

Disasters for Axis Reported

US Air, Sea and Land Forces Wallop Japs; Ruse Rout Nazis

(Continued from page 1)

mitted a continued Nazi retreat, again offering the explanation that it was a mere matter of preparing for stationary winter warfare, and a roundup of recent Berlin broadcasts heard in the United States was remarkable for its melancholy tone.

These were some of the specific reports from Russian or British quarters, of Russian progress:

An advance from recaptured Kallinin, 85 miles above Moscow, to and over Vysokoe, 40 miles to the west.

Below the capital, in the sector of Tula, some of the retreating Germans offering no fight at all.

The German driven back an aggregate of 90 miles in a week's campaigning from the Orel sector about 100 miles further to the south of Moscow.

A Russian advance in the Leningrad areas so swift that the Germans were not able even to pick up their wounded in some cases.

There were roundabout reports, too, of big red army maneuvers near the Japanese border in Siberia—a sign of possible readiness under some conditions to engage Japan on the eastern Russian flank—but these were not confirmed. They originated with the Chungking (China) radio, which attributed its information to a Soviet station.

In the North African offensive, British imperial troops were declared now to be more than 150 miles within axis Libya and still going forward.

As to the Pacific:

Luzon all during Wednesday apparently was quiet so far as the invader was concerned. Communications both from MacArthur's headquarters and from Washington indicated that the assailant still was nursing his wounds. MacArthur announced that there had been no change in the situation on the ground and the war department supplemented Wednesday morning: "There was no discernible enemy activity during the past 24 hours."

The British conceded that a Japanese expeditionary force had entered the Miri oil country of Sarawak, a British-protected kingdom on the northwest coast of Borneo, but stated that before the defenders had destroyed the refinery and all oil field equipment.

The Dutch announced that in this landing—which was part of a far-spread invasion thrusting out in the south China sea for Hongkong, Luzon, and northern Malaya above Singapore—one of their planes squarely hit a Japanese destroyer.

As to Malaya, Wednesday night's British communiqué reported a full in fighting which previously had been heaviest in south Kedah province near the west coast. Action along the east coast also apparently had fallen off.

In Hongkong, further up the China sea, there was no apparent worsening of the rather critical British position. The defenders declared, in fact, that they were having the better of heavy artillery fighting.

The Chinese again reported that they were smiting the Japanese hard some 28 miles north of Hongkong.

In Tokyo, the Japanese seamen were told officially by Lieutenant Commander Kengo Tomonaga that perhaps 20 US submarines, of a superior 2000-ton type and capable of a cruising radius of 5200 miles, were in waters near Japan.

It was announced that an earthquake in southern Formosa, which most likely was the main base for the Japanese attempt at invasion of northern Luzon, had killed 190 persons and damaged communications.

Among the principal Japanese assertions of the day was that a gunboat and six torpedo boats had been sunk in attacks on Hongkong.

Church Schedules Play

A play, "Follow Thou Me," is scheduled at the First Christian church, High and Center streets, beginning at 7:30 Friday night.

War Needs Money!

"It will cost money to defeat Japan. Your government calls on YOU to help NOW."

"Buy Defense Bonds or Stamps today. Buy them every day, if you can. But buy them on a regular basis."

"Bonds cost as little as \$18.75. Stamps come as low as 10 cents. Defense Bonds and Stamps can be bought at all banks and post offices, and Stamps can also be purchased at retail stores and from your newspaper carrier boy."

"This newspaper urges all Americans to support your government with your dollars."

They Clash Forces in Libya



Gen. Erwin Rommel Gen. Sir Wilson

Appointment of Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, 60, as general officer commanding the new Ninth Army of the Middle East has been officially announced by the British. General Wilson served as a lieutenant in the South African war. Gen. Erwin Rommel, commander of the Nazi forces in Libya, is also pictured above. According to Berlin dispatches, Axis troops control the region between Tobruk and the Egyptian frontier. A high British officer in Libya was quoted as saying that General Rommel's forces are doomed.

Private Held In Blackout Death Case

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 17-(AP)—An army private, Eugene Tuttle, was held negligent by a coroner's jury Wednesday in the fatal shooting of Mrs. Adele Brandel, 52-year-old society matron, and was immediately placed in custody of military authorities.

Mrs. Brandel, wife of Dr. Harry M. Brandel, was killed by an army rifle bullet fired immediately after their coupe passed several soldiers on a highway near Redondo Beach Saturday night.

Tuttle, whose home is at Divide, Mont., and who is attached to a coast artillery unit, refused to testify at the inquest.

Woman Found Dead in Tub, Notes Found

Mrs. Alma Peake, 30, drowned early Wednesday afternoon in the bathtub at her residence, 108 Glen Creek road, West Salem. She was the wife of Albert J. Peake, employee in the secretary of state's office.

Peake found his wife in the bathtub, which was full of water and had both faucets running, and he called the Salem first aid car. She failed to respond to artificial respiration.

Two notes to Mr. Peake were left. Whether the death was accidental had not been determined late Wednesday night by J. Paul Bollman, Polk county deputy coroner.

Survivors are children, Delmar E., Millard A. and Darlene Y.; sisters, Mrs. Minnie Gross, Mrs. Emma Gross and Mrs. Lena Thomas of Portland; Mrs. Alice Ostergard of North Bend; Mrs. Clara Welty and Mrs. Irene Welty of Gresham; brothers, Fred Bell of Portland and George Bell of Gresham.

Cloagh-Barrick company is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Bethel Mourns For Neighbor

BETHEL—Bethel neighborhood mourns the death of Mrs. Minnie Spranger, wife of Mr. John Spranger of Salem, who died in a Salem convalescent hospital Monday night.

Mrs. Spranger was a long-time resident of Bethel district. She was born in Germany and was brought to America by her parents at one year of age. They settled in Wisconsin. She came west in 1904 and has lived in and around Salem since that time.

Mrs. Spranger has been almost a lifelong member of the Reformed church. She was mother to Arno C. Spranger of this district, and to Mrs. Minnie Sykes of Seattle and grandmother to Minnie Spranger, Rev. G. Hatner, pastor of the First Reformed church of Portland will conduct the services at Rigdon's chapel today at 1:30 o'clock.

Call Board

ELSONORE Today—Wendy Hiller in "Major Barbara." Tomorrow—William Gargan, June Clyde in "Sealed Lips."

Saturday—Neilson Eddy, Rise Stevens in "The Chocolate Soldier."

GRAND Today—Betty Grable, Victor Mature, Alan Mowbray in "I Wake Up Screaming."

Friday—Gene Autry in "The Singing Hill." Bruce Bennett, Anita Louise in "Phantom Submarine."

HOLLYWOOD Today—Connie in "The Pittsburgh Kid." Roy Rogers in "Sheriff of Tombstone."

Labor 'Must' Cooperate Says FDR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17-(AP)—Working under an admonition from President Roosevelt to reach an agreement by Friday, a group of business, labor and government representatives sought today to work out a plan for insuring uninterrupted arms production for the duration of the war.

"We have got to keep things going," Mr. Roosevelt told the conferees in an extemporaneous address at the White House before the meeting had organized.

"We can't have stoppages. The country is expecting something from you in a hurry—I don't say by tomorrow night—but it will be a thrilling thing if we could get something out in the way of a unanimous agreement by tomorrow night, Thursday, or at the latest Friday night."

Cautioning the group that the American way of life was in grave danger, Mr. Roosevelt predicted that the war would "go on for a long time."

"And so," he added, "I have asked you here to help win this war, just as much as if you were in uniform. I am going to use a word which none of us like—and I don't either. The word is 'must.' I am applying the word 'must' to you as individuals and to myself."

"I want speed. . . We are still in a sense—whether you like it or not—the arsenal of the free world. We have got to do perfectly unheard-of things."

"After the war is won, let's go back if we want to, to old Kilkenny," he said. "And you know what a kilkenny fight is."

Defense Unit Seeks Phones

(Continued from page 1)

sented districts. ARP supervisor for the county is Homer Smith, Jr., for the city of Salem, J. H. Davis.

Bank employees of the city, meeting in special session Wednesday afternoon at Ladd & Bush branch of United States National bank, heard L. L. Pittenger, county police reserve chairman and instructor, speak on incendiary bombs and gases and methods of counteraction.

Officers of Veterans of Foreign Wars, organization which made available its building to the civilian defense organization as a voluntary contribution toward the work, announced Wednesday night that defense offices are occupying only a section of the basement and that their presence there will in no way interfere with other events which had been planned for the hall and the building's regular accommodations.

Wants, organization which made available its building to the civilian defense organization as a voluntary contribution toward the work, announced Wednesday night that defense offices are occupying only a section of the basement and that their presence there will in no way interfere with other events which had been planned for the hall and the building's regular accommodations.

Mrs. Spranger was a long-time resident of Bethel district. She was born in Germany and was brought to America by her parents at one year of age. They settled in Wisconsin. She came west in 1904 and has lived in and around Salem since that time.

Mrs. Spranger has been almost a lifelong member of the Reformed church. She was mother to Arno C. Spranger of this district, and to Mrs. Minnie Sykes of Seattle and grandmother to Minnie Spranger, Rev. G. Hatner, pastor of the First Reformed church of Portland will conduct the services at Rigdon's chapel today at 1:30 o'clock.

Fund Drive Is Speeded

(Continued from page 1)

volunteer workers had made numerous calls in their assigned areas and a large number of rural workers had taken out their supplies by early afternoon Wednesday, according to Mrs. Bynon.

First rural committee to report was that at Brooks, headed by Mrs. Ronald Jones, where "a liberal response" was reported by the chapter secretary.

Acting Administrator Baird Snyder, in answer to inquiries from west coast plants, said such

High Officers Lose Commands

Await Probe of US Board on Surprise Raid on Honolulu

(Continued from page 1)

ganization of the air defenses in the islands."

The war department's evening communiqué said:

"1. Philippine theatre.

"The American forces have the situation well in hand. Small enemy forces in the Aparri, Vigan and Legaspi areas are still under attack. Hostile vessels off the coast were attacked by army air forces.

"2. Hawaii:

"No further enemy activity has been reported.

"3. No reports of hostile operations have been received from other areas."

At the White House, Stephen Early, the president's secretary, said the government hoped to have the rough outline of a censorship plan ready for Mr. Roosevelt as soon as the bill reaches him. Byron Price, on leave as executive news editor of the Associated Press, will act as director of censorship.

In another move resulting from the war, the government took control over all tin supplies to make sure that defense needs are met. Virtually all this country's tin comes from British Malaya and the Netherlands Indies.

The board of inquiry appointed to investigate the army and navy's lack of alertness in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, met meanwhile for an hour and a half at the White House and planned a second session Thursday.

In a formal statement, Secretary of War Stimson said that America's entry into the war had not halted the program of lease-lend help to her allies.

Shipments were stopped momentarily after the Pearl Harbor attack, he said, while available supplies were checked, but "shortly thereafter, procedure was established for releasing substantial quantities of lease-lend material not necessary for immediate needs of the United States," he added.

"Subsequently, a more thorough study of the proposed shipments was made. In the over-all picture the declarations of war against the United States by Japan and the other axis powers already have resulted and will continue to result in great stimulation of our munitions industry. This must inevitably increase rather than diminish shipments to those who are fighting our common enemy."

"I wish to express my gratification for the prompt and active measures taken after the Japanese attack on Hawaii Sunday, December 7, in putting into effect pre-conceived measures for protection of equipment at second air force bases and excellent performances of military missions as well."

"Combat units performed with high efficiency and special commendation must be paid to the alertness and promptness of the airplane commander and crew of a squadron in this air force in spying and attacking a submarine."

True Meaning Of Christmas Seen in Gifts

If you forget the poor when you make up your Christmas lists, then you forget the Child of Bethlehem. The Salvation Army has remembered the poor. Several thousand needy persons will receive cheer from that organization, but your help is needed.

Make your contributions in the Salvation Army street kettles or mail your check today to your local Salvation Army headquarters. That is your guarantee of a merry Christmas for the needy.

Checks to swell the Army's Christmas-Winter fund may be mailed to Maj. G. Houghton, The Salvation Army, 241 State street, Salem, or word left for a call by telephoning 9437 or 5395. Contributions also will be accepted at The Statesman office for delivery to Maj. Houghton.

Living Costs Rise Slowly

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17-(AP)—Labor department statisticians reported Wednesday that living costs of moderate-income families rose 0.7 per cent from October 15 to November 15.

No figures were available on changes in living costs since the United States entered the war, but from the outbreak of war in Europe to November 15 the average increase in living costs was 11.8 per cent. This brought the index of cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower salaried workers to the highest point since December, 1930.

Idle time in the plants need not be compensated for as "hours worked."

STATE PLUS DEFENSE TAX CONTINUOUS SHOW MATINEE 1 P. M.

TODAY

Big Crosby MacMurray

"SING YOU SINNERS"

AND

Fibber McGee and Molly

"THIS WAY PLEASE"

Bulletins

(Continued from page 1)

pushed back many miles before darkness halted the fighting.

LONDON, Dec. 17-(AP)—The German wireless heard here Wednesday quoted what it termed a Tokyo claim that Japanese troops had landed on Cebu, one of the central islands in the Philippine archipelago. (No direct Tokyo report to this effect has been received.)

LONDON, Dec. 18-(Thursday)—(AP)—British bombers attacked docks at Brest, German-occupied naval base in France, a British official reported today.

UHA Planning Yule Goodies

(Continued from page 1)

fact that there will be more men at camps than original plans had included.

"They'll no doubt have excellent Christmas dinners, but extras from home will be thoroughly appreciated," Morris declared.

A special meeting of individuals interested in the UHA and representatives of the various organizations which were active in its founding has been called for chamber of commerce rooms at 7:30 tonight.

Sub Attacked By Northwest Army Plane

SPOKANE, Wash., Dec. 17-(AP)—An airplane of the second air force spied and attacked a submarine while on sea reconnaissance following Japan's December 7 attack on Hawaii, Maj. Gen. Milford F. Harmon disclosed today.

Where or when the action took place was not revealed, nor was its result. The second air force, which Gen. Harmon commands, has bases in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah.

In a formal letter of commendation to his command the general said:

"I wish to express my gratification for the prompt and active measures taken after the Japanese attack on Hawaii Sunday, December 7, in putting into effect pre-conceived measures for protection of equipment at second air force bases and excellent performances of military missions as well."

"Combat units performed with high efficiency and special commendation must be paid to the alertness and promptness of the airplane commander and crew of a squadron in this air force in spying and attacking a submarine."

Top War Effort Pledge Of Maritime Industry

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17-(AP)—Representatives of management and labor in the maritime industry pledged Wednesday there would be no stoppage of working during the war.

The pledge was made at a conference between government officials and employees and employers of the steamship industry.

GRAND 20c Mat. 22c Night Plus Tax

Today!

HOLLYWOOD'S TWO "MONIE DONNELLYS" AND BROADWAY'S NEW MATINEE IDOL... in the year's most shocking drama!

BETTY GRABLE VICTOR MATURE CAROLE LANDIS

"I Wake Up Screaming"

Laird Cregar William Gargan Alan Mowbray Allyn Joslyn

2nd Hit Feature

JANE WITHERS "Small Town, Big Trouble"

JANE DARWELL EDWARDS

311 Gifts rolled in one

311 Merry Xmas

Times a year

The Oregon Statesman

Special Rates to Service Men

Nazi Bolivian Plot Thwarted

Fascists Sought to Sabotage Shipments Of Lead, Tin to US

(Continued from page 1)

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 17-(AP)—Germany has plotted to sabotage the export of Bolivian tin and lead to the United States by wrecking railways over which the important war metals are shipped, it was reported Wednesday. These rail lines run through Chile as well as Bolivia.

The Nazi plot has been thwarted, it was stated in information received here from Bolivia, where the government has imposed a strict censorship.

All of Bolivia's large tin and lead production goes to the United States under a purchase agreement. The Germans were reported to have planned to sabotage the rail lines between the mines and the Chilean ports of Arica and Antofagasta.

In Chile, former Interior Minister Juan Antonio Rios was formally declared the winner in last Sunday's primary to choose the dominant radical party's nominee for a presidential election in February, and Rios quickly reaffirmed his policy of collaboration with the United States.

"The realities of the moment demand full cooperation with the United States. No other policy is possible."

All public meetings in Argentina are banned under the country's new state of siege, but the interior ministry hinted an exception might permit a great pro-Roosevelt mass meeting scheduled for Saturday.

Two other pro-democratic meetings, one honoring Winston Churchill, were still under consideration.

The communist newspaper La Hora appeared here with blank spaces on one page showing last-minute precautionary deletions by the editors.

The pro-fascist Crisol here, on the other hand, headlined: "Yankies Steal Oil From Colombians. Foment Revolutions. Bump up Politics."

Noticias Graficas appeared here with two columns of blank space on the front page customarily devoted to editorial comment. The white space was topped by a headline saying "One is not able to speak badly of anyone."

East Indian Island Said New Hot Spot

LISBON, Portugal, Dec. 17-(AP)—The government announced late Wednesday night that the cabinet had held a special meeting "to deal with grave events which may have occurred in the colony of Timor."

It did not say what these events were, but said clarification was awaited before informing the country fully.

Timor is an island, half Portuguese and half Dutch, lying in the East Indies between Java and Australia.

Portuguese Timor is only 450 miles from Darwin, Australia. With some neighboring islands, it has an area of 7,330 square miles and a population of about 465,000. Its principal value is in its exports of such items as coffee, copra and sandalwood to the mother country.

It has a small military force of about 300 natives and a handful of white men.

The entire island is mountainous.

The Nazi plot has been thwarted, it was stated in information received here from Bolivia, where the government has imposed a strict censorship.

All of Bolivia's large tin and lead production goes to the United States under a purchase agreement. The Germans were reported to have planned to sabotage the rail lines between the mines and the Chilean ports of Arica and Antofagasta.

In Chile, former Interior Minister Juan Antonio Rios was formally declared the winner in last Sunday's primary to choose the dominant radical party's nominee for a presidential election in February, and Rios quickly reaffirmed his policy of collaboration with the United States.

"The realities of the moment demand full cooperation with the United States. No other policy is possible."

All public meetings in Argentina are banned under the country's new state of siege, but the interior ministry hinted an exception might permit a great pro-Roosevelt mass meeting scheduled for Saturday.

Two other pro-democratic meetings, one honoring Winston Churchill, were still under consideration.

The communist newspaper La Hora appeared here with blank spaces on one page showing last-minute precautionary deletions by the editors.

The pro-fascist Crisol here, on the other hand, headlined: "Yankies Steal Oil From Colombians. Foment Revolutions. Bump up Politics."

Noticias Graficas appeared here with two columns of blank space on the front page customarily devoted to editorial comment. The white space was topped by a headline saying "One is not able to speak badly of anyone."

East Indian Island Said New Hot Spot

LISBON, Portugal, Dec. 17-(AP)—The government announced late Wednesday night that the cabinet had held a special meeting "to deal with grave events which may have occurred in the colony of Timor."

It did not say what these events were, but said clarification was awaited before informing the country fully.

Timor is an island, half Portuguese and half Dutch, lying in the East Indies between Java and Australia.

Portuguese Timor is only 450 miles from Darwin, Australia. With some neighboring islands, it has an area of 7,330 square miles and a population of about 465,000. Its principal value is in its exports of such items as coffee, copra and sandalwood to the mother country.

It has a small military force of about 300 natives and a handful of white men.

The entire island is mountainous.

Test Blackout Planned Soon

City Council Orders Private Phone Lines To Signal Stations

(Continued from page 1)

placed in locations around the city where there are loud whistles, and men on duty 24 hours a day. One call from city police headquarters will reach the stations simultaneously, so the signals can be given as nearly as possible in unison.

Promise of cooperation has been given, according to Alderman L. F. LeGarde, who explained the system, by the Valley Packing company, state penitentiary, Thomas Kay Woolen mills and Oregon Pulp and Paper mill. The city hall siren and for the present a truck siren at south Salem fire station are to be used, while it is expected the West Salem siren will also be employed.

No standard signal for the warning has been adopted, according to Mayor Chadwick, but it will probably be one long blast, in which fire trucks and police siren will join. The noon siren is to be one short blast.

Installation of the system is to be made within two days by the telephone company, for a cost of approximately \$15. Monthly rental will be \$35.

The practice blackout will be to determine the speed with which Salem can be totally darkened and to test the warning signals.

All US Enemies Tamed Foes of Soviet Also

NE WYORK, Dec. 17-(AP)—Maj. Gen. Alexander Reppin, head of the Russian military mission here, said Wednesday that "all enemies of the United States now also are the enemies of the Soviet Union."

He made the statement in reply to a question as to when Russia's armed forces might be able to help this country fight Japan.

The press officer at the second air force headquarters at Fort Wright said the plane "was on a military mission and was loaded with its usual equipment."

The air force release said the crash was "due to failure of part of the power plant."

Three members of the crew escaped injury, the air force account of the accident said. Because a number of the crew were recent transfers to Geiger field and service boards were not immediately available, names of the crew members were not released.