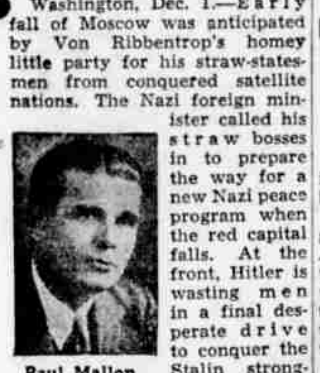


JAPS SIDESTEP PACIFIC SHOWDOWN

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon



Washington, Dec. 1.—Early fall of Moscow was anticipated by Von Ribbentrop's homey little party for his straw-state-men from conquered satellite nations. The Nazi foreign minister called his straw bosses in to prepare the way for a new Nazi peace program when the red capital falls. At the front, Hitler is wasting men in a final desperate drive to conquer the Caucasus through Rostov.

Although Rostov admittedly has been given up, however, the Germans disputed Russian assertions that they had been pushed all the way back to Taganrog, 40 miles west on the Sea of Azov coast.

On the Moscow front, German dispatches said the invaders' vanguards had come within spy-glass view of the Red capital. How far this was, precisely, the reports did not tell but the furthest wedge toward Moscow previously claimed by the Germans was at Solnetschnogorsk, about 31 miles to the northwest.

Threat Put Down

In Libya, the British said a threat to their position in the main fighting area of the desert struggle had been put down when German forces were driven from footholds they had gained in imperial defenses of Rezegh.

The Moscow radio, quoting Pravda, reported that a second counter-drive by southern Red forces threatened to cut off the Germans west of Rostov with a prospective thrust to the Sea of Azov at their rear.

As if to escape the new threat, the Russian reports indicated the Germans were abandoning Taganrog, 40 miles west of Rostov, in favor of Mariupol, another 60 miles to the west.

The Germans themselves, inexperienced in explaining a retreat, acknowledged flatly the superior strength of the Red army's Rostov counter-drive and also blamed Rostov civilians for "unnecessary losses" in the invasion ranks.

The high command said that the Russian army was continuing the counter-thrust, "recklessly using men and material," but a spokesman emphatically denied that the Germans had fallen all the way back to Taganrog, 40 miles west of Rostov.

Otherwise, the Hitler command was reduced to claiming that it still maintained the siege of Leningrad, warding off counter-thrusts by "stronger forces," and that infantry and armored units "continue to advance" on Moscow.

Little was said about the German situation in Libya, but on the home front the Berlin communique admitted casualties from overnight RAF raids on Hamburg and Emden. Fifteen of the British bombers were shot down, the high command said.

The British acknowledged loss of 20 bombers but said that 150 tons of bombs were dropped on Hamburg's docks and shipyards, and that besides the RAF blasted at Bremerhaven, Wilhelmshaven, Kiel and Lubeck. All are centers of maritime industry and naval power in northwestern Germany.

In addition, there were low level attacks on shipping off the Dutch coast, the British said, with one supply ship left sinking and several others hit, and British planes sowed mines in German shipping lanes.

RUSSIANS CLAIM NAZIS SUFFERING WORST REVERSAL

British Put Down Threat to Rezegh—Germans Admit Rostov Counter Drive.

By the Associated Press
Germany's enemies held the initiative on two of the world's battlefronts today.

Russian reports spoke of the greatest German reversals since Adolf Hitler put "blitzkrieg" into the world's vocabulary and the Nazis themselves conceded that a growing Red army blocks that gateway to the Caucasus through Rostov.

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Far East Trouble Zone



This area of the Far East, centering around Thailand and the Chinese province of Yunnan, commanded the news spotlight as Japan's next move was awaited in the far east crisis.

Many Strike Curb Bills Placed Before Congress

Washington, Dec. 1.—Congress had its choice today of three different house bills and two other measures proposed by senators as members tackled the legislative job of preventing work stoppages in industries vital to defense.

ACCIDENTAL SHOT FROM OWN RIFLE KILLS TALENT BOY

The body of Harvey Henry Zemke, 18, of Talent, who accidentally shot himself with a .22 calibre Savage Sporter rifle while looking for a pitch tree Saturday morning, was discovered by his brother, Leslie, about a mile from their home Sunday morning.

2,474 FARMERS TO AID DEFENSE

The farm defense program survey is completed and shows 2,474 farmers out of a possible 2,700 signed up to increase production the coming year, County Agent Robert G. Fowler reported today.

'Chute Saves Pilot As Warplane Falls In Hillsboro Area

Hillsboro, Ore., Dec. 1.—(P)—A single-engine P-43 Republic pursuit plane crashed three miles southeast of here this morning but the pilot, Lieut. Arvid E. Malmstrom, parachuted to safety.

Major Milton W. Kingcald of the Portland air base said Malmstrom, whose home is at Dividend, Utah, bailed out after the plane went into a spin while engaged in routine formation maneuvers. The cause of the spin was not immediately determined.

The crash was the first accident involving a Portland air base plane, Kingcald said. Malmstrom was assigned here from Stockton Field, Calif., Sept. 30.

Radio Highlights

By Associated Press.
(Time is Pacific standard)
Tonight, the war—3:55 CBS; NBC-Red.
Tuesday, the war—7 MBS; 10:45 NBC; 12:35 CBS, MBS; 1:55 NBC-Blue; 3 CBS, MBS; 3:25 NBC-Red.

SIDE GLANCES

BY TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Stan Sherwood being torn between conflicting emotions at Saturday's big football game, he wanted to see Oregon win but yet hoping that Oregon State's chance for Rose Bowl play would not be lost.

Engineer Henry Gault wanting everyone to know that the holes being dug around the federal building are not to bury dead letters but for shrubs to decorate the grounds.

Hitlerites Suffer Setbacks On Two Main Battlefronts

'COUNT' BANDIT PLEADS GUILTY, WAITS SENTENCE

Man Accused of Four Local Stickups Admits Grover Dairy Crime—Safe Found

Thomas Milton Smith, 22, of Dallas, Tex., arrested by city and state police and the sheriff's office in a local rooming house last Wednesday morning, pleaded guilty in circuit court this morning to a charge of assault and robbery while armed with a dangerous weapon in connection with the stickup of Grover's Dairy Products company the night of November 17. Passing of sentence was continued by Judge Herbert K. Hanna while authorities further investigate Smith's record.

While the Grover stickup was the specific crime charged against Smith, police said his arrest cleared up three other armed robberies here; namely, the Lost River Dairy, the Texaco Service Station and the Ninety-Nine Motel. The Motel on North Riverside avenue was robbed the night of October 6 of \$45.11, Fred Underwood's Texaco station on East Main street was robbed of \$46.51 the night of October 28 and Lost River Dairy was robbed of between \$75 and \$100. In the Grover "job," November 17, the bandit obtained only a small amount of money.

Forced to Count

In each of the four stickups the victim was forced to lie on the floor and count to "150" before getting up and turning in the alarm. Frank R. Pasmore, manager of Grover's, identified Smith as the bandit, police said, as did two of his other local victims.

Smith, police stated, came to Medford last September and worked for a time at a local packing house. His arrest followed receipt of a "tip" from Red Oak, Iowa, where Smith visited for a short while after the first stickup, and before he returned to Medford, it was explained by police.

Coincidentally with Smith's arraignment in circuit court this morning on the Grover stickup charge, the 500-pound safe stolen from the same concern the night of September 20 was discovered alongside the Griffin creek road seven miles from Medford, police announced.

Covered by Leaves

The safe was found by John D. Yates and Kenneth Klassen, both of Route 1, when their car became stuck in the mud this morning. While they were attempting to extricate it they noticed the safe, partly covered by leaves.

The big iron box, police said, had been hammered open and about \$100 in cash removed. However, papers and documents were intact, and although some of them were wet and dirty it was believed by Pasmore they could be restored to good condition. The safe was brought back to Medford in a truck sent by the dairy.

The safe was stolen from the dairy office by burglars who entered the building through a window in the boiler room, and removed the strongbox through a small front door. It was taken away from the dairy in a car stolen from Charles E. Ford, 117 North Oakdale avenue. The car was found abandoned the next morning on Belknap lane just south of the county fairgrounds.

ELKS CONVENTION SET FOR JULY 12, PORTLAND

Salem, Dec. 1.—(P)—The national Elks convention will open in Portland next July 12, John S. McClelland, Atlanta, Ga., grand exalted ruler of the lodge, said during a visit here Saturday night.

ALABAMA ACCEPTS

Dallas, Dec. 1.—(P)—Alabama today accepted an invitation to play the Texas Aggies in the Cotton Bowl here Jan. 1.

HITLER CAN'T WIN DECLARES WRITER FROM WAR ZONE

Erskine Caldwell Says Russia Will Win War in End—Moscow Not Vital.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 1.—(P)—"Hitler can't win," Erskine Caldwell, author and foreign correspondent, asserted today.

And, he added, "Russia, not England nor the United States, but Russia will win the war in the end."

Who will win after the war in the establishment of the peace will "depend on how smart the diplomats are," he said, adding: "If they (the allied countries) try to cheat Russia, they're going to regret it. You know, England is not completely reliable."

Bombed in Moscow

Caldwell and his wife, Margaret Bourke-White, famous photographer, spent from May 1 to October 1 this year in Russia and were bombed 26 nights in a row before they left Moscow.

Of the Russian people, he said, "there is no negative feeling. The people accept the fact there can be no defeat. They are better off than they were before they changed their government. Communism is working for them."

Despite loss of 3,000,000 men, Russia has 10,000,000 more in the field and 10,000,000 others in reserve, he said.

"Even if Germany takes Moscow, it won't mean anything," he added. "And, it's doubtful that Germany can take Moscow unless the Russian command decides to give it up."

"Russia may win sooner with the help of the English and the United States, but she'll win. It doesn't particularly matter how much land is lost; Russia has plenty of land and is strong enough to stand up indefinitely."

Caldwell came to Spokane to address the Spokane junior chamber of commerce.

FIRST LADY ADVISES ON CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Washington, Dec. 1.—(P)—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed the opinion today that Christmas presents this year should include those traditionally dispensed by Santa Claus as well as practical things, despite the national emergency.

At her press conference Mrs. Roosevelt told a questioner that gifts shouldn't be confined to just practical things.

France's African Colonies Hinted Goering-Petain Topic

Vichy, Unoccupied France, Dec. 1.—(P)—Marshal Petain and Reichsmarschal Goering met today at St. Florentine in the department of Yonne, 80 miles southeast of Paris, and had a "long conversation on questions interesting to Germany and France," the Vichy government announced tonight.

Madrid, Dec. 1.—(P)—Spanish diplomatic circles reported tonight that Adolf Hitler and Marshal Petain met this morning at Orleans, in occupied France.

(There was no immediate confirmation of this from Vichy or Berlin. Orleans had been mentioned in earlier dispatches as a likely site of Petain's projected meeting with a "high German personage.")

The reports added that Otto Abetz and Fernand De Brinon, the German and French ambassadors to Paris; Joachim von Ribbentrop and Admiral Jean Darlan, the German and French foreign ministers, also attended.

Neither the length of the meeting nor the subjects discussed were mentioned in these reports.

Berlin, Dec. 1.—(P)—A French editor's suggestion of military action to recapture France's African colonies held by Gen. Charles De Gaulle's forces received sympathetic attention in Berlin today as Marshal Petain of France came over into German-occupied territory, reportedly to meet a high German personality.

Berlin spokesmen would not discuss the French chief of staff's mission, however, nor give the slightest hint of the identity of the high German personality mentioned in the Vichy announcement.

Gets Proposals



A few hours after word got around that Louise Thomas, 20, (above) had appeared at the San Antonio, Tex., Daily Evening News office desiring to advertise for a husband, she had received 22 telephone calls, two special delivery letters and four personal callers. Twice divorced from the same man and the mother of a 2½ year old daughter, the young woman said she was looking for a young husband, interested in all sports, who is willing and able to support her and her daughter.

BUILDING PERMITS SOAR TO \$451,255 SO FAR THIS YEAR

Medford's building permit business, already far exceeding the 1940 total of \$212,955, soared to \$451,255 for the first 11 months of this year with the \$23,265 recorded for November, it was revealed in figures released today by the city inspector's office.

Last month's figure represented a slight increase over the \$22,225 of the same period last year, but was a decline under the October 1941 total of \$43,495.

Twenty-four permits were issued last month, five of them being for the construction of new residences at a total cost of \$1,415; three being for the remodeling and repairing of residences at a total cost of \$1,415; three being for the remodeling of business buildings at a total cost of \$1,415; and being for the construction of new buildings at a total cost of \$1,415.

Kurusu, when asked whether he and Nomura planned to see Hull again, said:

"Yes, we are instructed to that effect by our government."

When asked about Premier Tojo's reported statement that East Asia must be "purged" of British and American exploitation, Kurusu said he thought Tojo had been "badly misquoted" in news dispatches.

Asks For Text

"We are asking Tokyo for a full text of the speech," he added.

Kurusu did not detail the particulars in which he thought Tojo had been misquoted.

To questions bearing on reported Japanese preparations to invade Thailand, Kurusu replied non-committally that he knew nothing about that.

By Associated Press
The Pacific tension following the announcement of the United States' decision to sever relations with Japan, and the British recent declaration that Britain would join the United States "within the hour" in event of a fight with Japan.

Despite Japan's expressed disposition to keep on talking, General preparedness continued throughout the Orient.

(Continued on Page Eight)

ENVOYS RESUME CONVERSATIONS WITH SEC. HULL

Japanese Bring No Reply to Document Delineating United States Position.

Washington, Dec. 1.—(P)—Negotiations on the delicate far eastern situation were resumed today by Secretary of State Hull and the Japanese ambassadors, after which the secretary hurried across the street to the White House to report to President Roosevelt, who had cut short a southern holiday.

The president and Hull conferred by themselves in Mr. Roosevelt's oval study immediately after the secretary concluded his talk with the Japanese, which concerned only subordinate phases of the Pacific situation. The envoys brought no reply to the document in which the United States last week delineated its position.

Mr. Roosevelt called Harry L. Hopkins, lend lease supervisor who has been inactive because of illness, for luncheon but made no other engagements for the day.

Nomura Grave

Ambassador Kichisaburo Nomura looked grave when he and the special envoy, Saburo Kurusu, emerged from Hull's office. When a reporter asked him whether there still was a wide gap between the American and Japanese positions, he replied:

"I believe there must be wise statesmanship to save the situation."

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(Continued on Page Eight)

STAMP SALES AT NEW HIGH RECORD

A new high record for stamp sales was registered at Medford postoffice last month. Postmaster Frank DeSousa announced today.

Last month's sales totaled \$15,695.58 as compared with \$13,018.85 in November last year, an increase of \$2,676.73 or 20.5 per cent.

Usually the greatest stamp sales are made in December and last year the total for December was \$15,049.11, this being \$1,646.47 less than last month's total, Mr. DeSousa said.