

# 82,000 GIs FACE CHRISTMAS IN COAST PORTS

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### IT SEEKS TO ME

By Charles A. Simonds

While there are some Americans who are decrying the proposed loan to Great Britain on the ground that its terms are too generous and repayments too uncertain, there are many in Britain who object to the loan from their side, regarding the terms as too severe and the conditions dangerous to British economy. In spite of its being made a party measure 23 labor members of commons voted against ratifying the loan along with 69 conservatives.

The situation in which Britain finds itself is indeed embarrassing. England was the seat of the industrial revolution and became the core of a vast empire. Napoleon taunted the country with being a "nation of shopkeepers" and so it was. It developed into a great center of manufacturing and trade. As such it depended on imports of foodstuffs and raw materials and on export demand for its finished goods. It became also a center of world finance, with London the money capital of the world and the great pool for men with technical and managerial skills. In this role Britain prospered and its population increased rapidly in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Competition developed from Germany and Japan and from the United States. Britain finally moved from its free trade position to one with moderate tariffs and later to an empire preference system which encouraged trade within the empire. But competition developed within the empire. India, long a huge market for the cotton goods of Lancashire, got cotton mills

(Continued on Editorial Page)

### Schools Close As Flu Spreads

By the Associated Press

Schools at Talent and St. Helens, Ore., and Hoquiam, Wash., were closed today by an outbreak of mild influenza which left vacant seats in several other northwest classrooms.

Neither the Talent nor St. Helens schools will reopen until after the holidays school officials said. Principal Roy Parr, Talent, reported a 40 per cent absence yesterday, and Supt. Francis Gill of St. Helens said about 250 of 1000 pupils were ill.

County health officials estimated 400 to 600 persons afflicted at Ontario, Ore., and many pupils were reported absent from Canby, Ore., schools.

### Wife Commands, Hubby Drives Tank

MOSCOW, Dec. 18.—(AP)—A married couple who bought their own tank and used it, with Generalissimo Stalin's permission, to kill 160 enemy soldiers have been demobilized from the red army.

The couple, Lt. Ivan Fyodorovitch Boiko and his wife, Senior Lt. Alexandra Boiko, who early in the war turned their savings of 50,000 rubles over to the Soviet Union to build a tank, took part in campaigns on Poland, Germany, Romania and Czechoslovakia. The wife commanded the tank; her husband drove.

### Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"But you must learn to like strawberry jam—people don't have picnics in the winter."

## 1000 Unhoused by Blast

These Are Busy Days at Salem Postoffice

LOBBY



BACK-STAGE



Lobby of the Salem post office was crowded all day Monday and Tuesday with persons waiting to mail Christmas packages. More than 126,000 pieces of mail went through the cancelling machine Monday, the greatest number ever recorded locally. In the back room the outgoing holiday mail is sorted by dispatchers. (McEwan Photos)

### Western Union Strike Called For January 7

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(P)—The general committee of the Western Union Commercial Telegraphers union tonight ordered a strike for January 7 to begin at 8 a.m. in each time zone.

The AFL union, which claims 48,000 members in the nation, has demanded a 25 per cent increase in pay and concessions on 12 other issues. Negotiations with the company have been deadlocked since last August, and a vote to strike was returned in balloting conducted by the national labor relations board December 1.

The strike date was fixed at a general committee meeting here.

#### 98TH DIVISION HOME

FORT LEWIS, Dec. 18.—(P)—The first group of high fint men of the 98th (Dead Eye) infantry division to return home from the Pacific arrived at Fort Lewis tonight. They came up from San Francisco to Tacoma on the ship Zellin.

### Nazis Admit 3,544,284 Men Lost Before 'Battle of Bulge'

NUERNBERG, Dec. 18.—(P)—The German army high command admitted secretly just before its last great gamble, the Ardennes counter-attack, that Germany had lost 3,544,284 men killed or missing in action—65 per cent of them on the Soviet front—in more than five years of war, it was learned today from a Nazi document.

Prepared for the Führer's headquarters, this casualty report by the intelligence branch of the German army indicated that Hitler publicly told the truth about the low price in Teutonic lives he paid for conquering Poland, but was an inveterate liar thereafter.

The report did not include the wounded, as American army tabulations do, but an attached note stated there were 729,031 wehrmacht wounded and sick hospitalized in the Reich at the time.

Soviet officials have said that German casualties in the east, including dead, wounded, captured and missing, reached 12,000,000. The wehrmacht report covering eastern operations up to November 30, 1944, listed 1,410,728 dead and 907,050 missing.

Military men estimate that the wounded usually number four times as many as the dead. Applied to the wehrmacht report, this formula would mean adding more than 3,500,000 to the dead and missing figure of nearly 2,500,000 taken Central Africa, and Italy

### Christmas Mail Peak Believed Past in Salem

Representatives of seven cities of the Willamette valley met at the city hall in Monmouth Tuesday night to discuss plans for the future of Camp Adair and its relative importance to the adjoining areas.

The group interested in promoting new industries in the valley will be designated as the "Seven City Development Group."

Clay Cochran, secretary of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, and a Salem representative at the meeting, pointed out that Camp Adair, upon its release by the government, will be an ideal site for one or more large industries since power, sewage, climate, housing, streets, rail connections and its large cold storage plants are the ground work for post war plans of some major industries.

The organization would have

representatives from each town to work together on the plan.

George W. Cooper, of the chamber of commerce, Monmouth, has been appointed temporary chairman.

Other minimum temperatures:

Pendleton 6, Burns 8, Klamath Falls 11, Medford 22, Portland 28, Salem 30, Eugene 33, Roseburg 33.

**SPAUING HQ TO OPEN**

Headquarters for the Bruce Spaulding for Congress organization will be open in Salem in a few days, according to Ralph Campbell, Salem attorney who has been named treasurer for the group.

The location of the offices have not been decided. Eugene Hayter of Dallas has been named secretary.

**Weather**

Max. Min. Rain  
Salem 38 24 Trace  
Eugene 38 32 Trace  
Portland 40 28 Trace  
Seaside 41 25 .00  
San Francisco 38 42

Willamette river 1.8 feet.

**FORECAST** (from U.S. weather bureau, Marine field, Eugene) Foggy morning with clouds in afternoon. Maximum temperature 40 degrees.

**New Snow on Way To Eastern U. S.**

By the Associated Press

A new snow storm began enveloping the eastern half of the nation last night bringing some moderation but no lasting relief from one of December's bitterest cold spells. More than 34 deaths already have been directly attributed to weather conditions in the current cold wave.

The new snow increased traffic hazards over wide areas, but heightened prospects for a white Christmas.

## Russia Agreed 'In Principle' to Join Axis

By Russell Brines

TOKYO, Wednesday, Dec. 19.—(P)—Russia in late 1940 agreed "in principle" to join members of the tri-partite alliance in a four-power entente which assigned the eastern world between them.

Prince Fumimaro Konoye posthumously revealed in a special document defending the axis.

In the document, Konoye reports that then Japanese Foreign Minister Yosuke Matsuoka said he had been told in Berlin that Iran and India were to be Russia's "future sphere of influence" under a secret agreement accompanying the proposed entente.

Japan was to receive the South Seas area; Germany would have the added neither Germany nor

Northern Africa, said a document released today by Konoye's son, Michitaka, who stated it was prepared by his father preceding his Sunday suicide.

Konoye said, however, the plan failed to progress and that three months after the agreement in principle was reached, German officials openly talked about the inevitability of a Nazi-Soviet war.

Japan once officially requested Berlin to avoid war with Russia, but the overture was brushed aside with the contention "It will be possible to terminate operations in two or three months."

Both he and Japan had been duped by Berlin's "traitorous" power politics, Konoye said, and he added neither Germany nor

Russia seriously attempted to conclude the entente agreement.

Matsuoka, then foreign minister, knew about the prospective Nazi-Soviet hostilities when he sought and obtained a neutrality pact from Moscow, the document said. Matsuoka's purpose was to hedge on Japan's position.

Konoye repeatedly contended that Japan expected, by joining the axis, to obtain a rapprochement with the Soviet as well as Germany and Italy. He said Germany was advancing in the direction of Japanese-German-Soviet collaboration until at least the time of Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov's visit to Berlin in November, 1940.

Nazi Foreign Minister Von Rib-

bentrop advanced the plan for the four-power agreement, which included:

"Firstly, the Soviet Union will declare that it agrees with the principle on the tri-partite pact in the sense of preventing war and swiftly recovering peace."

"Secondly, the Soviet Union will recognize the leading position of Germany and Italy and Japan respectively in the new order in Europe and Asia and the three nations will pledge respect of Soviet territory."

"Thirdly, the three nations and the Soviet Union pledge not to assist any nation being the enemy of the other, nor to join such a group of nations."

War Weary GI's Protest Delay

Railroad Speed-Up Ordered

### 45,000 Men Jam San Francisco Port Facilities

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(P)—The army said tonight that 82,000 GIs from the Pacific would have to spend Christmas in west coast ports awaiting transportation home unless the rail jam cleared up.

The navy announced that many of its men scheduled for discharge or furlough will be in the same fix, too, but gave no figures.

Hoping to relieve the situation some, the office of defense transportation ordered all railroads west of the Mississippi to move troop trains "just as fast as they can" to regular passenger trains from now until March 1.

The army's statement reported that more than 35,000 soldiers had been waiting more than 48 hours for trains to the east as of last midnight. It added that with 110,700 more troops expected to reach west coast ports between now and Dec. 24, "the backlog will continue to mount rapidly."

From San Francisco came word that nearly 100,000 soldiers and sailors in all were in west coast staging areas and ports awaiting transportation. Of these the heaviest concentration, 45,000, was in the San Francisco area. Los Angeles reported 17,000 men in two camps ashore and 10,000 aboard ships in the harbor, with the jam expected to last through the holidays.

### UAW Rejects Ford Offer of 15 Cent Raise

By the Associated Press

The CIO United Auto Workers promptly rejected as "completely unacceptable" yesterday a Ford Motor company offer of a 12.4 per cent wage rate increase.

The UAW-CIO, which is demanding a 30 per cent wage rate hike, twice previously turned down offers from General Motors for a 10 per cent pay boost.

The Ford offer, which the company said would represent an additional outlay of \$33,000,000 annually above the \$35,000,000 it estimated it stood to lose next year on the basis of no salary raises, embodied these conditions:

The increases would become effective when monthly production reached 70,000 units; they would remain in effect for two years but any boost in the OPA ceiling price on cars would not be a basis for wage adjustments; a "company security" plan would be agreed on barring wildcat strikes, protecting "company prerogatives" and reducing the number of union committees.

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The rejection did not create a deadlock in the negotiations, however, and another conference was arranged for Thursday.

### Soviet Favors Big 3 Meets

MOSCOW, Dec. 18.—(P)—As foreign ministers of the United States, Britain and Soviet Russia met for their third formal session today, the Moscow newspaper "New Times" indicated Russia would favor continued meetings of the big three powers in the interest of world collaboration.

Referring to recent proposals that veto rights of the five major nations on the United Nations security council be abolished, the New Times called this an "attempt to balk on firm collaboration of non-loving great powers," and an attempt to "transfer international policy to new rails" which "cannot lead peoples to a way of peaceful life."

He immediately left with Lt. Gen. W. D. Styler, commander of army forces in the western Pacific, and Maj. Gen. L. J. Whitlock, on a tour of the ruined city.

Marshall plans to leave for China tomorrow morning.

### Driver Stops, Victim Runs In Salem Accident

A hit and run accident with a reverse twist occurred in the 700 block on Center st. Tuesday afternoon when a child ran into the street and into the side of a moving car. The driver of the car stopped but the boy got up and ran quickly outdistancing the driver of the car who chased him in an endeavor to make sure the boy was not injured.

Buy CHRISTMAS SEALS

BOO! YOU'VE ONLY GOT 5 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

