

Roseburg News-Review

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Mukden Raided by Superfortresses

Bombers Also Blast Dairen, Japs Report

Leyte Battle Nears End As Yankees Smash Last Defense Line of Nippons

(By the Associated Press.) Superfortresses bombed Mukden today in the fourth successive day of mass B-29 raids on scattered Japanese industries as U. S. infantrymen shattered the last vestiges of the Yamashita defense line and drove surviving enemy soldiers into the hills of western Leyte island.

Sweeping advances by two American divisions on Leyte cut off the Japanese escape highway, captured huge stores of supplies that would have lasted the enemy for six months, and ran the total of Nipponese soldiers known to have been killed on the island to 43,096.

Scattered elements of Japanese no longer able to put up an organized defense, are fleeing toward the northwest coast, Gen. MacArthur reported.

"The battle is rapidly drawing to an end," MacArthur exulted. U. S. ground forces continued to advance on Mindoro without opposition.

Today's daylight air raid on Mukden, center of Japan's Manchurian arsenal, was made by a

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

CRITICAL news comes from the western front—where the Germans are COUNTER-ATTACKING in what seems to be real force.

THEIR drive, well supported by tanks and planes, appears to center on an 80-mile front extending from just south of Aachen to the southern tip of Luxembourg—pointed toward the Ardennes forest in eastern Belgium, which they chose as their original invasion route in 1940.

But there are signs of impending German activity from Arnheim, clear up in Holland, to Alsace, at the far southern end of the western front.

WE are presumed to have been getting ready for days for another BIG smash at the Roer, and it is guessed that the Germans are HITTING FIRST to throw us off balance.

ONE can't help recalling that in these big late-in-the-war offensives the Germans seem to FOLLOW A PATTERN.

They launched one in the spring of 1918, and those who are old enough will remember that it came perilously near to succeeding. It was stopped barely in time. The effort broke the back of the German striking power and Germany surrendered in November.

In the present war, after the Russians had stopped them at Stalingrad and driven them back to the line of the Donets, they mounted another which made the

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Failure of Nazi Drive Will Shorten War, Says Stimson, Recalling Collapse Of Similiar Offensive in First War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—War Secretary Stimson said today that if the German counter-offensive fails it definitely will shorten the war.

He coupled with this assertion, however, the statement that the Germans' ability to launch the huge offensive is significant. He said the nazis had penetrated allied territory for distances ranging from five to 20 miles.

Stimson said the Germans chose for their attack a sector "which had been loosely held by both sides. It was a terrain which had not offered to the allies much incentive for exploitation."

The secretary commented that the nazis did not have a great deal to lose in risking the offensive and that it might gain for them a few months of time before they must account for "the

Public Contributions of More Than \$10,000 Advance Plans For Civic Center, Swim Pool

Contributions in excess of \$10,000 have been received during the past week to create a civic center and swimming pool program for the city of Roseburg, it was announced today. Sponsored jointly by the several civic clubs of the city, the campaign is still in progress and is expected to raise approximately \$25,000. It was announced at a meeting of committee workers at a conference held Wednesday for the purpose of gathering reports.

Beware of Bogus Checks, Warning To Business Houses

Douglas county merchants should use extreme caution in cashing checks, particularly during the holiday season, when many inexperienced clerks are employed and with more than normal business, Sheriff Bud Carter warned today. Bad check passers, he explained, become increasingly active during periods of rush business.

A warning also has been issued, he reports, from the U. S. Treasury department urging all places of business to "know your employer and require identification," in handling government checks.

The Treasury department, it is stated, is issuing approximately thirty million checks each month and theft and forgery of any one of these will require investigation by agents of the secret service and a loss to the individual or firm cashing the check, which must assume the loss the same as though they had accepted a forged personal check.

Cigaretts Given as Yule Presents—For Men Only

OLYMPIA, Wash., Dec. 21.—(AP)—There's been a shortage of cigarettes at the statehouse cafeteria lately, unusual even in these virtually smokeless times. Yesterday diners there found out why.

Mrs. Annie Romanovski and her son Charlie, cafeteria operators, passed out 200 free packages to male customers.

"Christmas presents," said Mrs. Romanovski. "I saved cigarettes for this."

To woman customers, however, Mrs. Romanovski gave only oranges and bags of candy.

"It is better for them," she said.

Murder in \$12.60 Holdup Draws Life Prison Term

EVERETT, Wash., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Henri Young, 32, self-confessed slayer of William Buehrig, Everett baker, in a holdup more than 10 years ago which netted \$12.60, was sentenced to life at Walla Walla state penitentiary yesterday by a Snohomish county superior court jury.

Young was brought here for trial from Alcatraz, where he was serving time for robbing a bank at Lind, Wash. He pleaded guilty on arraignment and testified at his trial he had confessed to the slaying because he had turned to religion and wanted to "become a good Catholic."

City Refuses to Pay Employee's Damage Bill

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Portland city employees who break their glasses, tear their clothes or crack their teeth while on the job must pay the cost themselves, the city council has ruled.

The council rejected, by a vote of 3 to 2, the claim of Sam Hendrickson, water bureau employee, whose glasses were broken when they were hit by a rock from the bureau's pavement breaker.

Former All-America Football Star Killed

BRENNHAM, Tex., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Capt. Joe Rott, all-America football guard in 1936 and 1937 while at Texas A. & M. college, was killed in action in Europe Dec. 10, his wife has been notified.

Rott was commander of an infantry company.

Folkes Hearing Dated SALEM, Ore., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Governor Sneli announced he would hold a hearing Friday on a request by Negro leaders for clemency for Robert E. Lee Folkes, 23, Los Angeles Negro dining car cook sentenced to die for the "lower 13" slaying two years ago of Martha Virginia James.

Highway Bill For Postwar Work Signed

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—State and local governments can start planning today their projects under the \$3,173,250,000 three-year postwar highway program.

The program, Mr. Roosevelt said "becomes a challenge to the states, counties and cities which must originate the specific projects and get the program ready for construction after the war ends."

States would supply \$1,500,000,000 on a 50-50 matching basis to be eligible for the larger share of the federal funds authorized by the bill.

Congress in authorizing the federal contribution did not make an actual appropriation for this purpose. That will come later.

Designated partly to help ease possible postwar unemployment, the legislation embodies several significant changes in national policy for highway development.

He mentioned the authority for designation by federal and state governments of an inter-regional highway network. The measure likewise "gives practical recognition to the transportation problem of our cities by extending federal aid to projects in urban areas which will reduce traffic

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Kiddies to Enjoy Free Yule Party At Indian Theater

Boys and girls attending the free Christmas party to be given at the Indian theater Saturday, under sponsorship of the Elks lodge, will enjoy two hours of screen and stage entertainment.

George Trapalis, chairman of the committee on arrangements, reported today.

The show will start promptly at 10 a. m. and will be preceded and followed by a street concert by the Roseburg school band, which has accepted the invitation of the lodge to furnish music for the event.

A Laurel and Hary comedy, "Dancing Masters," will be the principal attraction, and this will be coupled with a Popeye cartoon and other short subjects.

All kiddies in attendance will be given a treat of fruit and candy by Santa Claus, who will be present in person.

The free Christmas party is sponsored annually by the Elks lodge for all children through grade school age.

Alcoholic Beverage Sale In Oregon Sets New High

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Oregon has set a new record in the sale of alcoholic beverages.

The Oregon liquor control commission announced that in the first 11 months of 1944 its sales reached \$29,400,000, compared with the previous high of \$24,000,000 in 1943.

Sales of wine containing more than 14 per cent of alcohol by volume have decreased since Dec. 17, when they were restricted to state stores by a newly-enacted law.

Strong Arm Method of Druggist Costs Him \$10

PUEBLO, Colo., Dec. 21.—(AP)—The complaining witness explained to the police magistrate that, when he asked for change for a half-dollar so he could get stamps from a vending machine in the drug store, the druggist became miffed, twisted his arm, pushed him out the door and knocked him to the sidewalk.

The patron's wrist watch was broken.

The druggist was fined \$10 and lectured on business methods.

Sagacious Canine DENVER, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Tracy Flemings, moved 30 miles from Conifer, Colo., last October, leaving behind them Whiskers, a stray dog they had fed for a month.

Yesterday footsore Whiskers showed up at the Flemings home. They know he never had been in Denver before. They don't know how he learned their address.

Geo. H. Moses, Former United States Senator, Ex-Diplomat, Dies at 75

George H. Moses, former United States senator, ex-diplomat, died last night at his home.

Once described as "the most exciting man in American public life," he served three times in the United States senate. He lost his seat in the democratic landslide of 1932.

His widow and his only son, Gordon, were with him when he died.

Moses was president pro tempore of the U. S. senate for eight years before his enforced retirement in 1932. He enjoyed a reputation as one of the nation's most pungent phrase-makers during his career as a legislator, diplomat and scholar.

It was in criticism of a southern and mid-western farm coalition, in a fiery speech at Boston, that he made his famous reference to the "sons of wild jackasses."

Before entering the senate he served as U. S. minister to Greece and Montenegro from 1909 to 1912.

War Bond Sales Prize Goes to Junior Class

The junior class of Roseburg high school was presented with the \$25 cash first prize today as winners of the war bond sales contest. The award was made at a student assembly.

Competing with the seniors, the members of the junior class sold bonds totalling \$12,925, barely nosing out the upper classmen who had total sales of \$12,375.

The \$25 cash prize was donated by Abe Bean and Bruce Elliott. A \$10 prize was given by Al Bashoff to the seniors.

Representing the classes were Doug James, president of the junior class, and Margie Irvin, vice-president of the senior class.

Crew Unhurt in Forced Landing of Navy Bomber

KELSO, Wash., Dec. 21.—(AP)—Sheriff's officers said today the crew of a navy bomber, from the Seattle air base, escaped without injury when forced to land in a cornfield near Castle Rock Wednesday at 4 p. m.

Officers said the plane became lost in the fog and clouds and ran short of fuel. The plane suffered only slight damage but probably will have to be dismantled before it can be removed from the field.

Delinquent Farmhand "Out of Touch" With War

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 21.—(AP)—A 24-year-old farmhand, Albert Joseph House, told Police Court Prosecutor John Dougherty he knew there was a war on but was "danged" if he knew that farm boys had to register for selective service.

Dougherty said House explained he had no draft registration card because he had been working on a farm near Nicholasville, Ky., and had been "out of touch with things."

Winter Makes Official Debut in Oregon Today

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Winter makes its official arrival in Oregon at 4:15 p. m. today—and in Portland, at least, is being greeted by appropriate temperature.

The weather bureau forecast a minimum of 32 degrees—the freezing point—for this area. Daylight today—shortest day of the year—is to last 8 hours, 38 minutes.

Trucker Fined \$100

BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 21.—(AP)—William E. Gard of Baker, Ore., was fined \$100 yesterday when he pleaded guilty before Federal Judge Clark to a charge of operating a truck in interstate commerce without an ICC permit.

Farm Machinery Ration Duties Are Transferred

PORTLAND, Dec. 21.—(AP)—All county farm machinery rationing committees have been dismissed and their few remaining duties turned over to county AAA committees, the state agricultural adjustment administration announced today.

Corn pickers, the only item rationed since Sept. 29, have been taken off the list, cancelling the entire program, explained S. B. Hall, Multnomah county agent.

Slim Lead In Bond Contest Retained Here

Relative positions of Douglas and Coos counties in the "Battle of Bonds" remained unchanged today in Federal Reserve bank reports covering sales of E bonds through Dec. 18. Douglas county was still leading with 77.2 per cent of quota, sales amounting to \$370,674, while Coos county, with sales of \$387,464, had a percentage of 64.1. Coos county's E bond quota is \$600,000 and Douglas county's quota is \$480,000.

Coos county was approaching the 100 per cent mark on total sales, including corporation sales and allotments, the overall sales amounting to \$1,766,428, or 94.5 per cent of quota, while Douglas county, far over the mark, had sales of \$1,581,976 of all series, or 156.6 per cent of quota.

Late Sales Reported Florence Johnson, instructor in the Glendale schools, who has been directing pupils in the 6th War Loan campaign in that community, reported to Roseburg headquarters today that sales amounting to \$16,884.80 had been made through the school. Of this amount \$1,743.75 came through payroll deductions, while the balance was sold by the school.

The Roseburg branch of the U. S. national bank today reported E bond sales amounting to \$80,493.75.

The Roseburg lumber company reported bond sales to employees amounting to \$8,775.

Mrs. Leah K. Howard, Yoncalla, personally sold bonds in the sum of \$975 to her neighbors.

British Open Fire On Defiant ELAS In City of Athens

ATHENS, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The British opened a tank assault against ELAS concentrations today after expiration of an ultimatum from Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie that the insurgents stop fighting.

Rocket-firing fighter planes joined in the attack.

Sherman tanks climbed monastery-topped Likabettus mountain and sent 75-mm. shells crashing into ELAS positions around Averoff prison and the military academy.

Scobie's ultimatum, which expired at 9 a. m., had warned that if ELAS forces continuing to hold out would be attacked "with all the arms at my disposal."

At Omnia square, tank-supported parachute troops patrolled a series of sorties, demolishing a sniper's nest and taking numerous prisoners.

The billet of the U. S. air force transport command rocked with the shell blasts as buildings behind the requisitioned Cosmopolite hotel were plastered.

Jean Rallis, the pro-nazi former premier, who escaped from the Averoff prison two days ago when the insurgents stormed the building, was recaptured last night.

A reply was awaited from King George II in London on whether he would accept or reject a suggestion that the nation's leadership be turned over to Archbishop Damaskinos as regent.

Officer's Shots Rout Prowler at Store

A prowler, apparently attempting robbery at the Olympia supply company store, escaped officers last night when he was apprehended by T. W. Thomason, special merchants police, while attempting to force the rear entrance to the building. The prowler ran when the officer approached. Thomason fired two shots into the air, but the fugitive continued running and was not again located, although state, county and city officers maintained search during the night.

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Thrust Into Belgium Extended But Yankees, in Bloody Battle, Stop Foe's Northward Lunge

(By the Associated Press) Nazi Marshal von Rundstedt's swirling counteroffensive shoved two great wedges into U. S. First army lines, one of them stabbing 35 miles into Belgium, the other driving three quarters of the way across Luxembourg, supreme headquarters announced today.

These were the developments by noon Tuesday, disclosed under the partial security news blackout.

The northern flank of the counteroffensive spared 14 miles west of Malmedy and ten miles beyond Stavelot, headquarters said. Stavelot was reported in a front dispatch yesterday as recaptured by the Americans, and at last reports still was in First army hands.

The southern flank of the German drive, through Luxembourg, was building up a menacing threat towards Sedan.

A front dispatch said reinforced First army elements, backed by additional armor, artillery and tank destroyers, stemmed the northernmost prong of the German offensive and contained the flank of that spearhead on a line running through Malmedy and Stavelot.

Outside Stavelot, another dispatch said, tank destroyers smashed nazi armored attempts to break through the rescue remnants of 60 tanks trapped near the village.

The Germans sustained heavy losses in the northernmost sector of their salient into Belgium, both in armor and infantry, in a head-on collision with veteran Americans, and were pushed southward at some points.

Anti-tank gunners near Stavelot destroyed five captured American Sherman tanks and a captured tank-destroyer manned by nazi spear-heading the drive to rescue the trapped armored force. The Americans shattered an infantry attempt to surprise their outposts in the thick fog. An officer said 30 of the 60 tanks in the trap and 50 of 200 supply vehicles also caught there had been destroyed.

Losses Frightful The battle was exacting a frightful toll on both sides. The Americans, fighting their greatest engagement of the war, gave and took the heaviest losses of the invasion, and it was reported on reliable authority that the nazi onslaught was not likely to be halted this week.

The Germans said spearheads had penetrated the Ardennes forest and cut the Liege-Bastogne highway, a major north-south route between the First and Third armies running 12 miles west of Stavelot.

The nazi high command said 20,000 prisoners had been taken in the offensive thus far.

A front dispatch said the drive slackened slightly, in violence, amid indications that Von Rundstedt was consolidating his gains for a new push.

An allied spokesman with the 21st army group said the nazis "must be expected" to make even more gains before countermeasures now under way become fully effective, and belief was expressed that the enemy drive was beginning to lose momentum.

But supreme headquarters, painting a gloomy picture, conceded further advances were likely, and there was a feeling it

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Setback of Allies Toughens Task Of U. S. Production

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The allied setback in Europe "will hit us between the eyes with new and more serious problems," WPB Vice Chairman Samuel W. Anderson said today.

He added that the powerful German counter-offensive makes it impossible to predict an end of the civilian production freeze.

Present urgent demands for more shells, guns, trucks and other vital material "certainly" will be followed by armament problems "as difficult as the ones we have now," Anderson said.

"I feel sure the present military situation in Europe will come back and hit us between the eyes in various ways, at present unknown," said the vice chairman who signed the recent order freezing future civilian goods production programs at present levels.

"The purpose of the freeze is to see that rising civilian production does not interfere with urgent munitions output," he asserted. "I haven't any idea how long it will last, or how long we will have critical shortages in war materials."

Southern Britain Again Battered by V-Bombs

LONDON, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The Germans continued to batter southern England with V-bombs last night while pressing their offensive on the western front. A government announcement reported both casualties and damage.

Levity Fast Rent

The nazis at last, from their holes of sod, have struck at the Yanks—they're raising hob; But though the outlook is dire, When the last shot is fired, You'll hear from those Krauts that scream "kameral!"