

THE BEND BULLETIN

CENTRAL OREGON'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Weather Forecast
Partly cloudy, increasing cloudiness tonight, with rain west portion Wednesday. Little temperature change.

Volume LIII

THE BEND BULLETIN, BEND, DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEB. 6, 1945

NO. 53

Siegfried Line Yields to Yanks In Nazi Forest

1st Army Men Battle For Roer River Dams On Northern Frontier

Paris, Feb. 6 (AP)—American Third army troops broke through the Siegfried line at a number of points in Germany's Schnee Eifel forest today and closed in on the west wall bastion of Prum along an eight-mile front.

Twenty-five miles to the north, infantrymen of the U. S. First army were locked in a hard fight for the Roer river dams and the last belt of Siegfried pillboxes covering the approaches to the Cologne plain.

At the southern end of the front, American and French troops splintered the German pocket around Colmar into isolated groups and laid a curtain of shellfire across the enemy's Rhine river escape bridges.

Nazis In Flight
Thousands of Nazi troops were reported in full flight across the Rhine from Alsace under heavy artillery fire, leaving 1,500 to 2,000 of their number hopelessly trapped behind the allied lines in the Vosges mountains.

Field dispatches said the American First and Third armies were grinding steadily forward through the eastern fringes of the Siegfried line, bursting through that barrier at some points in a tactical advance that was beginning to threaten the entire German position west of the Rhine.

German resistance was stiffening, however, particularly on the Third army front where Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's infantry divisions ran into increasingly-heavy counterattacks.

Patton's Men Gain
Patton's troops hammered out gains of a mile and more on an eight-mile front before Prum, capturing Habscheid, seven miles west-southwest of that communications center, and Schlausenbach, six miles to the northwest.

Three miles below Schlausenbach, the doughboys pushed to within 3 1/2 miles of Prum after a two-mile advance from Buchet, while still farther south they captured Brandscheid, only to run into a sharp counterattack that carried the Germans back into the town. At last reports, heavy fighting was continuing inside Brandscheid, five miles due west of Prum.

The Siegfried break-through apparently was made in the Brandscheid area and east of Buchet, where the enemy's fixed defenses were believed to be thinnest because of the rugged terrain. Newly-constructed pillboxes and tank traps were expected to hamper the American advance behind the west wall, however.

PICTURE EXHIBITED

Salem, Ore., Feb. 6 (AP)—A portrait of the late Charles L. McNary, longtime U. S. senator from Oregon and minority leader, which was painted by Mrs. Rose Twing, postmaster of Dorena, will be exhibited in the house of representatives during the remainder of the session.

The picture, presented to the house by Mrs. Twing, was given its place of honor Monday by a house resolution.

PRO-NAZI SHOT

Paris, Feb. 5 (AP)—Robert Brasillach, pro-Nazi editor who wrote under the pen name of "Robert The Devil," died before a firing squad at Fort Mont Rouge in Paris today.

Brasillach, chief editor of the pro-German Paris weekly Je Suis Partout, was convicted last month of intelligence with the enemy.

Wife, Husband, Separated Three Years By Only Four Blacks, Are Reunited in Manila

Billbid Prison, Manila, Feb. 6 (AP)—I was reunited with my wife last night after a three year separation by four blacks in the heart of Manila when our only communication was an official card every three months and occasional messages delivered by the underground.

Japanese the news of their loved ones at Billbid, Formosa, Japan and Manchuria which I had carefully compiled during 2 1/2 years at Billbid.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's island to island progress back to Luzon, our hope often ebbing and then surging up at the good news. At those times, a spark sprang back into the eyes of the men and they determined again to hang on.

Soviet Tanks Cross Oder River Yanks Encircle Japs in Manila

Stage Held Set For New Blow Against Enemy

'On to Tokyo' Is Cry Of Mackmen; Trapped Foo Puts Up Battle

By Francis McCarthy (United Press War Correspondent)
Manila, Feb. 6 (AP)—Three American divisions encircled fanatically resisting Japanese remnants in Manila today, virtually completing the liberation of the Philippines and setting the stage for the next phase of the march on Tokyo.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur officially proclaimed the fall of Manila, capital of the Philippines and largest city yet liberated in the Pacific war, and said the motto of his command now was: "On to Tokyo!"

He said the "complete destruction" of the doomed enemy garrison of Manila was imminent and revealed that another 1,350 American and Allied war prisoners and civilian internees had been freed yesterday with the capture of ancient Billbid prison.

Bataan Sealed
Other American forces avenging the bitter defeats of 1942 sealed off Bataan peninsula and were believed preparing for an early assault on Fort Corregidor in Manila bay.

"The fall of Manila marks the end of one great phase of the Pacific struggle and sets the stage for another," MacArthur said in a statement accompanying his daily communiqué.

"With Australia safe, the Philippines liberated, and the ultimate redemption of the East Indies and Malaya thereby made a certainty, our motto becomes, 'on to Tokyo!'"

Japs 'Gleeful'
(Writing off the eventual loss of Manila, Japanese propagandists heard by the FCC said that the coming of the Americans to Manila was "exactly what our side waited for, and our bleeding tactics will now enter the positive stage.")

(A Japanese communiqué acknowledged that American forces had "penetrated into a corner of Manila city" and said Japanese troops were "locked in heavy fighting with invaders.")

The 11th airborne division captured the stronghold on the battered Japanese garrison in Manila by smashing into the city from the south yesterday after an overnight dash of 35 miles.

Divisions Linked
The 37th infantry division, pouring into the capital from the north, and the first cavalry division, from the east, linked up in the heart of Manila and cleared all of the city north of the Pasig river with the exception of scattered groups of snipers.

The Japanese blew up the Quezon and Ayala bridges across the broad Pasig as they fell back into the southern half of Manila for a last stand. Two other bridges remained intact, however, and may have been captured by the Americans.

Japanese demolition squads continued their destructive work in southern Manila, working feverishly against their own imminent destruction. Numerous fires cast a heavy pall of smoke over the city and explosions shook the ground at frequent intervals.

With the 11th airborne division's thrust into southern Manila, however, the enemy garrison could be considered "hopelessly trapped," MacArthur said.

The 37th infantry division captured Billbid prison in the northern half of Manila yesterday, releasing more than 800 war prisoners and about 550 additional civilian internees, including women and children.

That brought to more than 5,500 the number of Allied prisoners rescued in the past week, including those at the Santo Tomas university concentration camp in Manila and the Cabanatuan prison camp in central Luzon.

Most were Americans, but the number also included a scattering of British, Australians, Dutch and other Allied nationals. MacArthur said the names of those rescued at Santo Tomas and Billbid would be released as soon as they have been tabulated, probably a matter of several days.

Nazis Say Reds Cross Oder River



Sledge hammer blows from east and west pound Germany with 1000-plane fleets of American heavy bombers dropping twin defense points of Kustrin and Frankfurt, 30-odd miles east of Berlin, as Stettin was reported evacuated by the Germans. On the west front the First and Third Armies were on the move with a drive at Scheldt carrying them half-way through the Siegfried Line.

Ten Catholic Nuns Held By Nippons

Manila, Feb. 6 (AP)—Ten Catholic nuns interned at Billbid said the Japanese had not interfered with church services but would not permit them to continue working with the Filipinos.

Four of the nuns were from the Sisters of Saint Mary at Peekskill, N. Y. They were living at Sagada, a mountain province, when the Japanese arrived in February, 1942.

Sister Columbia said a few Japanese appeared on Feb. 2 and questioned them. Four days later trucks drove up and enemy soldiers with bayonets broke into the nuns' house.

"One sister had a candle extinguisher in her hand and waved it at one of the Japanese. He backed out. The long wings of our caps got in their eyes when they came close and the bayonets pricked us," she said.

Sisters Transferred
The sisters were taken to Baguio in June, 1942 and transferred to Billbid last Dec. 28.

"They treated us pretty decently but the food situation had been bad since last year. They wouldn't allow us to buy our own food. The meanest thing they did was to stop the Filipinos from bringing us food," Sister Columbia said.

With her from New York were Sisters Juliana, Mary, and Olivia. The other five nuns were formerly stationed at Hankow, China, and held at Baguio. They were Mother Ursula, Sister Augusta, and Sister Anita of Arlington Heights, Boston, Mass.; Sister Unice, Chicago, Ill.; Sister Isabelle, England, and Sister Helena, China.

Committee Gives Support to Bill

Washington, Feb. 6 (AP)—The house banking committee, responding to pressure from democratic leaders, today approved the George bill after rejecting three republican amendments to impose further restrictions on the department of commerce.

Supporters of Henry A. Wallace are seeking to push the bill to enactment in its present form—whereby it would divorce the federal loan agency from the commerce department. They believe its approval would lead to prompt confirmation of the former vice president as secretary of commerce.

Bill Is Passed
The senate passed the bill last week. It then deferred action of Wallace's nomination until March 1, pending developments on the George bill.

The house committee considered the measure for an hour. Then it voted unanimously to recommend its passage by the house.

Rep. Jesse P. Wolcott, R., Mich., ranking minority member, offered the three rejected amendments. Votes on all three were almost entirely party line divisions.

Berlin's Final Line of Defense Buckles Badly

London, Feb. 6 (AP)—Russian tank columns were reported across the Oder river within an hour's ride of Berlin today after breaching the Nazi capital's main line of defense at three points north of Frankfurt.

The stand-or-die line on which the Germans were pinning their hopes for a successful defense of Berlin was buckling dangerously along a 70-mile stretch of the Oder covering the direct eastern approaches to the capital. Enemy spokesmen indicated the battle was moving swiftly toward a climax.

Unconfirmed but apparently correct reports filtering through the tight German censorship said the Russians wheeled north of the Oder fortress of Kustrin late yesterday and won two bridgeheads on the west bank of the river opposite Kienitz and Zelin, 32 miles east and east-northeast of Berlin.

Columns Stab West
Soviet flying columns stabbed out across the Brandenburg plain to the northwest and southwest to reach considerably closer to the beleaguered capital, but later were forced back to the bridgeheads, German accounts said.

A third bridgehead in the Tirtitz area five miles north of Frankfurt was wiped out by counter-attacking German forces, according to the Berlin version, while a fourth attempt to cross the river near Kustrin failed when the attacking Russian tanks broke through the thin ice and sank.

Moscow remained silent on the German reports as well as on another enemy announcement that red army forces had launched powerful supporting offensives against the upper and lower reaches of the Oder in a double-barreled attempt to roll up the flanks of the Berlin line.

Pressure Maintained
The Soviet early morning communiqué reported only that Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First White Russian army was maintaining terrific pressure against the heart of the German defenses at Frankfurt and Kustrin, 34 miles southeast and 38 miles east of Berlin.

Both fortress cities were under direct assault by Russian tank and infantry divisions and Berlin admitted the Soviets had broken into the German lines at Kustrin.

More than 5,000 Germans were killed and another 1,300 captured in the Frankfurt-Kustrin area yesterday in a series of pitched battles that won 100 more Nazi towns and villages for the advancing Russians.

Kustrin, lying on the east bank of the Oder, was all but isolated by the capture of Zelin and Altschaumburg, 14 and three miles to the northwest, and Goritz, six miles to the south. Five miles south of Goritz and the same distance north of Frankfurt, the Russians took Tirtitz, while another assault column drove up to the Oder at Reipzig, four miles below Frankfurt.

Motions Denied
Counsel for the defense moved that the two men be tried separately on the grounds that each made damaging statements about the other to the federal bureau of investigation following their arrest last November. The defense also moved that a charge of conspiracy be stricken out on the grounds that no overt act was alleged, only intent.

Both motions were denied by the court following a brief recess.

2 Boys Confess Try at Burglary

Two boys, aged eight and 10 years, today had confessed to Bend police that they broke out a window in the Signal Service station opposite Pioneer park, and tried to rifle the cash register, officers reported. The boys were turned over to their parents pending further action by the juvenile court.

Officer William Burton said that he caught the boy crawling through the broken window, and that they admitted they intended to loot the cash register. They also had in their possession some ice cream powder which they said they had stolen from the nearby Park grocery.

Gold Hill Man Stabbed, Killed

Medford, Ore., Feb. 6 (AP)—James Alexander Wolf, 44, of Gold Hill, today was under first-degree murder charges as aftermath of a fight with Harold James, also of Gold Hill, in which James was fatally stabbed.

Police said the fight started Sunday in the bar of a Gold Hill hotel and that the men went outside, where James died of a severed groin artery.

Soviet Legions Only Hour's Ride Out of Capital of Germany

London, Feb. 6 (AP)—Russian tank columns were reported across the Oder river within an hour's ride of Berlin today after breaching the Nazi capital's main line of defense at three points north of Frankfurt.

The stand-or-die line on which the Germans were pinning their hopes for a successful defense of Berlin was buckling dangerously along a 70-mile stretch of the Oder covering the direct eastern approaches to the capital. Enemy spokesmen indicated the battle was moving swiftly toward a climax.

Unconfirmed but apparently correct reports filtering through the tight German censorship said the Russians wheeled north of the Oder fortress of Kustrin late yesterday and won two bridgeheads on the west bank of the river opposite Kienitz and Zelin, 32 miles east and east-northeast of Berlin.

Columns Stab West
Soviet flying columns stabbed out across the Brandenburg plain to the northwest and southwest to reach considerably closer to the beleaguered capital, but later were forced back to the bridgeheads, German accounts said.

A third bridgehead in the Tirtitz area five miles north of Frankfurt was wiped out by counter-attacking German forces, according to the Berlin version, while a fourth attempt to cross the river near Kustrin failed when the attacking Russian tanks broke through the thin ice and sank.

Moscow remained silent on the German reports as well as on another enemy announcement that red army forces had launched powerful supporting offensives against the upper and lower reaches of the Oder in a double-barreled attempt to roll up the flanks of the Berlin line.

Pressure Maintained
The Soviet early morning communiqué reported only that Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First White Russian army was maintaining terrific pressure against the heart of the German defenses at Frankfurt and Kustrin, 34 miles southeast and 38 miles east of Berlin.

Both fortress cities were under direct assault by Russian tank and infantry divisions and Berlin admitted the Soviets had broken into the German lines at Kustrin.

More than 5,000 Germans were killed and another 1,300 captured in the Frankfurt-Kustrin area yesterday in a series of pitched battles that won 100 more Nazi towns and villages for the advancing Russians.

Kustrin, lying on the east bank of the Oder, was all but isolated by the capture of Zelin and Altschaumburg, 14 and three miles to the northwest, and Goritz, six miles to the south. Five miles south of Goritz and the same distance north of Frankfurt, the Russians took Tirtitz, while another assault column drove up to the Oder at Reipzig, four miles below Frankfurt.

Motions Denied
Counsel for the defense moved that the two men be tried separately on the grounds that each made damaging statements about the other to the federal bureau of investigation following their arrest last November. The defense also moved that a charge of conspiracy be stricken out on the grounds that no overt act was alleged, only intent.

Both motions were denied by the court following a brief recess.

Warsaw, Razed By Germans, Called 'Monument' to Hitler

By M. S. Handler (United Press Staff Correspondent)
Warsaw (Via Moscow) Feb. 6 (AP)—Warsaw, the most infamous monument to Adolf Hitler's new order, unquestionably is the most ruined capital on earth.

It is a monument of dozens of square miles of ruins, debris, blood-stained stone and thousands of family graveyards. Never since the Mongol hordes swept across Europe has a European city been subjected to such wanton destruction. It is worse than Stalingrad.

Block by block, street by street, Warsaw was depopulated and razed after suppression of the August insurrection.

Last summer grass grew on the levelled Ghetto compound behind the gray brick walls. Now wild cats and dogs lurk in the ruins, feeding on undiscovered cadavers beneath piles of bricks and masonry.

In the "Stare Miesto," the medieval part of the city, all the churches, monasteries and museums simply vanished. The section was where the insurrectionists held out the longest and it was the first to be blown up by the nazis. The rest followed, all methodically and according to plan. The last remaining building was wrecked a few days before the liberation.

German thoroughness failed in only one instance—Litovska street, which was reserved for Nazi officials. It remained, partly because of the swiftness of the Soviet encirclement.