

Americans Smash Assault Waves

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Defend Vital Central Front Sobaek Passes

Forces Counterattack After Daylong Stand; 'Terrific' Air Support

By OLEN CLEMENTS

TOKYO — (AP) — Counter-attacking U. S. Second division troops late Saturday captured hill 247 on the central Korean front for the second time in two days after beating back fresh waves of screaming Reds in furious, frigid battle.

The Americans, with French and Dutch infantry aid, smashed five Red attacks in the 25 degrees-below zero cold on the middle and both flanks of their 15-mile horse-shoe-shaped front just south of Wonsu.

Then the allies counter-attacked, and by dusk had reconquered hill 247 on the northeast angle of their front about a mile and a half below Wonsu.

TOKYO — (AP) — American doughboys supported by terrific firepower late today smashed attacks by waves of screaming Reds in the battle for the vital Sobaek mountain passes on the bitter cold central Korean front.

A field dispatch from AP Correspondent William C. Barnard, with the U. S. Second division, said the Americans counter-attacked at 4:45 p.m. (2:45 a.m. EST) after holding firm against daylong assaults.

The Americans and attached units of French and Dutch troops are holding a critical Korean line south of the central Korean rail and highway hub of Wonsu. They are blocking Red forces from using two main highway passes to southeast Korea. Also in the line was the South Korean Eighth division.

Battle Rages
Before the Second division counter-attacked it had fought off at least five attacks on the middle and both flanks of the 15-mile front. The snow-covered hills resounded with the fury of the battle and shouts by 8,000 to 10,000 Reds.

Allied fighters ripped into the Reds. The counterattack was a coordinated infantry and aerial assault on hill 247 — so called for its height in meters. The hill, on the northeast edge of the perimeter, was taken by the allied troops Friday but they withdrew from it Friday night.

Correspondent Barnard said that a half-hour after the counterattack began Reds had not been re-organized. The infantry moved after 80 fighters and light bombers pounded the Reds.

Bitter Cold Experienced
The Second division's main spearhead remained from one and a half to two miles south of Wonsu. No ground was lost to the Red attacks earlier Saturday.

A division spokesman said the Reds evidently had pulled back into small villages south of Wonsu to regroup and find shelter against the biting cold.

The bloody fighting was in weather as cold as any experienced on the bleak Changjin-Huagang front in North Korea. Temperatures went to 30 below zero.

Korean Reds opened the assault before dawn with two small bazooka attacks on the Second division's center. By noon they had hurled up to 10,000 troops against the arching allied salient just south of burned-out Wonsu. The Korean transport trucks.

And the Koreans struck the northernmost U.N. position in Korea — other Korean and Chinese communist forces swept around Wonsu in the strength of two divisions in a wide enveloping movement. Already some were cutting in behind the hard-pressed U. N. fighters who were standing fast only two miles south of Wonsu.

Reds Building Up
To the North a huge Red force was building up fast, adding to the critical situation on the central front. Chinese were moving into this concentration from the western front south of Seoul.

The importance of the raging battle was this: Wonsu is a rail and road hub that controls the avenues of advance or retreat through the Sobaek range.

"It was clear today that what may be called the battle of Sobaek is increasing in scope," said an Eighth army communique.

The issue is whether the enemy can force the passes of the mountain range.

The Sobaek slants across the peninsula from northeast to southwest — a great natural barrier in front of the old Pusan perimeter. Except for the bitter mountain battle here, there was little activity along the U. N. defense line. Allied patrol action was intensive, however. The communist buildup in the west went on apace.

MRS. DOERFLER DIES
SALEM — (AP) — Mrs. Frank A. Doerfler, 59, wife of a prominent businessman, died of a heart attack yesterday. Her husband also is a former state representative.

Levy Fact Rant
By L. F. Reizenstein

The West may no longer be wild, but it's certainly "woolly" as never before. Record prices being paid for wool should be reflected in our own Douglas county, the biggest sheep-raising county in Oregon. And speaking of the related prices of lamb and mutton—\$55555.

GI Bill Fraud Charged 204 In New York

Indictment Largest Ever Handed Up; \$300,000 Involved In Proceedings

NEW YORK — (AP) — A Manhattan corporation and 204 persons were indicted yesterday on charges of conspiracy to use the GI bill of rights to defraud the government of almost \$300,000.

"The indictment was the largest of its kind ever handed up in this federal court and one of the largest in any federal court in the country," said Chief Assistant U. S. Attorney Miles J. Lane.

In a companion indictment, five principals and the corporation — Garford Laboratories, Inc. — also were charged with fraudulently obtaining \$86,000 from the veterans' administration for tuition fees and student supplies.

The principals are Ora W. Grow, 47, director of the school and head of the corporation, and his wife Dannie, of (2337 33rd street) Astoria, Queens; Abelardo Martinez, 45, of the Bronx; and Victor J. Triolo, 48, (20-A Fayette street) and Vincent L. Puma, 43, (682 Evergreen avenue) both of Brooklyn.

Never Attended Classes
Veterans had enrolled at the school under the VA educational program, the government charged, but most had never attended classes.

In fact, said U. S. Attorney Louis I. Kaplan, 90 percent of those indicted "never knew where the school was."

For each veteran enrolled, the school, which was owned by the corporation, received a \$300 tuition fee and \$30 for supplies. The student veterans in return received VA subsistence checks averaging between \$800 and \$1200 each, according to the government.

This would have been all right, the government contends, if the vets went to school, and the school made sure they did not play hooky.

However, Kaplan said the students kicked back \$10 to \$30 a month to the school for marking them "present" on attendance sheets.

Program Endangered
Construction of access roads in advance of heavy timber removal in the event of major war need is imperative if irreparable damage to the forest is to be avoided, he states. Should war requirements make it necessary to take timber from those portions of the forest now accessible, the entire sustained yield program will be damaged and future cuttings limited to timber now inaccessible, thus lowering the allowable cut in future years.

Substitute Plan For Lowering Draft Age Looms
WASHINGTON — (AP) — There were strong signs today that the Senate may receive a substitute for the defense department plan to lower the minimum draft age from 19 to 18 years.

Although the department has not yet finished its supporting arguments before a senate preparedness subcommittee, Majority Leader McFarland (D-Ariz.) told a reporter there already is talk of a compromise.

Public testimony on the issue was suspended over the weekend to allow assistant Secretary of Defense Anna M. Rosenberg and her staff time to gather more facts.

McFarland said two possible compromises had been mentioned: 1. Allowing a draft of young men when they reach 18 but requiring a year's training before putting them in combat or overseas service.

2. Limiting actual draft to youths who are 18 years and 6 months old.

Chairman Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.) indicated the subcommittee is considering the compromise of midway between 18 and 19 years for induction.

He asked Mrs. Rosenberg to report on Monday just how many possible draftees that would produce.

Secretary of Defense Marshall and Mrs. Rosenberg contend that 18 year olds are needed to meet the emergency increases in the army, air force, navy and marines, and for launching a long-term program of compulsory military training.

Mrs. Rosenberg said yesterday that President Truman had boosted the June 30 goal for the combined forces to 3,462,000. This was 247,000 higher than the 3,215,000 persons the defense officials asked at start of the hearings this week.

State Reopens Quarry Where Seven Were Killed
PORTLAND — (AP) — The Kerr & Kibbe rock quarry near Reedwood — ordered closed last week by the State Industrial Accident commission — is operating again.

The firm's office here reported that the commission lifted the closure order Monday. Announcement that the quarry — where seven men have been killed in recent weeks — was closed was made Friday.

Glen Kibbe, firm manager here, was not available for comment but a member of the office staff said he understood the closure order was lifted when the company agreed to remove loose rock from quarry ledges — a continuing practice under its normal procedure, he added.

Two of the deaths were caused by falling rocks.

Spectacular Fire Seen By Millions

Chicago Blaze, Explosion Televised; Three Firemen Killed, Five Injured

CHICAGO — (AP) — Television showed a real life tragedy to millions yesterday — a spectacular fire and explosion in an old riverfront building which killed three firemen and injured five others.

The fire, which raged for more than five hours before it was brought under control at 7:26 p.m. (CST), drew the largest audience ever to witness any fire.

An estimated 5,000,000 persons in many parts of the nation saw live telecasts on three networks.

Many thousands of spectators also watched as nearly 300 firemen — on the ground and in boats — fought the stubborn blaze. They lined bridges and banks of the Chicago river.

Others jammed windows in scores of office buildings in the area and in the skyscrapers in the loop — only a few blocks away.

Towering billows of smoke were visible for several miles. Flames shot nearly 100 feet above the five-story office and warehouse building and darted out of its scores of windows.

Occupants of nearby buildings were evacuated, some because of the smoke and others as a precautionary measure.

Damage Set At \$500,000
Smoke and water poured through the 60-mile network of tunnels under the downtown area and was shut down. Smoke from the fire entered more than a score of loop buildings which take air from the tunnels for ventilation. Blowers were used to clear out the smoke.

Fire officials estimated damage at \$500,000. The losses ranged from 20 dollars canaries to thousands of dollars worth of special radio tubes last night five officials said they were satisfied all occupants had escaped from the building.

There were five extra alarms and three special calls.

Explosion Crumbles Wall
Sixty-eight pieces of equipment and two fireboats were summoned to battle the blaze in the 16-year-old brick and concrete structure. The building, at 320 North La Salle street at the edge of the Chicago river, housed offices, sales rooms and warehouse space of some 15 companies.

The fire, discovered about 2 p.m. (CST), apparently started in the basement or first floor. Flames spread quickly up elevator shafts and soon engulfed the entire structure.

About 30 minutes after the fire started an explosion occurred on the fourth floor. The blast apparently caused by 55 gallons of inflammable lacquer thinning fluid, blew out a section of wall about 100 feet long and up to 20 feet high near the top of the building.

UN Cease-Fire Rapped By Taft
WASHINGTON — (AP) — Senator Taft (R-Ohio) today branded as "complete appeasement" the U. N. cease fire order in Korea.

Taft told reporters that as far as he is concerned he would much rather see withdrawal of American troops from Korea than acceptance of the cease fire proposal.

The proposal, supported by U. S. delegates to the U. N. would bring the Chinese Communists into a conference which would discuss not only Korea but also Formosa, now held by Chinese Nationalists.

"I think the cease fire proposal is a most unfortunate move toward appeasement of the Chinese Communists," Taft declared.

Other congressmen also were demanding withdrawal from Korea.

Larry Van Scoyk Said Recovering From Burns
Larry Van Scoyk, nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Van Scoyk, who reside on East Douglas street, Roseburg, is reported improving at Mercy hospital, where he is being treated for serious burns to both his legs.

The accident happened Wednesday evening at the Van Scoyk home, when Larry poured gasoline on a bonfire. The liquid splashed on the clothing of the boy and caught fire. Neighbors rushed to his aid and put the fire out.

The Weather
Mostly cloudy, with occasional light rain today, tonight and Sunday.

Highest temp. for any Jan. 71
Lowest temp. for any Jan. 47
Highest temp. yesterday 47
Lowest temp. last 24 hrs. 38
Precip. last 24 hours .09
Precip. from Sept. 1 1.78
Precip. from Jan. 1 .35
Sunset today, 5:00 p. m.
Sunrise tomorrow, 7:43 a. m.

Solons Make Speedy Start On Legislation

Determined To Avoid Last Year's Marathon; Ready For Major Bills

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
SALEM — (AP) — Oregon's 90 state legislators, determined against having a record 97-day marathon like they did two years ago, are off to the best start in years.

Having been here only five days, they're ready to begin work early next week on all major legislation.

The presiding officers of both houses said that state department bills have been introduced much earlier than usual. The committees have buckled down to business, about two or three weeks ahead of the customary date.

Ready For Committees
Most of Governor Douglas McKay's legislative program is ready for consideration by committees.

The two most difficult pieces of business — balancing the budget and reorganizing the state's school system — will be considered by committees next Tuesday.

On that day, the Ways and Means committees and Tax committees of both houses will decide on policy as to balancing the budget, which would be around \$50,000,000 in the red unless new tax sources are found.

This kind of a meeting is something new around here. If the committees agree on tax policy, it would go a long way toward shortening the session.

Tax Considerations
Among the taxes to be considered are the governor's recommendation for elimination of the federal income tax deduction from state income tax returns; a two percent sales tax, a three-cent cigarette tax, a tax on automobiles, and a two percent tax on business profits.

The house tax committee, which has to originate all tax bills, is handicapped by lack of experience. Only one of its members, Giles L. French, Moro, ever served on a tax committee before.

Four of the committee members never even served in a legislature before.

The senate education committee plans to meet the same day to begin work on 37 bills to carry out the recommendations of the T. C. Holy report. Dr. Holy, an Ohio State university education expert, recommends wholesale reorganization of the school system, including enlarging school districts.

Minority's Bills Doomed
During the first week, the small Democratic minority — 18 of the 90 legislators — got in some of their main bills, all of which are virtually doomed.

Two of them call for repeal of the state milk control law and permitting the sale of colored margarine. These are assigned to committees dominated by men from farm areas. They don't like margarine of any color, and they like milk control.

The state civil service system, adopted in 1945, came under heavy attack.

(Continued on page Two)

Donaldson Named YMCA Secretary



Merlin C. Donaldson (above) of Yakima, Wash., will take over the duties of general secretary of the Roseburg YMCA on Feb. 1.

Appointment to the position was announced today by O. H. Feldkamp, president of the Y's board of directors, following action of the board. Donaldson recently conferred here with local officers of the organization.

Donaldson, 39, attended the University of the West, and obtained his L.L.B. degree from the Los Angeles College of Law. He graduated from Berkeley Baptist Divinity school, class of '39, and was ordained to the ministry in February, 1940.

He was certified as national YMCA secretary in December 1946, and certified as YMCA aquatic director July 15, 1944. He has served as boys' work secretary at Berkeley, Wash., and as extension secretary and program secretary at Yakima, Wash., a position he is leaving to come to Roseburg.

Succeeds Yoder
Donaldson is married and has one son. He states that his major interest and experience has been in youth work. In the last three or four years his experience has been broadened to building management and youth adult activities.

The YMCA general secretary position has been vacant since the resignation last fall of Marlen Yoder who took over the principalship of the Camas Valley school. Since then Mrs. Robert Sinclair has been serving in a temporary capacity.

Norway Praised By Eisenhower
OSLO, Norway — (AP) — In Norway today General "Ike" Eisenhower looked at the brightest hope of western defense he has so far seen on his tour of Atlantic pact capitals.

First of all, he found a country which has a geographical chance of protecting itself and determined to do it.

Associates tramping with him through the war ministry and other public buildings found him merrier than he had been since he came out of what made Europe militarily tick so slowly. Here there was evidence of faster movement.

More money is being appropriated for training, more men are being called up, and the vital labor unions are being purged of Communists as fast as an enterprising prime minister can do it.

(Continued on page Two)

L. E. Garrison Succeeds T. B. Garrison As Douglas County State Bank President



L. E. (Earl) Garrison has been named to succeed his father, T. B. Garrison, as president of the Douglas County State Bank in Roseburg. Stockholders of the bank, at their annual meeting Thursday night, elected T. B. Garrison, retiring president, as chairman of the board. Other officers elected were E. C. Young, vice-president; F. D. Moore, cashier; Evelyn L. Frazier, assistant cashier.

C. M. Howard is manager of the Sutherland branch, and Osa McCord is manager of the E. C. Young and company bank at Oakland. Stockholders received a report stating that since the Douglas County State Bank was chartered in June 1945, deposits have made exceptional growth to a total of \$12,370,000. Resources amount to \$13,120,000.

"As Douglas county's only independent bank, home-owned and home operated, the management plans even greater growth in the immediate years ahead," the new president said. "Experience, cooperation and personalized service will be continued as features of this bank and its branches."

Directors of the bank are T. B. Garrison, L. E. Garrison, E. G. Young, L. E. Henninger, E. R. Metzger and Roy O. Young.

T. B. Garrison, who has been active head of the institution since he started it in 1945, also has been interested in lumber, agriculture and various other business enterprises throughout Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

"For more than 30 years, courage, vision and business enterprise have contributed extensively to the growth of Douglas county and western Oregon," bank officers declared in a statement marking his retirement as president.



IDENTICAL TWINS—Pictured above with their nurse, Beatrice Rhule, are Annette and Janet Rucker, twin daughters born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rucker, 1808 Ellen avenue, on Dec. 7. Weighing little more than 3½ lbs. at birth, the twins have been kept in incubators at Mercy hospital, where they were born, until Friday, when they were taken home, having gained about two pounds each in the meantime. "They are identical twins," their nurse asserted. They sure look it. (—Paul Jenkins.)

ACCESS ROADS NEEDED Record 1950 Timber Cut Could Have Been Boosted

The 1950 timber cut, which broke all former records on the Umpqua National forest, could have been increased by more than \$1,000,000, given needed access roads. Robert Auferderheide, supervisor of the Umpqua forest, reports that 1950 timber sales totaled 169,903,000 board feet. Sales netted \$1,810,845, of which 25 percent goes to Douglas and Lane counties.

The allowable sustained yield cutting rate on the Umpqua forest is 260,000,000 board feet, Auferderheide points out. Had it been possible to offer for sale the 90,000,000 board feet withheld from the market because of inaccessibility, sales for the year, based on the average stumpage price, would have been approximately \$1,000,000 more.

Figure Even Higher
Actually, says the forest supervisor, the timber withheld represents 310,000,000 feet rather than 260,000,000 because the 1950 cut includes stumpage taken out for California-Oregon Power company boundary and Toketee Falls power project — timber not involved in sustained yield working circles.

In addition to revenue of \$1,810,000, the forest service includes as net gain logging road construction estimated in value at \$750,000. Roads built by loggers to permit removal of timber are made a part of the forest service road system.

Three main access roads, estimated to cost approximately \$5,000,000, are needed to open the Umpqua forest to full cutting capacity. Auferderheide reports. The program calls for 33 miles of construction on the North Umpqua road at an estimated cost of \$3,500,000; 20 miles on Steamboat creek at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000, and 11 miles on Jackson creek at an estimated cost of \$580,000.

The forest supervisor says there would be no difficulty in selling all the timber permitted under the sustained yield program if it could be made accessible. Furthermore, the road program, he says, would allow a better balance between upland and lowland cutting, thus improving economy of dependent communities by saving "face" or accessible lowland timber for winter removal, when weather prevents logging at higher elevations.

Program Endangered
Construction of access roads in advance of heavy timber removal in the event of major war need is imperative if irreparable damage to the forest is to be avoided, he states. Should war requirements make it necessary to take timber from those portions of the forest now accessible, the entire sustained yield program will be damaged and future cuttings limited to timber now inaccessible, thus lowering the allowable cut in future years.

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Lowest temp. last 24 hrs. 38
Precip. last 24 hours .09
Precip. from Sept. 1 1.78
Precip. from Jan. 1 .35
Sunset today, 5:00 p. m.
Sunrise tomorrow, 7:43 a. m.

Public Interest Manifested In Bill Banning Fireworks
By ESTHER GEDDES

SALEM — Considerable public interest is being manifested in the passage of a bill designed to make the sale of fireworks illegal in the state of Oregon, except as needed for industrial purposes, or for public exhibitions.

Last session the sale of fireworks was curbed considerably but the tendency now seems to be toward banning them completely for private use. Naturally the main opposition comes from merchants or manufacturers who stand to lose considerably by such a bill. On the other side is the physical health of the children of the state as well as the welfare of property which inevitably suffers damage during the 4th of July season.

Children Demonstrate
At one session, opponents to such a measure rounded up a large number of children and managed to stage a demonstration pleading against being deprived of the fun of fireworks. The children "saw no conception of the seriousness of the bill and I have often wondered if it is not possible that some of those same children have since been injured perhaps permanently by the very "toy" they were defending.