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MEDFORD TRIBUNE

Full Associated Press

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 1942.

United Press

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Thirty-sixth Year

NO. 303.

VAST RED FORCE HURLED AT GERMANS

News Behind The News by Paul Mallon



Paul Mallon

Washington, March 12—Congress is handling the Morgenthau tax program as an incendiary bomb. It is advancing slowly with black glasses, and overcoat on backwards, looking for a sandbox.

On their private pads, ways and means committees have discovered the total tax on some corporations would run from 65 to 80 percent. One senator figures that if General Motors earned \$240,000,000, it would be lucky to have half of it (\$120,000,000) for dividends, which would mean a sharp cut in earnings distribution.

Most of the taxmaking legislators think the income rates proposed are far too high to maintain popular enthusiasm. Nor do they like the substitute ideas of a sales tax or a withholding tax any better.

This overall dissent is too widespread to warrant any predictions on the final form of the bill yet.

DROOPING of the stock market, in the face of this tax threat, again raises a fine question of government publicity emphasis and public morale. In the last war, decline of the stock market would have been considered a bad sign. Public confidence was supposed to follow the market.

Not so now. Most administration authorities discredit the stock market as an influence on public opinion on the ground that stocks are narrowly held.

That may be, but the government is also relying on sheer patriotism, unstimulated by any direct personal interest, to sponsor enthusiasm for the war effort in many other ways (crowding of little business, rationing sugar, tires, labor's priorities).

Abandoning the old profit motive for stimulating of the utmost national productive energy and enthusiasm, the question is whether it will work.

Indian Acquitted
In Murder Trial
Portland, March 12—(P)—Lawrence Dale Jackson, 17, was acquitted in federal court yesterday of the murder of a fellow Klamath Indian, Merlen Chocktoot, 20, on the Klamath reservation last December 6.

Jackson pleaded self defense. He had been accused of beating Chocktoot to death with the butt of the latter's rifle.

FLOUR MARCH
Portland, March 12—(P)—Family patent flour dropped 20 cents a barrel today, making a 40-cent price decrease within two weeks. Family patent is flour milled for household use.

Radio Highlights
(Pacific War Time)
Tonight: Blue—6 Town Meeting, "Are Americans Preparing For Total War?", Secretary Ickes and others.
MBS—8:15, Rep. Ploeser on "St. Lawrence Seaway."
Friday: The war—8 MBS, 8:15 MBS, 8:30 MBS, 9 NBC, CBS Blue, 10 Blue, 10:45 NBC, 11 MBS, 12:15 p. m., CBS, 1:45 CBS MBS, 1:55 Blue, 3 CBS MBS, 3:25 NBC, 3:45 CBS Blue.

Washing Machines Due For Fadeout
Washington, March 12—(P)—War production board officials told washing machine manufacturers today that large companies in their industry probably would be required to stop production on April 15 and small producers would be closed down a month later.

The shut down will be preliminary to complete conversion of the washing machine industry to war production.

Frank Ray being a lifesaver and securing ice at the very last moment for the punch at the Daughters of Job meeting.

1,500,000 MEN OPEN OFFENSIVE ON SOUTH FRONT

Greatest Action Since Start Of Russian Campaign—Trapped Nazis Eat Horses

By the Associated Press
The Russians have reported today to have hurled 90-odd armored and infantry divisions, perhaps 1,500,000 men, into a great offensive on the southern front stretching from Taganrog on the sea of Azov up to the vicinity of Kharkov in the upper Ukraine.

Simultaneously, they were heavily attacking in the Orel sector, some 250 miles south of Moscow, and about Staraya Russa, the area where the 16th German army is encircled below Leningrad.

Break Nazi Lines
In the Orel fighting, the German high command acknowledged that its lines had been penetrated northeast of the city and that Nazi forces were wholly on the defensive.

All this indicated that the soviet command had embarked upon the greatest offensive action since the beginning of the Russian campaign.

Red army troops scored another important breakthrough through north of Lake Ilmen on the Leningrad front, it was reported, smashing strong German defensive positions.

Soviet front-line dispatches said the remnants of the 96,000 German soldiers trapped in the Staraya Russa sector, below Lake Ilmen, were bolstering their dwindling food supplies with horsemeat and that suicides were increasing among the beleaguered nazis.

The trapped German 16th army, which had already lost 12,000 men, was said to have suffered additional thousands of casualties in the last few days.

Axis Hits At Sea

Heavy new blows against the allies at sea were claimed by the axis today, with the Germans asserting that 823,000 tons of shipping had been sunk in American waters and the Italians reporting success in attacking "a great British naval squadron" in the eastern Mediterranean.

Premier Mussolini's high command said waves of Italian torpedo-carrying planes scored hits on three British cruisers and probably sank one of them.

"This action was repeated by German planes and submarines, which renewed the attack and hit with certainty two more naval units of the enemy," the fascist high command said.

Italian Sub Lost

An Italian submarine was acknowledged missing.

The German version of the Mediterranean battle listed five British cruisers as damaged—three hit by Italian torpedo planes, another by German bombers, and the fifth hit twice by Nazi U-boat torpedoes.

Adolf Hitler's high command, in a special communique, said German submarines operating in north and central American waters had sunk 17 more merchant ships totalling 109,000 tons, making a total of 772,500 tons sunk by Nazi raiders off the American coast.

Italian submarines were credited by the Berlin radio with sinking an additional 50,700 tons.

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Tillamook Guerillas To Greet Japs



A guerilla band, 1,000 strong, organized by a blind veteran of the first world war, has perfected plans to fight off any invasion attempt on the Oregon coast. These five men, part of the group training near Tillamook, Ore., are but part of the 24 companies that have been formed.

YANKEE BOMBERS GIVEN CREDIT IN JAP SHIP LOSSES

By Roger D. Greene
Associated Press War Editor.

Heavy U. S. bombers were credited today with crippling at least part of a Japanese invasion armada sailing down the coast of New Guinea toward Australia, while in Tokyo Japan's war lords unleashed a new verbal bombardment directed at the two most likely targets of Japan's next military moves—India and Australia.

Premier Gen. Hideki Tojo, boasting that allied sea power had been crushed in the far Pacific and that Japanese armies have taken more than 210,000 prisoners, declared Japan was bent on erasing the last vestiges of British control in India.

A British broadcast quoted Imperial Tokyo headquarters as acknowledging that three Japanese ships had been sunk or beached and six others damaged, including a cruiser, in landing operations on Australian-mandated New Guinea.

The Tokyo communique said the cruiser, two destroyers and three other ships were damaged slightly.

"The main fleet of the United States and Britain has already disappeared from the surface of the Pacific," Tojo asserted in a speech celebrating the conquest of the Dutch East Indies.

In Washington, the army reported that eight big United States bombers dealt a staggering blow to Japanese ships Tuesday in New Guinea waters, dropping 18 tons of bombs which left two vessels sinking, four in flames and another stranded on the beach. The American forces returned intact.

ASK PIANO LOAN FOR AIR CANTEN

An appeal was made today for the loan of a piano for use at the canteen operated at the municipal airport by the recreation committee of the Jackson County Council of Defense for the officers and men of the U. S. air corps. Anyone having a piano to loan was asked to telephone Mrs. F. Corning Kenly, 4666.

Through the generous response of friends, the committee said, improvements are underway which will provide larger and better facilities for the air corps boys at the canteen.

SECRETARY OF STATE CANDIDACY ANNOUNCED

Portland, March 12—(P)—Francis Lambert, Multnomah county treasurer, announced today he would seek the Democratic nomination for secretary of state.

Brazilians in Demonstration Against Blacklisted Germans

Rio De Janeiro, March 12—(P)—An angry crowd of several hundred persons, some shouting, "kill them!" broke the show window of a blacklisted German firm today on Rio de Janeiro's main street, Avenida Rio Branco.

The outbreak, directed chiefly at the German store, Casa Lohner, came just after noon and followed upon anti-axis measures taken by the Brazilian government.

The government confiscated up to 30 per cent of the funds of axis subjects in this country in a decree which branded German, Italy and Japan as aggressors and strengthened belief that a declaration of war might follow.

The decree by President Getulio Vargas said the confiscations were based on "acts of war practiced against the American continent," and singled out Germany as particularly responsible.

Since Germany, Italy and Japan are allies, they are "united in aggression," the decree stated.

It blamed Germany for failure to pay admitted obligations for damage to a Brazilian ship in the Mediterranean on peace time and for attacks on seaborne unarmored Brazilian merchantmen—at least four of which have been sunk recently off the Atlantic coasts of the United States.

BIG INCREASE IN FLYING STUDENTS PLANNED BY CAA

Washington, March 12—(P)—The CAA civilian aviation training program today was ordered more than doubled in size and geared completely into the war effort as a part of the urgent expansion of the nation's air power.

The war department announced the move, explaining it was worked out in cooperation with the army air forces.

The number of students given elementary pilot training is to be raised from 25,000 to 45,000 a year, and the facilities of the secondary flying course tripled to train 30,000 students annually.

Train Technicians
In addition training is to be provided for the first time for ground technicians. About 31,000 are to be given this training annually.

All who undergo the flying or ground technician training must agree to serve in the army air corps, or if unable to meet military requirements, must agree to "contribute their future efforts to a field of aeronautics adapted to serve the national interest."

Good Chance Seen For Spring Attack

These cannot be explained entirely by the routine movement of American and British supplies to Archangel. More than one competent analyst is considering whether the western allied powers will pound a wedge of well-equipped power into the top of Europe when the

4 Enemy Ships Sent Down By American Submarine

METER FOES ASK WATER BOARD TO SET HEARING DAY

Committee Says Public Hearing Or Election On Question, Board's Idea.

The Medford board of water commissioners was today called upon to set the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed installation of water meters.

The call came in a statement by the committee of citizens appointed by the board to assist in arranging for a public hearing or special election. The committee was composed of Dr. Edwin R. Durno, Kenneth G. Denman, Charles W. Reames and Moore Hamilton. Its statement follows:

"At a meeting recently held before the Medford water board regarding the installation of water meters in Medford, considerable objections were raised by the citizens of Medford to the installation of meters. The board claimed meters are necessary to conserve water, due to waste of water by the public, that it is necessary to install meters so water can be sold at the rate of five million gallons a day to the cantonment, that it had been promised by the chamber of commerce of Medford that if the cantonment came to Medford that Medford would supply the water."

The board, speaking through Mr. Thorndike, (Eugene Thorndike, acting chairman) that if the public of Medford did not want the board to put in the meters, and would endeavor to prevent the waste of water, the board would not install them, that the board did not want to force meters on the public if the public did not want them and that the board would abide by the wishes of the public.

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War Bulletins

Washington, March 12—(P)—The war department in the briefest communique of the war reported today that the lull in fighting on the Philippines' Batan peninsula continued. It was the fourth consecutive day that the department reported absence of activity on the fighting front.

Berlin (from German broadcasts), March 12—(P)—The German air force has sent waves of dive bombers against Soviet tanks and infantry concentrating for attacks on the central Russian front. It was announced tonight. The dive bombers destroyed 26 heavy tanks and silenced two heavy artillery batteries.

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NAVY FLIERS GET BIG JAP BOMBER OFF MIDWAY ISLE

Navy Reports Successful Invasion Of Japanese Waters By Raiding Sub.

Washington, March 12—(P)—The navy announced today that three enemy freighters and a passenger cargo ship had been sunk by a U. S. submarine in Japanese waters and that an enemy seaplane had been shot down west of Midway Island.

These new actions against the Japanese were reported in Navy communique number 53, based on information received here up to 1 p. m., PWT today. The communique (about 100):

"Far East—A U. S. submarine has sunk three enemy freighters and one passenger cargo ship in Japanese waters."

"These sinkings are in addition to those reported in all previous communications."

"Central Pacific—On March 10 two large Japanese four-engine sea planes were detected west of Midway Island. They were intercepted by four of our fighter planes based on the island. One of the enemy planes was shot down. The other escaped. One of our fighters was damaged and the pilot wounded. He succeeded in returning to his base safely."

"There is nothing to report from other areas."

Men On Draft Lists May Be Used in War Production Industry

Washington, March 12—(P)—Approximately 25,000,000 men from 20 to 44 now registered under the selective service system will be required to list their occupational skills, if any, needed in war production industries, the service said today.

A special questionnaire will be sent the men through local draft boards, beginning in a few days, in an inventory of America's male labor resources.

Paul V. McNutt, social security administrator, said he hoped the questionnaires ultimately would reach all men between 18 and 64 and that this would give the United States employment service complete information on the work skills of 40,000,000.

In February, he reported, 7,000,000 workers were on the payrolls of war industries, but he predicted 10,000,000 more would be needed to man the plants when they reached maximum output.

SALES TAX URGED FOR WAR SINEWS

Washington, March 12—(P)—The National Association of Manufacturers suggested a \$7,600,000,000 tax program to Congress today, featuring a \$4,400,000,000 sales tax and moderate increases in individual and corporate levies.

The recommendations, presented to the house ways and means committee by J. Cheever Cowdin, called for only one-third of the increases in individual and corporate tax rates proposed by Secretary Morgenthau, and contemplated making a manufacturers' or retail sales tax which Morgenthau forthrightly opposed.

"Grant all the objections to a war tax on consumption," Cowdin observed. "How else can you meet the nation's need for tremendous amounts of new revenue?"

Allied Offensive at Top of Europe May Be Answer to Russian Needs

By Fred Vanderschmidt
New York, March 12—(P)—Cumulative military and political evidence indicates the imminence of highly important operations centering about the area between the desolate North Cape at the top of Norway and the cruel 1,000-foot granite cliffs of the Russian Murmansk coast.

Major air and naval operations already are under way, involving German capital ships, British torpedo planes undoubtedly operating from an aircraft carrier, other British warships and united nations convoys.

This commentary declared that both military and political reasons commended Norway as a spot where the allies could strike with overwhelming forces. It added that control of upper Scandinavia would give the United Nations a convenient link with Russia through Finland and would put them in position to strike directly into the heart of Germany.

An offensive at the top of Europe might well be the extra contribution to Russia's cause which the Soviet Union gives every evidence of expecting.

midnight sun shines this coming summer.

Free Europe, a review of international affairs published in London, said today that an allied spring offensive in the west should have a good chance of success, for the forces now concentrated in the British Isles presumably are stronger than those the Germans have disposed from Kirkenes, Norway, to Hendaye, France.

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There is plenty to win a successful push could wipe Finland from the war, open and protect the whole allied-Russian supply line via the excellent port of Murmansk and re-establish the allies in Norway where they could organize and supply increasing resistance by the population.

Reds Might Turn Northern Flank

A common U. S.-British-Russian fighting front could be thrown quickly across the thin tip of Finland and this front in time might provide just the impetus which the Russians need to turn the whole German northern flank and collapse it upon the Baltic states and East Prussia itself.

There are 1,500 miles of sea from the present United States bases in Northern Ireland to the North Cape, but it is barely 30 miles across the northeastern extremity of Norway to Russian territory, and only 50 miles farther east to Murmansk.

SIDE GLANCES

BY TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Glady Rice having to resort to window climbing in order to get in her house, she being unable to get the door open.

Frank Ray being a lifesaver and securing ice at the very last moment for the punch at the Daughters of Job meeting.