

IT SEEMS TO ME
By Charles S. Squire

I want to discuss again today the statement of Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet because, if we can accept it at face value, and I think we can, it is the most significant statement yet made by military authority on the subject of strategy in the war against Japan. This was the admiral's statement, made on his return from an inspection of the newly won Kwajalein atoll in the Marshalls:

"My objective is to get ground and air forces into China as early as possible because in the last analysis I do not believe that Japan can be defeated by naval action alone."

"I believe that Japan can be defeated only from bases in China because the Japs get much of their most important supplies from there."

"We want bases in China for air operations—I mean for attacks on the Jap mainland, like those the Germans are getting now."

Now take a map of the western Pacific and the east Asia coast. Note that the Marshall islands lie near 10 degrees north latitude. The Carolines, with the great Jap base of Truk, lie west of the Marshalls and south of the tenth parallel of latitude. Follow this parallel on west and you find it cuts between the Philippine islands, with Mindanao lying south and Cebu and Luzon and most of the other islands well to the north. Luzon stretching north to latitude 19. On west the tenth parallel hits Asia at about Saigon on the southern tip of French Indo-China.

North of the Carolines lie Guam and the Marianas islands, which are due east of Luzon. The China coast does not begin until you pass the 20th degree of latitude. To reach China from the central Pacific (Continued on Editorial page)

Gomez Out; Colombian Fight Cools

BOGOTA, Colombia, Feb. 10 (AP)—Sen. Laureano Gomez, whose arrest on contempt charges yesterday led to clashes between his conservative party followers and members of the liberal party which resulted in a government threat to proclaim martial law, was released from jail tonight.

It was expected, however, that he would be removed by the government as a member of the advisory committee on national and foreign affairs. He also faced possible rearrest on a charge of libel made against him by Minister of Government Alberto Lleras Camargo. Gomez is editor of the conservative newspaper El Siglo, which bitterly protested his arrest.

(At Palm Beach, Fla., President Alfonso Lopez of Colombia, who has been in the United States for several weeks, said he would return to Colombia Saturday.)

An attempt to kill Judge Jesus Antonio Caicedo Lozano, who placed Gomez under arrest on a contempt of court charge, backfired when an unidentified man carrying a crudely-fashioned bomb under his coat dropped it ten steps from the door to the judge's courtroom and was gravely wounded. Police described the assailant as a "fanatic." No one else was injured and material damage was small.

Extradition Raises Puzzle

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 10 (AP)—The extradition of Mrs. Myrtle Thacker, former Oregon woman who presents what attorneys describe as an unprecedented legal complication, will probably be decided tomorrow by Governor Warren.

Oregon has asked the state to extradite Mrs. Thacker, who as Myrtle Garner was convicted of stealing nine steers at Gold Beach, Ore., in 1930, and was released from the Oregon penitentiary on a writ of habeas corpus in March, 1941.

Her attorney contended in a hearing here that the Oregon supreme court's refusal of the writ in December, 1941, could not affect Mrs. Thacker since she had already left the state.

A California deputy attorney-general said this was the first case based on whether a person, released on a habeas corpus writ, could be extradited.

Budapest Next!

LONDON, Feb. 10 (AP)—The Moscow radio warned tonight that Budapest is next on the Russians' bombing list and asserted it would "share the fate of Helsinki" if Hungary continues to fight.

Use New Weapons

LONDON, Feb. 10 (AP)—The Germans were reported today using two new weapons, a ten-barreled self-propelled mortar and a heavy anti-tank gun called a "Hornet" against the Russians.

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

NINETY-THIRD YEAR

14 PAGES

Salem, Oregon, Friday Morning, February 11, 1944

Price 5c

No. 278

US Sky Armada Smashes 84 Planes

Nazi Seek Weak Point In Beachhead Defense

Mass Reinforcements As Allies Try to Protect Supplies

By Edward Kennedy
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Feb. 10 (AP)—Superior German forces slashed with rising power at the entire 30-mile perimeter of the allied beachhead near Rome in the past 24 hours, probing for a weak point against which they might throw men and armor in an all-out assault on American and British troops who have been fighting almost continuously for 16 days.

The violence of Nazi artillery fire was increasing, and dispatches said advanced allied forces were being supplied only at great risk. Even though the allied air force struck with overwhelming power at the ene-

Chaplin Faces Mann Act Violation

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 10 (AP)—Charles Chaplin, white-haired and 54, and a dominant figure in the motion picture industry for the last 31 years, was indicted today by a federal grand jury on charges of violating the Mann act and defrauding 23-year-old Joan Berry, his former protegee, of her civil rights.

The jury also returned indictments, charging criminal conspiracy only, in connection with Miss Berry's arrest last summer in Beverly Hills on a vagrancy warrant against six others: Capt. W. W. White of the Beverly Hills police department; Police Judge Charles Griffin of Beverly Hills; Robert Arden, radio commentator and friend of Chaplin; Thomas Wells "Tim" Durant, movie producer, polo player and associate of the comedian; Lt. Claude Marple of the Beverly Hills police, and Jessie Billie Reno, Beverly Hills police matron.

Specifically, the Mann act indictment against Chaplin accused him of "causing to be transported Joan Berry from Los Angeles to the city of New York by railway with the intent and purpose on his part of having the said woman engage in illicit sex relations."

He predicted that the full German counter-offensive probably would come from the north. To combat the German thrusts, Homer Bigart, New York Herald Tribune correspondent, told how the British used a "timed crash" of artillery fire this morning (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

British Aid Yugoslavs

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE
LONDON, Feb. 10 (AP)—British forces were declared tonight to be fighting side by side with the Yugoslav partisans against the Germans on the island of Hvar off the Dalmatian coast.

How they entered the struggle was, as yet, a mystery. A communique from partisan headquarters of Marshal Josip Broz (Tito) described them only as "British units." The implication was that they were commandos or other amphibious forces.

Tito said they were operating successfully at Veliko Braglje on Hvar, which is one of the biggest islands of the Yugoslav coast.

With Brac, just above it, the island commands the southern approaches to the major German-held harbor of Split.

Oil Development Negotiations Due

NEW YORK, Feb. 10 (AP)—The New York Times says negotiations with Great Britain and Russia on an agreement to develop oil resources of the middle east will be held in Washington and that such a pact on control of 95 per cent of the known oil supply would serve as an effective weapon at the peace conference and in international trade and politics.

An understanding of the overall scope of the plan was reported to have been reached at the Teheran and Cairo conferences.

Three Promoted To Vice Admirals

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Promotions of three widely known naval officers to the temporary rank of vice admiral were confirmed today by the senate.

The new vice admirals are Randall Jacobs, chief of naval personnel; Ross T. McIntire, surgeon general and chief of the bureau of medicine and surgery, and Ben Moreell, chief of the bureau of yards and docks.

Spensley Says Jap Atrocities Story Brutal

By JAMES D. WHITE
WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—Dr. V. H. Spensley of Albuquerque, NM, chosen national chairman of Bataan relief organizations, charged today that the war and navy departments had been "brutal and dastardly" in their telling of Japanese atrocities on prisoners in the Philippines.

Leading in the amalgamation of 34 Bataan relief groups, he said that while he had no criticism of the departments for releasing the facts, the delay in doing so and the way it was done—through stark reports from men who had escaped—had been cruel to families of men captured in the islands.

The purpose of the organization was expressed by Charles F. Adams of St. Joseph, Mo., thusly: "To help speed the methods of finding out if those prisoners are still alive and get them tangible relief."

Adams said he represented relatives of nearly 100 men and women who were on Bataan in May, 1942. Others among the 50-odd at today's meeting said they represented varying numbers of the relatives of other captives. They came here yesterday.

Sen. Chavez, (D-NM.) told those in the meeting that they had "the solemn and serious business" of (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

All 3 Water Commissioners Are Candidates

All three Salem water commissioners whose terms expire this year will be candidates for reelection, they revealed Thursday, although two added the provision that when men they replaced on that board return from war they will tender their resignations asking that the service-men be appointed to the positions.

W. L. Phillips, appointed to replace Chandler Brown when Brown was commissioned in the navy in 1943, and Howard B. Jenks, appointed early in the war period when Capt. Floyd Siegmund was called to active service with the army, are ready to run on a "duration basis," they declared yesterday.

Ed. Rostein, named to the board upon the resignation of I. M. Doughton following Doughton's election as mayor, was first chairman of the commission. "The record will have to serve in place of any statement" he said Thursday night after he had said his name would be on the May ballot.

FDR to Broadcast Saturday Afternoon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—President Roosevelt will broadcast from 4:30 to 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon, eastern war time, the White House revealed today.

The speech will be made in connection with ceremonies of presenting under lease lend to the French naval authorities a destroyer-escort.

The subject of the president's address was not disclosed nor the scene of the naval ceremonies.

Series E Bond Quota Offers Zero Hour Challenge

Four business days remain before the fourth war loan "zero hour" next Tuesday night. Marion county's present standing in relation to its quotas is 90 per cent on all types of war bonds, 85 per cent on series E. There are still some fairly large allocations to come in which may swell the current \$3,836,000 over-all figure to reach \$4,248,000 quota, or even the \$5,000,000 which the Marion county war finance committee is striving to reach.

So the real challenge is to get the \$1,300,000 in series E bonds up to the \$1,904,000 quota for that type of bonds, and if possible to the \$2,000,000 figure which was all but reached in the last drive. And that is where next Tuesday night's grand finale show in the Salem high school auditorium comes in. For everyone will want to attend that rally—and the only way to get a ticket is to buy a series E bond.

Arrangements for the big event which will feature the KOIN Million Dollar club and the statewide campaign windup with the final outcome announced by E. C. Sammons, state war finance committee chairman, are rapidly being completed.

The program will start promptly at 8 p.m. and it is planned to have all preliminaries over by 9 o'clock so the Million Dollar club can take over for a pre-show and the broadcast. The club is going to great lengths to give Salem the best show it has yet produced. Some of the acts will be in costume.

Oregon Motor Stages is contributing to the cause transportation for the entire personnel including technicians from Portland to Salem and return. Otherwise the Million Dollar club absorbs its expenses in supporting the government's effort to spread the sale of series E bonds.

Johnny Carpenter, director of KOIN's special events department, and noted also as a sportscaster, will be master of ceremonies. A specialty act, "Red's Gang," will be headed by Owen "Red" Dunning in his uproarious "Hey Rubs" routine, and will be supported by an instrumental "Hivesome" of corn-fed quality. Dunning is widely known as a musical artist but his comedy talent has led

Soviets Cut Off Nazis

Biggest Disaster Since Stalingrad Faces Germans

By TOM YARBROUGH
LONDON, Friday, Feb. 11 (AP)—Russian troops have cut off several German groups from the main remnants of ten crack axis divisions trapped around Korsun in the Dnieper river bend and are "wiping them out," Moscow announced today in a bulletin foreshadowing the climax of the biggest single Nazi disaster since Stalingrad.

Associated Press Moscow dispatches said the exhausted Germans, once estimated at more than 100,000 men, were being captured at an increasingly high rate, but also were dying in the same numbers under the merciless hammering of massed Russian artillery laying down a cross-fire on the Germans within the constricted ring.

Korsun itself, pivot of the survivors' lines was reported under Soviet artillery fire as the Russians yesterday drove to within seven miles of that stronghold at two points; the Germans' airstrips were gone; food supplies were ebbing to the vanishing point.

A Tass broadcast from Moscow early today said the German commander, Lt. Gen. Schermerman, had sent all available men, including stretcher-bearers and bakers of the Nazi eighth army, into the firing lines in a last agonizing struggle—repeating the same fateful pattern which a year ago preceded the Stalingrad surrender of what remained of Field Marshal Gen. Friedrich von Paulus' sixth army of 330,000 men.

The midnight communique, recorded by the Soviet monitor from a broadcast, said the Germans had lost 10 more Junkers jet-engine (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

Student Nurses Return to Duties

COLUMBUS, Ga., Feb. 10 (AP)—Family protests on top of a grim warning that they might be certified to federal authorities as "deserters" broke a sit-down strike of 80 student nurses at the Columbus City hospital late today.

The girls, who quit work this morning in protest against working conditions and new regulations restricting their "nights out," stayed idle in their quarters past a 3 p. m. deadline fixed by the hospital board, and then began to drift away in small groups until before nightfall all were back at their posts.

Supt. Harris Smith said that no further action would be taken "So far as I am concerned."

Ranger Planes Catch Nazi Ship



Operating off Bodo, Norway, in October, 1943, planes from the USS Ranger, the navy's first true flat-top, bracketed the Saar, a new type German merchant vessel. When last seen the Saar was down by the stern. The navy has identified the Ranger as the carrier active in Norway areas. (AP Wirephoto from US navy)

Sens. Pepper, Clark to Propose Amendments on Food Subsidy

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—With congress apparently set to approve a ban on consumer food subsidies, Sen. Pepper (D-Fla.) served notice today he will attempt to attach amendments relaxing wage controls and boosting benefits for dependents of service men.

Sen. Clark (D-Mo.) announced he will propose broadening the subsidy ban to abolish also so-called "support prices" which farm bloc leaders in the anti-subsidy fight desire continued.

Through support prices, the government guarantees farmers a minimum price for certain products by agreeing to buy at that price irrespective of the market price.

Pepper said removal of consumer subsidies, whereby the government holds down retail food prices, would increase the cost of living three per cent. Consequently, he proposed to introduce amendments:

1. Directing President Roosevelt and the war labor board to relax the little steel wage formula so as to make possible an 18 per cent increase in pay for workers over the January, 1944, level instead of the 15-per cent to which the formula now limits increases.
2. Raise all federal pensions and retirement benefits, wages of all government employees now receiving up to \$2900 a year, allowances for officers in the armed forces and benefits to dependents of service men.

Administration leaders, refusing to compromise with critics of food subsidies, helped beat down a proposal for a \$950,000,000 ceiling on yearly government spending designed to hold down consumer grocery bills.

At the same time, they virtually conceded senate passage of the blanket anti-subsidy bill and pinned their hopes for continuation of the administration's program (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

Lt. Jack Roach Is Killed

Another Salem man killed in a bombing mission over Germany is Lt. Jack H. Roach, his wife, Winifred Neal Roach, 2310 SE Brooklyn, Portland, has learned through official notice from the German Red Cross.

Roach, bombardier in the eighth air force, won the distinguished flying cross, the air medal and two oak leaf clusters. He was on his 20th raid over Bremen when downed. He was reported missing in action on December 22.

The lieutenant, a Statesman carrier for several years, was graduated from Salem high school in 1937 and later was employed by the Style Arch shoe store and J. C. Penney company.

Survivors are the widow; his mother, Mrs. Lola Roach of Oregon City; sisters, Mrs. Douglas Jaquith and Mrs. Edwin Fanton of Salem, Mrs. Ford Cole of Oregon City, and brothers, Ralph of Silver Springs, Md., Raymond of Salem, Homer of Jewell, Kans., and Don in the army air force at Denver.

Offices to Close

Banks, state, Marion county and Salem city offices will close Saturday, Lincoln's birthday, as a legal holiday and will not be open for business, representatives said Thursday.

Weather

Thursday maximum temperature 53, minimum 26. Precipitation, a trace. Wind southerly. Cloudy. River 6.4 feet.

Fair Friday; occasional rain in northwest portion Saturday; not much change in temperature.

Raids Hit 2 Points

Holland Airbase, Brunswick Feel Bomb Weight

By Austin Bealmeier
LONDON, Feb. 10 (AP)—US Flying Fortresses, Liberators and long range fighters smashed 84 German aircraft from the skies today during coordinated raids on the Nazi manufacturing city of Brunswick and the Gilze-Rijen airbase in Holland, from which 29 of the heavy bombers and eight of the fighters failed to return.

Mustangs, Thunderbolts and Lightnings of the fighter escort were credited by a US army communique with destroying 55 of the German interceptors which rose to challenge the raiders—a new record for a single day—and bomber gunners accounted for at least 29 more.

Fortresses escorted by fighters of all three types struck the new blow at Brunswick, an important German aircraft parts manufacturing city. The value the Germans put upon its defense was reflected in the communique announcement that the fighter opposition was heavy.

A later official statement said the Flying Fortresses ran into "One of the fiercest defenses the enemy has yet sent against them," and crewmen estimated the Nazis had sent aloft between 200 and 300 fighters.

Thunderbolts screened the Liberators for the Gilze-Rijen raid (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

Yank Forces Pound Japs In Marshalls

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 (AP)—American forces are pounding Japanese positions in the Marshalls with shells of big warships and bombs from far ranging planes, the navy announced tonight.

A total of 114 tons of bombs were dropped in raids on three successive days against unidentified atolls in the mid Pacific island group where American forces hold Kwajalein, largest of the atolls.

During the same period covered by those raids on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the navy said, warships shelled two enemy-held atolls in the Marshalls. Those atolls were not identified.

The navy also reported that patrol planes have been carrying individual bombing and strafing missions against the enemy positions in the island group.

In the same announcement prepared at Pacific fleet headquarters the navy told of another bombing raid on Wake island. There, the announcement continued, bombs were scored on the air field and barracks areas.

Airliner Is Missing

MEMPHIS, Feb. 11 (AP)—An American airliner plane, carrying 24 persons from Little Rock to Memphis, was overdue early today and officials believed it crashed into the Mississippi river 15 miles south of here.

Station Manager J. O. Conner reported that the plane was last heard from at 11:31 p.m. (CWT)—seven minutes before it was due here—but "no trouble was reported then."

A report from a US engineers employe, Conner said, placed the plane over the Mississippi at 11:30 p.m. The coast guard has sent a boat toward the spot.

Aboard the plane were 21 passengers and three crew members. The plane left Little Rock at 10:30 p.m.