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Thirty-sixth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 1942.

NO. 264.

SECOND A.E.F. VANGUARDS IN IRELAND

Small, but Big Enough



Perhaps the smallest man in the U. S. army, Private Willie Dockray (left), 23-year-old cowboy from Capitan, N. M., is convinced he's big enough to beat the Japs. Dockray, nicknamed "Almost," mustered some help here to make his 4 feet 11 inches stand even with Corp. Durrell Davis at Camp Callan near San Diego, Calif. Too short to qualify for the draft, Willie got recruiting officers to accept him by arguing: "Those Japs aren't any bigger than I."

News Behind The News

by Paul Mallon

Washington, Jan. 26.—A Nazi rumor factory has been discovered in Stockholm. It centers around the bar of the Grand hotel, a name full of movie spy history. The nights are long, the weather cold and the Brannvin (Swedish vodka) stimulating.

The hostility is over-run with Nazi agents, bearing credentials from remote German newspapers unable to afford even a correspondent at home in Berlin. The official Nazi news agency DNB also presides there. Plenty of German money is floating around, although it is necessary only to pay the bar bill in most instances. Swedish officials dare not risk the ire of the Nazis. Hemmed in as they are by Nazi might, the Swedish press likewise furnishes fertile rumor soil as it ranges in interest from straight communist to straight Nazi. Hitler has even installed a press attaché at his Stockholm legation to make his machine complete.

Out of this murky atmosphere has floated most of the stories of probable German collapse and of the troubles between Hitler and his generals. That is why most officials here do not believe this most comforting news that has come out of this war so far. They have full reports on the rumor factory, and they cannot conceive of any information displeasing to Hitler escaping from Stockholm.

Common suspicion is that Hitler

LONG DAYS AHEAD

Ontario, Ore., Jan. 26.—(P)—Malheur county merchants said today that with daylight saving time coming into effect it will not get dark here during the summer until 10:30 p. m.

FIRST CONTINGENT WARMLY GREETED; NUMBER IS SECRET

Yankee Combat Troops Journey Overseas Less Than 2 Months After War Start

A Port In Northern Ireland, Jan. 26.—(P)—The second AEF has arrived in northern Ireland, less than two months after the United States went to war with Germany and Italy.

The prompt arrival of this first contingent of United States army combat troops, in striking contrast to the later arrival of their counterpart of the first AEF nearly a quarter of a century before, greatly impressed the British.

Maj. Gen. Russell P. Hartle, the commanding officer of the disembarking troops, stepped ashore first and was warmly welcomed by British officials and British and United States army officers.

Band Plays

A band broke into the strains of "America" as he reached the end of the gangplank.

A speech of welcome was delivered by Sir Archibald Sinclair, British air minister, after the troops had formed ranks in front of a flag-draped shed.

Military censors prevented identification of the units in the new American expeditionary force or publication of their exact numbers.

The ships steamed slowly into this port as a large group of American and British army officers and journalists stood waiting, straining their eyes to catch the first glimpse of the Yanks lined against the deck railings.

There was no announcement of plans for the troops, but it was understood that they were being taken to an encampment somewhere in northern Ireland. Immediately after announcing the arrival of the troops, the British broadcasting company noted tonight that there had been "slight enemy air activity" over northern Ireland but that there had been no damage or casualties.

The BBC tonight on its 9 p. m. (noon PST) program gave the general British public its first news of the arrival of American troops.

CONGRESS STIRRED BY HAWAII REPORT

Washington, Jan. 26.—(P)—Angry demands came from congress members today for the expulsion of any "incompetents" holding responsible position in the war effort and for courts martial to mete out punishment on those responsible for the debacle of Pearl Harbor.

A furor of rare bitterness on both sides of Capitol Hill followed the week-end report of a presidential investigating commission, blaming non-cooperation and "dereliction of duty" by Hawaii area commanders of the army and navy for success of the Japanese sneak attack on the great Pacific naval base.

Many senators and representatives asserted that the commission's conclusions pointed to a pressing need for a super-command with control over the operations of both armed services.

Defense Head Says Mask Plan Foolish

Salem, Jan. 26.—(P)—The federal government's plans to supply civilians in coastal areas with gas masks were criticized today by State Defense Coordinator Jerrold Owen, who said "the possibility of concentrated gas attacks in this area is nothing short of fantastic."

Owen said that space in enemy bombers is too valuable to waste on gas bombs.

War Bulletins

London, Jan. 26.—(AP)—The Swiss radio reported tonight that the French government will return to Paris March 1.

Moscow, Tuesday, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The Soviet post-midnight communique said the red army registered new advances and liberated numerous additional villages in fiercely-contested engagements which cost the Germans heavy losses.

NEW RAID SIRENS SATISFACTORY IN INITIAL TRY-OUT

The city's three new air raid warning sirens gave perfect results in their first test at 10 o'clock this morning. Fire Chief Roy Elliott announced after receiving reports from checkers in 48 houses in all parts of town.

Warren S. Barnes, Portland, manager of the fire apparatus division of the Nelson equipment company from whom the sirens were bought said that Medford was the first city in Oregon to obtain a satisfactory air raid alarm system. Mr. Barnes, here to help install the sirens and check results, has worked on this phase of civilian defense in numerous northwest cities and said all have had difficulty in attaining sufficient volume of sound.

Another test will be made at 8:45 tonight to check the sirens under night time conditions when they would be used in actual warnings. The test scheduled for 3 p. m. was cancelled. Chief Elliott counselled the public not to become excited at the test blasts at 8:45.

As reports were received, Mr. Barnes checked a large map of the city and environs and when the map was completed it showed that the sirens this morning were heard in closed houses at Central Point, inside the Medford Corporation, the municipal airport and the CCC central repair unit at the old county fairgrounds south of town. Chief Elliott said, adding that in the Medford homes checked the radios, washing machines and other electrical appliances were kept going to determine whether the sirens could be heard above them.

SUB SINKS TANKER OFF NEW JERSEY

Sea Isle City, N. J., Jan. 26.—(P)—Striking without warning, an enemy submarine sank the Norwegian tanker Varanger in a pre-dawn attack only 35 miles off the Atlantic coast yesterday but the crew of 42 was saved.

Three torpedoes rammed the 9,305-ton motorship within 12 minutes in one of the closest to the U. S. Atlantic coast enemy attacks of shipping, but for the first time since the nation entered the war, no lives were lost in Atlantic waters. The explosions shook houses in several South Jersey communities, including Atlantic City, 20 miles north of here.

The Varanger was the sixth vessel sunk by submarines in Atlantic coast waters off the United States within the last 12 days. A seventh, shelled and damaged, reached port.

Service Restored After Hard Blow

Portland, Jan. 26.—(P)—Services were back to normal today after Saturday night's windstorm which caused power failures, two dozen small fires and minor damage from uprooted trees.

Power interruptions were general over the city for approximately two hours. Falling wires started several roof fires.

OVER 30 JAP SHIPS SUNK

YANKS AND DUTCH TAKE HEAVY TOLL IN JAVA DEFENSE

Four Days Fighting in Macassar Strait May Have Shattered Invasion Try.

Washington, Jan. 26.—(P)—The navy reported today that an American submarine had torpedoed a Japanese aircraft carrier in the continuing battle with enemy convoys in the Macassar strait, western Pacific, and that the aircraft carrier "is believed to have sunk."

Further, the communique reported that a second motor torpedo boat raid into Subic bay along the Japanese-held shores of the Philippine Islands, had resulted in the sinking of a 5,000-ton enemy vessel.

By Clyde A. Farnsworth Associated Press War Editor.

United States and Dutch sea and air forces, locked in a great, running battle with a Japanese invasion armada in the Strait of Macassar, have sunk or damaged upwards of 30—and perhaps 35—transports and warships in the four days of fighting and may have shattered an attempt to invade Java, the heart of the united nations defense in the southwest Pacific.

The next few days will tell in what strength if any the Japanese armada was able to negotiate the narrow shortcut to the inner arc of the Netherlands East Indies.

The Japanese, however, won at least one foothold on this sea road to Java—the Dutch oil port of Balikpapan, on the strait-side of the island of Borneo, but the size of the invasion fleet indicated that Tokyo was shooting for higher stakes to the south.

The Strait of Macassar is the most direct route between Japanese concentration points in the Philippines and the rich island of Java on which the united nations have centered their supreme command and much of their armed strength.

Soerabaja, the great Dutch naval base, for example, lies less than 350 miles southwest of the southern mouth of the strait.

The score against the Japanese in the Macassar straits battle, as thus far reported in the communiqués from the Java headquarters, Batavia and Washington, follows with possible overlapping in some instances:

Destroyed: Ten transports, one destroyer. Probably sunk: Six transports. Damaged (excluding probable sinkings):

A warship, unclassified as to type, five cruisers, two destroyers, eight transports. Cruiser hit

The damaged ships included a cruiser which may have gone down. The submarine which

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MacArthur Marks Birthday By Whacking Jap Invaders

Washington, Jan. 26.—(P)—General Douglas MacArthur, the jaunty beau sabreur of an already historic Philippine campaign, celebrated his sixty-second birthday today in the thick of the fighting on a crucial war front.

His personality, martial spirit and record as a soldier make it evident that he would prefer no finer setting for the occasion.

MacArthur and his indomitable little army of American and Filipino troops made the birthday anniversary a doubly auspicious event by registering a spectacular victory yesterday in a counter-attack which shattered the lines of a heavily superior enemy.

The war department, normally restrained in its language, used the words "smashing success" to hail the MacArthur triumph which further dislocated the Japanese timetable for conquest in the South Pacific.

The official communique's reference to the operation as a "brilliant maneuver" testified to the admiration felt by official Washington and the nation for this last ditch fight in the Philippines.

The battle now raging in the Philippines is probably the severest that MacArthur has ever faced. Under less critical circumstances he was decorated several times in the first World War for "great courage" and "conspicuous courage" under fire in France as a brigade commander of the 42nd or Rainbow division.

PILOTLESS PLANE HITS TWO HOUSES

Everett, Wash., Jan. 26.—(P)—An army pilotless plane sliced through two Everett houses, an outbuilding and a number of trees yesterday in a high-speed crash after its pilot had safely bailed out over Puget sound.

The pilot, Lieut. Laune C. Erickson, former University of Idaho boxer and football player, took to his parachute when he discovered that the plane, on a routine training flight, was about to crash. He came down in the water a short distance from shore and was rescued by a boat.

The Dalles, Ore., Jan. 26.—(P)—An army bomber on a routine training flight crashed without injury to its occupants as it attempted an emergency landing on The Dalles airport late Saturday.

The big ship, apparently forced down by icing conditions, missed the runway and nosed over in soft ground.

Churchill Suffers From Heavy Cold

London, Jan. 26.—(P)—Prime Minister Churchill is suffering from a heavy cold and, acting upon medical advice, will not make a broadcast tomorrow, the ministry of information said tonight.

He hopes to make a statement in commons shortly, however. No broadcast had been announced, but the statement indicated he had planned to make one.

Nuisance Raid Is Expected in S. F.

San Francisco, Jan. 26.—(P)—A submarine raid on San Francisco is "very probable," Admiral J. W. Greenleaf, commander of the 12th naval district, said today.

Such a raid, with a submarine coming to the surface and firing on the city with its deck guns, would have only a nuisance value for its effect on civilian morale and use in Japanese propaganda broadcasts.

COUNTER-ATTACK MAKES 40 MILES SINCE YESTERDAY

Bengasi Again Threatened; Italian Spokesman Says Retreat Reason Unclear.

(By Associated Press) Bengasi in north Africa again was threatened today by axis forces which had developed their "reconnaissance in force" of last week into a full-scale offensive.

The British admitted the main battle was now in the Zoulet Maus area, which meant they had been driven back 40 miles since yesterday and 145 miles from the westernmost point of their advance in the Elagheia area.

Zoulet Maus is only about 70 miles southeast of Bengasi which the British captured on Christmas day in their second Libyan offensive.

Lack Explanation That the axis itself was somewhat puzzled by its own success was indicated by a Rome spokesman who spoke of the axis "improvised counterattack" and said "it is not quite clear what has happened to the powerful British army. While it is true that the nature of the terrain in Cirenaica calls for long-range operations, this would not be a sufficient explanation for the retreat."

The Italian high command claimed huge losses had been inflicted, including the destruction or capture of 250 tanks and armored cars and 150 guns.

It was evident that the Germans and Italians were rushing heavy reinforcements and that the British may be in for an even more difficult time.

The Italians announced the arrival of another important convoy at Tripoli, despite heavy British bombing and torpedo attacks which were acknowledged to have sunk one large liner.

The Germans said Malta had been bombed heavily again, and eight British fighter planes shot down. They said their bombers also intercepted a British fleet near Tobruk and hit a light cruiser.

Russians Mop Up Russian soldiers fighting their way forward in the coldest weather in decades were reported mopping up vast areas of the Russian front after virtually wiping out the winter line established by Adolf Hitler.

Russian reports said clean-up operations were in full swing in the section east of a 370-mile line running from the vicinity of Smolensk, 230 miles west of Moscow, to Orel and Kursk.

There was no information just how far the Russians were from Smolensk but the British radio broadcast a Stockholm report that Hitler had moved his headquarters from Smolensk 300 miles west to Minsk, capital of White Russia.

CALIFORNIA JOINS IN TIME CHANGE

Sacramento, Jan. 26.—(P)—Daylight time for California, effective February 9, was established in a proclamation today by Governor Culbert L. Olson. On that date, Olson said, at 11 p. m. clocks will be advanced one hour to put the state on daylight saving time and will remain that way until six months after the termination of war or until congress shall designate an earlier termination.

Ottawa, Ont., Jan. 26.—(P)—All Canada will go on daylight saving time on February 9, coincident with similar action in the United States, Munitions Minister Howe told the Canadian press today.

RIO COMMITTEE FOR APPROVING U. S. WAR AIMS

(By the Associated Press)

Rio De Janeiro, Jan. 26.—The political committee of the Pan-American conference adopted today a proposal to declare the United States and all her American allies non-belligerents, and approved the principles of the Atlantic charter which embodied the war aims of the United States and Britain.

Action on both resolutions was unanimous. At the committee meeting representatives of Paraguay and Bolivia announced formally that their governments, following the recommendation of the conference, had severed diplomatic and economic relations with the axis.

Delegates cheered the announcement which raised to 17 the number of American republics which have broken off with Berlin, Rome and Tokyo.

Also approved were resolutions calling for an immediate meeting of the general staffs of all American nations, and proposing that no American nation represent the interests of a warring government not on this continent in any other American nation.

This last resolution on representation of foreign interests was redrafted in sub-committee to get around objections by Argentina to its phrasing.

PRICE CONTROL IS VOTED BY HOUSE

Washington, Jan. 26.—(AP)—A compromise war-time price control bill was approved finally by the house today and sent to the senate.

Passage came after the house rejected on a 200 to 189 roll-call vote a Republican demand that the legislation be sent back to a joint conference committee with instructions to eliminate provisions for licensing of business and to create a board of review to study price orders.

Democratic Leader McCormack of Massachusetts had told the house earlier that some of the Republican objections to the measure were not sound and that President Roosevelt would sign the bill into law, even though additional remedial legislation might be necessary.

Radio Highlights

(Time is Pacific Standard) Tonight: Talks—Blue 6 Radio Forum, E. G. Harrison, "Control of Alien Enemies;" Blue 7:45, President's Birthday Ball, Sec. Morgenthau.

MBS—8:15 Amateur Boxing at Boston. Tuesday: The War—8 MBS; 8:15 MBS; 9 CBS; MBS; 10:45 NBC and Blue; 11 MBS; 12:35 p. m., CBS; 1 MBS; 1:45 CBS; MBS; 1:55 Blue; 2 MBS; 3:25 NBC; 3:45 CBS Blue.

BOX MAGNATE DIES London, Ontario, Jan. 26.—(CP)—Clifford J. Munce, 52, president of six of the world's largest corrugated box companies, died here today after a short illness.