

Attacking Germans Push 18 Miles Inside Belgium

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

In the recent political campaign the Emporia Gazette did something it never had done under its late, great editor, William Allen White: It sponsored a democrat, Franklin D. Roosevelt, for president. William L. White, son of William Allen, himself an able journalist, explained the paper's endorsement of Roosevelt in this wise: He felt that we should have as president some one with a better understanding of and more sympathy for Russia than Governor Dewey, and that Roosevelt was much to be preferred for this reason. White's views were expressed following his tour of Russia with Eric Johnston, president of the U. S. chamber of commerce.

Although White thus threw his weight in favor of Stalin's friend in the White House, Moscow's Pravda, leading mouthpiece of government opinion, gave White no mercy when it commented on his presently published "Report on the Russians," an installment of which appears in the current Readers Digest. Pravda called him an obscure American newspaperman of "doubtful reputation." Of his comments on Russian life it said:

"The standard stew from the fascist kitchen, with all its aromas of calumnies, unpardonable ignorance and undisguised malice." Pravda is the paper which rebuked Wendell Willkie who had

(Continued on Editorial Page)

C. of C. Heads To Be Named On Wednesday

Ten of 14 members of the Salem chamber of commerce board of directors were re-elected for 1945 at the annual ballot Monday.

They were Lowell E. Kern, Robert Eifstrom, W. L. Phillips, Ralph Campbell, Frank Doerfler, Ralph Johnson, Loyal Warner, Grover Hillman, Linn Smith and Lester Barr.

The four new directors will be Floyd Shepard, Dorothea Steussloff, Leo Childs and Guy Hickok. These four will replace Fred Anensen, Winnie Petryjohn, E. J. Scellars and Albert Ramseyer.

In addition to the 14, other 1945 directors will include Carl Hogg, retiring president, and the heads of the junior chamber, the Cherrians and the retail trade bureau. Hogg said the directors probably would meet Wednesday night to choose the 1945 president, first and second vice president, secretary and treasurer.

Allied Planes Plaster Nazis

LONDON, Tuesday, Dec. 19 (AP) - The sky over London was filled with the rumble of heavy bombers for more than an hour last night as a large force sped toward the continent.

It was believed to be the largest force of heavy aircraft to pass over the city in months, indicating a particularly heavy attack at the Germans was being made.

Earlier in the night a force of perhaps 500 RAF Lancasters smashed at German shipping in the big Polish port of Gdynia north of Danzig last night after 1100 British-based American warplanes made emergency daylight attacks through clouds against three railheads used to supply the nazis' new western front offensive.

Cordon Sworn In As McNary Successor

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP) - Senator Guy Cordon of Roseburg was sworn in today to complete the remaining four years in the term of the late Sen. Charles L. McNary.

He was elected last month to the position in which he has served by appointment since McNary's death. After the ceremony, Cordon presented the credentials of Wayne L. Morse, Eugene, who was elected to succeed Rufus Holman and will take office January 3.

Reclamation Meet May Attract 100

Advance registrations Monday night indicated that attendance at the Oregon Reclamation congress convening here today would verge on 100, Salem Chamber of Commerce personnel reported.

Today's sessions, beginning at 9:30 a. m. will be held in the School Administration (old high school) building at High and Marson streets, with the exception of the afternoon meeting of the Willamette valley project committee and tonight's 6:30 banquet in chamber of commerce rooms.

The Oregon Statesman

NINETY-FOURTH YEAR

10 PAGES

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Price 5c

No. 234

742 NIP PLANES DOWNED; SUPERFORTS BLAST JAPS

60,000 Japs Due On Coast

Half of Excluded Group May Come Back to Homes

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18 (AP) - Best estimates tonight were that only 60,000 of the 119,000 Japanese excluded from the Pacific coast beginning March 23, 1942, would return now that the western defense command has revoked its mass exclusion order. It was indicated that even this number would be slow about coming back, taking a year and a half to complete the move.

Japanese from southern California at the Manzanar, Calif., center actually were represented as being more in favor of relocating in the east or middle west than returning to their homes. Director Ralph Merritt said that a few property owners among the 3,800 American born and 1,800 alien at the camp might go to their former homes, but the majority was loathe to return to southern California.

The Heart Mountain, Wyo., relocation center likewise estimated that only 900 or less than 10 percent of the Japanese there would go back to the west coast.

Otherwise reports indicated the 60,000 estimate by WFA sources was fairly accurate, although caution in testing west coast reaction was displayed at all the relocation centers where 61,000 Japanese still live.

Governor Snell of Oregon conferred by telephone with Governors Warren of California and Langlie of Washington on a common method of handling any problems that might arise from the return, but he declined comment on their conversations.

'Dream House' To Be Given Friday at 4

Four o'clock Friday afternoon at the Victory center on the Marion county courthouse lawn were named Monday as time and place for selection of the winner of the \$4000 Victory "dream house" in the county's successful concluded Sixth War Loan campaign.

Judges at the center that afternoon will be E. Burr Miller, Guy Hickok, D. W. Eyre, Frank B. Bennett and Charles A. Sprague. The winner need not be present, but must make himself or herself known within seven days. Band music and a short program will be provided, R. W. (Joe) Land, special events chairman, said Monday.

Meanwhile, indicates pointed to a final report of sales of more than \$2,000,000 in E bonds. Fred Dentel, Aurora-Donald chairman, reported Monday that his district, with a quota of \$25,000, had purchased \$62,000 worth of bonds. Robert W. Minton, industrial chairman, said both Salem Water system and the Portland Gas and Coke company employees had gone over the top. Carl Porter, district manager for Warner Bros. stores, reported that the 1802 bonds purchased for admission to the recent premier at the Elsinore had brought in \$112,500.

Not only were thousands of cards and letters mailed Monday but many packages contributed to make it one of the heaviest days in the history of the office.

Ship With Gifts for War Prisoners Docks

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18 (AP) - The International Red Cross ship Caritas, 2nd, bearing 300,000 Christmas bundles for German prisoners of war in this country, arrived here Saturday and now is reloading to take Christmas packages to Americans interned overseas, the American Red Cross disclosed today.

The council voted to enter into written agreement with West Salem to furnish fire protection "when possible." West Salem, which has been getting "when possible" service asked for the written agreement as an aid to securing lower insurance rates.

L. H. McMahan petitioned the council to abate certain alleged obstructions on Division street. The subject was referred to a special committee, for report, composed of Aldermen O'Hara, Gilie and Jorgensen.

There will be no election to determine whether Salem citizens would or would not prefer to grant a franchise to the Salem Electric company, it was definitely decided by the city council Monday night by a roll call vote ending with eight members voting no and six yes. Voting for the proposition were: Aldermen C. F. French, Albert H. Gilie, R. A. Forkner, R. O. Lewis, Mrs. G. F. Lohdell and David O'Hara; against, Aldermen Edward Acklin, Tom Armstrong, J. F. Byers, Claude Jorgensen, L. F. LeGarde, Howard Maple, Kenneth Perry and Lloyd T. Rigdon.

The civil service examination controversy involving the fire department was referred to the police and fire committee and the civil service commission for further study. Alderman Armstrong told the council that to attempt an examination now would find too few able to qualify.

The Salem public parks and playgrounds boards joined in a request to the council for \$300

Mindoro Invasion Goes Well

Island Landing Easiest Big Job Of Pacific War

By Dean Schedler
GENERAL MAC ARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Tuesday, Dec. 19 (AP) - Destruction or serious damaging of 742 Japanese warplanes during the past week was disclosed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today as American invasion troops met no resistance on Mindoro island.

The Japanese planes were bagged by land-based American aircraft and planes operating from Adm. William F. Halsey's Third fleet.

The chief American purpose in seizing Mindoro island is the construction of airbases from which further to harry the Japanese.

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Dec. 18 (AP) - Three days of sustained naval aerial assault on Luzon island in the Philippines has cost the Japanese at least 28 ships sunk, 66 others damaged and 462 planes destroyed or damaged.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, announcing this in a communique today, told of widespread destruction of Japanese facilities in the key Philippines island as he gave complete reports for the strikes of Dec. 13 and 14 and a preliminary account for Dec. 15.

Manila is only a half hour's flight from Mindoro. American and Australian construction men were busy putting airstrips into shape.

The communique said the Yankee landing on Mindoro had "caught him (the enemy) completely off balance," and except for a few nuisance air attacks, the Americans were making their scheduled progress.

Invasion of Mindoro has been the easiest major job of the Pacific war. Associated Press Correspondent Elmont Waite, writing from Mindoro, said "the Japanese have offered not the slightest resistance as yet, aside from harassing air attacks by a few planes."

He said the invasion has been moving "swifter than had been hoped." The Japanese at the city of San Jose fled in such haste they left their breakfast bowls of rice and clams still warm.

More Funds Due For Mexican Help

Expenditure of an additional 22 million dollars for use in connection with Mexican labor in the United States, has been approved by the United States senate, the state department of agriculture was notified Monday.

E. L. Peterson, department director, commended the wisdom of the action, but said no forecast of needs for Mexican labor required next year to maintain Oregon's agriculture at the production level contemplated by war food goals could be made just now.

Jap Made Paper Balloon, Capable of Carrying 800 Pounds, Falls in Montana; FBI Probe On

KALISPELL, Mont., Dec. 18 (AP) - The federal bureau of investigation announced tonight that a paper balloon 3 1/2 feet in diameter, bearing Japanese characters, had been found in a mountain region near here.

An official statement said the balloon had attached to its side an incendiary device, apparently intended for destruction of the balloon.

An FBI spokesman gave this explanation of the find: "On Dec. 11, 1944, a woodchopper named Owen Hill and his father, O. B. Hill, who had been working in a mountainous forest region 17 miles southwest of Kalispell, Mont., reported to the sheriff's office the discovery of an object which was thought to be a parachute.

Oregon Formally on Record for FDR



Oregon's six members of the electoral college swore to uphold the constitution—and they did, casting their ballots here Monday unanimously for the re-election of President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the election of Harry S. Truman as vice president of the United States. Administering the oath of office, Chief Justice J. O. Bailey of the state supreme court stands at the extreme left. Others, from left to right: Elton Watkins, Portland; Richard G. Scott, Sherwood; Amanda J. Hart, Milwaukie; Harvey G. Starkweather, Milwaukie; Cella L. Gavin, The Dalles, and Walter M. Pierce, LaGrande. (Statesman photo)

U.S. Agrees in Principle To Partitioning of Poland

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP) - The United States restored some semblance of harmony to the ranks of the Big Three today by a declaration of agreement in principle to a partition of Poland, demanded by Russia and approved by Britain.

The United States agreement, set forth in a statement by Secretary of State Stettinius, was made condition on mutual accord by the "United Nations directly concerned" in the new Polish frontiers.

By these nations, it was established, Stettinius meant Poland and the Soviet Union, which seeks the eastern third of Poland.

The secretary of state inferentially urged such an accord, saying it could contribute to prosecution of the war and that Poland could have American assistance in transfers of population and rehabilitation of devastated areas.

As a substitute for an ironclad American guarantee of their proposed new borders, ruled out by traditional US policy, the Poles were offered the general security envisaged under the United Nations organization.

Lt. B. Williams Arrives Home

Lt. Bruce W. Williams, USNR, who in November was awarded five separate medals, including the Navy Cross, for his accomplishments during one month of intensive action in the Philippine islands area, arrived home Sunday night on leave.

The navy flyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Williams, a graduate of Willamette university, will spend several weeks here, during part of that time getting acclimated, he said Monday. Coming in late last week from the warm South Pacific and flying north almost immediately into one of the valley's most-prolonged cold snaps he declared he found the weather uncomfortable but the home atmosphere warm.

Salem Man Weds Actress

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Dec. 18 (AP) - The wedding of Film Player Carol Deere, former New Orleans singer, and Cpl. Dale Rowling of Salem, Ore., is scheduled for tonight.

Negro Rioters Found Guilty

SEATTLE, Dec. 18 (AP) - Prison sentences aggregating more than 200 years were given tonight to 27 negro rioters found guilty by a general court martial board of rioting against an Italian service unit at Fort Lawton last August 14.

Three of the defendants were found innocent of additional charges of murder in connection with the death of Pvt. Guglielmo Olivetto, whose body was found hanging in a nearby gully the morning after the riot.

Those cleared of murder charges, however, were convicted of rioting and their sentences were the heaviest assessed by the court martial board.

Weather
Maximum temperature Monday 39 degrees, minimum 24 degrees; trace of rain; river 3 ft. Cloudy with occasional rains west of Cascades Tuesday and Wednesday and snow east of Cascades Wednesday. Slightly warmer.

Aircraft Factories Targets

70 Giant Planes Concentrate on Nagoya Plants

By Vern Haugland
21ST BOMBER COMMAND, Saipan, Dec. 18 (AP) - Superfortresses pounded Japanese war plants with new ferocity today, hitting particularly at the aircraft factories of Nagoya.

For two hours the big planes from Saipan ranged over the important war industry city in the heart of the Japanese mainland on Honshu island, duplicating in numerical strength the devastating raid they made on that same target December 13.

(At the same time Superforts of the 20th bomber command, striking from an Asiatic base, blasted docks and storage facilities at Hankow, Japanese-occupied Chinese city on the Yangtze river, with "good" results, the war department said. The circumstances indicated there were upwards of 100 B-29's in the raid. All returned to their base. They probably shot down five Japanese fighters and damaged seven others.

Additional information will be released as soon as final reports are received from the theater of operations.

200 Take Part
Possibly 200 of the giant planes participated in these operations. The Japanese said there were 70 in the Nagoya raid and admitted they had done damage, including the starting of fires which required "resolute efforts" by air raid defense workers before they were put out.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP) - China-based Superfortresses attacked the Japanese mainland today less than 24 hours after their strike at Hankow, China.

The latest attack was carried out in medium force against industrial targets on Kyushu, one of the main islands of the Japanese homeland, the war department announced.

The electors took their oath of office before Chief Justice J. O. Bailey of the state supreme court at noon in the office of the president of the senate.

A copy of the certificate they signed was mailed to the president of the United States senate. Two were sent to the US secretary of state; one was directed to the federal district judge in Portland and two were left here with Secretary of State Robert S. Farrel, jr.

The electoral college went through the quadrennial motions yesterday and made it official—President Roosevelt is elected again.

The electors, in line with the verdict of the voters November 7, cast the 531 ballots that formally elect a president and vice president: 432 for Mr. Roosevelt and 99 for Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

Electric Franchise Voting Out; Civil Service Exams Deferred

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Nazis Use Secret Weapon

Planes Destroy 95 Enemy Tanks, Armored Cars

By George Tucker
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris, Dec. 18 (AP) - The great German counteroffensive, hammering a deep dent in US First army lines, plunged at least 18 miles inside Belgium today despite a lashing ground defense and allied air blows that knocked out 95 enemy tanks and armored vehicles and damaged 28 more.

First indication of the extent of the German drive came from the US Ninth air force, which announced that British Typhoons had attacked 20 German armored vehicles "west of Stavelot," which is 18 miles west of the frontier and 24 miles southeast of the fortress of Liege.

This was 15 miles from where the lines stood before the German push began.

Both the First and Ninth army sectors were bombed day and night by a new German V-weapon of undisclosed nature. The front rocked to the explosions of the weapons and the thunder of American antiaircraft fire. Flares lighted the night sky.

Through heavy censorship of ground troop movements on the First army front came reports of pilots participating in the greatest mass destruction of enemy armor since the battle of Falaise Gap in Normandy last summer.

US Planes Busy
US fighterbombers lending priceless aid to ground troops, many of whom had their positions overrun, ripped up and down the western front, destroying an additional 265 transport vehicles.

They also pounded German troops and gun positions, bombing and strafing.

The German high command hurled scores of thousands of crack troops and large numbers of tanks into the great fluid battle that may decide the entire course of World War II.

Once more the Germans threw their air force into the battle, attacking up to 300 strong, but 45 of them were knocked from the sky in swirling aerial dogfights above the battlefield.

Front-line officers of the US First army made no attempt to minimize the seriousness of this supreme effort to stall the allied drive on the Rhine—a counter-offensive reminiscent of Ludendorff's final push in the spring of 1918.

At 4 p. m. an ironclad censorship of news was imposed on the entire length of the First army front which earlier dispatches said was alive with German attacks of varying strength from Duren 80 miles south, to southern Luxembourg.

Postoffice Has One of Heaviest Days in History

Letters and cards mailed at the Salem postoffice Monday totaled 120,000 believed to be a record high mark for the local office, Postmaster Henry R. Crawford said last night.

The largest number ever counted in the Salem office was 130,000 but that was at a time when the meter machines at the stationhouse, and various other points were not in operation.

It was the opinion of Postmaster Crawford that the 120,000 on Monday would have been at least 150,000 had the meter machine totals been available.

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SHOPPING DAYS LEFT
BETTER HURRY
BUY STALS