

Russians Pour Through Nazi Lines, Capture Kielce

Gun Position in Belgium



Corp. Eugene C. Heffner, (left) of York, Pa., and Pvt. Laynon W. Eversale, of Laurel, Miss., operate controls on a 155mm. gun set up between two trees in the snow in Belgium on the Third army front where "B" battery on the field artillery is supporting the 4th infantry division. (AP Wirephoto)

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851
NINETY-FOURTH YEAR 10 PAGES Salem, Oregon, Tuesday Morning, January 18, 1945 Price 5c No. 258

16 Mile Advance By Reds

New Offensives Also Launched Moans Germans

By W. W. Hercher
LONDON, Tuesday, Jan. 16—(AP) Russian troops, pouring 16 miles through the shattered Warsaw-Krakow line, yesterday topped the central bastion of Kielce, swept to within 50 miles of German Silesia and drove within 21 miles of Krakow on the fourth day of their great winter offensive, Moscow announced last night.

Berlin also announced officially that the Russians had opened massive new offensives on both sides of Warsaw in an effort to encircle the Polish capital and break through to the Polish corridor behind the German army in east Prussia.

"Deep penetrations" of German lines were made by the Russians from their bridgeheads across the Vistula at Warka and Pulawy, 30 miles and 65 miles southeast of Warsaw, and also in the Bug-Vistula triangle just north of the capital along the Narew river 30 miles above Warsaw, Berlin said.

The Russians were estimated to have more than 1,500,000 troops in action in 10 key sectors on a 600-mile front from the Baltic to Budapest, and Berlin said Russian reserves constantly were being hurled into battle.

Enter Big Town
In German east Prussia the Russians broke into the highway north of Schlossberg, Berlin said, and in northern Poland other units struck across the Narew from Pultusk and Rozan, the latter point only 33 miles from the southern rim of east Prussia.

Moscow did not confirm the new drives on both sides of Warsaw and in east Prussia, but said that Marshal Ivan S. Konev's hard-hitting first Ukraine army had overrun 400 more towns and villages for a total of 955 taken since the winter offensive began last Friday.

Carrier Planes Bomb Japan's Lifeline Ports

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Jan. 15—(AP)—Third fleet fliers bombed Hongkong, Swatow and Amoy Saturday in the first full scale carrier attacks of the war on Japan's lifeline ports along the China coast, the navy announced today.

This bold sweep of more than 300 miles, extending in behind Formosa which was pounded anew at the same time, followed by two days Third fleet carrier attacks along the Indo-China coast which wiped out two enemy convoys and sank or damaged a total of 69 enemy ships.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said no details yet were available on the China coast raids but he moved sharply upward previously announced totals of at least 25 enemy ships sunk and 13 damaged off Indo-China.

Forty-one Japanese ships totaling about 127,000 tons were sunk and 28 more ships aggregating about 70,000 tons were damaged by carrier planes in the bold strikes last Thursday on ports and convoys off Indo-China.

Yank Losses In Nazi Drive Under 40,000

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15—(AP)—American losses in the first three weeks of the big German counter-offensive were less than half of those of the enemy, secretary of war Stimson reported today.

Basing his statement on preliminary tallies and estimates, the secretary placed American losses in the Ardennes sector from Dec. 15 to Jan. 7 at "slightly under" 40,000 and said this figure included 18,000 reported missing. Most of the latter, he said, are presumed to be German captives.

Striking a balance, Stimson estimated that German casualties totaled about 90,000, including approximately 40,000 soldiers captured by the allied armies during the "battle of the bulge." The remaining 50,000, Stimson estimated, were killed or wounded.

U. S. IN HOUFFALIZE

2 Yank Armies Contact

Americans Only Six Miles From Town of St. Vith

By Austin Bealmer
PARIS, Tuesday, Jan. 16—(AP)—The US First army drove into Houffalize in the heart of the Belgian bulge yesterday carried within six miles of St. Vith in an all-out attack, and established patrol contact with the US Third army which, at the eastern end of its line, overran three German towns in a new assault.

Contact of the two armies was made south of LaRoelle by patrols of the First's 8th division and a division of the Third army. Since neither encountered any opposition in effecting this token linkup, it was believed that the area west of Houffalize was empty of the enemy except for stragglers.

Smashes Mile
The First army's second armored division smashed more than a mile down the highway into the outskirts of Houffalize and a front dispatch said the doughboys were battling less than a mile from the center of that communications junction now the western key to the shrunken German wedge.

The US Third army, lashing out from the south, sent an armored column and elements of the 101st airborne division in advances of a half mile to within four and a half miles of Houffalize.

6 Divisions Fight
Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges threw at least six divisions into the drive on St. Vith—only four miles from the reich border—shredding the Salm river line, overrunning eight or more towns and drawing up an assault arc six to nine miles from that major highway and rail center on the north, west and southwest.

With the once dangerous Belgian bulge now no more than a bump on the western front, the Third army swung out east of the Moselle river in Germany between Luxembourg and the Saar basin.

3 Towns Captured
In advances of more than a mile and a half, the Third captured three towns—Butzdorf, Nennig and Wies, the latter five miles inside Germany just east of the Luxembourg frontier.

Now that his Ardennes adventure had come to an end, Field Marshal Kapf von Runstedt reported pouring fresh troops into the Saar and northern Alsace for possibly new breakthrough attempts.

The Germans struck a dozen times with flamethrowing tanks at the town of Hatten, eight miles south of the German border above Strasbourg, and when these efforts had spent their strength US Seventh army doughboys rose from the rubble and attacked.

Tribute Paid O'Connor
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15—(AP)—A saddened house of representatives paid extended tribute today to Rep. James Francis O'Connor (D-Mont), 66, who died of a heart attack last night while asleep in his hotel room.

congress two weeks ago, saying American power and influence will be used in support of the principles of the Atlantic charter. The long range American objective remains the creation of a world security system within which Britain, Russia and the United States would be closely bound in cooperation for peace.

Mr. Roosevelt apparently signaled the shift in his message to

Camp Adair To Reopen as Army Depot

Simultaneous with the arrival of the staff which will operate Camp Adair hospital as a navy installation came announcement Monday that Adair itself would reopen. It will not be a training establishment but a depot, Lt. Col. Eugene L. Foster, commander of the post, said.

Probability that the army would not assign a large personnel to Adair, but would use tracks and storage space was foreseen in Foster's announcement. Little detail of the operation planned there has reached him, he said.

Meanwhile, Capt. Paul W. Wilson had arrived at Adair from the Naval Medical center, Washington, DC, to take command of the hospital which will no longer carry the name Adair but will be the U.S. Naval hospital, Corvallis. A dozen officers and nine enlisted men were at the 3000-bed establishment Monday, where approximately March 15 wounded men may be received. Among the men assigned to the hospital is Petty Officer Charles M. Charlton, Salem first aid captain who has seen more than two years of service in the Pacific, attached to the First Marines.

First Double Gassing Kills Two Slayers

Two men were dead today in the first double execution by gas ever held in Oregon.

They were Henry William Merten and Walter Lorne Wilson, first sentenced to life on conviction of the holdup of Wherry's tavern at Oak Grove, July 22, 1942, and then condemned to death after Ralph Dahlen, 27, Oak Grove banker, died six months later of gun wounds inflicted during the crime. An appeal to supreme court failed.

Both were executed, an hour apart, Friday morning. Merten went first.

Prison attaches said neither of the pair slept the last night before the execution, and wanted nothing to eat, but that they appeared in good spirits and talked considerable of crimes. Neither made a final statement or accepted services of a chaplain.

The two men entered the penitentiary December 1 from Oregon City after they had made a futile attempt to escape from Sheriff Fred Riecksecker's car en route.

U-O Head
Dr. Harry K. Newburn

Iowan Named U-O President
PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 15—(AP)—Dr. Harry K. Newburn, 39, dean of the college of liberal arts at the University of Iowa, was named president of the University of Oregon by the state board of higher education today. He will take office July 1.

Dr. Newburn becomes the eighth president of the university, succeeding Donald M. Erb who died a year ago.

Dr. Newburn is a native of Illinois, with college training at Western State Teachers college in that state, and graduate degrees from University of Iowa where he earned his PhD in 1933. He is married and has three children. Additional details on page 2.

Series Of Labor Bills Set

Senate Business Brisk; House Refers Liquor Bill

A series of five bills designed to extend provisions of the Wagner act (applicable to firms in interstate commerce) to public and private employees not covered by that statute was in the hands of the senate labor and industries committee today.

It was presented by Eugene Allen of the AFL, and would: Permit employees of firms in interstate commerce to join labor organizations; make employer coercion a misdemeanor and compel employers to engage in collective bargaining; assure equal pay for men and women doing identical work; provide public employees with the right to collective bargaining and time-and-a-half for work over 40 hours weekly; give time-and-a-half for policemen working over 40 hours a week and firemen working over 48 hours.

Busy Week Here
Its preparation, and the present status of other important considerations, bore out advance indications that this would be a busy week in the 43rd legislative session.

The senate joint resolution providing for an investigation of the state's liquor business was in the house committee on alcoholic control, with every evidence it would be reported back quickly for final action. The house sent it to committee Monday immediately upon receiving it.

Important bills hit the senate in rapid order Monday—including those providing for so-called "freeways," state construction and operation of air fields, and \$2,000,000 additions to the state hospital— but formal introductions in the house continued in the preliminary stage.

They included measures to lengthen terms of justices of the peace from two years to six; provide for election polls to be open until 10 p.m.; and would designate a system of geographical positions in regard to surveying within the boundaries of Oregon.

New Avalanche Ready
A new avalanche was being prepared for both the senate and house, which will reconvene at 10 a.m. today, including Townsend club and other old-age legislation; a measure to limit the number of spectators at executions; and one seeking to have certain housing projects designated as rehabilitation centers.

Both branches of the legislature held brief sessions Monday, but committees were increasingly active.

The senate resolution on liquor provided for an investigation and report "at the earliest possible date," and legislative sources said it appeared complete data would be available to provide additional controversy long before the current session adjourns. (Legislative news page 10)

Counties' Part Of Car Funds Shows Increase

Oregon counties will receive approximately \$340,748.48 as their final apportionment of motor vehicle revenue for 1944, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., said Monday, bringing the counties share for the year to \$2,340,748.48.

For the fiscal year 1943 the counties' share was \$2,311,568.60. Counties receive 15.7 per cent of the net receipts from motor vehicle revenue each year. For the year 1944 total receipts included: vehicle registrations \$3,300,036; motor vehicle fuel taxes \$9,637,960; motor vehicle carriers fees \$1,891,880; and fines \$979,348.67. Total was \$14,909,225, an increase of \$185,859 over 1943.

Officer Embarrassed
PORTLAND, Jan. 15—(AP)—Special police officer H. G. Bowers was embarrassed today. He reported to headquarters that while on duty he was stung from behind and robbed of his 22 caliber pistol and a \$45 watch.

Eludes Japs



Aviation machinist mate Charles O. Watkins (above), who eluded the Japanese for two years and two weeks after his escape from a prison camp in the Philippines, found a hamburger at Miami, Fla., better eating than the monkey meat he had to depend upon at least three times during his ordeal. (AP Wirephoto from navy.)

Lighting Limits Set Forth; May Not Apply Here

George Flagg, public utilities commissioner, Monday received a telegram from the war production board, barring certain uses of power, effective February 1.

Prohibited would be use of electricity for: Outdoor advertising, promotional lighting; outdoor display lighting except that essential to conduct of business; outdoor decorative, ornamental lighting; show window lighting except if necessary for interior illumination; marquee lighting in excess of 60 watts for each marquee; one-way street lighting not essential for safety; outdoor sign lighting except for directions, identifications, traffic control, hospitals, terminals.

Signs for doctors, hotels, other lodging places would be limited to 60 watts.

There has been no announcement of exemptions, and state officials said Monday they had no knowledge that such would be forthcoming, but unofficial reports have persisted that all the regulations will not apply to the north-west because coal is not primarily used in this area for power production.

Voluntary Rationing Plan for Cigarettes Will Be Tried Soon
CHICAGO, Jan. 15—(AP)—The national association of tobacco distributors announced today it would make cigarette ration cards available to more than 1,000,000 tobacco outlets within two weeks, for dealers to distribute to their regular customers.

The rationing plan, the association said, will be voluntary on the part of the dealers. The numbered cards will be punched for each pack purchased by a customer, and consumers will be required to sign a declaration that they hold only one card.

Parked Nazi Planes Blasted By U.S. Aces

LONDON, Jan. 15—(AP)—A group of American Mustang fighters made a surprise raid on two big German airbases today, shooting up at least 31 parked aircraft as nearly 1600 allied warplanes from Britain blasted six important fuel and rail targets in southern Germany and the industrial Ruhr valley.

More than 600 US Eighth air force Flying Fortresses and Liberators, screened by 650 fighters, swept over enemy targets without meeting any Luftwaffe opposition.

Twelve parked planes were destroyed and 19 were badly damaged when about 50 P-51s swooped over the airbases at Landsberg and Oberpfaffenhofen, near Munich.

German plane losses in two days were at least 237 downed in combat, plus 20 destroyed and 19 damaged on the ground.

Japanese Hit Back On Luzon

Sixth Troops Within 98 Road Miles of Manila

By C. Yates McDaniel and James Hutcheson
GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Luzon, Tuesday, Jan. 16—(AP)—Sixth army Yanks rolled to within 98 road miles of Manila by capturing the road junction of Camiling, 30 miles from invaded Lingayen Gulf, but locked in a furious fight on the east flank with Japanese hill-entrenched forces contesting for every foot of ground.

The capture of Camiling, which brought the southbound troops into Tarlac province, was announced today in a communique which reported advances in all sectors.

Fierce Opposition
But a field dispatch from Dean Scheller told of a fierce engagement on the east flank where Gen. Douglas MacArthur went yesterday to watch field artillery and offshore warships throw high explosive and shrapnel shells into the enemy positions.

That fight is developing along the northeast end of the 45-mile-wide curving beachhead as Yank captors seek to move inland east over the nine miles to Rosario.

Yanks Halted
Scheller said the Yank columns from Zamboanga were halted abruptly by Japanese mortar and machinegun fire from foothills commanding the road.

In contrast with operations down the central plains toward Manila, the fight for Rosario is a fight for every foot of ground. Seventh fleet rocket-firing planes are active in support of the Americans.

The Japanese appear determined to make a stand before Rosario because loss of that highway junction would deny them use of the easternmost and only remaining highway connecting north central Luzon and Manila.

Parked Nazi Planes Blasted By U.S. Aces
LONDON, Jan. 15—(AP)—A group of American Mustang fighters made a surprise raid on two big German airbases today, shooting up at least 31 parked aircraft as nearly 1600 allied warplanes from Britain blasted six important fuel and rail targets in southern Germany and the industrial Ruhr valley.

More than 600 US Eighth air force Flying Fortresses and Liberators, screened by 650 fighters, swept over enemy targets without meeting any Luftwaffe opposition.

Twelve parked planes were destroyed and 19 were badly damaged when about 50 P-51s swooped over the airbases at Landsberg and Oberpfaffenhofen, near Munich.

German plane losses in two days were at least 237 downed in combat, plus 20 destroyed and 19 damaged on the ground.

Oregon Prison Group Planning Expansion; Joe Silver Named
The association has had no executive secretary since the resignation of Lettie V. Good two years ago.

H. M. Randall, director of the state department of parole and probation, said that Robert Jones, now assistant parole officer acting for the southern Oregon area, would become senior parole officer pending a permanent appointment.

Silver joined the department when it was organized, in 1939, as assistant parole officer, and was advanced to his present position in 1943. He said his wife and two children, now residing on route 1 in West Salem, would move to Portland as soon as housing facilities could be arranged.

Annexation Vote Due in April If 3rd Reading OK'd

Affected Areas Split Over Plan For Joining City

Annexation of approximately two city blocks at the south edge and of a larger strip of territory along the northeast and east borders of Salem will be proposed at an election to be held April 6 if a pair of ordinances introduced at Monday night's council meeting are passed when they come up for third reading three weeks hence.

Opposition from residents of the outlying territories to both the election and to the annexation proposal was heard in informal discussions which followed the session and was expressed in petitions bearing approximately 240 names which appeared at that time and which are to be presented at the February meeting.

Others Want It
Other groups of suburban residents have been about equally anxious to come within the city boundaries so that they may be included in sewer service plans now being drawn, Alderman James Byers, chairman of the annexation committee, said he had been informed. Extensive new sewer lines will be laid when the sewage disposal plant is built after the war, and details of the engineering will depend upon the number of residences to be served, he said. (Approximate boundaries of proposed annexation described on page 2.)

An ordinance vacating the portion of the road lying between the railroad tracks and the state fairgrounds was passed.

Want More Light
Hollywood residents, whose principal spokesman Monday night was Frank Perry, were assured that their request for improved street lighting in the city's second largest business district would be given fair consideration and whatever relief might be indicated and available. Perry said that the present 250-watt globes hung at street intersections provided the same type of light that Hollywood had before streets there were paved, and that installation of additional lights, between intersections and use of 1000-watt globes would cost the city only the small additional monthly electricity bill.

Complaints Made
Complaints by L. H. McMahan that Hunt Bros. cannery and the Terminal Ice & Cold Storage company have usurped rights that do not belong to them "are correct" is a special committee of Aldermen David O'Hara, Claude Jorgensen and Albert Gilles reported. The committee report, accepted by the council, asks that city law enforcement agencies be instructed to act to correct the corporations' alleged encroachments. McMahan had complained that the two concerns took over parking and sidewalk space, parked vehicles in such a way that pedestrians could not walk on their side of the street.

Army Plane Carrying 11 Passengers Crashes
SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Jan. 15—(AP)—A US army plane carrying 11 passengers and crew crashed yesterday on a routine flight from Borinquen field, Puerto Rico, it was announced today.

Three survivors were rescued and one body was recovered, leaving seven persons missing.

Weather
San Francisco 55 49 54
Salem 46 41 43
Portland 57 41 42
Seattle 59 51 55
Willamette river 1 ft. 1 in.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Governor Snell has recommended that revenues from the operations of the liquor control commission be covered into the general fund, instead of being paid, the state share that is, into the public welfare fund. This is advocated by some of the pension organizations. The ostensible reason may be objection to receiving "tainted money" although I never have heard of anyone's refusing to accept old age assistance for that reason. The more plausible reason is to get the general fund to assume the obligation of public welfare, regardless of liquor receipts, apparently sensing the fact that profits may fall off when the war boom ends.

There is merit in the proposal from the standpoint of public accounting. Authorities in public finance pretty well agree that all receipts should be covered into the general fund and then appropriations made by the legislature as needs warrant.

But if this rule is to be applied to the liquor revenues it certainly should be applied to the receipts from the racing commission. At present only one-half of one percent of the gross take at licensed race meets goes to the state general fund. The remaining two and one-half per cent making up the state share goes direct to certain fairs, expositions and shows. Actually the distribution is

Burma Strong Point Taken
MYITKYINA, Burma, Jan. 15—(AP)—Chinese troops under Gen. Sun Li-jen today captured Namhkam, last remaining major Japanese stronghold in north Burma.

Only the Japanese garrison at Wanting in China near the Burma border separates the route of the new Ledo road to China from a junction with the old Burma road.

Another element of Chinese troops from Burma also pushed up the valley north of the Shweli river today and made contact with a Chinese force pushing east from China.

U.S. Moving Toward Direct Hand in European Affairs
By John M. Hightower
WASHINGTON, Jan. 15—(AP)—The United States is moving swiftly toward a direct hand in the political affairs of Europe. President Roosevelt and the state department were veering away from Cordell Hull's "Tennessee formula" for keeping this country out of such affairs pending creation of a world security organization.

The change is viewed in diplomatic quarters, both American and European, as the most important development of that nature since 1941 when this country was plunged into war. The reason offered by American officials is that action is necessary now to mold the peace for which this war is being fought.

Mr. Roosevelt apparently signaled the shift in his message to