

FORMOSA AGAIN BOMBED BY U. S. PLANES

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Reds Strike From Hungary to Baltic; Germans Quitting Belgian Pocket

Battles Rage Along Front Of 600 Miles

Russian Penetration in Poland Now Within 64 Miles of German Border

LONDON, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Battles are sweeping the entire 600 miles of the eastern front from Budapest in Hungary to Memel on the Baltic, the German high command said today, with the Russians launching new offensives in Poland and East Prussia.

Altogether, the Russians were storming westward in seven different sectors.

The Germans admitted that Marshal Konev's offensive in southern Poland had forced a strong bridgehead over the Nida where last night's Moscow communique announced a penetration to within 64 miles of Germany's Silesian border and 32 miles from Krakow, ancient Polish capital.

Heavy Battles Imminent

While the Russians had not yet confirmed the launching of other new attacks, an Associated Press dispatch from Moscow said there were signs "the red army may shortly engage every division on the eastern front in some of the heaviest battles of the Russian-German war, eclipsing perhaps anything the soviets have yet

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE naval battles DEEP in the South China sea pose some of the most interesting questions of the Pacific war. They lead us almost to the too-optimistic conclusion that the Japs aren't as good as they ought to be.

NOTE particularly on your map the position of Saigon and Camranh bay. They are FAR DOWN in this inland ocean that up to now has been the private, personal property of Japan.

We aren't merely hammering at the door of the South China sea. These naval operations off the southern Indo-China coast indicate that we have battered down the door and are already FAR into these interior Japanese-occupied waters—more than halfway to Singapore, as a matter of fact.

It is as if the tables were turned and an enemy fleet was operating well inside the Gulf of Mexico. In that event, we'd certainly be frightened.

OUR navy is deep down into the South China sea for one clear, definite purpose—to cut off Jap reinforcements intended for Luzon.

The Japs are supposed to have well-trained, well equipped land forces running into the multiple

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No, it Wasn't Jap Balloon

North Umpqua Find Proves to Be Aged Radio Sounding Set

J. M. Honeywell, chief cruiser for the O. and C. administration and a compassman assisting him in a cruise of timber in the Canton creek area of the North Umpqua, thought for a time recently they had discovered one of the Jap mystery balloons which have been found at several Pacific coast points.

Working in a light fall of snow they discovered a string hanging from a bush, and as they pulled upon it, they dragged forth a silver parachute. As they continued their search they came upon a small metal box, which upon investigation proved to be a weather bureau radio sounding set.

These instruments are sent aloft from weather bureau stations, sending out radio signals which are picked up at the parent station to reveal wind direction, atmospheric conditions and other data at extremely high altitudes. When the balloons finally

Allied Action Needed Now to Save Europe From Clutch of Stalin, Sen. Wheeler Argues

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Senator Wheeler (D-Mont.), calling for immediate formation of a united nations political council, contended today that Europe is being forced into the "embrace" of Russia through "power politics."

The Montanan addressed the senate after bi-partisan support developed over the weekend for a proposal by Chairman Connally (D-Tex.) of the foreign relations committee for the united nations to set up a provisional council to handle political questions. This council would operate while agreements on a world security organization were being ratified.

Wheeler, chief congressional critic of President Roosevelt's foreign policies, said "we ought now to signify without equivocation that it is not our intention to subject the so-called liberated people of Europe to Stalin's type of democratic rules any more than we intend to restore Hitler's tyranny."

The Montana senator told his colleagues he is convinced that with Great Britain the objective of restoring free government to naz-overrun countries "is even now a secondary aim, and with Russia it is not an aim at all."

America On Wrong Road

Saying that some persons have contended that Premier Stalin does not want to take over Europe because "he has too much else on his hands and mind," Wheeler added the course of events led him to this conclusion: "Europe is being forced into Mr. Stalin's embrace whether he wants it or not."

"It is my studied conviction," he continued, "that whether we or our allies have deliberately intended such an outcome to this war or not for us to continue down the road we are going will make such an outcome inevitable."

The alternative, he said, is the formation of a united nations council to handle political questions on a multilateral instead of a unilateral basis.

"Mortal Errors" Being Made

"Certainly," he asserted, "no more personal parleys on the part of three men, no more secret agreements or connivings, no more secret or open extensions of time."

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Parents Die Two Hours Apart as Son Is En Route

FITCHBURG, Mass., Jan. 15.—(AP)—Mr. and Mrs. William Lamore died within two hours of each other today while a son was en route home from overseas war duty.

The son, Pharmacists Mate 2/c William J. Jr., had just arrived in San Francisco. Another son is in France.

46 Cases of "Fag" Stolen

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 15.—(AP)—Cigarettes continue to be prize loot, the latest theft being 46 cases, valued at \$2760, from the Garrett freight lines warehouse in Portland.

Edwin C. Wilson Named U. S. Envoy to Turkey

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today nominated Edwin C. Wilson, veteran American diplomat, to be ambassador to Turkey.

Wilson, who was the president's representative at Algiers when that was headquarters for the French committee of liberation and who subsequently served as a member of the Mediterranean commission, is now director of the state department's office of special political affairs.

Freeway Bill For Highways Resurrected

SALEM, Jan. 15.—(AP)—The controversial freeway bill, which would allow the state highway commission to prohibit access to state highways, will be introduced by the senate roads and highways committee at the request of the Portland Chamber of Commerce and the Oregon Roadside Council.

Committee Chairman Marshall E. Cornett, Klamath Falls, said today.

Freeway Bill For Highways Resurrected

The bill would permit the highway commission, when it buys rights-of-way for new roads, to buy the right of access, and thus prevent gas stations, lunch counters and other commercial developments from being built along the highways.

"The object of the bill," State Highway Engineer Baldock said, "is to eliminate the serious traffic hazards that result from so many drivers entering and leaving the highways at these gas stations and lunch counters."

The bill is needed mostly near

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Wage Boost Urged As Substitute for Work-or-Fight

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(AP) Congress was called upon today to substitute higher industrial wages for pending work-or-fight legislation.

Spokesmen for the American Federation of Labor and the socialist party told the house military committee that breaking the little steel wage formula provides the best means of solving manpower problems.

Opposing legislative action to force 4-Fs into war plants or uniforms, Lewis G. Hines, AFL legislative representative, said current manpower shortages result from "the low level at which wages have been frozen by the War Labor board in certain plants."

Mines contended that upward adjustment of wages in plants where it is necessary to speed war production would have "no significant inflationary effect."

Opposition to work-or-fight legislation also came today from Chairman Mead (D., N.Y.) of the senate war investigating committee, who ordered a reassessment of manpower needs by his group.

The house military committee is continuing hearings on a measure which would make all deferred selective service registrants between 18 and 45 liable to penalties if they declined to comply with a request to move from non-essential jobs to war employment.

Mead expressed doubt that such legislation is needed now.

SALEM, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Henry William Merten and Walter Lorne Wilson, convicted of murdering an Oak Grove baker in an Oak Grove tavern holdup, died in the first double execution in state's one chamber this morning declaring they had "nothing to say."

Both refused a chaplain's services. Thought neither of the pair slept or ate all night, they appeared quite cheerful today, traveling little nervousness.

Donatus Warden E. C. Halley said the convicts bragged to guards about crimes they had committed.

Ralph Dahlen, 27, Oak Grove baker, died Dec. 7, 1943, from bullet wounds admittedly inflicted by Merten in a holdup of Wherry's tavern July 22. He was shot in the back as he breakfasted at a lunch counter.

The robbers were sent to the state penitentiary as life-termers upon conviction of the holdup, then were convicted of first-degree murder at Oregon City last February after Dahlen's death.

While en route to the penitentiary Dec. 1 Merten and Wilson made a frantic escape attempt in the back seat of Sheriff Fred Blackbecker's car by trying to kick the heads of two officers in the front seat. Deputy Sheriffs Joe Shone, driver, Ben Schulz, and Blackbecker brought them under control.

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Broken Nazis Hammered by Air Armada

(By the Associated Press)

Badly-wounded German columns fell back toward the Siegfried line today from the collapse in the Belgian pocket.

U. S. bombers swung into the attack again today after a Sunday assault on Nazi oil plants in another phase of grand allied strategy of clamping gigantic pincers on the retreating, Sunday's air strikes wrecked 243 enemy planes.

Today's air blows by 600 Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by 675 Mustangs and Thunderbolts, was aimed at Freiburg, Aachen, Ingolstadt and Reutlingen, all important links on the rail routes which the Germans use to shift troops.

Shortly after the American attacks, British four-engine Lancasters drove home two more assaults in the newly launched aerial offensive on German fuel sources with a daylight attack on two Benzol plants at Bochum and Rockingham in the Ruhr.

Three allied armies caving in the Belgian bulge fought within three miles of Houffalize, once the heart of Hitler's reconquest drive. The last major escape road to St. Vith on the northeast was cut. St. Vith was enveloped, but German resistance in this northern shoulder stiffened. Violent tank-infantry fighting raged today around Thirment. Americans

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Dogdom Society Note: Fala Is on Honey Moon

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Fala is on his honeymoon.

The fact that romance has entered the life of dogdom's most eligible bachelor was revealed yesterday by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

A group of war veterans touring the White House asked for the presidential scottie.

"I must make excuses for Fala," the first lady said. "He's in the country. We hope he's having a wedding."

That was all she said. The remains a secret—who Mrs. Fala is and where they are.

Unlicensed Auto Driver Fined; 4 "Bikes" Seized

William J. Butler, charged with operating a motor vehicle without driver's license, paid a fine of \$5 after pleading guilty before the Roseburg city court, A. J. Geddes, city recorder, stated today.

Four bicycles have been impounded during the weekend, Mr. Geddes said, due to insufficient lighting. He states that they will be returned to their owners after a period of 10 days.

Congressman O'Connor Of Montana Passes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(AP)—Rep. James Francis O'Connor, 66, (D) of Livingston, Mont., died last night in his hotel apartment. His was the first death of the 79th congress.

Mrs. O'Connor was in Livingston, A. son, Lieut. Miles J. O'Connor, was reported en route to navy duty in Seattle.

Born near California Junction, Iowa, O'Connor served in the Montana state legislature and on the federal trade commission prior to his election to congress in 1936.

He was chairman of the Indian affairs committee of the house.

Camas Valley Man Is Sunken Ship Survivor

Mrs. Rowena Mahon, Camas Valley, has received word that her son, Charles William Alexander, machinist mate, first class, U. S. navy, who was aboard the U. S. S. Cooper, recently reported sunk, was among the survivors and has been landed at San Francisco.

He is to be transferred to the marine barracks at Klamath Falls, the mother was informed and will receive a 30-day leave to be followed by rest camp and reassignment.

Japanese Island Base Torn 2 Successive Days as Yanks on Luzon Drive Closer to Manila

(By the Associated Press)

American carrier planes raided Formosa again today in support of the unchecked Sixth army advance in the Philippines, the Japanese Domei news agency reported shortly after intimating Premier Koiso's government may fall as a result of continued military reverses.

An unconfirmed Domei broadcast said 200 sea-borne aircraft for four and a half hours bombed and strafed airfields and installations on Formosa, hit the previous day by China-based Superforts and Liberator bombers from the Philippines.

Formosa is the Japanese supply line to Luzon island in the Philippines, where Lt. Gen. Krueger's Sixth army advanced in three directions, seized four important road junctions, crossed the formidable Agno river 88 miles from Manila and stretched the American beachhead over 45 miles.

Gen. MacArthur attributed the meagerness of enemy opposition at least partially to warplanes having raised havoc with Japanese transport. In five days they wrecked out 26 locomotives, 300 freight cars, 400 motor vehicles and 11 tanks.

Thirty-five Japanese planes were destroyed over Luzon in two days, including 20 shot down over massed shipping of the U. S. Seventh fleet in Lineaven gulf. Some damage was inflicted on American ships.

The enemy air attack perhaps came from Formosa. In counter-attacks, MacArthur's Philippine-based Liberators hit Formosa airbases for two successive days, and China-based B-29s ranged freely over the island for two and a half hours Sunday while other Superforts struck at the aircraft city of Nagoya in Japan proper.

All B-29s returned from these raids, the War department announced.

Record Penetration Made

The reported carrier sweep over Formosa would be from a unit of Vice Adm. McCain's fast carrier forces which left Friday and Saturday wrecked four Philippine reinforcement convoys off the Indo-China coast.

"This dashingly brilliant operation," Associated Press Correspondent Rembert James reported from McCain's flagship, "was the deepest and most significant penetration of the enemy's waters since the war started."

It slashed across sea lanes to Japan's source of oil, rubber, quinine and other war essentials.

The British southeast Asia offensive gained headway with a 32-mile leap-frog amphibious advance and a 16-mile drive toward Mandalay. British commandos crossed the mouths of the Kaladan and Lemro rivers in south-east Burma, landed in the face of fierce Japanese shore fire and captured the town of Mvebon. Mvebon is 285 miles northwest of Rangoon, on a highway leading to that great port.

In central Burma the British 14th army was only 30 miles north of Mandalay.

Russia Now Japs' Concern

Tokyo announced two more Japanese admirals were killed in action and expressed concern over possible Russian moves. A Domei news agency commentator said, "Stalin will be forced to show his hand in the Pacific war before next April."

The China-based U. S. 14th air force destroyed 28 Japanese planes yesterday. Most of them were accounted for by fighters protecting bombers in a raid on

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Dianer Shortage Hearing Attracts Sizable Throng

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(AP)—There was standing room only as fathers packed the opening hearings on the dianer shortage, labeled by Representative Mary Norton (D., N. J.) as a matter "fully appreciated only by women."

Congresswomen Emily Taft Douglas (D-Ill.), Helen G. Douglas (D-Cal.) and Margaret Chase Smith (R-Me.) heard testimony on the shortage from representatives of dianer services, WPA, OPA and mothers themselves at a hearing called by Mrs. Norton.

A. C. Hill of WPA, father of one, said that according to statistics there was no shortage. The 27 per cent increase in birth rate since the war began should have been covered by a 96 per cent increase in dianer production, Hill said.

George Garland, executive secretary of the national institute of dianer services, said there was a shortage and placed blame on OPA.

Shipments have dropped off 25 per cent of replacement needs because cotton prices are unprofitable to the mills, Garland said.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reinsteiner

Robins now hopping on Roseburg lawns raise that perennial question: "Can spring be far behind?" Anyway it might be well to start consulting the seed catalogue, resplendent with the colorful illustrations which you fondly expected your home garden in 1944 would match and definitely did not.



PACIFIC FRONT STEALS WAR SPOTLIGHT — Highlights of one of the most spectacular weeks of action on the Pacific front are dramatically depicted in this map review of the week's activities. American carrier-based planes battled Japanese forces off Indo-China, 500 miles west of Luzon, where General MacArthur's troops were slashing toward Manila.