

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Smeage

There are 30 members of the Oregon state senate, only four of whom are democrats. Of the 60 representatives ten are democrats.

The mathematical preponderance of republican strength helps to another political partisanship in the transaction of legislative business.

In fact, it has sometimes been said that the legislature prided itself on its freedom from partisan-considerations in the study of bills. Not since 1933 and 1935 when the democrats had control of the house has there been very much political sparring between the parties.

This republican overstrength is apt to be deceiving this time. While the democrats are in a seemingly hopeless minority, that minority is by no means helpless.

In fact, I think we may see considerable attention paid by the democratic minority to its party position.

Democrats in Oregon cannot help but be heartened by the national victory in November and by the fact that Roosevelt carried Oregon. They can pick up grains of comfort in having sent several more legislators from Multnomah county than two years ago, and in the election of Al Brown as county clerk of that county over the veteran Frank Shull, county commissioner. They can see in the heavy democratic vote of Multnomah future possibilities of swinging state elections.

What the democrats want to do is to crack the statehouse front.

(Continued on Editorial Page)

Japs Lose 262 Planes, 73 Ships In Yank Raids

By Morris Lamsberg

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Jan. 9.—(AP)—US naval fliers, slashing at Japan's sea-air strength within the Luzon defense orbit, sank or damaged 73 ships and destroyed or damaged 262 planes in a three days sweep over the Luzon-Formosa-Okinawa area.

A navy communique today listed additional damage to the enemy on Luzon in the carrier based strikes of January 5 and 6 and ship-plane casualties in the far ranging raids January 8 on Formosa, Okinawa and other islands in the Formosa area.

Helicopters shot down a total of 18 Nipponese planes and joined divebombers and torpedo planes in destroying 74 more aircraft and damaging 103 on the ground at Luzon in heavy pre-invasion attacks by the third fleet's carrier forces.

WAC Drive Launched

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—(AP)—Gen. George C. Marshall called upon the state governors today to back up a new drive to recruit 8000 WACS for duty at army hospitals.

Veteran Dies

Russel Thomas Hickman of Turner, navy EM 3/c, died January 7, in a Philadelphia hospital.

Russel Hickman, Naval Veteran, Dies in Hospital

TURNER, Jan. 9.—(Special)—Russel Thomas Hickman, electrician's mate 3rd class and son of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Hickman of Turner, died January 7 in a Philadelphia hospital after an illness of several weeks, his parents have been informed.

Hickman, who joined the navy July 1, 1942, served overseas two years in the Atlantic area. He previously attended Turner high school. Besides the parents, survivors include four brothers and three sisters: Howard Wallace Hickman, S 1/c, in the Pacific; John Hickman, Turner; Melvin Hickman, Kellogg, Idaho; Harley Hickman, Des Moines, Ia.; Vera Jean Hickman, S 2/c WAVES, Bethesda, Md.; Mrs. A. W. Kelsey, Seattle; Shirley Hickman, Turner.

Burial will be in Mount Mariah naval cemetery, Philadelphia.

Weather

Table with columns for location (San Francisco, Eugene, Salem, Portland, Seattle, Willamette river) and weather conditions (Max, Min, Rain).

Cloudy Today with occasional rain showers in the mid-Willamette valley area, predicts US weather bureau at McNary field, Salem.

AMERICANS INVADE LUZON

The Oregon Statesman

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Allies, Germans Locked in Bitter Tank Battle; Bulge Narrowed

Rundstedt Facing Disaster

3rd Roars Back; Strasbourg Gets Enemy Shelling

By Austin Bealmer

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force, Paris, Jan. 9.—(AP)—American tanks clashed with German armor in a battle that raged all day today in a blinding blizzard as Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's two-army team whittled another mile off the northern side of the Belgian bulge and closed within three-fourths of a mile of the important communications hub of Laroche.

The US Third Army, which had been forced to give ground late yesterday under repeated counterattacks on the southern side of the salient, roared back today with gains up to a half-mile at several points despite the worst weather of the winter and continued fierce enemy resistance.

As the Allies in Belgium pinched Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's salient to a width of nine miles between the areas of Laroche and Herbaumont, the Germans increased their pressure in Alsace and shelled Strasbourg with heavy artillery from the east bank of the Rhine.

American forces on the northern flank of the German bulge drove to within four miles of the last main escape and supply highway and Von Rundstedt was reported hurriedly shifting tanks from the Bastogne area northward to meet this threat to his lifeline.

Should the smashing Yank drive from the north west of the bulge sever the Houffalize-St. Vith highway, all German forces in the western half of the salient would be placed in a precarious position—perhaps faced with a second Falaise disaster.

State Barber Law Illegal Court Decides

The 1943 state barber law permitting barbers to fix minimum prices on a county-wide basis is unconstitutional, the state supreme court declared Tuesday.

By unanimous decision, the court held that the legislature unlawfully delegated its powers to the state barber board. The law provided that 70 per cent of the barbers in any county could set prices for all barber services in that county, by filing schedules with the barber board's headquarters in Portland.

Suit contesting constitutionality of the law was filed by Earl LaForge, Portland barber, against the board. LaForge also contended the law was void on grounds that it violated the due process clause of the federal constitution, but the supreme court did not rule on this question.

Justice Hall S. Lusk wrote the high court's opinion which reversed Judge Alfred P. Dobson, Multnomah county.

FDR Asks 83 Billion Budget, Smaller Than This Year's; No Guesses on War Length

'46 Federal Budget Given in Nutshell

By the Associated Press

Here is the 1946 federal budget at a couple of glances. The estimates are compared with estimates of the present fiscal year (1945).

Total expenditures \$83,000,000,000, decrease of \$17,000,000,000. War expenditures \$76,000,000,000, decrease of \$19,000,000,000. Net receipts \$41,300,000,000, decrease of \$4,400,000,000. Debt increase \$40,000,000,000, to a total of \$292,000,000,000. Total appropriations \$87,000,000,000, decrease of \$10,000,000,000.

Tokyo, Formosa Targets of Big B-29 Smashes

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—(AP)—Flames seared the Tokyo target area after today's two-way smash at the Japanese homeland and the great Formosa island base by scores of America's Superfortresses.

Apparently acting to keep the enemy occupied in conjunction with our invasion of Luzon on the Philippines, the mighty B-29s bypassed heavy weather to reach the Nipponese capital but found the sky clear over their objective.

The army, announcing results on preliminary information, made no mention of any losses on the Tokyo flight. All planes returned from the Formosa raid. Apparently upwards of 40 planes participated in each attack.

Reduction Due On Greyhound Stage Fares

Effective February 1, all fares charged by Greyhound bus lines on the Pacific highway between Portland and the California line will be reduced approximately 20 per cent, Public Utilities Commissioner George H. Flagg announced Tuesday.

Under tariffs to be filed, both intrastate and interstate fares will be standardized at 1.5 cents per mile for all distances up to 300 miles and 1.4 cents per mile for greater distances. Round trip fares will be charged on the basis of 80 per cent added to the one way fare. The reduction will save the people of Oregon close to \$350,000.

These rates are the same as are in effect in California where the heavy travel brought about recent reductions.

Clipper Toll Reaches 23

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 9.—(AP)—Pan American Airways tallied the death list at 23 today while airline officials sought to learn details of the crash of a 10-year-old clipper at Port of Spain, Trinidad, last night.

The plane, described by the builder as a craft which had "gone farther and carried more than any other airplane," was wrecked and sunk while alighting in the darkness.

2 Torpedoes Miss Mac's Ship as It Heads for Luzon

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Wednesday, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Wearing his famed campaign hat and five stars on his collar, Gen. Douglas MacArthur returned to Luzon with his assault troops Tuesday morning.

Two torpedoes from a midget submarine missed his ship as the convoy headed for the landing. MacArthur then rode upon the engine box of a landing craft and waded knee-deep in water onto the soil of Luzon he left nearly three years ago. He hit the shore about two hours after the first wave.

Jury Absolves Harris in Fatal Shooting Case

George Elmer (Bud) Harris, 33, was absolved from blame in the fatal shooting at Brooks Sunday, Dec. 31, 1944, of Charles Batchelor, 35, when the Marion county grand jury Tuesday afternoon returned a "not true bill" to the charge of manslaughter.

Harris, according to police reports, returned to his home unexpectedly and found Batchelor in bed with his wife, and in the ensuing altercation Batchelor was shot and killed. Harris admitted to authorities that he brought the death weapon into the house.

Although Harris was not called as a witness he volunteered to appear before the jury for interrogation. The jury was in session five continuous days taking and weighing testimony of persons who had information on the death.

The jurors, assisted by District Attorney Miller B. Hayden and Deputy District Attorney Lawrence Osterman, called a large number of witnesses before coming to a decision. Marion citizens called to testify included: Paul Reinsche, E. H. Brattain, Charles Strawn, Cloyce Drake, Roy Richman, Les Ferrin, Dr. L. E. Barrick, Dr. Joseph Beeman, Dorothy Dahl, Frances Batchelor, A. L. Schmidt, Alma Johnson, Florence L. Schmidt, Clyde Harris, Virgil Cook, Nona White, Lillian M. Dunn, Robert Heilman, Anna Donley and the defendant.

Fred A. Moore, foreman of the jury, signed the instrument.

Mosquitos Hit 5 Nazi Ships

LONDON, Jan. 9.—(AP)—Three forces of RAF "ship-busting" Mosquitos and Beaufighters carried out a surprise sweep through icy clouds over Norwegian fjords today and destroyed at least five enemy vessels.

It was one of the most successful raids on shipping off the Norwegian coast in months. Diving through intense ack-ack fire the speedy British attack-bombers zoomed down over the wharves from 2000 feet firing dozens of rockets into the enemy ships.

The last RAF crews to leave the target area saw a modern cargo liner lying on its side burning and a small, modern diesel merchant ship disappearing beneath the surface with only its bow above water.

Bradley Says Nazi Offense Costly Venture for Enemy

WITH THE 12TH ARMY GROUP, Jan. 9.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, breaking his silence regarding the German offensive which was aimed at splitting the allied line in his 12th army group sector, said today that the now-thwarted enemy move "may materially affect the Germans' ability to resist."

Gen. Bradley, who was awarded the bronze star for his part in halting the Germans, stated at a press conference that Germany's ability to prolong the war may have been reduced, but added quickly that this did not mean the allies could "assume the Germans are on the verge of collapse."

Trucks, Old-age Bills In Senate Gets Biggest Part of 2nd Day's Activities

With several controversial issues already in the open, the 43rd legislature was in full swing today on such questions as big trucks, no-ceiling old-age assistance, income tax amendments, revocation of the community property law and a \$100,000 home for the state's governors.

Most of such action Tuesday came in the senate, however, while in the house Rep. Stanhope S. Pier charged that "here we sit doing nothing; something should be done to get the state departments to get their bills in." Speaker Eugene Marsh concurred.

Three Bills in House

Introduced in the house were bills validating stickers in lieu of car license plates (already legal by order); providing that candidates for offices must file 70 days before an election instead of 45; affirming salary scales for Sherman county officers.

A senate bill providing for a five-man committee to investigate last year's huge liquor purchase, as requested in Gov. Earl Snell's message, already was in the hands of the resolution committee, but there were evidences that it might be broadened still further before final presentation.

Wider Scope Suggested

There was comment among some senators that the investigation, to be complete and accomplish the avowed purpose of being fair to "men of character and reputation," should not be limited to the single deal but should encompass whatever other liquor matters any legislative group might consider warranted its attention.

Other important legislation in the senate included a bill providing for a state hospital for the mentally diseased in Multnomah county.

At the first formal session of the joint ways and means committee, Chairman Dean Walker said he knew of several large financial requests, not included in the state budget, which would be made later, and warned that "it is my opinion the going of this committee will be tough."

Other bills filed or prepared for filing included one providing for a lieutenant governor, and another calling for a "senate lounge" in the statehouse.

Resolutions filed in the senate included one to name 15 Oregon citizens to investigate the state's tax structure. The governor had asked that such a study be made, by tax experts.

Utah Senator New Head of Military Group

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—(AP)—Sen. Elbert Thomas (D-Utah) was chosen today as chairman of the senate military affairs committee. He succeeds former Senator Reynolds (D-NC), who did not seek reelection.

To take over the important military chairmanship, Thomas resigned as chairman of the committee on education and labor and was succeeded by Senator Murray (D-Mont.).

MacArthur Lands With Yanks From 800-Ship Convoy

U.S. 6th Army Advances Inland Rapidly; Little Opposition Met; Huge Piles of Equipment Landed

By James Hutcheson

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Wednesday, Jan. 10.—(AP)—Tens of thousands of U.S. sixth army forces, accompanied ashore by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, landed Tuesday along 15 miles of Lingayen gulf coast on Luzon island from an 800-ship convoy and pushed deep into flatlands leading 120 miles south to Manila over ideal tank-war country.

Tanks were among the equipment put ashore in strength to make possible a powerhouse offensive.

From the beaches, cleared of Japanese by fierce warship shelling and aerial bombings, the lightly opposed Yanks surged inland over the same crescent of sand dunes the Japanese employed three years ago. The invasion scene now is dry and suited for a war of movement.

A field dispatch, disclosing that MacArthur already has set up



An 800-ship American convoy sailed into Lingayen gulf (shown by ship symbol in above map) Tuesday to land the American Sixth Army as the invasion of Luzon, most important island in the Philippines, got underway.

headquarters on Luzon, said the landings were on the southern extremity of the gulf which includes the city of Lingayen.

Few Japs Oppose Yanks

At one point, only 11 enemy snipers could be found in an hour's hunt.

Covered by salvos of bombarding battleships and exploding bombs of carrier and land planes which drove the enemy's main force inland, they got ashore on the south and east sides of Lingayen at 9:30 a.m. against light opposition.

Within two hours after the first transports had disgorged the soldiers to landing boats, following a dawn shelling of the areas, MacArthur was back on the island where he fought the losing battles which opened the Pacific war.

The way for this showdown fight for all the Philippines was paved by a multiplicity of warships and aerial attacks. These included the destruction or damage of 262 enemy planes and the sinking or damaging of 73 ships in three days of carrier-based assaults on Luzon, Formosa and Okinawa, in the Ryukyu chain.

Much Equipment Landed

Spencer Davis, Associated Press war correspondent aboard a flagship, said huge stores of equipment, guns and armor already have been put ashore for the drive toward Manila down territory suited for mechanized war.

Deep penetrations inland by some of the landing forces already have been made, Davis said.