlin was the first since a great RAF attack early Monday morning.

American bombers cascaded explosives by daylight yesterday on shipbuilding yards at Kiel, and railway targets at Muenster, both in northwest Germany.

Returning to the north France "invasion coast," RAF and allied bombers attacked military objectives there again this morning, it was announced. RAF and allied fighters accompanied them. Kiel Left in Flames

The German-controlled Scandinavian telegraph bureau reported heavy damage at Kiel, with a great shroud of smoke over the German naval base after the Kiel and Muenster assaults.

A joint British-American communiqué said the attacks were pressed home effectively despite heavy clouds which obscured both targets and that fierce fires were left raging in Kiel, site of a great German naval base and submarine pens.

The raids were carried out by formations of Flying Fortresses and Liberators which, with their American and British fighter escorts, constituted a fleet of some 1,500 planes that stretched out across the sky for 100 miles.

They were executed in conjunction with a daylight series of bombing attacks on targets in France by swarms of both American and British planes. Altogether approximately 3,000 allied aircraft took the air—probably the greatest air armada ever thrown into action in a single day.

Allies Lose 25 Planes

Total allied air losses were listed as 25 planes—a remarkably small percentage of the great number of craft participating. At least 17—possibly more—German fighters were reported shot down in vain attempts to intercept the raiders. Of the enemy planes destroyed, the U. S. bombers accounted for four and their fighter escorts for eight.

More than 3,000 tons of high

(Continued on page 6)

Fugitive For 25 Years Surrenders In Hope of Pardon

BOISE, Idaho, Jan. 5.—(AP)—A 73-year-old Idaho slayer who escaped from the state prison and remained at large for 25 years until he surrendered here last night, said today he hopes the pardon board will release him so he can return to his Southern California mining claims.

Gov. C. A. Bottolfsen said the man, Stonewall Ballengee, would be granted a reprieve and added he would ask the prison board to grant a full pardon.

Ballengee was convicted of shooting Vivian Hovey for attempting to run cattle through his garden 30 miles below Salmon, Idaho. He entered the penitentiary Oct. 26, 1916, sentenced to serve from five to 10 years for voluntary manslaughter. Less than two years later, on Aug. 24, 1918, he walked away from the prison ranch.

He went to Oregon, and said he had never been back in Idaho until last night. Ballengee came here from San Diego. He said he had been working mining claims near there and out of Bakersfield, Calif., "trying to find the kind of metal the country needs to win the war."

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Rosenblatt

Further federal cuts in newspaper allocated to the nation's press will probably assure enough paper for the national campaign headquarters of the New Dealers this year. The publicity menu for luring voters will likely be the usual type of A, B, C—Applesauce, Baloney and Chestnuts.