

NAZI SPEARHEADS SMASHED INTO REVERSE

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U. S. Convoy Battled Two Days by Jap Planes, Report From Tokyo

2 Transports Sent Down, Enemy Claims

Tokyo Admits Fresh Raid By Superforts; Tunnel to Dodge Bombs Said Built

(By The Associated Press.)

The Japanese high command today reported a big, heavily guarded convoy of American transports moving westward through inland Philippine waters and claimed six were sunk in a two-day attack.

Unconfirmed Tokyo broadcasts recently have reported a seemingly endless movement of U. S. transports convoys in and around the Philippines. If only part of them were true, it would mean Gen. MacArthur's troops were being heavily reinforced for their next amphibious operation.

Today's enemy communique said the convoy consisted of 30 transports escorted by more than 20 warships. Japanese planes, the report said, attacked Wednesday and Thursday as it moved through Mindanao sea from Surigao strait south of Leyte island, perhaps headed for Mindoro within 150 miles of Manila.

Tokyo Reports Raid

Tokyo said the capital was twice raided by solitary Superforts between 8:30 p. m. last night and 5:30 a. m. today (Tokyo time). "Enemy planes" were reported.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

ABOUT the only good news from Belgium is that the weather still permits air activity on a large scale. Our planes are working on German transport, and the number of enemy vehicles reported destroyed is impressively large.

Pray for more good weather.

THE Germans have joined their two wedges into one, but by desperate fighting on the flanks we seem to be stopping them so far from effectively widening the base (thus preventing them from getting as much strength into the wedge as they'd like to).

Our surrounded troops at Bastogne (at the southern edge of the wedge's base) are still fighting stubbornly, with the nearest reinforcements four or five miles away. We are dropping supplies and ammunition to them from the air.

AP CORRESPONDENT WES GALLAGHER, cabling from the front, says there are "growing indications that the

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News-Review Press Strips Drive Gear In Chapter of Misfortune That Delays Completion of Thursday's Edition

By CHARLES V. STANTON

The year 1944, which, on the whole, has treated the News-Review management very well, has apparently decided to cause plenty of trouble in the fading hours.

Our old press, which, due to greatly increased circulation, takes a terrific pounding every day, stripped a drive gear Wednesday just as the run was being completed, leaving us about 300 papers short of our need. A temporary gear was cobbled into existence while rush orders were sent out for new parts, but the repaired gear proved that it was "temporary" only when it folded up midway in Thursday's press run.

In spite of aspirin, two girls developed severe headaches from the strain of answering calls of subscribers; the news assistant and mailer, Harold Hines, rammed his hand through a glass door, inflicting deep cuts; the management worked telephone operators overtime burning up long distance wires in efforts to get rush deliveries of parts.

Our good friend, Amos Voorhees, editor and publisher of the Grants Press Courier, came to our relief with a spare part from his press, similar to the one used by the News-Review, while a foundry and machine shop in Eugene worked overtime to make



RIOTERS SMASH MONTGOMERY WARD STORE—Overturned counters and smashed merchandise displays litter the floor of Montgomery Ward company's Dearborn, Mich., store after a crowd of alleged store workers' union members led a 15-minute rampage through the floor aisles. The union claimed that "strike breakers imported by the company tried to stop the pickets and a scuffle resulted."

Inner Budapest Defenses of Nazis Smashed by Reds

MOSCOW, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Russian forces cracked the first of three inner defense rings of the Hungarian capital in a matter of days, if not hours, as fanatical Nazi troops in the hilly district of Buda and the populous flatlands of Pest gave ground under a score of assaults by Russian combat teams of tommy-gunners, tanks and self-propelled guns.

The enemy was hurled out of 12 eastern suburbs of the city yesterday by the hard-driving Soviets.

A battle of even greater military importance raged on the approaches to the Danubian communications center of Komarom, which is less than 85 miles southwest of Vienna and within 53 miles of Bratislava.

Komarom has several big railway and highway bridges across the Danube and of the six rail lines radiating from the city, four lead to Vienna.

Plan Widened for Vets
SALEM, Ore., Dec. 29.—(AP)—he state board of vocational education announced today it would expand its vocational rehabilitation service in order to provide for the needs of returning war veterans.

Legality Question in Seizure Of Ward Stores Eventually to Reach High Court, Prediction

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Federal Judge Philip L. Sullivan today set Jan. 8 for a hearing on the government lawsuit seeking to establish legality of a presidential order under which the army seized Montgomery Ward and company facilities in seven cities yesterday.

Douglas County Goes Over Top on Buying of E Bonds

Douglas county is over the top on E bond purchases during the 6th War Loan campaign, although sales cleared through Dec. 27 give a percentage rating of 98.3, H. O. Pargeter, chairman of the county war finance committee, said today. Sales cleared through Wednesday amounted to \$471,600, as compared with a quota of \$480,000, but purchases amounting to \$34,000 have not yet been credited by the Federal Reserve bank, Pargeter said.

Coos county, still lagging in the "Battle of Bonds," was cutting down Douglas county's lead, while an active committee was reported busy in the coast area contacting persons able to make large E bond purchases. Sales in Coos county were reported at \$540,628 or 87.2 per cent of quota, giving Douglas county a lead of 11 points. Earlier in the week, however, Douglas county had a 15-point margin.

Continued sales activities will be necessary in order to prevent Coos county from winning the contest, Pargeter asserts.

Girl on Way to Family Reunion Found Murdered

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 29.—(Canadian Press)—Belief that 25-year-old Jenny Conroy of West Vancouver was slain with an axe or similar cudgel was held by police today as they sought to ascribe a motive to the killing.

The girl's battered body was found by a roadside in suburban West Vancouver yesterday. She was last seen Wednesday evening when she took a bus on her way to a family reunion. The body was found in a lonely wooded area near a cemetery at least eight blocks from the route she would normally have taken on her way to her brother's home, police said.

Slayer Faces Charge of Second Degree Murder

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 29.—(AP)—Arthur E. Miller, 53, faced a second degree murder charge today in the fatal shooting of William J. Moss, 33, Longview.

Moss was shot early Tuesday as he sat in an automobile outside Miller's home near Washougal. Sheriff Robert Brady quoted Miller as saying that Moss threatened to enter the house in search of a woman acquaintance.

Coos Bay Still Its Name; "Yes" Majority is 101

COOS BAY, Ore., Dec. 29.—(AP)—This town, which keeps voting to decide whether to be Coos Bay or Marshfield, is still Coos Bay today.

Citizens retained the title Coos Bay by a vote of 684 to 583 yesterday, and hoped audibly that they wouldn't have to ballot on the matter any more.

The name change, battled about verbally for a couple of decades, came before the voters of this coastal town—historically Marshfield—in November, 1943, in a plan to consolidate Marshfield and its twin city, North Bend, into "City of Coos Bay." North Bend thumbed it down at the polls.

Marshfield, bound to have the name if not the consolidation, voted by itself in the November 7 election this year and rechristened the town Coos Bay.

Then a group of citizens who didn't like the new title petitioned the city council to hold the ballot over again. They did.

"And we hope," said harassed postal and telephone workers, who can't decide what town they're working in, "that that's an end of it."

Navy Still Grows, Manpower Short

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(AP)—The largest navy in the world, fighting the most extended war in history, now has 1,167 men-of-war to carry the battle to the enemy. And it is still growing.

This was reported by the navy today in a review of ship production which showed that in the last year 39,971 new vessels, 420 of them fighting ships—joined the fleet, boosting the overall total to 61,045 navy ships of all types.

The total of 1,167 warships now with the fleet was described as more than three times the number on hand when the war broke out three years ago.

The navy placed on the "critical list for 1945" carriers and cruisers, some of which have been delayed by labor shortage as much as seven to nine months; rockets, ammunition and 40 mm. guns, maintenance and repair parts for the fleets, aircraft, and numerous miscellaneous supplies. Manpower needs were called critical.

Two Killed, Three Hurt In Automobile Collision

ROSEBURG, Calif., Dec. 29.—(AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Don Mayo Ellis were killed and their 5-year-old son, Laurence, and two other persons were injured last night in an automobile collision four miles north of here.

Patrolman Glenn Smart said the car and one driven by Francis A. Culbertson of Sacramento collided while traveling in the same direction on Highway 99 to Lincoln, Calif., north of here.

The Ellis child is suffering from shock.

Oregon Passes Its Goal In E Bond Purchases

PORTLAND, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Oregon is past its \$34,000,000 E bond goal in the sixth war loan drive with \$785,000 to spare, Edward C. Sammons, state bond chairman, said today.

Three days remain in which to better the total, he said. The state is well above its quota for bonds of all types, with \$150,000,000 against a \$107,000,000 quota.

Smashing of German Siege Of Bastogne Work of Patton In Masterful, Speedy Swoop

BASTOGNE, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe was disclosed today as the leader of the gallant Bastogne garrison of almost 10,000 men—the commander who said "nuts" to the German demand that he surrender.

McAuliffe was serving as acting commander of the 101st airborne division, which was encircled seven days in this Belgium road hub together with elements of the Ninth and Tenth armored divisions. The 101st regular commander, Maj. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, was in Washington when his division was hurled against the Germans in the Belgium bulge, as a stopgap measure. Taylor flew to France and leaped in to Bastogne with the spearhead force of the Fourth armored division, one of the units of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's army which broke the Bastogne siege.

Taylor arrived in Belgium Dec. 26, made his way through enemy lines and reached Bastogne early Dec. 27. Armored elements and stragglers from various infantry units were hemmed in the town along with the 101st.

The relief corridor from the south was opened by General Patton, waging a kind of war that is to his liking.

Veto Hits Bill Discontinuing National Park

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has pocket vetoed a bill to abolish the Jackson Hole national monument in Wyoming.

In a memorandum of disapproval made public by the White House today, Mr. Roosevelt said that among other things the legislation would have deprived the people of the United States of the "benefits of an area of national significance from the standpoint of naturalistic, historic, scientific and recreational values."

The monument, embracing 222,600 acres adjoining Teton National park, was established by executive order last March. Private interests in Wyoming opposed its creation on the ground that it removed much land from state tax rolls and for other reasons.

The president said he would be sympathetic to enactment of new legislation whereby revenues from the national park and monument system could be used to offset, on an equitable basis, any loss of taxes.

He said he also would be sympathetic to a new law incorporating administrative policies governing private use of federal

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Engineer, Fireman Die in Train Crash

DETROIT, Dec. 29.—(AP)—While rescuers worked frantically to save him, a New York Central passenger train fireman died early today beneath the tender of his overturned engine in a snow covered gully southwest of here.

The fireman, R. D. Harmon, 36, of Toledo, followed his engineer, O. F. Hayward, 58, of Sylvania, Ohio, in death as the result of a derailment caused when the train struck a stalled automobile last midnight.

Lee Ridenour of Dundee, the motorist, said his car stalled on the tracks and he and his wife fled before the train smashed into it. Witnesses said there was a heavy fog.

A freight messenger suffered severe burns but although five of six cars of the Toledo-Detroit train left the tracks, only two passengers were reported hospitalized. The scene was at Trenton, 20 miles from Detroit.

Mrs. Wickham Named Women's Dean at U. of O.

Mrs. J. Alan Wickham, former dean of girls at a Portland high school, has been appointed University of Oregon acting dean of Women, succeeding the late Hazel P. Schwab, according to an announcement made at the university this morning. Mrs. Wickham has been engaged as a Eugene high school instructor. She is a daughter-in-law of Mrs. C. H. Wickham of Roseburg and a sister-in-law of Mrs. Joseph Deets of this city.

Woman Dies as She Bids Furloughed Son Goodbye

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 29.—(AP)—Mrs. Edith A. Thompson, 54, failed to see her army son leave at the end of his furlough and she didn't.

PFC. Elmer L. Thompson, former Vancouver policeman, was bidding his mother farewell at the train when she collapsed, dead, in his arms.

Back of German Drive Broken By Patton's Army, Forcing Foe To Withdraw to Base of Bulge

(By The Associated Press)

Marshal von Rundstedt's most advanced spearheads have been hurled back more than ten miles and chased across the Lesse and Homme rivers into Rochefort, as the Americans hammered the German bulge in Belgium and Luxembourg on all three sides, knocking the Nazi drive into reverse.

U. S. planes, artillery, flamethrowers, tank destroyers and infantry smashed the Germans from the hamlet of Humain, four miles southwest of Mache and four miles north of Rochefort. The



VON RUNDSTEDT TRIES AND FAILS—Shaded portion of above map shows the extent of the original German counteroffensive through the American lines in Belgium and Luxembourg. The drive was halted in a bloody battle at Celles, shown between two arrows at left center. In the central southern portion of the shaded unit may be seen Bastogne, where an heroic American garrison, numbering originally 10,000 men, withstood a terrific German siege for seven days until relieved by Gen. Patton's army.

Lesser and Homme at that point are about 14 miles east of the Meuse and 10 miles southeast of Celles, deepest German penetration.

On the southern flank, Lt. Gen. Patton's battering counter-attack on a 35-mile front, advanced up to 20 miles in six days, and field dispatches said it had broken the back of the German drive.

But in order to do so Patton had to give up the hard-won bridgehead across the Saar river at Dillingen, where his forces had bitten into the Siegfried line defenses.

Pvt. F. Shortridge Killed in Belgium

PFC F. W. Shortridge, son of G. L. Shortridge, 437 Rav Ave., Roseburg, was killed in action Dec. 18, in Belgium, according to official word received Thursday by the father.

A graduate of Lookingglass schools, Private Shortridge was employed by the Southern Pacific company and by Douglas county prior to his enlistment in the army in April, 1942. He was sent overseas in July of that year and participated in the African and Italian campaigns before going to England, where he was assigned to troops taking part in the Normandy invasion.

He was born April 25, 1907, in Cottage Grove, but came to Douglas county as a child.

Surviving are the father and the following sisters, Miss Clara Shortridge and Mrs. J. D. Sanders, Roseburg; Mrs. Melvin Poyser, Ashland, Ore.; Mrs. Winston Casper, Sunnyside, Wash.; Mrs. R. J. Smith, Glendale, Ore.

Patton's troops, which hacked out the corridor to Bastogne and relieved its heroic garrison, widened the wedge in its eastern side by recapturing Himpel and Salvaucourt, and reached Sibret, five miles southwest of Bastogne. From Sibret the Germans had counterattacked, and it successfully against the corridor.

The neck of the German bulge from Bastogne northward was narrowed to 17 miles. Just south of Bastogne Patton poured in fresh troops to build up the American grip on this core of the German salient.

Celles Spearhead Nipped
On the western rim of the Nazi drive, the Germans were said to be fighting a losing battle of encirclement. The Americans had cut off a strong spearhead thrust beyond Rochefort toward Celles in the attempt to reach the Meuse in strength. More than 1,000 Germans were taken prisoner there, along with many armored vehicles, and a battle continued against a pocket of 3,000 Germans.

Von Rundstedt was held without a yard of gain throughout 48 hours, and was being attacked

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Pioneer Lumber Firm Forced to Close 2 Mills

PORTLAND, Dec. 29.—(AP)—An era in Oregon's timber industry neared an end today as Clark and Wilson Lumber company announced it will shut down operations at its Prescott mill and the older of its two mills in Linton immediately.

The decision bears out the company's announced intention to liquidate by 1947. The reason is depletion of lower Columbia timber stands, partially due to the great Tillamook burn which destroyed enough timber to supply Portland sawmills for 20 years.

The old Linton mill, one of the state's first large timber operations, was built about 50 years ago.

Boy Bicyclist Hurt by Automobile's Blow

Charles L. Sands, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Sands, 845 S. Stephens St., Roseburg, suffered minor injuries Wednesday night when struck by an automobile driven by Mrs. Mary Walamuth, Roseburg. The boy was riding a bicycle without light and reportedly was on the wrong side of the street. Chief of Police Ervin Short reported. The boy was treated at Mercy hospital for cuts and bruises and was later removed to his home.

County Judges Seek More Of Highway Revenue

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 29.—(AP)—The executive committee of the Oregon County Judge association decided last night to ask the legislature to give counties 20 per cent of highway revenues each year, or \$2,500,000 a year, whichever is greater.

Counties now get 15.7 per cent or \$2,000,000, whichever is greater. Under the present law the counties receive 15.7 per cent of these funds with a floor of \$2,000,000 annually.

The committee also approved a proposal that the public welfare commission reimburse counties which operate poor farms and where the cost of conducting these farms is in excess of the amount of money they would have received under the public assistance program.

Levity Fact Rent
By L. F. Robinson

The heroic holdout of the patriotic Doughboys at Bastogne is a cheering contrast to the pay-traitor "dough" boys who "held out" on cigarettes, gasoline and other supplies for racketeering in Paris and India.