

Thousand Jap Dead Counted

Marines Expand Grip On Cape Gloucester Airdrome, N. Britain

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other fighters. No allied losses were listed.

Nineteen Liberators of the Solomon air force, escorted by fighters, were opposed by heavy anti-aircraft fire and between 80 and 90 Japanese fighters as they raided Rabaul Friday noon. Many fires were started with the 78,000 pounds of explosives.

A spokesman for Adm. William F. Halsey said 20 enemy fighters were shot down for certain and six others probably destroyed. His figures were based on reports received after General MacArthur's communique was issued today, listing 12 enemy losses.

One raiding bomber was lost and several were damaged but Japanese planes failed again to hit the Liberators with aerial phosphorous bombs.

At the hour of the Rabaul raid, a Solomon force of 18 unescorted Mitchells dropped 72 light bombs and many fragmentation clusters on Japan's long inoperative Kahl airbase on the south coast of Bougainville.

The 253-ton strike on Madang, spread over gun positions, supply and bivouac areas, was aimed at the next big Japanese New Guinea base northwest of Huon peninsula on which Australian jungle troops are steadily advancing. Those troops, reported today, have reached a point some 35 miles north of Finschhafen, are approximately 100 miles from Madang but in the Ramu valley another Australian force is within 35 miles of that enemy shipping base.

Among points bombed in the big raid was Bogadim, the defense outpost for Madang some 20 miles to its south and linked with it by a fine road.

(Such concentrated aerial assaults frequently preface offensive operations against such bases.)

The Madang raid was made by a strong force and headquarters reported the waves of bombers started big fires and caused widespread damage.

112 Violent Deaths Mar New Year's

By the Associated Press

The nation's New Year week-end celebration passed the half-way mark near midnight last night marred by at least 112 violent deaths.

Of the fatalities reported since 6 p. m., Friday, an Associated Press survey showed that 79 were the result of traffic accidents and 83 from other causes, including fire, gunshot, suffocation and drowning.

The normal toll or the three-day holiday period would range between 225 and 275 lives lost in traffic accidents, the national safety council estimated.

California, with 13 traffic deaths, led the nation in the number of highway fatalities. New York led from all causes with 16 deaths.

Seven states, Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Maine, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina, reported no deaths by violence.

Washington had six fatalities, five traffic, one drowning. Oregon reported two traffic deaths.

Marshall Raid Isn't Opposed

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1—(AP)—Army bombers carried out three raids on Japanese bases in the Marshall Islands and encountered little opposition, the navy reported today.

No interception was encountered when heavy bombers hit Kwajalein and light bombers escorted by Alcobra fighters attacked Mille.

This was in sharp contrast with the heavy fighter opposition that was met in the last previously announced raids on those two points.

The third raid took medium bombers over Jabor, in the Jaluit atoll. The navy statement, prepared by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the Pacific fleet, omitted any reference to opposition there, but did say none of our planes was damaged. In the raid on Jabor, ground installations were strafed as well as bombed.

Deposed Bolivian President Cites American Policy

TACNA, Peru, Jan. 1—(AP)—Ex-President Enrique Penaranda of Bolivia, overthrown in a coup d'etat December 19, said in a statement here today that American governments by their recent agreement to consult each other before recognizing new governments formed by force had "tacitly repudiated the anti-democratic treachery in my country."

Taxi Driver Wins Rough Argument

ALBANY, Ore., Jan. 1—(AP)—Cecil Hixson, taxi driver, told police today a passenger hit him on the head with a whisky bottle but that he overcame his assailant and threw him out.

State Police Officer Don Christensen soon brought in a battered youth with one shoe missing. Hixson identified the youth as his assailant. The youth was booked as Clarence A. White, 18, transient, and charged with assault with intent to rob.

Reds Rout Foe As Old Polish Border Neared

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surge far beyond Kiev, the communique also announced that Gen. Ivan Bagration's First Baltic army had captured 28 populated areas west and northwest of Nevel in a renewed drive toward Latvia. Other red army units were tightening their hold on Vitebsk below Nevel.

Vatutin's army was closing hard upon Berdichev, the junction of the Leningrad-Odessa and Warsaw-Odessa railway lines 25 miles below Zhitomir, which fell Friday to the Russians.

By capturing Volodarka his forces also have outflanked deeply Belaya Tserkov along the southern side of the Kiev salient. Volodarka is 12 miles northwest of Belaya Tserkov and 60 miles southwest of Kiev. The Russian line in the southwestern section of the Kiev bulge now runs west from Volodarka through Pogrebishche and Samgorodok. The latter town is 12 miles from the Bug river near Vinitsa.

Two Killed As Train Hits

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Person when they offered the soldier a ride. He was to take a bus out of Albany and Miss Green turned the car off highway 99 at the Geary street crossing. The car was hit by the second section of the south bound Southern Pacific train. The soldier passenger was killed instantly by the impact of the train which threw the car 60 feet against a telephone pole which was broken off. The accident happened at the junction of the Santiam highway and Pine street in Albany at 11:40 Saturday morning.

Miss Green was employed by the Mountain States Power company at Corvallis where she lived with her mother at 401 North 16th street.

LEBANON, Jan. 1—Wilma Green was one of the five children of Mrs. Lela Green and the youngest of three girls. The family came to Oregon from Canada 16 years ago and the children attended Lebanon schools.

Two brothers, Warren and William are in the army. Warren has been in the army signal corps but was recently transferred to the army air corps and is stationed in Texas. William is in the cavalry and was very recently home on a furlough.

Eileen Green is a USMC sergeant and has been stationed in Salem. The second sister is Louise with the US forestry service in Portland.

The family was broken up when three members entered military service and Mrs. Green went with the younger daughter, Wilma, to Corvallis. The father died several years ago.

Sgt. Eileen Green was transferred Saturday to the Portland recruiting office of the US marine corps.

Vandegrift Becomes Head Of Marines

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1—(AP)—Century-old tradition, with a serene and toasts quaffed in hot buttered rum, was observed by the marine corps today as Lt. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift became 18th commander of the corps.

It was in 1891—or about that time—that the marine band first stood before the quarters of the commandant and played stirring martial music as a new marine chief took office.

Always since then the tradition has been observed—today the band serenaded Vandegrift with the marine hymn, a new march bearing his name, and "Dixie" for his home is in Virginia.

Vandegrift, who commanded troops which drove the Japanese from Guadalcanal, and led the invasion at Empress Augusta Bay on Bougainville, succeeded Lt. Gen. Thomas C. Holcomb, who immediately was commissioned as a full general—the first four-star general in the marines.

Holcomb, the navy has said, will be retained on active duty for "an important assignment." No indication has been given of the nature of that assignment, but it seemed likely that he would become a member of the staff of Admiral Ernest J. King, naval commander in chief, as an expert on the increasingly important amphibious type of warfare.

Signing of Thousandth Member Noted

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long but also sponsored a certain amount of newspaper advertising in their own behalf offering testimony of the necessity, the obligation, and responsibility of all professional and business interests of the city in supporting the chamber of commerce, in order that a fuller measure of civic aggressiveness and commercial productivity can be achieved.

"The tremendous buying power that can be created and developed for our community through the combined efforts of the Salem Chamber of Commerce membership and the official staff will benefit the membership far in excess of the small dues that are paid for support of the Chamber. A tabulation of the results of the past year alone proves that millions of dollars worth of buying power can be produced in our community, and in this respect every business and professional unit of our combined commercial enterprises in the territory that the Salem Chamber of Commerce serves becomes a beneficiary far in excess of the financial support which it is expected to render the chamber."

"As president of the Salem Chamber of Commerce I appreciate the honor of being allowed to serve the second-largest chamber of commerce in the state of Oregon. To the many loyal workers who have brought about realization of this successful expansion program I owe a deep debt of gratitude. To the entire membership, the board of directors, and the staff, I, as a business man, and citizen of Salem, offer my sincere desire to assist in always working for a better and bigger Chamber of Commerce for our city."

Under the new arrangement, 14 directors of the chamber of commerce are to be elected by the members. These subsequently will elect the president and other officers. The King Bing of the Cheriens, president of the Retail Trade bureau and president of the junior chamber of commerce will be additional non-voting directors. Nominees for the 14 regular places on the directorate, announced last week by the nominating committee, include:

Position No. 1—Jim Condra, Frank Doerfler, Dewey Greiner.
No. 2—Ralph Campbell, Urlin Page, Brazier Small.
No. 3—Lowell E. Kern, Ed Schroeder, Gene Vandengynde.
No. 4—Fred Anunsen, Percy Blundell, Lowell Jones.
No. 5—Lester Barr, Elmer Church, William Stacey.
No. 6—Hilda E. Irwin, Ora McIntyre, Winnie Pettyjohn.
No. 7—Keith Brown, Robert Elstrom, Lee Eyerly.
No. 8—Bill Braun, Francis Smith, Lina Smith.
No. 9—Guy Hickok, Dan Jarman, Elmer Sellars.
No. 10—Ralph Johnson, Stanley Keith, F. H. Weir.
No. 11—Burr Miller, Earl Vernon, Loyal Warner.
No. 12—L. V. Benson, Grover Hillman, Gilbert Madison.
No. 13—Dan Hay, Al Ramseyer, Walter Zosel.
No. 14—Carle Abrams, Orval Lama, W. L. Phillips.

Perkins Sunk In Collision

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Announcement of the loss of the Perkins indicates that this is the second American destroyer to go down in New Britain-New Guinea waters recently. It was explained that tonight's communique does not refer to action in which a destroyer was lost and a coastal vessel damaged. Secretary of the navy Knox recently mentioned the loss of that destroyer and the damage to the coastal vessel.

The commanding officers of both the Perkins and the APC-21 were reported to be among survivors. The Perkins' skipper is Commander Gerald Lyle Ketchum, of Pine Bluff, Ark. The APC-21 was commanded by Lt. (J.G.) William N. Vlachos, Swarthmore, Pa.

The Perkins was a 1,485-ton craft, 371 feet long, commissioned September 19, 1936. Her normal complement was 200. She was armed with five inch guns and a battery of quadruple guns. The Perkins was one of the vessels built with the funds provided under the National Recovery Act in 1933.

The coastal transport was a 230-ton vessel, about 100 feet long.

The date of the loss of the coastal transport, which could be used either to carry cargo or personnel, indicated that it might have gone down during the landing operations at Arawe, New Britain.



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ON the HOME FRONT

By IRABEL CHILDS

Only person around here who seems to have made any resolutions is the weatherman. Ignored for most of 1943, he now proposes to take the headlines in 1944. "No joke," he predicts snow.

And there will, no doubt, be many a bachelor who will be right ready to take that leap year proposal seriously—like every other motorist he'll do almost anything for champaign.

Here's a money-saving tip for lovers of esthetic dancing: You will need no admission ticket to watch the spider boys who trip the light fantastic dance nights in the service station across the corner from the armory and Crystal Gardens. They're better on rainy nights—the long raincoats swoosh out, then.

That nasty man who says in a loud voice: "No! I won't tell you, I want to talk to a man!" when he calls The Statesman newsroom has made a terrible mistake. He addressed one of his Christmas-New Year's cards so that it came to me. Since it is signed by his dog, perhaps it was a canine mistake, for I know the dog could never bark so harshly as his master.

Dairy Subsidy Is Continued

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boosting consumer prices of milk. The WFA said the January rates for the entire country would average 40 cents per hundred pounds for fluid milk and 5.1 cents a pound for butterfat.

A similar subsidy on cheese which expired today is expected to be continued, officials said. An announcement may be made early next week.

The January adjustments in the dairy subsidy rates provides a 5-cent increase for fluid milk in areas where the rate has been at the minimum level of 30 cents, and an increase in several western states from 35 and 40 cents to 50 cents and an increase from 4 to 5 cents in the minimum rates on butterfat.

The rates by areas include: South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington east of the Cascades, Oregon east of the Cascades—35 cents per hundred pounds for milk and 5 cents a pound for butterfat.

Germany Can't Match Allies In Production

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armaments for defense in 1944. Shipping remains the chief economic weakness which prevents Japan from fully exploiting conquered territories and expanding further its economic base.

"Japan has failed to capitalize fully on its conquests since Pearl Harbor. Primarily the measure of Japan's war production is the capacity of its pre-Pearl Harbor industrial plant rather than the raw material resources of its recent conquest."

Year Decisive Says Bricker

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 1—(AP)—Events of 1944 may well determine the course of civilization for centuries to come, Gov. John W. Bricker declared tonight in a nationwide New Year's message broadcast over 170 radio stations.

"As we enter 1944," he said, "the forces of evil and destruction are being driven to the wall and the forces of righteousness and freedom are on the conquering march... But, when this war is won, there still will be momentous decisions to make and difficult problems to solve."

The Ohio chief executive, who recently announced his candidacy for the republican presidential nomination, declared:

"This year will determine whether the place of the individual in society shall be strengthened or whether he shall become more and more dependent upon organized government. This government was organized as a protection against the power of the masses as well as the classes."

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Invasion Plans Proceed; Raid Followed Up

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The allied communique specifically listed the important Cam bial bearing factories at Ivry and Bois de Colombes and the airfields at Chateau Bernard, some half mile south of Cognac, and at St. Jean d'Angely, 25 miles northwest of Cognac, as the Fortress and Liberator targets.

Then today Mosquitos and Hurricanes, escorted by Spitfires and Typhoons, underscored the unceasing allied air activity by going out toward the Boulogne-Dieppe area for attacks on "military objectives in northern France"—the same phraseology which officials have used in describing the immense operations this week and last against the supposed "rocket-gun coast." Earlier squadrons of Spitfires had thrust home offensive patrols. All these planes returned safely.

Senators See War in Europe Ending in '44

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1—(AP)—Members of congress generally expect the war in Europe to end in a smashing victory for the United Nations in 1944 but fear the fight against Japan will last into 1945 and possibly until 1947.

A check of representative cross section of senators disclosed today that a majority believes Germany will collapse before many months if an allied invasion of the continent is added soon to the weighty blows now being delivered against the Nazi armies by the Russians.

Predicting the war's end in Europe this year, Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) expressed belief that before the end of the new year the nation's big problem will be to find "jobs and markets." However, Senator Thomas (D-Utah), acting chairman of the military committee in the absence from Washington of Senator Reynolds (D-NC.), told a reporter he thought few people realize what a tough fight lies ahead before Japan can be conquered.

Heights Taken By Fifth Army

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ground and kept most allied planes out of the air.

The positions taken by the Americans place them about two miles southwest of Vico and approximately half a dozen miles from Cassino, the important road junction 79 miles from Rome.

The status of ruined San Vittorino, whose underground wine cellars have been used by the Germans to turn the village into a veritable hedgehog, remained in doubt and allied headquarters had no confirmation of the capture of the heavily-fortified position at the base of Mt. Samucro although the Bari radio, controlled by the government of Marshal Badoglio, announced yesterday it had been taken by the Americans.



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Merten, Higgins To Be Arraigned, Murder Charges

OREGON CITY, Jan. 1—(AP)—Ar-

raignment of Henry W. Merten and Walter Higgins on first degree murder indictments was set for Monday by Circuit Judge Earl C. Latourette today.

The men, recently sentenced to life imprisonment in the state

penitentiary as habitual criminals, were indicted following the death Tuesday of Ralph Dahlen, 27, Oak Grove baker, from a bullet wound suffered during a tavern holdup last July. Merten and Higgins were convicted of the holdup.

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