

Weather

Forecast: Cloudy tonight and Thursday. Little change in temperature.
 Highest yesterday 31
 Lowest this morning 27
 Precipitation past 24 hrs. 0

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIBUNE

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Thirty-eighth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1943

NO. 226

News Behind The News By Paul Mallon

Washington, Dec. 15.—German ability to maintain herself lately, and even fight back from her hopeless positions on the constant brink of disaster, has disturbed some set calculations of the war.



Her counter-attacks in Russia, especially in front of Kiev, have shown strong power in tanks and artillery. But the types of these weapons employed shows they were saved from easier German days when production was above need. Not many new type weapons were in evidence. So the Nazis are digging deeper into their last stores.

THE Russians thought it strange when they captured Kiev that so few buildings in the center of the town had been demolished by retreating Germans. Only the industrial works on the outskirts had been wrecked with customary thoroughness. Now they know the Germans had even then planned this counterattack to be launched when red fury was spent, and intended to occupy the buildings this winter themselves.

It looks as if the Russians will hold all these counterattacks to limited objectives and fly again into forward action as soon as the Nazi strokes wane. This conclusion must be tempered by the fact that a genuine agreement for synchronization of military actions was reached at Tehran between the Russians, British and American military men—whatever were the results of the meeting in non-military lines.

Russian blows, therefore, may be restrained to match with our new invasion. Berlin radio says there will be no Russian winter offensive until we are ready to invade, and it might possibly be right.

BUT it is in German resistance to our air bombings that the somewhat altered military viewpoint is more apparent. American air generals, who were saying six months ago that Germany could be beaten by bombing alone and have been trying their excellent best to do

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RELIEF PROMISED SHIVERING EAST

By United Press
 Relief was promised today from the winter's worst cold wave which has spread across the nation from the Rocky mountains to the Atlantic seaboard, causing at least 19 deaths.

The U. S. weather bureau at Chicago said the lowest temperatures of the arctic wave had been reached in the north-central states. The forecaster said the mercury would start to climb tomorrow.

New England states were hardest hit. Thirteen persons died from the cold in that area and hundreds suffered from lack of fuel.

COLOR LINE DRAWN By Plant Workers

Baltimore, Dec. 15.—U.P.—Strikers at the Western Electric Co. plants here, demanding separate washrooms for white and Negro employees, continued their walkout today despite a War Labor Board order that they return to work.

SIDE GLANCES By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Leslie Ternahan wondering why a woman living in Paso Robles should send a wire to the Medford ration board urgently requesting gasoline for a trip to Tacoma.

Harry Morris leading a mop brigade up the main stem of the Lithia City, much to the amusement of all spectators.

Charey Clay stepping gingerly along the street to avoid slipping on the ice.

HITLERITES MOVE TO NIP POSSIBLE PEACE COUP TRY

Sworn Supporters Of Nazi
 Regime Replace Suspect-
 ed Prussian Officers.

By United Press

A purge of the German high command, aimed at forestalling a peace coup by the Junkers military clique, was reported today as the Nazi mounted a new counteroffensive in Russia and battled the Anglo-American advance in Italy to a virtual standstill.

London reports, partially confirmed by the German radio, said political commanders sworn to support the Nazi regime were being moved into top positions in the Wehrmacht, replacing "lukewarm" Prussian officers suspected of working secretly for a negotiated peace with the Allies.

Rommel in Saddle

Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt, German commander in France, reportedly was replaced by Field Marshal Edwin Rommel as chief of the defense of western Europe and Gen. Richard Jungklaus, a Nazi elite guard leader and an intimate of Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler, was said to have taken over the Belgian command from Gen. Alexander von Falkenhausen.

Unconfirmed reports said both von Rundstedt and von Falkenhausen were linked with peace overtures put out in Lisbon by members of the Prussian military caste.

Nazi Resistance Holds

Despite the rumored dissonance inside the German regime, there was no let-up in Nazi resistance on the Russian or Italian battle fields. Moscow reported that the Germans hurled large tank and infantry forces into a renewed counterdrive against the salient west of Kiev and achieved at least one important gain in the center of the line.

The counterattack drove Soviet troops from the key junction town of Radomil, 48 miles west of Kiev, forcing the Russians back to the east bank of the Teteriv river—the best natural defense line before the Ukrainian capital.

Moscow's announcement revealed that the Red army has been forced back 26 miles from its westernmost penetration in the Kiev salient since the German counteroffensive began a month ago.

Further south, however, Soviet forces fanned out westward from captured Cherkaski in a drive that threatened to overrun the German-held railway junction of Smela and collapse the entire Nazi position in the upper Dnieper bend. A second Russian column was reported pounding westward from Kremenchuk toward a junction with the liberators of Cherkaski.

Unconfirmed German reports circulating in Stockholm said the Russians also were massing for a new winter offensive in the north, between Leningrad and Nevel.

Winter rains and savage German resistance all but stopped the advance of Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's 8th army along the Italian Adriatic coast. Indian troops fought their way into the town of Caldari, 4 1/2 miles southwest of the Nazi coastal anchor at Ortona, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, but elsewhere on the Italian front there was little or no Allied progress.

Health Authority Misses Century

Battle Creek, Mich., Dec. 15.—U.P.—Dr. John Harvey Kellogg, noted physician and health authority who once said he "expected to live to be 100 years old," died here last night at the age of 91.

Dr. Kellogg was a brother of W. K. Kellogg, founder of the cereal fortune. He long was an exponent of a meatless diet, declaring he had no desire to make his stomach "a Potter's field for deceased animals."

Captain Howard Tried by Court-Martial



Flanked by friends and counsel, Captain Lindsay C. Howard, socialite-sportsman, center, is shown at the San Francisco Presidio trial by Army court-martial where Howard is charged with "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" in connection with counter charges lodged by him against his former wife, Anita Zabala Howard, as an outgrowth of their long-standing alimony row. Others with Howard are, left to right, Colonel Gus C. Ringole, Neil S. McCarthy, Attorney Walter McGovern and Major Elmer D. Dry.

CIVILIAN GAS CUT FORESEEN AS WAR EATS UP SUPPLIES

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—New cuts in civilian allotments of gasoline, with possible tightening up of rations, were foreseen today following a warning by Price Administrator Chester Bowles that civilian supplies are "critically short."

Bowles declared last night that the demands on existing supplies were becoming constantly greater.

"More than three out of every 10 gallons produced east of the Rocky mountains goes to our armed forces," he said. "This may be increased to four out of every ten gallons."

"Already four out of every 10 gallons produced on the Pacific coast is going to war. As soon as the offensive against Japan is increased in scope and intensity, it will take half of all the west coast gas."

It appeared Bowles was warning of a possible 14 to 15 per cent cut in civilian gas east of the Rockies and a 17 per cent cut on the west coast.

ACQUIT CAPTAIN OF BAD CONDUCT

San Francisco, Dec. 15.—U.P.—Capt. Lindsay C. Howard, socially prominent sportsman acquitted of conduct unbecoming an officer, said today he was glad a court-martial "refused to be used as a collection agency" to settle his divorced wife's alimony claims.

Howard was acquitted yesterday by a 17-officer court-martial, which deliberated one hour and dismissed the charges filed against him for failure to continue alimony payments.

A superior court suit, by which Mrs. Anita Howard hopes to collect \$30,000 in alimony unpaid by Howard since January, 1942, despite a 1938 Nevada court order, will be resumed January 4.

Howard had refused to continue the payments because he believed his wife had remarried, thereby invalidating their settlement agreement, he testified before the court-martial.

Low-Income Tax Relief Rejected

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—The senate finance committee today rejected the treasury's plan to relieve 9,000,000 low-income taxpayers from further payment of direct federal taxes. These 9,000,000 now only pay the Victory tax, which the treasury would abolish.

BIG THREE HONORED

Tehran, Dec. 15.—U.P.—Three streets have been named Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin to commemorate their conference here.

At Court-Martial



Socialite Anita Zabala Howard, above, is shown at the San Francisco Presidio for the trial of her former husband, Captain Lindsay C. Howard, by Army court-martial charged with "conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman" in connection with counter charges lodged by him against Mrs. Howard as an outgrowth of their long-standing alimony row.

TAX OFFICE OPEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT

The office of Erie M. Gray, deputy collector of internal revenue, will be open until midnight tonight in order that persons wishing conferences with the collector concerning the filing of estimated tax declarations may be accommodated, Mr. Gray stated that mostly farmers and persons wishing to amend their September declarations were in need of advice at this time.

Mr. Gray's office is room 302 in the postoffice building.

F.R. EXPECTED TO TELL MARSHALL'S NEW ROLE

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—President Roosevelt's forthcoming return to the White House was expected today to produce the long-awaited announcement of Gen. George C. Marshall's new role in the war—commanding general of the Allied attack on Germany in western Europe.

While the date of Mr. Roosevelt's return to Washington was a heavily guarded secret, there was widespread expectation in military circles that the Marshall announcement was not far away.

McINTYRE RITES HELD

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 15.—U.P.—Funeral services were held today for Marvin H. McIntyre, 65, secretary to President Roosevelt, who died in Washington Monday.

During World War I there was not a single casualty due to parachute failure.

Rail Brotherhoods Vote Dec. 30 Strike

FROZEN FOG COAT MAKES PAVEMENT SLIPPERY FOOTING

Autos And Pedestrians Find
 Travel Hazardous; Due
 To Continue Over Night.

The combination of a heavy, wet fog and sub-freezing temperatures resulted this morning in a thin coating of ice on roads and streets in Medford and vicinity. It was stated at the weather bureau that only the lowest levels of the valley were affected and that regions higher up were somewhat warmer. Bureau officials stated that while the ice might clear during the afternoon, falling temperatures were expected again this evening.

Many accidents were reported to city police this morning, motorists and pedestrians alike experiencing much difficulty on the icy streets.

While the forecast for Thursday was for little change in temperature, at the bureau it was said that a break in the cold spell was anticipated later in the week. Yesterday's maximum was 31 and the minimum was 27, five degrees higher than Tuesday morning's minimum of 22 degrees.

Skid, Collide

A 1941 Buick driven by Mrs. E. T. Burelson and traveling west on East Main street near Burneburg road skidded and turned around twice this morning, to be struck from the rear by a 1940 Dodge passenger car driven by J. H. Isatt, according to a report on file. The Isatt car was also traveling west.

In failing to negotiate a turn at the intersection of Main street and Grape street at 4:40 a. m., a White truck and trailer registered to Los Angeles-Seattle Motor Express and driven by Mirl Edwin Scriven of Portland, skidded sideways and broke off a power pole on the curb at the southwest corner of the intersection, according to a filed report. The truck was traveling west on West Main street and attempted to turn south on Grape street. The truck completed the turn, but due to ice on the pavement the trailer skidded around, striking the pole. Pole and power lines were let down into the street, blocking traffic on Main street temporarily. The Power company had the street cleared by 7 a. m.

Hit In Intersection

A 1936 Chevrolet sedan operated by Mary L. Sorensen of 815 W. Main street and a Chrysler sedan driven by Mary Hammock of 212 N. Peach street were involved in a minor accident about 9 a. m., when both cars skidded on the ice at the intersection of Fourth and Orange streets. Both cars were able to leave the scene under their own power.

A car driven by Miss Kay Bergstrom of Ashland with two other Ashland occupants, Miss Jane Cary and Miss Pat Powell, slid into a telephone pole on N. Riverside avenue this morning, en route to the airport where all three young ladies are employed. Miss Powell was slightly injured, and returned to her home. The others escaped unhurt.

Lonnie Ball, employee of the weather bureau station, also collided with a telephone pole en route to work this morning, the accident occurring on the Old Stage road near Gold Hill.

16 Feared Killed In Bomber Crash

Omaha, Neb., Dec. 15.—U.P.—At least 16 men were believed killed last night in the crash of a four-engine army plane three miles from the Omaha airport. Army investigators said the plane was on a routine flight from its base at Ft. Worth, Tex. Names of victims were withheld pending notification of next of kin.

U. S. TASK FORCE DARES JAP FLEET TO JOIN BATTLE

Carrier Force Sails Close To
 Truk In Effort To Bait
 Enemy Out Of Stronghold

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—An American carrier task force sailed close to the big enemy naval base at Truk in several sorties designed to lure the Japanese fleet out of the big naval base to do battle but the Japanese would not take the bait, Capt. John H. Cassady, who commanded the Carrier Saratoga, said today.

It had not been previously disclosed that U. S. naval forces approached closely to Truk in their series of challenges to the Japanese fleet to come out and fight.

(By United Press)

Far-ranging Allied bombers ripped Japan's defenses from the Marshall Islands to New Britain in a continuing pre-invasion offensive, it was disclosed today, as Premier Hideki Tojo warned his Japanese people that 1944 will be the decisive year of the Pacific war.

In one of the greatest aerial assaults of the southwest Pacific campaign, a force of more than 100 heavy and medium bombers dropped 248 tons of explosives on the enemy base at Gasmata, New Britain, Monday.

Two of 19 intercepting Japanese fighters were shot down and the Allied raiders returned to their base without loss.

Other Allied planes bombed Rabaul itself for the first time in almost two weeks, while a big force of American bombers blasted Japanese airfields on Bougainville island with 180 tons of bombs.

NEW AUTO ELIGIBILITY

IS TIGHTENED BY OPA

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—The Office of Price Administration today tightened eligibility requirements for new automobiles, ruling that an applicant's old car must have been driven 60,000 miles before it can be considered unserviceable.

Raising the minimum mileage that a car must be driven from 40,000 to 60,000 miles was necessary, OPA said, because of the reduced supply of new (1942) automobiles in dealers' hands.

I. H. Van Winkle, Attorney General For 23 Years, Summoned By Death

Salem, Ore., Dec. 15.—U.P.—Isaac H. Van Winkle, 73, for 23 years attorney general for Oregon, died last night at his home here after a protracted illness.

In a career unusual among elective office holders, Van Winkle was first elected in 1920 and was returned to office at each subsequent election. He was a Republican.

But his service in the office goes back long before that, he having been assistant attorney general from 1904 to 1913 and from 1915 to 1920. During those years he was instructor in law at Willamette university in Salem.

During his undergraduate days he played center on the Willamette football team, but he retained active participation in the college's affairs throughout life, having been a trustee since 1906.

As a leader in legal affairs, Van Winkle enjoyed the esteem of his colleagues for his opinions, very few of which were overruled in court. Born in Halsey, Ore., Dec. 3, 1870, Van Winkle taught public

Local Ration Asked For Boots For Man in Italy

Topping all the odd requests made thus far of the local ration board was one this week which came from a woman seeking permission to buy rubber boots—for a soldier in Italy. The application read "1 pair below knee-height heavy rubber boots; employer, U. S. army; reason, mud and snow in the mountains of Italy." Comments included, "very much needed, immediately."

Even though board members sympathize with the soldier in need of the boots, rules forbid granting of the request.

VETERAN GROUPS BLAMED IN DELAY

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—Chairman Andrew J. May, D. Ky., of the house military affairs committee blamed unnamed veterans organizations in the house today for failure of his committee to report out speedily a mustering-out pay bill for returning veterans.

Answering criticism, May said, "At the very hour the committee was ready to report out a bill, groups representing the veterans demanded hearings and asked that mustering out pay and other compensation be combined."

Washington, Dec. 15.—U.P.—The house today passed by voice vote and sent to the senate a bill increasing pensions of Spanish-American war veterans and their widows. The measure would increase veterans' pensions from \$60 to \$75 a month and for their widows from \$30 to \$40 a month, both effective upon reaching the age of 65. A widow's pension would be increased to \$50 if she was married to the veteran at the time of his military service.

ALLIED AIR FLEET HITS ATHENS AREA

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Dec. 15.—U.P.—More than 300 allied warplanes, the strongest fleet ever sent against the invasion-littery Balkans, made a smashing attack on the Athens area yesterday.

Destructive bomb loads were rained down on three Athens airfields and on shipping in Piraeus, its harbor. The attackers were fighter-escorted Flying Fortresses and Liberators which fought their way through some 35 German intercepting planes.

FATS WALLER DIES OF HEART ATTACK

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 15.—U.P.—Thomas W. (Fats) Waller, 39-year-old Negro orchestra leader, song writer and movie actor, died today apparently of a heart attack, as the Santa Fe Chief rolled into the Union Station yards.

Waller was going to his Jamaica, L. I., home for the holidays. He is survived by his widow and three sons.

Waller began playing the piano when he was six years old. He had been in musicians' "big time" since he was 16.

The Negro pianist—who wrote such great hit songs as "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "Honeydripper"—had just completed the picture, "Stormy Weather," and composed the current Broadway stage hit, "Early to Bed."

SPEEDING TO TRAIN COSTS AUTOIST \$5

John F. Rush, of Camp White, charged with violation of the basic rule, was fined \$5 and costs in justice court yesterday. The defendant advised the court he was traveling fast to catch a train.

Fines and costs of \$4.50 were imposed upon logging truck operators, for combination overloads, as follows:

Clair F. Varney, Shady Cove, \$12; William W. Brown, Prospect, \$15, and costs.

Medford district Community Chest subscriptions up to last night were:

\$38,339.49

Quota is \$43,718.40.

Medford district Community Chest subscriptions up to last night were: