

Weather

Forecast: Rain or snow to night and Friday. Warmer Friday.
Temp. — 46
Highest yesterday — 46
Lowest this morning — 26
Precipitation past 24 hrs. — 9

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIBUNE

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MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1943

NO. 238

RUSSIANS CRASH VITEBSK GATE

Eisenhower: 'Victory in '44'



American Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, recently named to command the main Allied invasion of Europe, is shown in this photo radioed to New York as he spoke before members of the Allied press at Allied Forces Headquarters, Algiers. He flatly predicted that "we will win the European war in 1944."

1944 Victory Over Germany Also Seen by Admiral King: No Forecast on Jap Defeat

By Sander S. Klein
United Press Staff Correspondent

Washington, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Admiral Ernest J. King, commander-in-chief of the U. S. Fleet, predicting that Germany will be defeated in 1944, revealed today that plans already have been made to shift allied might from Europe to the Pacific whenever victory over the Nazis "seems near at hand."

King ventured no forecast about when Japan will be defeated. But he said the U. S. Pacific fleet will continue to try to lure the main Japanese fleet into battle.

SGT. E. T. ARCHER OF MEDFORD IS NAZI PRISONER

Washington, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—The war department today announced the names of 118 U. S. soldiers held as prisoners of war by Germany.

Included were: Sgt. Earnest T. Archer; mother, Mrs. Bonnie Archer, Route 1, Box 342, Medford.

Sgt. Archer, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Archer, Minear Lane, were notified the middle of October that the sergeant was missing in action as of Oct. 4. The sergeant, who was a radio operator on a bomber plane, had been in the army more than three years at the time he was reported missing and had been stationed in England for several weeks.

Shortly after receiving the notice that Sgt. Archer was missing, the wife of an officer of the bomber wrote the Archers stating that other men in the squadron had written her to the effect that most of the crew had parachuted from the plane and were in all probability alive.

The sergeant attended Rogue River academy, Adventist school.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Jefferson, Myers, 80, who served two terms as a member of the U. S. shipping board, died at his home here late Wednesday night.

SIDE GLANCES

By
TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Winifred Carpenter busily sorting magazines for the Camp White hospital and wishing the contributors would remember that the magazines are not to be more than two issues old.

Dorothy Bender forgetting the name of the organization for which she wished to run a notice.

Roy Finch modestly likening his ability on the drums to that of Gene Krupa.

NO PAPER JAN. 2
In order to conserve paper under the government's rationing program, the Mail-Tribune will not publish on Sunday, Jan. 2.

STREET FIGHTING RAGING IN CITY GERMANS REPORT

Premier Stalin Announces Great Break-Through on Northwest Ukraine Front.

London, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—The German DNB news agency said today that Russian troops have broken into the White Russian stronghold of Vitebsk and that street fighting was under way inside the city.

DNB said units of the Soviet First Baltic army crashed through Nazi defenses on the northwest and southeast sides of Vitebsk, an important junction point on the Odessa-Leningrad and Moscow-Riga railroad lines.

London, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—The red army has scored a great break-through in the northwest Ukraine, sweeping forward 31 to 61 miles on a 168-mile front and routing 22 German divisions in six days of violent fighting, Premier Josef Stalin announced today in a special order of the day.

Gen. Nikolai F. Vatutin's army of the Ukraine captured more than 1,000 towns and villages in one of Russia's most sensational triumphs of the entire war, which rolled the demoralized Nazis back toward old Poland and the Balkans.

14 Divisions Flee
The Soviet onrush put to flight 14 German infantry divisions and eight tank divisions, including the once vaunted armored unit bearing the name of Adolf Hitler, Stalin's order reported.

Among the scores of major German strongholds toppled by the Russians was Kazatin, key rail junction midway between Kiev and the prewar border of Rumania, the order of the day said.

Kazatin is 38 miles south of Zhitomir, rail hub vital to the transport and defenses of all the northwest Ukraine, the fortifications of which were reported under direct assault.

Great Disaster
The Moscow proclamation indicated that the entire German army massed on the rim of the Kiev salient for a supreme effort to stem the Soviet offensive had been put to flight in what may prove to be one of Adolf Hitler's greatest disasters of the war.

The reported routing of 22 German divisions indicated that more than 300,000 Germans were being swept back across the Ukrainian flatlands with slim prospects for establishing a line on which to make a stand.

Soldiers in South Pacific Tired Of Speeches—And That Goes For Mrs. Roosevelt—Asserts Sergeant

New Bedford, Mass., Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—The New Bedford Standard-Times quoted an invalided U. S. army sergeant today that his buddies in the South Pacific were "tired of pretty speeches—and that goes for Mrs. Roosevelt."

Sgt. William Baron, Jr., of New Bedford, in an interview cleared through censorship at Washington, said soldiers were particularly bitter over labor controversies and strikes at home.

Sgt. Baron, home with a tropical skin ailment, said he was in a New Caledonia hospital when Mrs. Roosevelt visited there last September. Later, he said, she visited a beer garden in Noumea, New Caledonia where numerous soldiers were present.

"There was a lot of talk and resentment among the soldiers regarding a statement which they said she made there," Baron said. He said the statement was "We all know that you would like to be walking the streets of the United States but the president has decided to give you the privilege of walking the streets of Tokyo."

"The men resented this very much and said booing followed."

R. A. F. Resumes Bashing of Berlin

ZOOT SUIT RIOTS BLAME IS PLACED BY SUBCOMMITTEE

Lack of Recreational Facilities, Poor Housing of Negroes Claimed Main Cause

Washington, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—A house naval affairs subcommittee today placed blame for southern California's bloody "zoot suit" race riots last spring on lack of recreational facilities and poor housing for negro workers and warned that new outbreaks may occur if remedial action is not taken.

It reported, after investigation, that "southern negro immigrants are coming into the area so rapidly they cannot be assimilated."

"The lack of recreational facilities for negroes has been largely responsible for race riots—such as the zoot suit affair—and may result in further riots," it said.

Poor Coordination
Poor coordination of Los Angeles local area groups toward providing recreation and welfare facilities, it was asserted, also has resulted in "an alarming increase in juvenile delinquency and sex offenses."

Redondo Hammered By Huge Breakers
Los Angeles, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Heavy seas hammering the southern California coastline subsided today, leaving heavy damage at Redondo Beach, where 30-foot breakers smashed windows and sections of the concrete promenade.

The breakers accompanied a two-day wind and rainstorm which soaked the lowlands and left a heavy snow mantle in the mountains.

Naples, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Neapolitans crowded public markets today to buy the finest spaghetti they have seen in the last three years. It came straight from the United States.

BREACH WIDENING BETWEEN HIROHITO AND TOJO, REPORT

Chungking Hears Japan's War Lords Taking Increasingly Grave View

By Walter L. Briggs
United Press Staff Correspondent
Chungking, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Reports of a widening breach between Japanese Premier Gen. Hideki Tojo and Emperor Hirohito reached Chungking today amid indications that Japan's war lords are taking an increasingly grave view of the war outlook for 1944.

Information received here in the past few weeks indicated that fantastic claims of victories in China and the Pacific have entangled Tojo in a web of contradictions and caused him to lose "face" with the emperor.

Hirohito Deceived
The advice suggested that Hirohito finally discovered he had been deceived about the extent of the Japanese "victory" at Changteh, where repeatedly "annihilated" Chinese forces finally defeated an invading column.

Tojo and his cabinet members, it was reported, were pointedly excluded from an imperial dinner party tendered last week for 38 important officials—all moderates with the exception of former War Minister Sadao Araki.

Saeb by Emperor
It was pointed out that cabinet members customarily are invited to imperial functions and their exclusion could be regarded as a sign of the emperor's displeasure.

Meanwhile, Axis broadcasts revealed that Japanese authorities, despite their optimistic statements about Japan's strength, have ordered the immediate evacuation of all unessential civilians from Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe and other principal cities in anticipation of heavy air raids.

CANADIAN TROOPS PUSH UP COAST

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Canadian troops pushed up the Adriatic coast a mile beyond the ruins of Ortona while strong fleets of American Flying Fortresses bombed the Italian transport centers of Rimini and Ferrara, it was announced today.

An unusually brief communiqué indicating a slowdown in the violent fighting which had flared all across Italy said:

"The Eighth army advanced in the Adriatic coastal sector and the localized advance by the Fifth army in the mountains continued. Elsewhere on both fronts patrols were active."

Bitter cold, which followed a snowstorm, and a maze of German mine fields delayed the British Eighth army drive along the Adriatic toward Pescara, terminus of the trans-peninsula road to Rome.

NAZIS MASS ON TURKISH BORDER

Cairo, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Germany has sent 600,000 troops into southern Bulgaria and is massing in great strength along the Turkish frontier, only 80 miles from the strategic Dardanelles, reports reaching Cairo said tonight.

These advances said the Nazis moved 40 divisions, all equipped with the most modern weapons, into the frontier area facing Turkish Thrace, earlier this month.

Russ Drives Threaten to Trap Nazis



Two new Russian offensives shape up into something resembling disaster for the Germans. If successful as indicated by the map, great Nazi troop concentrations may be trapped at the northern and southern ends of the Leningrad front.

Marines in Showdown Battle For Cape Gloucester Drome

(By United Press)
U. S. marines, outnumbered in at least one sector, hurled tanks, artillery and flame-throwers into a showdown battle for the Cape Gloucester airfield today while swarms of Allied planes battered the Japanese defenders and their supporting bases throughout the Bismarck archipelago.

Front reports from the northwest New Britain battle zone indicated that the western wing of the marine invasion force had reached the main enemy defenses around Cape Gloucester's airfields and were closing in on several thousand well-entrenched enemy troops.

Jap Guns Silenced
Preparatory bombings appeared to have knocked out all the enemy's heavy artillery, but the Japanese troops fought back savagely with machine gun and mortar fire from camouflaged pillboxes.

The marines, less than a mile from the air strips and well within machine gun range of the enemy's defenses, brought up flame-throwers, tanks, and heavy guns to reduce the maze of pillboxes flanking the fields.

A second marine force that came ashore near the southeast coast of Cape Gloucester was reported holding fast under repeated counter-attacks by superior enemy forces.

Continuance Asked
Cohen appeared before Judge George B. Harris. He was represented by Fred Butz, assistant public defender.

Butz asked that the case be continued 10 days "at the request of the army."

The captain told police his wife lived in New York and that he came to San Francisco from Camp White, Ore.

Believed Armed
Alfred J. Lewick, the proprietor, said Cohen held his right hand in his pocket as if it were a pistol, and demanded money before taking the drug.

Frank Whiting, an army warrant officer, observed the incident and called police on the telephone. A nearby radio car responded and picked up Cohen near the store.

At Camp White it was said Capt. Cohen had been on leave for several days and was supposed to be in San Francisco.

2,240-TON RAID LEAVES CAPITAL IN SMOKE CLOUD

U. S. Heavy Bombers Stage Daylight Raid on Unidentified Southwest Targets.

London, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—American heavy bombers attacked southwest Germany today a few hours after the Royal Air Force dropped 2240 tons of explosives on Berlin in a raid believed to have completed the destruction of almost half the Nazi capital.

While the smoke and flame from hundreds of fires set by a mighty British fleet still towered over Berlin, the United States Eighth Air Force swung the Allied offensive to a new quarter with a daylight bombardment of unidentified targets in southwest Germany.

Fighter Escort
Fighter planes of the RAF joined those of Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker in escorting the four-motored bombers to the region of Germany hit with relative infrequency by the Americans.

The two-way blast at Germany put the aerial campaign back on a full scale basis. It was supplemented by intense traffic across the Channel during the day with medium bombers joining in sorties apparently directed at the French invasion coast.

The London Evening News said flatly that it was estimated "half of Berlin has been dealt with." The raid was probably the second heaviest of the war on Berlin.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRAFFIC RECORD

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Southern Pacific rail traffic climbed to a new all-time high in 1943 for the fourth year in succession, President A. T. Merrier said today, predicting a further increase in 1944.

Net ton miles of freight in 1943 were 2 1/2 times greater than in 1939, last pre-defense year, and passenger miles were 3 1/2 times greater than in 1941, Merrier said.

The company will need more manpower and equipment to handle the expected 1944 increase, he declared, pointing out that 14,000 employees have entered the armed forces, leaving a manpower shortage of 10,000 among 100,000 employees.

Chicago, Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—The nation's railroads hauled more freight and passengers in 1943 than ever before in history, and their earnings soared to a new high of more than \$9,000,000,000, the magazine, Railway Age reported today.

FOUR DIE WHEN PLANE HITS HOME

Vincennes, Ind., Dec. 30.—(U.P.)—Four persons, including a farmer and his wife, were killed today when a two-motored army training plane crashed into a farmhouse near here and burst into flames.

All four were burned to death. They were Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Joseph Gowen, owners of the farm, who were in the house, and Capt. Harry C. Arp, Van Nuys, Cal., and A/C Harry C. Fricke, Philadelphia.

The five-year-old daughter of the Gowens suffered painful burns but physicians said her condition was not serious. Both the plane and the farmhouse were destroyed by the fire. The plane was on a training flight from George Field.