

Heppner Gazette Times

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Official Paper for Morrow County

Enemy Shells

It was hard to believe that the enemy had shelled the Oregon coast when we first heard of it Monday morning. We had been at Gearhart for two days attending the Oregon Newspaper Publishers convention. That was near the scene of the attack which came on Sunday night. We had left Gearhart shortly after noon that day.

The weather was perfect. Clear and warm. The Pacific looked tranquil—all too peaceable to conceal the lurking sea craft which opened its guns upon the sand dunes.

As was the case in the first enemy attack near Santa Barbara some time before, damage was negligible. It failed to greatly perturb residents of the region. It did show, however, that our coast is vulnerable to such a sneak attack, and will undoubtedly serve to increase vigilance.

Coming at a time, as it did, of adverse news on the several war fronts this incident is proof that wishful thinking so far as a quick end to the war is concerned, should be dismissed. The comparatively few successes so far, while proving superiority of our forces when they meet in equal combat, must be repeated many times before the war can be conclusively won.

We are now getting into stride in the production of war goods, it is true, and more and more exceptionally well trained soldiers, sailors and marines are going into action to strengthen our conviction that the enemy will be overcome. That, however, should not lead to overconfidence, the downfall for many a well trained team through relaxation of vigil and industry.

Conversations are now under way in Washington led by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. These conversations have to do with grand strategy in connection with the war in the Pacific. That such conversations are now necessary is evidence that the high leaders do not consider the situation well in hand.

Tobruk has fallen. Sevastopol is hard pressed. England itself faces dire threat of invasion, according to informed observers. The while the Japs have taken a toe hold in the Aleutians, and more merchant ships have been sunk in the Atlantic.

The late news is as discouraging as the news a week before was encouraging, verifying the president's statement that there will be good news and bad news before the victory is won.

The American people have shown the stamina to take the bad news, and the good news must be taken in stride as well. There must be but one determination, and that is to stand back of the war effort with all we have. In that way, and in that way alone can we hope for early victory, if such is possible. In the meantime we may be thankful that the first enemy shells coming to Oregon fell on waste sands.

Like logging operators, farmers need spark arresters on their motor equipment. Last year 69 insurance claims representing a total value of \$406,225, involved in rural fires on claims caused from explosion or sparks from combustion alone, were filed. These claims were in addition to loss of home and human life and represented losses of farm buildings, livestock, crops hay and grain in the field. Statistics such as these leave little doubt as to the need for a Green Guard among rural youth, or for organized volunteer fire prevention.



Week of the War

Continued from First Page

scientific qualifications and with essential skills. The WPB said Pacific Coast lumbermen will be considered for temporary draft deferment. Agriculture Secretary Wickard said the farm labor supply problem might be solved if either the Government paid transportation expenses as part of the war program, or farmers pooled expenses to bring in the migrant labor they need. Railroads have already agreed to reduce fares for migrant farm workers.

Truck Transportation

The ODT established a U. S. Truck Conservation Corps to mobilize the nation's 5 million trucks—greatest truck fleet in the world—for more effective war service. The Office distributed to truck drivers, trucking firms, parts dealers and garages throughout the country information designed "to assure the continued and uninterrupted flow of the materials of war and the necessities of civilian life." All are being asked to pledge they will cooperate to "keep 'em rolling" during the emergency.

Rubber and Oil

The House passed and sent to the Senate legislation authorizing \$93 million to complete a barge canal from St. John's River, Fla., to Port Inglis, Fla.; for an oil pipeline from Port St. Joe, Fla., to Jacksonville, Fla.; for enlargement of the existing gulf intercoastal waterway from the St. Marks River, Fla., to Corpus Christi, Tex., and its extension to Brownsville, Tex.; and for construction of a pipeline from the Tinsley, Miss., oil fields to Charleston, S. C., and Savannah, Ga.

The WPB announced American chemists have perfected a petroleum cracking process for making aviation gasoline and butadiene, a vital ingredient of synthetic rubber, in the same operation. The U. S. signed an agreement with the Republic of Costa Rica, under which this Government will purchase all of Costa Rica's rubber production for the next five years, and will aid in development of potential rubber resources there. The Post Office Department directed rural carries to cooperate in "every reasonable way" in the scrap rubber collection drive, and to help transport the scrap to collection depots from homes and farms on their routes.

Lend-Lease

President Roosevelt reported to Congress lend-lease aid in 1942 thru May totalled \$4½ billion in goods and services, at a rate equal to 12 percent of our entire war effort. He said lend-lease is now on a reciprocal basis. The Agriculture Department said farm products costing \$154 million were bought in May for lend-lease, second highest total since the program began in March 1941. In

14½ months, through May, farm products valued at \$1,225 million had been purchased for lend-lease. Belgium and the U. S. signed a master lend-lease agreement.

The Armed Forces

The President signed legislation granting pay increase to members of the armed forces retroactive to June 1, with a minimum base pay of \$50 a month—the first general pay increase in 20 years. Congress also completed action on a bill to provide financial aid for dependants of men in the four lowest grades of the armed forces and authorizing deferment of married men with legitimate home ties.

The Senate passed and sent to the House a bill to provide men who entered the armed forces since passage of the Selective Service Act with \$5,000 insurance in event of injury or disease contracted while on active duty.

The War Department directed "no military personnel on duty in any foreign country or possession may marry without the approval of the commanding officer of the United States Army forces stationed in such foreign country or possession."

The House passed and sent to the Senate the \$8½ billion Naval Expansion Appropriation bill to provide 500,000 tons of aircraft carriers, 500,000 tons of cruisers and 900,000 tons of destroyers and destroyer escorts. The President signed a bill permitting the Navy to increase the number of its lighter-than-air craft from an authorized strength of 48 to 72.

The War Front

The White House announced British Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt are conferring in the U. S. on "the war, conduct of the war, and the winning of the war."

The Western Defense Command announced a submarine presumed to be Japanese on June 21 fired six to nine shells into a sandy waste on the Oregon Coast line near Astoria, in the second attack on the North American Pacific shore in 24 hours. Earlier, shells were fired at Estevan Point, Vancouver Island. The Navy said two ships previously announced sunk by submarine fire off the Virginia Coast were sunk by enemy mines, the first authenticated instances of mines in American waters in this war.

The Navy said U. S. Air Forces engaged in "restricted air operations against Kiska," Aleutian Islands, where enemy "tents and minor temporary structures were observed to have been set up on land." A small force of Japanese ships in the harbor was bombed by Army aircraft, with hits scored on one cruiser and one transport sunk. Earlier, U. S. bombers sank an enemy cruiser, damaged an aircraft carrier, three enemy cruisers, one destroyer, a gunboat and a transport,

and shot down four enemy planes. On the Australian Northeastern front, Allied forces lost 11 planes compared with 26 Japanese shot down and several destroyed on the ground. U. S. bombers based in North Africa scored several direct hits on two Italian battleships, and shot down one German plane. All U. S. planes returned safely to their base. During the week 16 Allied merchant vessels were sunk, including eight of U. S. Registry.



"Every penny saved helps to blackout the Axis."

THE simplest of home recipes for saving pennies: turn out unnecessary lights. One person shouldn't have to follow others around, turning switches! Besides—ample electric supply is vital to war production!



Use the pennies saved to purchase U. S. SAVINGS STAMPS—as your share in the "Home Front" fight for freedom.



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10 Percent of Your Income in War Bonds



The attractive red, white and blue window sticker, pictured above, is the new yardstick of patriotism in the War Bond drive throughout the nation. With the slogan, "Everybody every pay day, ten percent," sweeping the country, patriotic Americans on the home front are rallying to their Government's appeal for funds with which to help finance the war. The home which displays the "ten percent" sticker is doing its share toward Victory for America and the United Nations. The stickers are being distributed through local War Savings Chairmen.

U. S. Treasury Department

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Ed Chinn, Prop.