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THE BEND BULLETIN

CENTRAL OREGON'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Weather Forecast
Partly cloudy with few scattered showers today; Wednesday increasing cloudiness west portion, with rain in afternoon and partly cloudy east portion.

Big Prussian Fortress Falls to Red Army

Patch's Men Seize Initiative Yank Forces Near Clark Field

Advance Made On Rhine Front By U. S. Troops
Germans Are Expected To Make Stand on West Side of Siegfried Line

Paris, Jan. 16 (UP)—The American Seventh army seized the initiative of the upper Rhine today, storming the German bridgehead north of Strasbourg, and advanced almost two miles to the outskirts of Gumbheim, nine miles above the Alsation capital.

Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's forces attacked at the south end of the western front while other American forces were occupying Houffalize, one-time anchor base of the Ardennes salient, and driving over the approaches of St. Vith, last major stronghold in Belgium.

The doughboys found Houffalize abandoned by the Germans who were withdrawing eastward to the St. Vith ridge on which Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt apparently intended to experiment with an attempted stand outside the Siegfried line.

Nazi Fire Encountered
Seventh army troops and tanks charged the German bridgehead above Strasbourg this morning after artillery preparation before dawn. They ran into violent fire from small arms and artillery, including guns on the last bank of the Rhine across from Offendorf.

In a thrust of more than a mile, one section of the attacking force crossed the Zorn river running north from Herrlisheim, a mile and a half north of Offendorf.

Other units struck straight for Gumbheim, main anchor base of the bridgehead. They advanced almost two miles and by midafternoon were fighting in the woods immediately north of Gumbheim. Below this key town the attack carried to Bettenhoven, a southwestern suburb of Gumbheim.

Rail Line Reached
North of Herrlisheim, some forces reached the rail line running northeastward parallel with the Rhine.

On the Belgian front the American First and Third armies and units of the British Second army were fighting the combination of numbing winter weather and brisk German resistance along the flanks of the salient whose nose had collapsed.

The Germans were making the orderly eastward withdrawal under cover of a fog which prevented air activity, while ice-glazed roads impeded the allied efforts to slash in behind the enemy.

THIRD FLEET PLANES LASH AT CHINA COAST AFTER WRECKING 69 JAP SHIPS

By MAC R. JOHNSON (United Press War Correspondent)
Pearl Harbor, Jan. 16 (UP)—Carrier planes of the Third fleet, turning north after wrecking 69 ships off French Indo-China, lashed the China coast from Hong Kong to Swatow with bombs and bullets yesterday for the second straight day, Tokyo broadcasts revealed today.

A Pearl Harbor communique reported without elaboration that Admiral William F. Halsey's air striking forces had opened the attack Sunday along a 350-mile stretch of the coast from Hong Kong north through Swatow to Amoy.

Following through Monday, Tokyo said, about 70 carrier planes bombed and machine-gunned Hong Kong, Canton and Swatow, the latter midway between Hong Kong and Amoy. Five planes were shot down and three damaged, Tokyo said.

U. S. Advance Across Plains Is Unchecked

Americans Cover Third Of Distance to Manila In Sweep Over Island

By William B. Dickinson (United Press War Correspondent)
General MacArthur's Headquarters, Luzon, Jan. 16 (UP)—American tanks, mobile guns and infantry swept on unchecked and apparently unchallenged across the great central Luzon plains less than 75 air miles north of Manila today.

The biggest invasion of the Pacific war entered its second week with American spearheads nearly 35 air and 40 road miles inland from the Lingayen gulf beachhead—almost a third of the way to the Philippines capital.

Stiff fighting was under way along the Rosario-Pozorrubio line at the northeastern corner of the beachhead, but the unopposed frontal advance already had carried to within nearly 30 miles of the great Clark field air center and perhaps a dozen miles of the provincial capital of Tarlac.

Column Advances
Camiling, 28 road miles inland from Lingayen and five miles inside Tarlac province, fell Sunday to two converging columns which advanced nine miles from Bayambang, to the northeast, and Mangatarem, to the northwest, and merged into a single powerful army aimed straight at Manila.

Tarlac lies 22 road miles and 17 air miles south of Camiling and may be engaged by the advancing Americans within the next 24 hours, if it has not already fallen.

For the first time since Gen. Douglas MacArthur's men began the march back to Manila from New Guinea, they are fighting under the conditions in which their mechanized equipment and great firepower can best be used.

Clark Field Target
American bombers struck out ahead of the advancing troops Friday and Saturday and heavily bombed and strafed both Tarlac and the Clark field air center, as well as airfields at Manila and farther south. Supply and bivouac areas were destroyed at Tarlac and large fires started.

At the center of the beachhead, other American forces advanced five miles from Catablan to Urgueta, 16 miles southeast of Dagupan, along the main highway running east across the plains.

Units in the northwest corner of the beachhead seized several hill-top positions in sharp fighting with Japanese forces and gradually were reducing enemy positions with artillery and mortar fire.

NEW DRIVE OPENED
With 21st Army Group, Western Front, Jan. 16 (UP)—British forces opened a new attack today in the area of Sittard.

Dead Engineer Pilot of Train

Ogden, Utah, Jan. 16 (UP)—A dead engineer piloted the speeding 20-car mail and express train which thundered out of the pre-dawn darkness Dec. 31 and ploughed into the rear end of the passenger section of the Southern Pacific's crack "Pacific Limited," killing 50 persons and injuring four-score more.

Such was the testimony this morning by Col. Frank B. Queens, pathologist at Bushnell general hospital, Brigham City, Utah, who conducted an autopsy on the body of James McDonald, 64, grey-haired veteran engineer of the fast mail-express.

Dies Before Crash
"The engineer was dead of a heart attack before the crash," said Queens, pointing out that there was nothing to indicate the engineer had reacted at all to the steam which poured over his body as the huge locomotive ploughed deep into the rear Pullman of the passenger train.

The testimony was given at an official coroner's inquest into causes of the crash 22 miles west of Ogden at a railroad stop known as Bagley. Three cars of the passenger train were telescoped and eight others of the two trains were strewn askew of the double trackage. Many of the injured and dead were pinned in the wreckage for as much as eight hours.

Anglers Protest May 12 Opening

Protesting the tentative setting of May 12 as the opening date for the angling season east of the Cascades, a number of Central Oregon sportsmen today were reported to have written members of the Oregon State game commission. According to information received at the Chamber of commerce, the commission's plans to set the late date were strongly attacked in the communications.

Local sportsmen contend that the opening date should be rolled back at least two weeks, and charge that partiality is shown by the proposed plan to open the lower Deschutes to fishing on April 28.

The game commission has set Jan. 27 as the date when their decision will become final, and it was expected that scores of protests would have reached them before that time.

Longer Balloting Hours Are Sought

Salem, Ore., Jan. 16 (UP)—The polls will be kept open until 10 p. m. on election days, if a bill presented to the house yesterday by Rep. Jack Bain, Milwaukie, passes. The polls close at 8 p. m. at present.

Other bills introduced to the house included:

A redefinition of optometry in the state, and a restatement of qualifications—permitting the practice of eye exercises and other treatment.

A description and adoption of a system of coordinates for designating and stating the positions of points on the surface of the earth in Oregon—changing the basis for land survey and dividing the state into two sections for the purpose.

New Snow Falls On High Divide

The storm which during the night sheathed the summits of the Cascades deposited snow ranging in depth from 10 inches to 15 inches, it was reported today at the Bend headquarters of the state highway department, with the fall continuing throughout the morning.

The greatest depth was reported on the Willamette highway, where, like on the Santiam, snowplows were busily engaged in plowing open the traffic lanes. Ten inches of snow was reported from the Santiam summit, and 11 inches of packed snow was noted on the Wapinitia highway. The continued snowfall was reported in all districts to be light, with maintenance men on The Dalles-California highway between Bend and Klamath Falls reporting "normal conditions" there.

The weatherman predicted snow showers over the mountains today and tonight, with cloudiness in store for tomorrow.

FLUE FIRE REPORTED
A flue fire yesterday afternoon at the home of Dr. J. W. Thom, 25 Irving avenue, caused no damage, city firemen reported today.

Yanks Mop Up Jap Remnants on Leyte



U. S. 32nd Division Infantrymen with aid of medium tank battalion tighten their grip in the Ormoc sector of northeast Leyte Island. Yanks push past smashed tank and artillery as they prepare to take mortar-defended enemy position around road bend. Signal Corps photo.

Lions Told of Flier's Escape

Telling of his experiences 65 days behind the German lines and how he sometimes brushed elbows with nazi soldiers in Paris as he masqueraded in French clothing, Lt. Rex Hjelm, now stationed at the Redmond army air field, today spoke informally before the Lions club at their noon meeting in the Pine Tavern.

Lt. Hjelm said that he was forced to bail out 45 miles north of Paris after his P-38 plane had been destroyed in an air battle.

The air fighter said that the French people befriended him, and that the poorer classes were especially friendly. They assisted him in the long trek back to the allied lines. Fifteen days of the period were spent in Paris, and from there he made an 85-mile trek in four days through the German lines to join an American air force group. Lt. Hjelm said that he wore his clothing at one time for over a month without removing a garment.

Bombard Paris
Lt. Hjelm was with the first fighter group to bomb Berlin, and related how the Americans caught the Germans entirely off guard. His fighter group also aided the allies on the D-day invasion on the beaches of France.

Possessor of four oak leaf clusters and two stars signifying major battles, Lt. Hjelm is married and with his wife resides in Bend. Before joining the air force, the officer lived in Idaho Falls, Ida.

Today's Lions' session was presided over by Glenn Gregg, president.

Dynamite-Laden Civil Rights Bill Is Introduced at Salem

Measure Says Public Accommodations Not To Be Denied to Persons Because of Race

Salem, Ore., Jan. 16 (UP)—The dynamite-laden civil rights bill, providing legal protection for the rights of persons without regard to race, creed or color, was introduced to the 1945 Oregon legislature today by Senators Thomas Mahoney, Lew Wallace and Coe McKenna, all of Portland.

The bill, which passed the senate in 1939, and then died in the committee in the house, provides that public accommodations cannot be denied a person due to his race. Due for strong opposition by hotel interests, the bill may have a rough chance to pass.

In the house, Gov. Earl Snell's bill to send liquor revenue directly to the general fund, and provides for appropriations for old age assistance, was introduced by the public welfare and unemployment committee.

Would Lift Lid
Rep. Joseph E. Harvey, Portland, submitted a bill to the house which would lift the lid clear off of the old age assistance limitations, and would provide for a minimum of \$40 instead of the present maximum of the same amount. Two other bills, one of which would set a top of \$50, the other eliminating the ceiling altogether but providing no minimum, are now in the senate committee.

A merit system would be established in the compensation, health, higher education and public welfare departments of the state by a bill authored by Reps. Earl Hill, and W. W. Chadwick, and Sens. J. N. Jones and Lew Wallace. It provides for a council of three persons to administer the merit system.

Essential Jobs List Is Slashed

Washington, Jan. 16 (UP)—The War Manpower commission today moved to facilitate drafting of 200,000 industrially-deferred men in the 26-29 age category by setting up a listing of critical and essential industries to govern the order in which they would be called. In general, men in the limited list of critical employments will be deferred the longest.

The list actually was based on the year-old list of 35 essential industries established early in 1944 to guide local draft boards in acting on occupation deferments requests. In its new form, however, roughly one-third of the several hundred sub-headed occupations were held as critical. The remainder retained essential ranking.

Only seven industries were listed as critical in all divisions. These covered the production of aircraft and aircraft parts; ships, boats and parts; ordnance and accessories; ammunition; metal shapes and forgings for essential products; machinery, and essential rubber products.

War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes, in laying down rules for calling up the 200,000 deferred 26-through-29s said yesterday they should be drafted on the basis of the relative importance of their jobs.

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Nazis in Panic, State Reports From Silesia

Schlossberg Taken and Radom Menaced as New Gains Made By Russians

London, Jan. 16 (UP)—Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's red army today climaxed an offensive outflanking Warsaw in a 37-mile drive westward from the Vistula on a 75-mile front with the capture of Radom, great transport hub 64 miles south of the Polish capital.

London, Jan. 16 (UP)—The full-scale Soviet winter offensive, nazi reports said today, has carried the red army to the outskirts of Radom, the great Polish south-central communications center, and in the north the East Prussian fortress of Schlossberg has fallen to the Russians.

One German report placed the Russians already to the west of Radom, 56 miles south of Warsaw and 25 miles west of the Vistula, and the fall of the communications network appeared imminent.

Russian spearheads a 100-mile drive were within 45 miles of Silesia and threatened the ancient Polish capital of Krakow.

Panic Grips Nazis
There were reports of uncertain reliability that the nazis in panic already had begun the evacuation of some industrial centers in Silesia.

The Germans declared that Radom was the "center of gravity" of the red army assault which now had spread to envelop almost the entire eastern front in what the Germans acknowledged was the bloodiest fighting of the war.

Nazi reserve divisions were being wheeled hastily into action in an effort to slow down the ever-increasing pace of the red army advance.

The Germans identified the Soviet forces engaged in the Radom area as Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's First White Russian army.

Radom Strategic Goal
Radom was one of the prize strategic goals of the Soviet offensive, controlling a network of eight good highways, leading north to Warsaw and northwest to Tomaszow, 48 miles distant.

The Soviet advance south of Warsaw was on a front so broad and the penetration already was so deep that the possibility that the Polish capital would be completely flanked and open to assault from the rear was emerging.

With improvement of weather the red air fleet joined the battle, harassing nazi efforts to bring reserve forces into position. The Germans said they had brought up fresh armored forces which destroyed 122 Soviet tanks but frankly admitted the Russian advance was rolling forward at all points.

Rescuer of 'Rick' Dies in Pacific

Evanston, Ill., Jan. 16 (UP)—Comdr. William F. Eadie, 31, navy flier who rescued Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker from a raft two years ago, was killed Sunday in an accident in the Pacific, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William G. Eadie, Evanston, reported today.

No further details were given by the navy department which reported the accident to his parents.

Equipment Here For State Guard

With complete equipment on hand and stored in a secure vault in the high school gymnasium, members of Bend's Company B, 20th battalion, Oregon state guard, today planned to hold their first dress drill on the gymnasium floor tomorrow night. Drills, beginning a 8 o'clock, will be held each Wednesday night, according to Captain Ralph Graham.

Sufficient equipment was received from the state guard's quartermaster department for a unit of 40 men, Capt. Graham said. Everything necessary for the complete equipment of the company was received in the shipment yesterday, it was said. Included among the supplies were two uniforms for each man, bayonets, mess kits, two sub-machine guns, 38 rifles, 4,500 rounds of ammunition, pack sacks, tents, first aid kits and even compasses.

Report of Falling Object Is Studied

A report that an airplane or balloon had been seen falling in the Cascade foothills west of Bend yesterday received the attention of state police and Redmond army airfield officers yesterday evening, but today it was announced that the report was believed in error. A "sight" on the location where the object was reported to have been seen falling was taken from the local army shops, and a dark object was spotted in the distant hills. However, when this was examined through field glasses, before the evening storm had closed in, it was determined it was a natural feature on the hillside.

No planes have been reported missing, investigators learned.

One Man Army Of Buna Killed

With 32nd Division, Leyte, Jan. 16 (UP)—Capt. Hermar Botcher, 35, the one-man army of Buna, died of wounds early Dec. 31 as his small reconnaissance force battled off 300 Japanese far behind enemy lines in the drive south toward Ormoc, headquarters revealed today.

The German-born Botcher, who enlisted as a private soon after Pearl Harbor and became a legendary hero in the southwest Pacific, was struck in the arm and knee by enemy mortar fire and died a few hours later.

BULLETIN

Houffalize, Belgium, Jan. 16 (UP)—United States First and Third army forces joined inside this battered mountain village at 10 a.m. today.

Other units of the First and Third also linked up at several points along the Ourthe river three miles west of Houffalize.