

Weather
Forecast: Fair tonight and Wednesday. Fog Wednesday morning. Little change in temperature.
Highest yesterday 18
Lowest this morning 12
Precipitation past 24 hrs. — 0

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MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1943.

NO. 225.

NAZIS LOSE LAST DNIAPER BASE

News Behind The News By Paul Mallon

Washington, Dec. 14.—The administration has opened a drive to "dispel disunity."



Paul Mallon

Top rostrum men, Speaker Rayburn, War Production Vice Chairman Charles Wilson and War Mobilizer James Byrnes, have spoken on the subject in rapid order.

Mr. Rayburn was trying to quiet the house where criticism of the administration's domestic war effort is continuing to mount.

Mr. Wilson spoke to the National Association of Manufacturers, where he said too many were preparing their post-war positions at the expense of the war effort.

Mr. Byrnes, on the radio, went after the big four brotherhoods (first time any administration man has dared attack the most powerful of labor groups) and other labor and farm groups, seeking to break the government's price policies.

Altogether, it looks like a well-managed campaign.

The country is truly in a perplexing condition, whether "disunity" is the proper word for it is certainly open to question. Take, for instance, the inner background from which Rayburn spoke.

The house itself is idling with much to do. Its investigating committees, however, are constantly digging up evidence of mismanagement.

ALONG the line of one committee which recently heard the charge that although \$13,000,000 had been spent for one plane plant in North Carolina, only one plane had been produced.

Such things have political ramifications. Nothing in Washington now or from now on will be non-political. The election

(Continued on Page Six)

FLU AND COLDS SPREADING FAST THROUGH NATION

Influenza and colds, spreading throughout the nation, reached epidemic proportions in some cities today, curtailing war plant operations and forcing schools to close.

Dr. George Calver, capitol physician, estimated that 20 per cent of the congressmen in Washington have contracted influenza or a respiratory virus infection. He said 100,000 cases were reported in the city.

Peak Due Soon
Dr. James G. Cumming, head of the government bureau of preventable disease, anticipated an increase in the infection within the next few days, but expressed that the crisis would be reached shortly, followed by a sharp decline.

Dr. Bruce H. Douglas, city health commissioner of Detroit, where about 10 per cent of the population has been hit, said colder weather "would have a marked effect in checking the number of heavy colds and winter respiratory ailments."

New York City's industrial plants, department stores and utilities reported a 10 per cent increase in absenteeism during the last week.

Some cities reported a shortage of medical facilities and hospitals were barring visitors to protect patients from infection.

Oregon authorities said the extent of the disease was only normal for this season of the year.

London, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—King George VI observed his 48th birthday quietly today with the queen and princesses. Official celebrations will not take place until next June, but flags were flown on public buildings.

CHERKASI CAPTURE GIVES REDS ROAD FOR MARCH WEST

Town on River Stormed and Taken After Stubborn Fight, Says Stalin.

London, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Gen. Ivan S. Konev's Ukrainian army has stormed and captured Cherkasi, the last major German base on the west bank of the lower Dnieper river, Premier Josef Stalin announced today in a special order of the day.

Stalin, hailing the victory at Cherkasi, described the town as "an important center of German defense on the right bank of the Dnieper" and said it fell today as a result of stubborn fighting.

Military quarters here believed the fall of Cherkasi signified the crumbling of the entire German position in the northern section of the Dnieper bend, since it gave the Russians a firm grip on an extensive and strategic rail and highway network.

The capture of the town also cleared the way for a Russian advance westward to threaten the southern flank of the Germans counterattacking the Kiev salient.

By United Press
Triumphant Russian forces seized the last German stronghold on the lower Dnieper river and massed inside their Kiev salient for a winter drive on Poland and Rumania today, as news from London and the middle east hinted strongly that decisive blows are finaling to speed Germany's final defeat.

Allied troops in Italy pounded deeper into the Adriatic flank of the Nazi line, but rains and freezing mud again slowed the Anglo-American advance to a near-standstill on other sectors.

Canadians Advance
Canadian units of Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's 8th army advanced through Nazi tank counter-attacks on the town of Ortona, coastal anchor of the German Adriatic line. At last reports, the Canadians were within two miles of Ortona and held dominant hill positions overlooking the town.

Indian troops flanking the Canadians on the inland side of the line scored limited advances and broadened the 8th army's positions south and southwest of Ortona.

Planes Busy
Allied attack planes pounded the Nazi rear lines despite the weather handicap, and medium bombers ranged across the Adriatic to batter oil installations at Split and railway yards at Sibenice on the Yugoslav coast.

RAF Mosquito raiders bombed western Germany during the night for the fourth straight night, attacking without loss in the wake of powerful American forays against Nazi airfields in Holland and unidentified targets in northwestern Germany. Nine American planes were lost in the daylight raids, but the Fortresses, Liberators and Thunderbolts fighters that struck at Germany downed 15 enemy planes.

26,723 Casualties In Italian Fighting

London, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden announced in commons today that Allied forces in Italy have suffered 26,723 casualties and captured more than 6000 German prisoners.

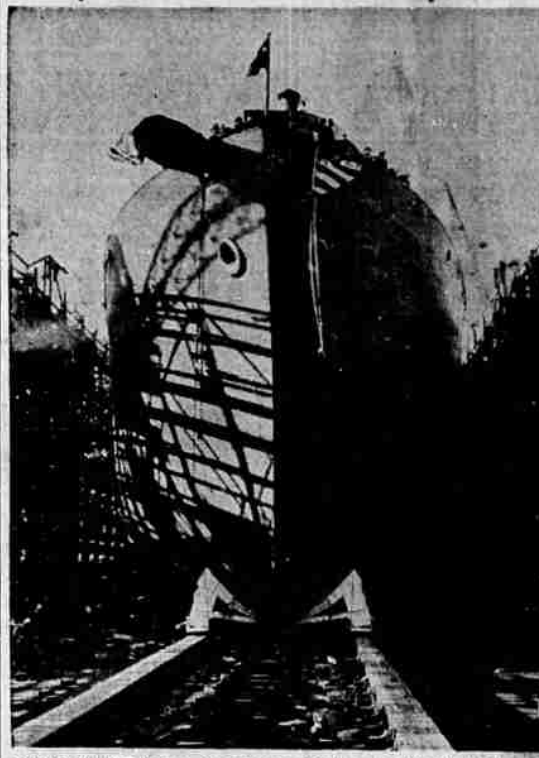
Allied casualties from the start of the Italian campaign through Nov. 23, he said, were as follows:

United States	Britain
Killed 1,603	3,212
Wounded 6,381	9,709
Missing 2,683	3,153
Totals 10,667	16,074

HUNTER KILLED

Moscow, Ida., Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Wilbur Tisdall, 32-year-old hunter, was killed instantly Sunday night when a loaded rifle he was pulling from his car following a deer hunt apparently discharged accidentally. Coroner H. R. Short announced today.

Ship Named for War Correspondent



Named for the first U. S. war correspondent to give his life in World War II, the S. S. Ralph Barnes, a Liberty Ship, slides down the ways of the Oregon Shipyard in Portland. Barnes, a New York Herald Tribune reporter, was born at Salem, Ore., was killed Nov. 19, 1940, when an RAF bomber in which he was flying on a bombing mission to Albania, crashed and burned in Yugoslavia.

Union Financial Statements Favored in Tax Bill Study

Washington, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—The senate finance committee today voted 11 to 10 to retain in the tax bill a house-approved requirement that non-profit organizations, including labor unions, file annual financial statements with the internal revenue bureau.

The committee, which hopes to report the bill to the senate on Thursday, also voted to freeze the social security tax rate at its present one per cent for another year. This is the third year that Sen. Arthur Vandenberg, R., Mich., has succeeded in barring an automatic doubling of social security taxes under the law.

Vandenberg was author of the postponement amendment which the committee approved. Chairman Walter F. George, D., Ga., said the vote was 15 or 16 for holding the present level with only four or five members favoring an increase.

The senate committee accepted the house-approved corporation excess profits tax rate of 95 per cent, an increase of five per cent over the present rate. It eliminated from the house bill, however, the final bracket in the table of excess profit credits for invested capital.

STIFF JOLT FOR LIQUOR RUNNER ON GUILTY PLEA

Sydney Marvin Sill was sentenced to 120 days in the county jail and fined \$500 and costs for possession of alcoholic liquor not procured by or through the Oregon State Liquor Control commission when he pleaded guilty in justice court yesterday afternoon. Sill was arrested here Saturday with 69 cases of whiskey labeled "Cedarbrook," which he shipped here by truck freight and was repacking to re-ship north.

During the court proceedings it developed Sill is at liberty on \$2,500 bonds on a federal narcotics charge.

While the whiskey was in a local warehouse Sill, it was asserted, attempted to alter the labels. He was arrested by a State Liquor commission inspector. Sill at first claimed he was taking the contraband to Seattle as a Christmas gift for his brother-in-law. The district attorney's office reported Sill had paid an excessive price for his cargo, but nevertheless would have netted a handsome profit for it had he been able to dispose of it.

COLDER WEATHER IN CENTRAL AREA

By United Press
U. S. weather bureau forecasters warned the north-central states Tuesday that "extreme intensification" of the current cold wave can be expected tonight and tomorrow as the air mass traveled southeasterly to include the upper eastern seaboard.

Low temperatures were recorded over a wide area, ranging from the Dakotas, Iowa and Nebraska to the eastern seaboard.

The lowest temperature in the country was recorded at Roseau, Minn., 21 degrees below zero. Duluth had 21 below; Bemidji, 18 below, and Minneapolis a minus 10.

The Wisconsin low was reported at Madison where thermometers fell to 5 below.

The temperature in Chicago this morning stood at 4 above with predictions of a minus 5 to 10.

Medford district Community Chest subscriptions up to last night were:

\$38,295.49
Quota is \$43,718.40.

U. S. READY FOR PACIFIC FIGHT KNOX DECLARES

Preliminaries Out of the Way Says Navy Secretary in Revealing Strength.

Washington, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox said today that preliminaries are out of the way in the Pacific and that the United States is getting ready to deliver powerful offensive blows against the Japanese.

"We are getting stronger and stronger," Knox told his news conference. "The preliminaries are out of the way and we are getting ready to drive home some hard blows."

"Operations of our combined sea, air and land forces in all areas of the Pacific are going forward in a very satisfactory way."

Now Have Equipment
"We now have the equipment and trained men to do a complete job. Few people appreciate the work that goes into the job—months and months of preparation."

"Of course, the whole strategy is becoming apparent as these things develop. It is perfectly obvious now that what seemed to be only nibbling was carried on with the purpose of progressively decimating the enemy's air and surface strength. The enemy has contributed to that by sending out small task forces which are regularly overwhelmed. This has enabled us to nip off very important elements of the Japanese fleet piecemeal."

One of the striking developments in recent months, Knox said, is that "we very seldom encounter Japanese transports or cargo carrying ships in outlying ports."

"Because of his losses, the enemy has resorted to small, self-propelled barges to carry both supplies and men," he added.

"Fortunately we have the weapons to meet them. They are the particular prey of the P-38. Hundreds of barges have been sunk and thousands of troops lost in attempts to reinforce beleaguered garrisons."

Knox said American air superiority in the Pacific continued unchallenged. Actual figures on air losses, he added, continue to run between six and eight to one in favor of our air forces. This, he suggested, was due to the steady attrition of enemy pilots over a period of months.

SPECIAL SESSION TO EYE PRISON PROBLEMS

Sacramento, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Gov. Earl Warren's committee investigating prison conditions today reported administrative and discipline problems existing at Folsom prison demanding immediate correction as the governor announced he would shortly call a special session of the legislature to consider an overhauling of the state's prison system.

Second Lieutenant James G. Reed, pilot of a P-38, has been reported "missing in action" according to a telegram received by his mother, Mrs. Lillian G. Reed, 840 Palm street. A sister of Lt. Reed's, Mrs. R. D. Coffin lives at the same address, and a brother, William, is a second class radio technician in the navy, now aboard ship in the Pacific.

Lt. James Reed left the United States for overseas duty about November 1, going to the South Pacific area. The War Department telegram says he has been missing in action since December 7.

Patton Survey In Middle East Spurs Talk Of Action In Balkan Territory

By Edward W. Beattie
United Press Staff Correspondent
London, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Lt. Gen. George S. Patton has made a three-day tour of strategic military zones in the middle east, a Cairo announcement revealed today, fanning speculation on the likelihood of brewing or imminent action in the jittery Balkan theater.

Patton, who commanded the United States Seventh army campaign through Sicily, was revealed to have made a sweep through the middle east as the guest of Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, British commander.

Accompanied by his staff, the general, known as "old blood and guts" appeared unheralded in Cairo, and the demands for military secrecy shrouded the intents of his trip so far from Sicily, where the most recent

advice said his Seventh army still was stationed.

Though the Cairo report said only that Patton and his staff had visited "various areas" in the middle east, with a specific mention of Palestine, it was assumed that he examined the key defenses and dispositions throughout the vital section a potential springboard for the drive against Europe from the south as agreed upon at the Tehran conference.

Authorities were silent regarding the tour by Patton, a general valued so highly by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower that the clamor over his slapping of a shell shocked soldier in a Sicilian hospital was not permitted to affect his status as commander of the Seventh army.

On Conference's Heels
By accident or design, Patton

WAR SHORTENING DUE TO CONFABS IS SEEN BY EDEN

Foreign Secretary Tells Commons Plans Laid For Progress With Peace.

London, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden told Commons today that Britain, the United States and Russia at Tehran had ensured the shortening of the war and laid plans for "maintaining the world's progress" in the peace to follow.

In apologizing for Prime Minister Churchill's absence at the opening of the war debate he hinted broadly that further conferences in the Mediterranean theater were contemplated or under way.

Work Remains
"There still remains important work for him to do in the sphere where he now is," Eden told the packed house and gallery. "and I am sure the house would wish him to see that work through to the end."

Fresh from the momentous round of conferences at Cairo and Tehran, Eden reported that: 1—Britain will throw her full resources against Japan following the defeat of Germany.

2—Plans for the prosecution of war against both Germany and Japan have been "brought to completeness."

3—The Roosevelt-Churchill talks with President Ismet Inonu of Turkey were "encouraging."

Aiding Jugoslavs
4—Britain has sent a military mission to the Yugoslav partisans and is "doing all we can" to supply and support them.

5—There is "some hope" of uniting patriot forces in Greece and the Allies are doing their utmost to unite the Yugoslav partisans and Gen. Draja Mihailovitch's partisans.

6—The "big three" seek only to liberate the occupied countries of Europe and have no intention of imposing their will upon them.

LT. JAMES G. REED MISSING IN ACTION

Second Lieutenant James G. Reed, pilot of a P-38, has been reported "missing in action" according to a telegram received by his mother, Mrs. Lillian G. Reed, 840 Palm street. A sister of Lt. Reed's, Mrs. R. D. Coffin lives at the same address, and a brother, William, is a second class radio technician in the navy, now aboard ship in the Pacific.

Lt. James Reed left the United States for overseas duty about November 1, going to the South Pacific area. The War Department telegram says he has been missing in action since December 7.

Adams' body was found by Jack Waybrant, Ashland, another member of the crew.

The dead man is survived by his wife, Ethel, at the family home, 287 Morton St., in Ashland; two sons in the navy, Robert LeRoy in Ireland and Dale Alvin in Miami, Fla., and a daughter, Betty Lee, and another son, Richard Arlen, at home. Funeral arrangements are awaiting word from the son in Florida. The body is at Litwiller's funeral home in Ashland.

Adams was born April 24, 1894, in Mitchell, S. D., and had lived in Ashland many years.

Blood donations to Red Cross centers average 80,000 a week.

To Sing Here



Opening the concert season of the Jackson County Civic Music association tomorrow evening will be Sidor Belarsky, famous Russian bass-baritone. Belarsky often compared favorably to the great Russian singer, Feodor Chaliapin, is making his first western tour. The concert is open only to members of the association and is scheduled for 8:15 p. m. at the senior high school auditorium on South Oakdale Ave.

ASHLAND LOGGER KILLED BY TREE NEAR PROSPECT

Struck by the tip of a falling tree, Dick Adams, 49, Ashland resident, was killed about noon yesterday while working as a log scaler at a camp operated 10 miles northeast of Prospect by Lawrence E. Edmonds, also of Ashland. Adams, apparently instantly killed, was not found until the men noticed his absence when work ceased at five o'clock.

Carlos Morris, deputy coroner, investigated the accident and stated this morning Adams' chest was badly crushed. The body lay in such a position as to indicate the snag tip of the tree struck his shoulder and chest in falling. The tree, unusually tall, was felled just before noon by Carl Hagler, Ashland, working alone as a "rubber" feller. Hagler was unaware of Adams' presence in the vicinity.

Body Found
Adams' body was found by Jack Waybrant, Ashland, another member of the crew.

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COUNTY GRANGES EXCEED QUOTA IN WAR FUND DRIVE

\$1,703.50 Contributed Says Mrs. O. Floyd, Chairman—Central Point Tops List

Members of fifteen Jackson County Granges and the county Pomona Grange have contributed \$1,703.50 to the current National War Fund drive, it was stated yesterday by Mrs. Olive M. Floyd, Phoenix Grange member and Grange chairman for the project. Mrs. Floyd stated that the assigned quota of \$1,500 was met more than a month ago and since then the additional funds had come in. None of the funds collected from the Granges will be used for the Medford Community Chest and the entire sum is to go to the National War Fund.

Central Point Grange topped the list of contributions with \$311.95. Mrs. A. T. Lathrop was chairman in charge of the drive for the group. Eagle Point Grange, with Mrs. Millie Tingle as chairman, raised the second largest sum, \$253.17, and Bellview Grange members were third with \$225.11. Mrs. Elsie Davis was chairman for the Bellview drive.

Lake Creek \$56.50
Lake Creek Grange, under the direction of Mrs. Myrtle Charley, raised \$56.50; Upper Applegate, with Mrs. Maud Port as chairman, raised \$33, and Talent Grange, with Mrs. Florence Hartley as chairman, contributed \$40.50. Members of the Sams Valley Grange, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Doris Nealon, raised \$146.71 for the fund.

Apogee Grange contributed \$121.01 to the drive, conducted under the chairmanship of Mrs. Beryl Elmrose, and the Jacksonville Grange, with Mrs. Nellie Dunford as chairman, raised \$109.50 for the fund. Griffin Creek Grange, under the direction of Mrs. Jessie Miner, raised \$108.40 for the fund, and Roxy Ann Grange, with Mrs. Ethel Blish as chairman, contributed \$59.65.

Gold Hill \$37
Members of the Gold Hill Grange, under direction of Mrs. W. G. Howes, raised \$37. Live Oak Grange at Rogue River, with Mrs. Roland Jones as chairman, contributed \$13.25, and Upper Rogue Grange, where Mrs. Tressie Vaughn directed the campaign, raised \$58.10. Phoenix Grange, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Madeline Barrett, raised \$77.65 for the war fund.

Jackson County Pomona Grange contributed \$10 to the fund.

Mrs. Floyd stated that she was assisted in the county-wide campaign by Mrs. A. E. Brockway, who acted as driver of a car furnished by Fluhrer's bakery for the calls on the various Granges.

DEANNA DIVORCES CRITICAL HUSBAND

Hollywood, Dec. 14.—(U.P.)—Deanna Durbin, the singing child star of the movies who grew up into one of Hollywood's most beautiful actresses, was awarded a divorce today from Navy Lt. Vaughn Paul.

Her husband's continual criticism of her work caused her extreme mental anguish, she testified before Judge Ingall W. Bull.

"I worked very hard when I made a picture because only that way can I make a good picture," she explained. "But no matter how it turned out, Vaughn was always ready to criticize. It was the same with my radio programs, and it was very discouraging."

"Did all this cause you mental anguish?" Judge Bull asked.

"Yes," Miss Durbin replied, adding that they had few mutual interests and that he would turn off the radio whenever she tuned in on a symphony program.