

Test Blackout Time Arranged

System of Signals Linked by Phones; Orders Clarified

(Continued from page 1)

clared Thursday night as he issued a list of clarifying statements. All blackouts, he declared, are to be ordered by the Second Interceptor command, although practice blackouts for a purpose such as that planned in Salem for Sunday night may be held within communities. Second Interceptor army commands are officially broadcast through Seattle radio, station KIRO and Portland station KOIN to county defense council offices.

Other orders relating to civilian defense are to come from the president of the United States, national coordinator, regional director, state director, state coordinator, county coordinator and district chairmen, in the order named and pertaining only to the district over which the particular official has authority.

In Marion county 12 district chairmen have been named, Conley said, listing:

Salem, L. F. LeGarde; Jefferson, Dr. J. O. Van Winkle; Turner, William Ball; Stayton, George Duncan; Mill City, Tom Allen; Silverton, L. C. Eastman; Mt. Angel, J. H. Forner; Aurora, Pphaen Sayre, sr.; Woodburn, Winton J. Hunt; Gervais, J. H. Brewster; Brooks, Ronald Jones; St. Paul, Ross Coleman.

Marion county's registrar and liaison officer, Ed Colby, is to attend the school in chemical warfare opening a three-day session in Portland on Monday, it was announced Thursday night.

In letters to all county defense councils Thursday, Gov. Charles A. Sprague urged representation at the school, which is sponsored by the state defense council and the army.

Gov. Sprague said it was the duty of each county defense council to have at least one key man at the school who can be used as an instructor upon his return. County defense council

representatives at the school will receive \$4.15 a day for hotel expense and meals.

The instructors, trained in England, possess first-hand experience in handling incendiary and demolition bombs, he said.

All persons enrolling in the school must complete the entire course, which is designed particularly for fire-fighters, police, medical men, representatives of public works and utilities, harbor and dock experts and air raid wardens.

Usual Spirit In Christmas Plans Urged

Gov. Charles A. Sprague Thursday night encouraged Oregonians to proceed with their plans for celebrating Christmas.

"The army requests no contrasting of large bodies of people," the governor said, "but none such is contemplated. Otherwise, normal activities should continue."

"In spite of the sober overtones of the war Christmas should be observed as it has for centuries past both in war and peace. Let the people go ahead with their shopping and other preparations so Christmas day of 1941 may be appropriately observed all over Oregon. I know we will not forget our men in the fighting forces and suggest that we remember also those from other states who are stationed here for military service."

Bomber Crash Kills 6, Plane With 8 Lost

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change was not made until Wednesday.

On Friday, Dargue left Mitchell Field, N.Y., bound for Hamilton Field near San Francisco. Among those flying with him were two general staff officers—Colonel Charles W. Bundy and Lieut. Colonel George W. Ricker, both of Washington. Their plane was a transport which was Dargue's flying office.

In addition to Bundy and Ricker, others in Dargue's plane were Major Hugh F. McCaffery, Mitchell Field; Captain J. G. Leavitt, Los Angeles; First Lieutenant Homer C. Burns, Spokane, Wash.; Staff Sergeant Stephen Hoffman, Charleroi, Pa.; and Private Samuel J. Van Hamm, Jr., Twin Falls, Idaho.

Patriot Goes All-Out for Uncle Sam

Patriot of the day in Salem Thursday, a capital city automobile dealer declared, was the young man who sold a late model car for \$750, invested the whole of its proceeds in defense bonds and proceeded to enlist in the marines.

Name of the young man was given to The Statesman by the enthusiastic purchaser of the car with the request that it not be made public without the marine recruit's consent.

GRAND

20c Mat. 22c Night Plus Tax

HOLLYWOOD'S TWO "BOMBERS" AND "BROADWAYS" NEW MATINEE BOO... In the year's most shocking drama!

BETTY GRABLE VICTOR MATURE CAROLE LANDIS in "I Wake Up Screaming"

Laird Cregar William Gargan Alan Mowbray Allyn Joslyn Continuous Daily from 1 P. M.

2nd Hit Feature JANE WITHERS "Small Town, Big Trouble" JANE DARWELL BRUCE EDWARDS

US, Colonial French Agree

Neutral Pact Made In Caribbean With Martinique Chief

(Continued from page 1)

danger of the French West Indies topped off the news of general improvement in American and allied positions in every theatre of war except Hongkong and Malaya.

The Japanese claimed to have gained a foothold on Hongkong Island, and the British pulled their main Malayan line back to about 300 miles north of Singapore. Elsewhere the axis was not faring so well.

Chinese troops smashing at the Japanese to relieve pressure on Hongkong were reported in Chungking to have captured a number of Japanese outposts.

Moreover, Chungking stated that to support their offensive on new Pacific fronts the Japanese had been forced to withdraw from five districts in North China.

The American position in the Philippines and the strategic allied position generally appeared improved Thursday night.

Luzon, the citadel of the Philippines, held firmly against doubtfully-held Japanese beachheads. The invader has been driven back many miles in past fighting.

This was an indication that an initial Japanese effort to push south toward Manila, some 200 miles to the south, had been smashed almost before it got underway.

Early today, it was announced in Manila by US army headquarters that more than 30 Jap planes had bombed the southern Philippine port of Iloilo on Panay Island, in the center of the Philippines. This represented an extension of the Jap aerial attack. There were civilian casualties and property damage.

While the Philippine situation thus remained generally well in hand, Dutch and Australian forces beat the marauding Japanese to an island point important to the defense of both the East Indies and Australia.

This involved the occupation of the Portuguese half of Timor—an island whose other half already was Dutch, which stands at the eastern tip of the Indies and about 450 miles from Darwin, Australia.

On the other great fronts of the world, the axis apparently was near the hour of disaster in Africa and about to be enveloped in catastrophe by the weather and by the Red armies in Russia.

The soviet forces reported that the nazis had been thrown back directly west of Moscow, as well as on the flanks above and below the capital, to a distance of nearly 60 miles and that 200 soviet settlements had been recaptured.

In the north, said soviet accounts, the Germans had been beaten back 45 miles from Tikhvin, the strategic town about 110 miles southeast of Leningrad. British accounts said also that the Finnish line between Lakes Onega and Ladoga had been smashed and that Leningrad's great garrison of 1,000,000 men was falling upon the Finns.

In the Russian south, 80 more towns were reclaimed by Red troops and it appeared that the German grasp on captured Kharkov, the great industrial Ukrainian city, was weakened.

In the extreme south the Germans themselves held the initia-

ALWAYS 2 BIG HITS! **LIBERTY** TODAY AND SATURDAY

GENE AUTRY A two-fisted hero... fights for peace!

Sunset in Wyoming with Smiley Burnette Meris Wrixon

Matinees 10c (Plus Tax)

THREAT TO AMERICA... beneath the sea!

Plus Phantom Submarine with ANITA LOUISE - BRUCE BENNETT - Plus - Last Chapter "SPIDER RETURNS" - PLUS - News - Comedy Evenings 15c Plus Tax

US Submarines Prove Deadly

Transport, Destroyer Sunk by 'Pigboats' In Far East Seas

(Continued from page 1)

son and Secretary of the Navy Knox. Knox introduced Nimitz to reporters and the admiral told them:

"I am very sensible of the fact that I am being entrusted with a very great responsibility, which I intend to discharge to the best of my ability."

Washington, meanwhile, heard an increasing discussion of plans for unifying the allied high command so that grand strategy for prosecuting the war the world over would proceed from a single source. Washington was mentioned, in London dispatches, as its probable base of operations.

On the home front, Secretary of War Stimson announced that in a short while enlistments would be refused, and the army filled out entirely by the draft.

He also announced that all reserve officers not allied to duty had been ordered to take physical examinations, although this did not necessarily mean that they would go on active duty immediately.

To prevent false air raid alarms and unnecessary interruption of industrial production, he announced, the commanding officers of the four air force interceptor commands have been given responsibility for ordering blackouts, sounding alarms and all-clear signals, and silencing radio broadcasts.

During the day, the industry-labor conference called by President Roosevelt recessed to draw up separate recommendations for an anti-strike agreement.

He said that Rostov, for example, would be useless to the Russians.

BERN, Switzerland, Dec. 19 (Friday)—(AP)—The Berlin correspondent of the Basel National Zeitung quoted a German high command speaker today as saying detailed positions of the German line in Russia no longer would be made public.

This speaker was quoted as saying that all territory won need not be held in all circumstances, since the Germans have destroyed transport systems and all other facilities in the areas from which they have withdrawn.

The expert, a lieutenant colonel, was quoted by the Swiss paper Neue Zuercher Zeitung as writing that, "new troops brought in from Siberia and other regions where they are accustomed to the cold are put into fighting where (Russian) troops have been ten times beaten and threaten to nullify these defeats."

The Zurich paper commented that "never before has a German military writer spoken so openly to the public of the great difficulties of carrying on war in the east."

"His statements bring a new pessimistic warning to the people of the severity of the struggle in which Germany and her comrades presently find themselves."

Santa Played By Salvation Army Officers

The Salvation Army officer in this community is ready again to play Santa Claus to the poor and the needy. Everyone may do his party by mailing a check to the local Salvation Army officer, or by dropping a contribution in the Christmas kettles on downtown street corners.

The collections in the Christmas kettles are behind the quota, because of the inclement weather, Major G. Houghton, Salem Army officer, said Thursday.

Checks to swell the Army's Christmas-Winter fund may be mailed to Maj. G. Houghton, The Salvation Army, 341 State street, Salem, or word left for a call by telephoning 947 or 333. Contributions also will be accepted at The Statesman office for delivery to Maj. Houghton.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18 (AP)—Motion Picture Daily announced Thursday night that Bob Hope, comedian, had won top honors in its sixth annual radio poll of more than 600 radio editors and columnists of the United States and Canada.

Hope was named champion of champions and also won first place in the comedian group. Jack Benny was second to Hope in both classifications.

HOME OWNED **HOLLYWOOD 15c** Plus Defense Tax TODAY & SATURDAY MATINEE 1 P. M.

BILLY CONN THE PITTSBURGH KID with JEAN PARKER

And Second Feature SHERIFF OF TOMBSTONE with Roy Rogers

Also News, Popeye Cartoon and Serial

HEY KIDS! Free oranges to everyone attending the matinee Saturday at 1 p. m.

Today Bing Fred Crosby MacMurray "SING YOU SINNERS" AND Fibber McGee and Molly "THIS WAY PLEASE"

Yankee Tanks, RAF Bombers Pursue Axis

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (AP)—The shattered German and Italian armies in eastern Cirenaica were officially reported Thursday night in full retreat, pursued by British-maned American tanks and blasted by RAF bombers.

Allied troops were pressing northward toward Derna after reaching the east-west Tmimi-Mekill road some 160 miles inside Libya, the British communiqué said.

"The enemy's front has everywhere been broken," the bulletin said.

The RAF reported smashing blows against axis tanks and troops transporting fleeing westward from Derna itself on the long road to Bengasi in an apparent effort to escape British encirclement.

A fierce five-day fight west and southwest of Gazala preceded the nazis rout, the British said.

Thus far in the month-old offensive against the armies of Gen. Erwin Von Rommel and his Italian helpers, the British were reported to have taken almost 10,000 prisoners. Axis casualties also were said to be heavy.

Although the rout of the axis desert legions caused hopes to soar that a final knock-out blow was near at hand, an informed source said frankly "we'll have to capture a hell of a lot more prisoners before the first real sign of collapse."

The Germans and Italians were estimated to number between 60,000 and 100,000 when the British offensive began, and this source said there still are many more strong defenses between Tmimi and Bengasi.

Military observers also said there was a possibility that axis plane reinforcements still were crossing the Mediterranean in an attempt to keep the British away from Bengasi, or Tripoli far to the west and next to French North Africa.

TACOMA, Dec. 18 (AP)—Four 136-foot navy minesweepers laid down the weights at separate Tacoma yards Thursday and although traditional festivities attended the launching ceremonies, wartime restrictions kept the crowd small.

SEATTLE, Dec. 18 (AP)—Slight earth tremors were registered Thursday on the University of Washington seismograph, and a navy announcement Thursday raised the possibility that depth bombs in Puget Sound might have caused it all.

The seismograph recorded the tremor at 1:10 pm. Scores of telephone calls flooded newspaper offices, mainly from residents in

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Thursday night a railroad detective, on another routine check, found Steinhilper securely tied to the battery box under a New York Central day coach about to leave for New York from Windsor station.

He readily admitted he had gone under Bowmanville's nine-foot fence again and had tied himself under the coach so he wouldn't fall.

Depth Charges Thought Cause Of Tremors

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Japs Claiming Isle Control

British Twice Reject Ultimatums to Quit Fight for Hongkong

(Continued from page 1)

ties set afire in Hongkong by air and artillery attacks.

An air raid on Penang off the west Malayan coast which sank one large British ship and several smaller transports.

Destruction of nine British planes including two Buffaloes (Brewster) fighters at Ipoh, Malaya.

Destruction of nine British jetties at Kunming, the Chinese end of the Burma road, in air attacks.

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Bulletins

thoritatively reported Thursday night to be conferring on establishment of a supreme war council to direct strategy, pool resources, and checkerboard their manpower around the globe in the fight against the axis.

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Happy Holidays

start on the electrified OLYMPIAN

TACOMA • SEATTLE • SPOKANE • BUTTE MINNEAPOLIS • ST. PAUL • CHICAGO

THE Christmas spirit burns brightest at home. You'll want to be there—and you'll want to make the trip swiftly, comfortably, economically.

Go on The Milwaukee Road's famous OLYMPIAN. Select accommodations to suit your taste and budget: luxury lounge coaches with individual reclining chairs; modern tourist sleepers that offer comfort and privacy at moderate cost; standard sleepers and bedroom cars. OLYMPIAN meals are famous for their appetizing goodness, yet prices are surprisingly low.

You'll like the extras you get on the OLYMPIAN—the happy holiday atmosphere and the smooth, silent electrified ride over the mountains. No extra fare.</