

Radio stations may go off the air, lights may be blacked out, but Statesman news workers go on through the night, bringing you the news you want, on your doorstep in the morning.

By federal order, all weather data and forecasts for Oregon and Washington are discontinued until further notice.

# US Defenders of Islands Hold Japs At Bay

## US Battleship Arizona Reported Sunk By Japanese Off Hawaii

### Defense Workers On Alert

Headquarters at Armory; Parley At West Salem

An army in business and working garb worked and slept at the Salem armory Friday night as the Marion County Civilian Defense Council opened a 24-hour-a-day headquarters there and various units for protection of the community recruited volunteers throughout the building.

In West Salem more than 300 residents gathered at the high school gymnasium to become familiar with plans for their defense. The meeting, called by Mayor Guy Newgent, vice-chairman of the Polk Council.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12—(AP)—Lieut. General John L. De Witt, commander of the 4th army, was placed in full command of all military forces in the eight western states and Alaska Friday in a move unifying military operations in the area under the western defense command.

ty civilian defense organization, served to introduce members of the West Salem defense committee and wardens of the city's four defense districts.

Grateful for the probability of a night without blackout, Marion county defense workers planned devices to darken the armory upon call, answered myriad telephone calls over new headquarters phone 3349, and continued work on the defense manual which has been in the making for several weeks.

Notice of the cessation of blackouts in western Washington and Oregon until further notice and of the return of radio stations to the air in this area came to county defense headquarters late Friday afternoon while they were still located in the courthouse.

Announcing the 2nd interceptor command's order, County Co-

While lights blazed out from Marion county farms, residences and business houses early Saturday morning in the first all-night period of non-precautionary blackout since Monday, air raid observers in the district kept to their posts, civilian defense authorities in Salem said.

ordinator Bryan H. Conley urged all persons in the county, particularly air raid wardens not to be caught napping should three blasts of the siren be sounded to call for immediate blackout.

Elsewhere in the building members of the uniformed Oregon Women's Ambulance corps, who have been organized and studying since October, 1940, in preparation for an emergency, interviewed 25 applicants for the training course they have been offering to 30 other women.

The ambulance corps and the 36 now in training, comprise the county motor corps of women, prepared, they declare, to serve as drivers, roadside mechanics, a signal corps, ambulance workers or first aid squad. A class in chemical warfare is to be offered the group Monday night at (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

### Salem's Own State Guard Unit Musters



Above, 62 men are mustered as original members of Company K, Salem rifle unit in the new state guard before Capt. Charles L. Unruh, standing, and 2nd Lt. L. T. Graves, seated. Below, Harry Williams, Salem, veteran, wearer of the Purple Heart, the Silver Star citation for bravery and the French Croix de Guerre, signs as a recruit. Pictured with him are Col. Ralph P. Cowgill, left, state guard executive officer, and Brig. Gen Alvin C. Baker, right, state commander. Williams was wounded in the Soissons defensive, received his medals for the single-handed capture of four Germans.



### Truck Company Second Unit of New State Guard

Eighty Men, Sixty Vehicles to Comprise Transportation Detail; Volunteers to Sign for Service Tonight at Armory

Recruiting of a capital city truck company as Salem's second unit of the new state guard continues today at the armory. Capt. Ray Betzer, retired US marine lieutenant who was Friday ordered to organize the company, said after 47 men had crowded into his temporary office to sign application blanks that mustering is scheduled tonight after 7:30 o'clock.

### Young Salem Woman Safe At Honolulu

Dr. Floyd Utter, 446 Oak street, said Friday night that he had received a clipper letter from his daughter, Florence, stating that she was safe and well in Honolulu and had survived the Japanese air raids without mishap.

Miss Utter went to the Hawaiian islands earlier this year as an employee of the federal income tax bureau and is stationed in Honolulu.

### Radio Off For Long Period

PORTLAND, Dec. 12—(AP)—Portland radio stations returned to the air at 1:45 pm Friday after a 23 1/2-hour silent period ordered by the second interceptor command.

The command explained that the lengthy shutdown was ordered because of cloudy weather, under conditions which might permit enemy planes to use radio beams as guides in reaching their objectives.

### Knox Radio Talk Halted

NEW YORK, Dec. 13—(Saturday)—NBC early today announced cancellation of a broadcast by US Secretary of the Navy Knox from Honolulu, which had been scheduled for 1 a. m. EST. NBC said atmospheric conditions were unfavorable.

### Congress Ready On Draft Law

Measure Would Take 19 to 44 For Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—(AP)—Congress leaders signalled Friday for swift action on legislation to require the registration of all men from 18 to 64, inclusive, with a view of making those from 19 to 44, inclusive, liable for military training and service.

Chairman May (D-Ky.) of the house military committee introduced the bill immediately after a conference of house leaders with Secretary of War Stimson and other war department officials. He announced that that hearings would start Saturday and predicted the measure would be approved in two hours.

Speaker Rayburn of the house said the new registration was "necessary to get an overall picture of the manpower of the country" and General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, agreed that such a precautionary step should be taken quickly.

Hershey said that the new registrations, of course, would not apply to men from 21 to 35, inclusive, who have registered previously. He took occasion, too, to deny that the war department has any immediate plans for the registration of women, a step which had been reported after Hershey held a press conference Thursday.

While the new bill obviously was designed to tap the vast reservoir of men from 19 to 21 and possibly train them for combat service, there was no indication of the disposition that might be made of men 45 to 64, inclusive, who would register but, under the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

### Council Held By DeMolays

Youth Takes Over City For Day; Government Problems Learned

(See Pictures on Page 3)

Seriously considering the problems of a city during a war emergency, DeMolays who were Salem officials Friday, conducted a council business of varying importance during a brief night session. Youths who had learned duties of elected officers argued issues with facts and figures.

Issues approved by the council—the final action—included placing of stop lights at Court and Capitol, Center and Capitol, Front and Center streets. Changing of the city hall roof from bright orange to dull gray was approved, although suggestion was made to camouflage the entire building.

Construction of an air raid shelter for city officials was referred to the public for a vote. The measure was approved by the council, for, they asked, "What good are officials without a city?"

Issue of an elevator for the city hall and of protecting the city water supply were referred to committees. Hardest bill to pass was the year's "farce," the building of a wall of paper, three feet thick around the city to protect it against invasion and to buy the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

### Polk-Benton Cantonment Plans Told Contractors

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12—(AP)—Three more major construction jobs are yet to be done on the west coast for the army, the Associated General Contractors of America annual convention was told Friday.

These jobs are cantonments housing 33,000 men each at Marysville, Calif., and Medford and Corvallis, Ore.

This statement was made to the contractors by Lt. Colonel Harold D. Stetson, assistant constructing quartermaster, ninth some of the army, at a session in which the army, navy and state joined with the contractors for a discussion of national and civil defense needs.

Col. Stetson in an earlier press dispatch from San Francisco Friday night was indicated as saying that "Washington has granted approval" for the three cantonments. Whether he meant that

construction of the "Corvallis" cantonment, which would straddle the Polk-Benton county line, had been authorized and funds provided, or, merely, that it had been approved by the war department for possible construction in the future, could not be ascertained.

Plans for the Polk-Benton cantonment were completed late last month and the engineering offices of the quartermaster department at Albany closed on December 4.

Army press releases last fall estimated cost of the big project at \$22,800,000.

### Military Communiques Reveal Heroic Actions On Wake and Midway

#### Fleet Chief Says Jap Navy Fled From Action; Pincers Attack On Manila Refuted

### Russ, British Pound Germans On Two Fronts

Nazi Peace Offers Mocked by Soviet Who Slash Enemy

By The Associated Press

While the far eastern struggle was turning in America's favor and Japanese naval units had fled from their first encounter with ships of the US Asiatic fleet in Philippine waters, word of tremendous victories over Hitler's gray columns came from the Libyan wastes and from the bleak vastness of the soviet union.

The Russians, replying with mockery to German peace feelers and pursuing a terrible revenge for Hitler's assault upon them, declared that they had defeated a dissolving German army of 750,000 men on the central soviet front, breaking both the upper and lower arms of what had been a nazi maneuver of encirclement upon Moscow. Accounts from British quarters also pictured some nazi forces as in retreat in the Crimea far to the south.

On the Moscow front, said a special soviet communique, 85,000 Germans had been killed in continuing operations and 23 of an initial 51 invading nazi divisions had been beaten, dispersed, isolated or put to flight.

All this, it was added, was the cumulative result to date of the red army's response to a second German offensive begun on Nov. 16. Now, the Russians said, division after German division was being cut off and left behind to be engaged later on.

In addition to the tremendous German casualties thus claimed, these incomplete nazi losses were reported: 1434 tanks, 5416 trucks, 675 guns and hundreds of lesser arms.

And the Russians sardonically warned the invader—who of late has complained of the weather—that real winter was still to come. This German defeat at the Russian center seemed even more (Turn to Page 2, Col. 8)

### Bulletins

LONDON, Sat., Dec. 13—(AP)—Reuters today quoted a Japanese communique broadcast from Tokyo as saying that the 32,600-ton United States battleship Arizona had been sunk in action at Hawaii.

The communique said the Arizona was the third American battleship to be sunk by Japanese forces since the outbreak of the war in the Pacific. (The Arizona was launched in 1915 and its normal complement is about 1358 men.)

MANILA, Sat., Dec. 13—(11:30 am local time)—(AP)—Lieut. Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today the Japanese (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

### Russ Position In Far East Still Unknown

China Leader Offers All Aid in Fight For World Freedom

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—(AP)—The heroic defenders of Wake and Midway, tiny Pacific islets, continued to hold the Japanese at bay late Friday, while on the principal Philippine island of Luzon, American land, sea and air forces joined in a terrific struggle to smash repeated Japanese attacks.

This was the gist of the latest United States navy and army communiques, issued late Friday.

The army communique said attempted Japanese landings were repulsed south of Vigan and north of San Fernando, cities on the west coast of Luzon. However, a previous communique indicated that the Japanese not only had succeeded in landing at Vigan, but were augmenting their forces there.

It was believed here that the principal Japanese attacks were being made on the west coast of Luzon because there are good communication lines from there to Manila.

The communique acknowledged that some enemy troops had been landed near Legaspi, in the extreme southern portion of Luzon island, as claimed by the Japanese imperial headquarters.

But the capital discounted the Japanese claim that the landing at Legaspi, and also at Aparri, in the far north of the island, placed the enemy troops in position to carry out a pincers attack on Manila. In military circles, it was said that mountain and estuary barriers stood in the way of a pincers' movement from those two footholds. By some, the Japanese blows at Aparri and Legaspi were regarded simply as diversions.

The view that the real attack was being made on the west coast of Luzon was strengthened (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

### Planes Heard Over Bay City

San Francisco Under Total Blackout Two Hours; AP Silenced

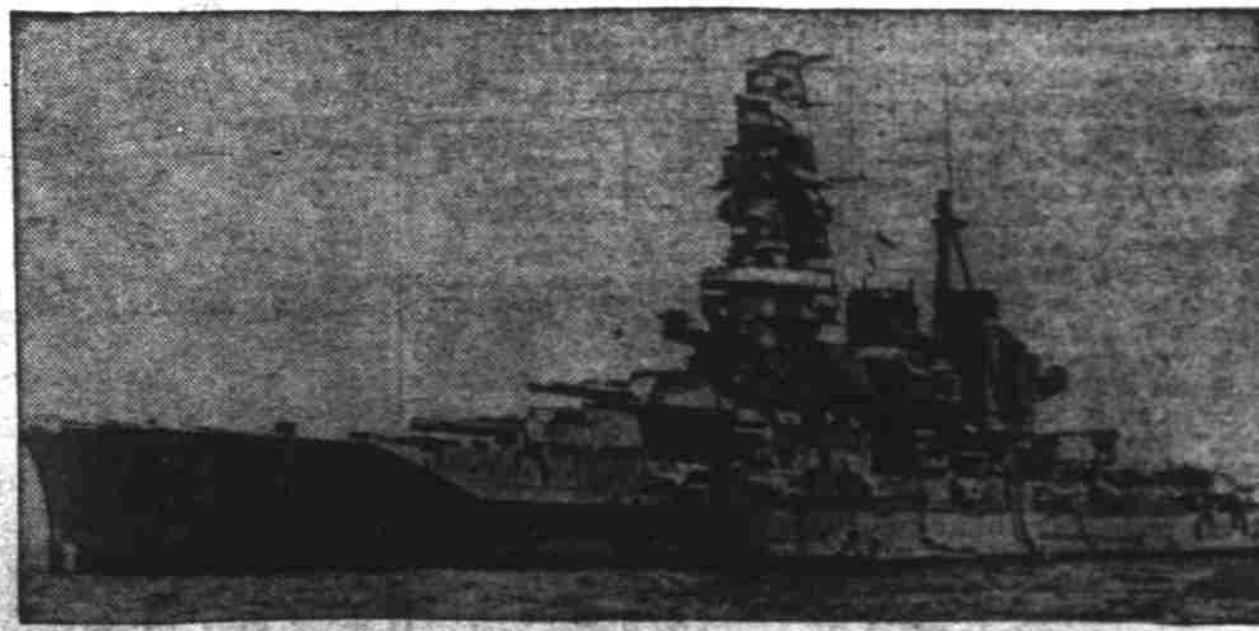
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12—(AP)—San Francisco underwent a weird war-time blackout Friday night and unidentified airplanes roared over the city during the two hours and 34 minutes of total darkness.

Unverified reports said flares were dropped in the financial district and into the ocean, but police were inclined to discount them.

"People were running around like wild," declared Elmer Combs, booking steward at Central emergency hospital. "A lot of people came in that we couldn't even begin to handle. There were accidents from all kinds of things—autos, street cars, street cars sliding down hills. Some people blew their tops."

The alarm sounded at 7:24 p. m. PST and there was an almost universal sigh of relief when the (Turn to Page 2, Col. 7)

### First Jap Battleship Sunk by US Bomber



King of the 23,000-ton Japanese battleship Haruna off the northern coast of Luzon by three direct hit by an army air corps bomber has been announced by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson. The American plane dropped three bombs on the warship's deck and two more alongside, leaving it in flames.

### Sprague Books Defense Talk

Civilian defense measures already taken in Oregon and those contemplated in the near future will be outlined in the public by Gov. Charles A. Sprague at 3:36 o'clock this afternoon in a radio broadcast from his office at the capitol.

The address will be relayed through KSLM, Salem, to all radio networks serving the state.

10 Shopping Days Left BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS