

191 Jap Ships Hit By Yanks

Allied Troops On Luzon Search For Jap Defenders

By LEONARD WILLIAM Associated Press War Editor
For the second successive day third fleet carrier planes dove on broken Japanese convoys off the south Asiatic coast today, determined to increase the toll of 191 Nipponese ships and surface craft sunk or damaged off Indo-China, Formosa and the Philippines.

Six loaded transports were sunk at Qui-nhon, 800 miles west of Manila. Six more were sunk at Saigon, 250 air miles southeast of Qui-nhon. A light cruiser was the heaviest warship sighted. It was sunk. So were several destroyers.

JAP FLEET LOSS TOTALED

By Associated Press
Here is the new Japanese naval and merchant fleet destruction at a glance:
Sunk—62 ships including 12 loaded transports and half a dozen warships; 18 small craft.

Retraction Of WPB Order Expected Soon

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—The war production board proposes shortly to emasculate its re-conversion order allowing advance production of machinery and plant equipment for peacetime manufacturing.

Men Of West Ride High In Congress

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—The west was riding high as the 79th congress inched through its first business week.

LOGGERS WANT GOVERNMENT WOOD RESEARCH

SEASIDE, Jan. 13.—(AP)—The 1000-odd delegates to the Pacific Logging congress headed home today after calling for government-financed research in the lumber industry.

CORDON ASKS PACIFIC COAST NAVAL SCHOOL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Defense of the Pacific coast would be strengthened, Senator Cordon (R. Ore.) says, by establishment of a naval academy in that area.

NAZIS VICIOUS NEAR BOLOGNA

ROME, Jan. 13.—(AP)—American fifth army patrols probing deep into German positions south of Bologna have encountered vicious enemy resistance, allied headquarters announced today.

NAZIS CALL RED DRIVE 'GIGANTIC'

LONDON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—A red army offensive launched from the Sandomierz bridgehead west of the Vistula has blasted a 37-mile breach in the German defenses of Poland and carried forward 25 miles to within 41 miles of Krakow, gateway to German Silesia.

LONDON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—The Germans declared today that the red army had launched a gigantic winter offensive with three mighty attacks in Poland, East Prussia and northern Hungary.

Work-Fight Legislation Hits Obstacles

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—President Roosevelt's request for "work-or-fight" legislation to force 4-Fs into war work ran into tough obstacles today, as the following developments were reported:

1. The congress of industrial organizations said such a law would be "thoroughly unworkable"; that in fact no form of manpower draft was needed but that manpower problems should be worked out by management and labor conferences with the government.

2. Members of the house military affairs committee, currently considering the May work-or-fight bill, began to wonder if such a law would force new war workers to join unions against their will.

3. And at the same time war production officials said the manpower crisis in industry would be greatly eased anyway if the currently reported trend of 4-Fs into war work continued.

The house committee has been holding hearings all week on a bill introduced by Chairman Andrew J. May (D. Ky.) to set up special army units for men 18 to 45 who refuse to do essential war work.

Such a conference, he said, could determine where production is lagging, where ample facilities and manpower are located and whether increased wages would boost production.

Today Murray and spokesmen for most of the big CIO unions met with military and civilian government leaders to give specific recommendations and to list certain practices which they said were wasting labor and should be corrected.

Meanwhile one production official said that on the basis of newspaper reports of 4-Fs flocking to war jobs, many of the 300,000 men needed in war plants might be recruited voluntarily.

PRISONER ESCAPES

SALEM.—Jan. 13.—(AP)—State and local police were on the lookout today for Bernard Walton, 22, who escaped from the state penitentiary here yesterday while at work near the flax sheds outside the prison walls.

SECONd JUDGE ASKED

MEDFORD, Jan. 13.—(AP)—A law adding a second judge to the Josephine-Jackson county circuit court is asked by Grants Pass residents. State Representative O. H. Bengtson said here today.

MAN SENTENCED

THE DALLES, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Sentence was imposed today on Sam Brendell, of The Dalles, who was found guilty of manslaughter by a circuit court jury here last night.

Japs Report Slight Quake

By Associated Press
A "slight earthquake" struck the central area of Honshu, main Japanese home island today, the Japanese Domei agency reported in a broadcast.

The dispatch, recorded by the federal communications commission, said "a little damage to a small number of houses" had been caused, but declared "transportation facilities sustained no damage whatever." The quake was recorded at 3:55 a. m. (Tokyo time).

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RUNDSTEDT FALLS BACK ON OURTHER

PARIS, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' first army smashed into the northeastern shoulder of the Ardennes salient in a new attack along a nine-mile front between Stavelot and Malmédy today, driving a spearhead 1,200 yards into the German defenses.

By JAMES M. LONG
PARIS, Jan. 13.—(AP)—U. S. first army troops drove more than a mile through snowbound forests today toward Houffalize, heart of the Germans' shrunken bulge into Belgium, while third army forces on the south battled within five miles of the highway stronghold.

The first army vanguards sliced to within less than six miles of Houffalize, menacing the Germans' last escape road, and narrowing the waist of the enemy salient to less than 11 miles in the American nutcracker clamp.

Ousted from 100 square miles at the tip of the bloody salient, Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt already had fallen back to within two to three miles of the Ourthe river. The new blows menaced any German hopes of holding a line through Houffalize east of the river.

By unofficial estimate, Von Rundstedt had lost the equivalent of 20 divisions—perhaps 200,000 men—in his breakthrough drive. But he had rescued the bulk of his far-reaching armor, in strength still constituting a striking threat.

The tip of Von Rundstedt's drive had been back 23 to 25 miles from its nearest approach to the Meuse river, and American and British armies had regained 60 per cent of German-overrun territory.

Yanks Advance
Soldiers of the first army shoved 2,000 yards through forest lands south of Langlier, seven miles above Houffalize, reaching to within three miles of the all-important Houffalize-St. Vith highway. Germans fought back violently.

First army patrols which straddled east of the Salm river already were within nine miles of St. Vith, and the largest third army punch up through northern Luxembourg was only six miles from Vianden.

Along the southern end of the front, U. S. seventh army troops were forced from Oeting, five miles southwest of Saarbrücken. But farther east in the Bitché salient the Americans were doing most of the advancing now, and occupied Althorn, six miles below Bitché.

DIMOUT NOT FOR OREGON

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—(AP)—New "dimout" regulation for illuminated advertising signs and street lighting probably will not apply to the Pacific northwest, Sen. Wayne Morse (R. Ore.) said today.

Morse said he had been informed by War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes that the dimout was necessitated by the coal shortage and consequently will affect only areas depending on coal for generating power.

The northwest, Morse pointed out, draws its power from hydroelectric sources such as Bonneville dam.

French, Belgians Backing Allied War With Men, Arms

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
Associated Press War Analyst
Uncle Sam's soldiers are suffering heavy casualties in the bloody battle of the Belgian bulge—and the end isn't in sight. So great is the call for manpower in Europe, and in the Pacific theater, that Washington is inducting a minimum of 300,000 men for the armed services in the first six months of 1945.

With this stark background, the publisher of a daily newspaper has asked me what substantiation there is for reports that, while our boys are being sacrificed, there are French and Belgian youths who also could be used, but are not. Well, that's an unpleasant subject but one which should be ironed out, for the sake of all concerned.

To state my conclusions first, I find no support for such an idea. On the contrary, both France and Belgium seem to be doing all they can to get their available men into action, and the allies are rendering such assistance as they can. However, the situation is complicated and difficult.

Dr. Wetherbee Dies; Practiced Here 16 Years

Dr. J. R. Wetherbee, 73, who probably was the first pre-medical student to complete his work at the University of Oregon, and who returned to Eugene about 16 years ago to make his home after a busy life as an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist, world-traveler and lecturer, died Friday at his home on Lake Drive, route 5, Eugene. He had practiced medicine in Oregon for 40 years.

Dr. Wetherbee was born Nov. 26, 1871, at Middlesburg, Vt. He came west in 1891, to Seattle, then went to Salem as general secretary and physical education director for the YMCA. He came to Eugene in 1893, and organized the department of physical education here, serving as its first director while he also was a student in pre-medic.

On completion of his work at the university, he went to Jefferson Medical college at Philadelphia, where he was graduated in 1900. For two years he was in Alabama as company surgeon for Republic Iron and Steel Co.

Travels Abroad
He came west again, to Portland, where he maintained his practice until coming to Eugene, with frequent interruptions for travel abroad. In 1906, he studied at the University of Berlin, Germany, and he later did graduate work in other large universities. In 1923, he made his first trip around the world, indulging a hobby for Oriental philosophy. Three other globe-circling trips were made, as educational director of world cruises, which were followed by a season of lecturing.

He was married in December, 1927, in Minneapolis, to Phyllis Harrington Arnold, who survives him.

During the last war, Dr. Wetherbee served as a major in the medical corps.

Holds Offices
During his residence in Portland, the medical man held many positions of civic importance, and had retained his membership in the Portland chamber of commerce. In Eugene he was a charter member of the Round Table, a member of First Congregational church, the chamber of commerce and Kiwanis clubs. He was affiliated with county and state and national medical associations, and was a 32nd degree Scottish rite Mason, and Shriner.

Besides his wife, Dr. Wetherbee is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Mary Corne of Portland and Mrs. Jennie Dill of Los Angeles; several nieces and nephews.

Private funeral services are to be held Monday at 11 a. m. at the Simon mortuary, with cremation to follow.

'Pop' Christensen, Lane Rancher, Dies

Lawrence "Pop" Christensen, 61, well-known cattleman of the Spencer Butte district, died Saturday morning at Sacred Heart hospital. He was the proprietor of one of the largest cattle and sheep ranches of the Willamette valley, located on the Fox Hollow road, which he and his sons had developed. The ranch supplied stock for the Lane county rodeo last summer.

Born at Denver, Colo., he was brought to Lane county as an infant by his parents in 1864. They settled at Bailey Hill, where his mother, Mrs. Christina Christensen, still resides.

Christensen worked as a professional woodsman for many years. He was married to Molly Allmace in Eugene in 1911. They purchased the ranch which is the present family home soon after their marriage, and where they reared their family.

He is survived by his wife; one daughter, Mrs. W. B. Markley; two sons, Henry and Albert Christensen, all of Eugene; his mother, and one brother, George Christensen, both of Bailey Hill; two grandchildren. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church.

Funeral services will be announced later through the Veatch-Hollingsworth mortuary.

GIRL JUMPS TO DEATH

PORTLAND, Jan. 13.—(AP)—An unidentified girl leaped to her death from the Broadway bridge early this morning.



FIRST JAP-AMERICAN LEGIONNAIRE—Harle M. Oka, (center) first Japanese-American veteran to become an American Legion member, is congratulated by officials of the Hollywood post after his acceptance. So far as can be ascertained, Oka is the first person of Japanese ancestry to become a member of the veterans organization. (NEA Telephoto)

16 JAP-AMERICANS RETURN TO HOOD RIVER

HOOD RIVER, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Efforts to organize a Japanese-American veterans' committee to meet returning Japanese-Americans discouraged them from returning to the Hood River valley three miles today were back to the county without so much as an eyebrow raised against them.

The three former evacuees—Sato, Sato and Minami—returning by train Friday without attention from agents reported to be forming a "welcoming committee" to meet incoming trains bearing any evacuees. Sato, an orchard owner, came from Cleveland, O., where he worked in a war plant. The other two were from undesignated destinations. They were the first to return to this valley under the recent order by the western defense command permitting such rehabilitation.

Hood River gained nationwide attention after the American Legion post expunged from its war honor roll the names of 16 Japanese-Americans serving with the armed forces, bringing down upon the post widespread criticism from ministerial and liberal groups.

100 MEN DIE WHEN STORM HITS THREE DESTROYERS

By LLOYD TUPLING
Associated Press War Correspondent
ADMIRAL HALSEY'S THIRD FLEET, Dec. 29 — (DEP)—A swirling tropical storm caught a group of three destroyers attempting to refuel tankers at sea after extending operations, swept 200 men to death, sank three destroyers, damaged three craft.

One of the destroyers was damaged by the navy department (Washington Wednesday).

31 officers and men survived the sinking of the destroyer USS Hull and the USS Stribling, 1,500-ton vessels of Farragut class, and the USS Spence, a 2,100-ton ship of the Spence class.

Three officers and 24 men of the Hull, whose bodies or identification tags were recovered, were listed as dead. The remainder of the crew were listed as missing.

Seven men were swept overboard from other ships and two perished in the intense heat of the destroyer engine room when the ventilating system, knocked out by the typhoon, had failed the ships, following an unpredictable course the formation was unable to maintain.

The destroyers lost steering control while attempting to get clear of the storm area. First the Hull, then the Monaghan and the Spence overturned and were crushed by the boiling seas.

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PRISONER SHOT IN ESCAPE TRY

SEASIDE, Jan. 13.—(AP)—Guards shot a 21-year-old German prisoner who was outside the compound Camp White Wednesday and was trying to flee, the camp command officer said today.

U. S. Weather Bureau Forecast
Light showers, partly cloudy tonight and Sunday with a slight cold wave late Sunday and slightly cooler tonight.