

American Spearhead Threatens Vital German Transport Hub

Weather

Forecast: Increasing cloudiness tonight; light rain Saturday; slightly warmer Sunday.
Highest yesterday 57
Lowest this morning 33

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

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Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1944

NO. 2

Nazis Planning Robot Bomb Attack on U. S. Ships, Subs Fitted With Launching Chutes

NEUTRAL SOURCES SAY PREPARATIONS SEEN IN NORWAY

Concentration of Craft Now Going On; New York, Philadelphia Hinted Targets.

London, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—A Stockholm dispatch to the London Daily Mail said today that the Germans were concentrating submarines and surface ships equipped with robot bombs launching platforms in Norway preparatory to attempting raids on the United States.

The dispatch quoted "high neutral sources" as saying that the Germans planned to launch their jet propelled V-1 robot bombs from the decks of the vessels "against such targets as New York, Philadelphia or towns farther inland."

Warning Earlier
A joint U. S. army-navy statement issued in Washington earlier this month warned that such submarine or ship-based attacks might be attempted by a desperate Germany.

The Daily Mail dispatch said it was known "beyond dispute" that the Germans have concentrated "very considerable" numbers of submarines and other vessels in harbors at Narvik, Trondheim and Bergen on the west coast of Norway.

Bergen was believed to be the German headquarters, the dispatch said, with a crack submarine command, formerly in charge of undersea attacks on Allied shipping from bases at Brest and Lorient in France, assigned the task of directing the new offensive.

Large numbers of specially trained submarine staff officers reached Norway recently, the dispatch added, while naval attacks returning to Berlin were quoted as saying:

"Look out for our new submarine offensives. They'll be superlatively taken by surprise."

Could Launch Many
Though only a small number of submarines so far have been equipped to launch robot bombs, the dispatch said, the substantial number of missiles which they could fire would make the hazardous trans-Atlantic voyage worthwhile.

The dispatch said the submarines and ships would operate at considerable distance offshore. The V-1 bombs used by the Germans against Britain were believed to have an extreme range of 200 to 250 miles, but this could be increased by enlarging the fuel capacity. They carry a ton of explosives.

The Stockholm correspondent claimed to have "first hand knowledge" that the Germans had fitted vessels of the West-fallen class to fire a large number of robot bombs.

TWO FLIERS KILLED
Colorado Springs, Colo., Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Two members of a combat crew from the Pueblo army air base, Colorado, were killed last night when a four-motored bomber crashed one mile west of Peyton, Colo., it was announced today by Col. W. D. Tipton, commanding officer of Peterson Field.

BRIBE TAKER SENTENCED
Oakland, Cal., Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—A. L. (Red) Vollmann, former executive of the state farm production council found guilty of soliciting a \$5000 bribe, today was sentenced to a term of one to 14 years in San Quentin prison after Superior Judge Edward J. Tyrrell denied motions for a new trial and probation.

SIDE GLANCES
By TRIBUNE REPORTERS
Ruth Boyd maintaining that she had been an interested newspaper reader ever since the age of six.

A. S. (Rose) Rosenbaum, champion war bond salesman, preparing for the coming Sixth War Loan drive.

Latest Photo of Hitler



(Acme Radio-Telephoto)
As world pondered reports that Adolf Hitler was ill or mad or had left by submarine for Japan, this photo was released in Sweden by a German agency with caption stating it "showed Hitler (left) at his headquarters on Sept. 25 as he greeted Leon De Grell, Belgian Resist leader who received the Knights Cross to the Iron Cross." Photo radioed from Stockholm.

Germany Using Airmen, Tars To Bolster Faltering Army

London, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Germany, her warships and planes virtually wiped out, was reported rushing sailors and airmen into the front lines as infantry today to bolster her faltering armies against what may be the final Allied offensive in the west.

European dispatches said the Reich appeared to be facing its gravest military crisis of the war at a time when civilian morale was ebbing to a new low as result of Adolf Hitler's prolonged silence and increasing evidence that Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler has succeeded him as fuhrer of Germany.

Reports believed reliable reached Madrid that gestapo agents were arresting hundreds, perhaps thousands, of army officers and civilians in a desperate effort to stamp out defeatism in the army and on the home front.

A German forces program broadcast by the Nazi-controlled Oslo radio quoted Hitler's newspaper Volkischer Beobachter as saying that every German soldier was receiving extensive training in street fighting, perhaps as much a precaution against revolution as in defense of their homeland against Allied armies.

Richard D. McMillan, United Press war correspondent with the British 2nd army, said members of the Luftwaffe fighting as infantry already had been encountered in Southwest Holland. They were shifted to the ground forces when no more planes could be found, captured airmen told the British.

Unconfirmed reports continued to circulate that Hitler was gravely ill, mentally deranged, dead or had left for Japan or some neutral haven.

The first election by Americans on the west coast was held at Sonoma on August 1, 1949.

Christmas in November For Doomed Three-Year-Old Lad

Cheyenne, Wyo., Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Neighbors from down the street and across the nation, planned a Christmas in November today for three-year-old Nubbins Hoffman who waited excitedly for a Saturday night Santa Claus and a Sunday party at the side of his lavender crib.

The mortally ill youngster, whom doctors say may not live until the regular Christmas, watched impatiently today while his bespectacled, brown haired mother readied the front bedroom where Nubbins will be guest of honor at the party Sunday.

Nubbins' father, Marshall H. Hoffman, is a baggage employee of the Union Pacific in Cheyenne.

Sympathetic strangers telephoned offers to send their personal physicians to Cheyenne to treat the boy whose own doctor says he may not live until December 25 because he suffers a sarcoma of the bladder which has spread to his kidneys and induced life draining hemorrhages.

MANILA SINKINGS TOTAL 16 SHIPS, REVISED REPORT

Japs Lost Light Cruiser, 4 Destroyers in Sunday's Attack by Yankee Planes.

Pearl Harbor, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—American carrier planes sank 16 Japanese ships, including a light cruiser and four destroyers, in a smashing attack on Manila Bay Sunday, a recapitulation of the battle results showed today.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, revising the report of U. S. pilots that their bombs and torpedoes had hit a sizeable force of Japanese shipping, announced that every vessel listed as hit was sunk.

The other ships, cargo vessels or oilers, had been reported sunk or blazing but now all were known to have sunk, he added.

Allied Headquarters, Philippines, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Tropical downpours slowed the American offensive on Leyte today, but other invasion troops 900 miles to the southeast completed the occupation of one of the principal islands off New Guinea and were mopping up enemy remnants on another.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported in a supplement to his Philippines communiqué that American troops crushed the last resistance on Pegu island in the Manila group yesterday, less than 24 hours after landing in the tiny archipelago 145 miles northwest of Blak.

Eliminate Japs
Remnants of the Japanese garrison on nearby Bras island were "being eliminated," MacArthur said. The two islands had been used by the Japanese to flash warnings to Halmahera, the Philippines and possible the Dutch East Indies that American heavy bombers from the New Guinea area were heading in their direction.

MacArthur said the American 24th and 1st cavalry divisions on Leyte were "tightening their grip" on perhaps 3,000 Japanese troops in the Limon area of northwest Leyte in the central Philippines, an indication that encirclement of a reinforced enemy regiment had been completed.

Vichyite Killed By Group Of Youths

London, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—The Paris radio reported tonight that 20 armed youths yesterday broke into Annecy prison, seized Paul Marion, former Vichy propaganda minister awaiting trial as a collaborator, and killed him.

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(Acme Telephoto)
Propped amidst his toys, little Forest "Nubbins" Hoffman, 3, prepares to have his Christmas party on Nov. 19 in his Cheyenne, Wyo., home because his doctor and family fear he won't live until Dec. 25. The boy has been bedridden for more than a month with an incurable bladder ailment.

YEAR OF SERVICE FOR ALL YOUTHS ROOSEVELT HOPE

President Wants Legislation This Winter For Universal Peacetime Training.

Washington, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt said today that he hoped congress would act this winter on legislation to provide for one year of peacetime service to the country by young men.

The President has endorsed such a proposal before. Under questioning at today's news conference he said there was not much time in the present session of congress to do much work on it, but he did have hopes of something being accomplished in the congress which meets in January.

Always for It

Saying that he had been for universal training right along, Mr. Roosevelt declined to be pinned down on whether he thought this training should be military. His basic idea, he said, was that every young man between 18 and possibly 23 should give at least one year of service to his government.

Whether the plan should apply to young women, too, the President said was another matter and would depend on the legislation itself.

Asked flatly whether he thought the training should be military, the President instead of answering directly posed several questions of his own, asking whether instruction in cooking or carpentry could be considered as military training.

He said that training after the war would accomplish a lot just in teaching many boys how to keep clean, how to brush their teeth.

Training Need Shown
The President said the appalling number of selective service rejections for physical reasons in this war had shown the mothers of the country that knowledge of this type in their boys was highly necessary.

He pointed out that the boys of the civilian conservation corps did not have military training, but benefitted greatly nevertheless and that a program tailored along these lines would mean that in case of war we would have a much larger percentage of boys who could defend their country.

Told that some factions wanted to carry out the training program in the national guard in periods of two or three months a year or in weekly drill periods, the President said flatly it would not work.

Meanwhile, Catholic church and peace organization officials went on record against peacetime conscription.

BOAKE CARTER OF RADIO SUCCEUMBS

Hollywood, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Harold T. H. (Boake) Carter, 46, who rose from a \$25 a week reporter to become one of the nation's top news commentators, died last night of a cerebral hemorrhage, 12 hours after his daily radio broadcast.

Carter was born in Russia of English-Irish-Welsh descent in 1898 and became a naturalized American citizen in 1933. He suffered a stroke about 3 p. m. yesterday and succumbed at 9 p. m. at Hollywood hospital, his physician, Dr. Elmer Belt, said.

The newsmen had been suffering from a kidney ailment for about a week and while he had complained of a pain in the abdomen, attendants at Hollywood Roosevelt hotel, where he was staying, said he had told them he was sure it was something minor.

There were 32,731 apple-bearing acres in California in 1943.

New Landing Curbs Japs



(Acme Telephoto)
American troops have landed on Manila Islands to wipe out Japanese station there which sent warnings when land-based U. S. bombers took off from New Guinea to smash enemy bases in Philippines or other islands. Mapas' position is shown here in relation to Leyte Island.

Desperate Home Front Drive Seeks 200,000 Able Bodied

Washington, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—The White House, in a move timed with the great new Allied offensive in Europe, today pressed a desperate home front drive for 200,000 "able bodied men, willing to do hard work" to assure Allied troops enough munitions to carry them to Berlin.

TOKYO-SINGAPORE OVERLAND ROUTE IS JAPANESE AIM
Chungking, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Japanese forces have occupied Lian, 45 miles northwest of Liuchow in Kwangsi province, and are striking out for the Indo-China border in what appeared to be a determined attempt to complete an overland Tokyo-to-Singapore route, it was disclosed today.

Competent observers said the Japanese stormed and captured Lian as part of their strategy to push Chinese forces westward, away from the route of advance into Indo-China.

Many other Japanese columns are driving westward and northward from the Hunan-Kwangsi railroad in a general movement designed to clear the path southward.

Japanese troops now have covered approximately half of the 400-mile stretch from Wwel-lin, in north central Kwangsi province, to Langson, first major town inside the Indo-China border.

FDR Sarcastic Over Public Assistance In Cabinet Choice

Washington, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt today gave the press and radio of the United States ironic and/or sarcastic thanks for picking what he said were five complete new cabinets for him.

He was asked about the report that Postmaster General Frank Walker wants to leave the government. (The report is that Walker would be succeeded by Democratic Chairman Robert E. Hannegan.)

With a smile Mr. Roosevelt said that through the press and radio he had been offered five complete cabinets and none of them had the same people on them.

The press and radio, he added, have been awfully good about this and he wanted to thank them all.

Hurley Hinted As Envoy To China

Washington, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt said today he had decided upon his choice as new U. S. ambassador to China, and authoritative sources indicated the new diplomat would be Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Hurley, one-time Republican secretary of war under President Herbert Hoover.

MISSING IN PLANE
Elko, Nev., Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—Lee Cox, San Francisco airplane distributor, and a woman, identified as his secretary, Marion Johnson, were missing today and it was feared their light airplane had crashed in the rugged country west of here.

A 270-day food reserve for each soldier overseas and a 90-day reserve for each one in this country is maintained by the U. S. army.

GOOD PROGRESS BEING MADE IS HODGES' REPORT

Duren, Biggest Barrier Before Cologne Dared by Forces Probing Rhine.

Paris, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—American 1st army pacemakers of the six-army grand offensive against Germany smashed eastward two miles today through the Cologne plain road center of Gressenich to a point 11 miles east of Aachen, six west of bomb-pulverized Duren, and 28 miles from the Rhine.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' headquarters announced that the 1st army drive was making "good progress" on its second day. It overran several more German towns and villages straddling the defenses behind the breached Siegfried line, but only Gressenich, 10 miles east of Aachen, was identified.

Duren Threatened
The Yankee spearhead probing the Rhineland defenses already was directly threatening the vital transport hub of Duren, the biggest barrier between the Americans and Cologne.

Most of the German garrison had evacuated Gressenich during the night, raising the possibility that the Nazi command was pulling back to a new defense line — perhaps even the Rhine—before the powerful onslaught of the 1st army and the American 9th army.

Above Hodges' left flank, however, the Germans threw in their first counterattack against Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's adjacent 9th army, spearheading it with Tiger tanks supported by infantry.

Four other allied armies were on the march along a 400-mile front from Holland to the Swiss border, promising an early answer to the question of whether the Germans were going to fight a showdown battle west of the Rhine.

British Reach Mass
Lt. Gen. Sir Miles C. Dempsey's British 2nd army fought to the banks of the Maas river in southeast Holland and began shelling German soil above the 1st and 9th army sectors.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's United States 3rd army drilled slowly but steadily into the outskirts of Metz and advanced northeastward toward the rich Saar coal basin on a broad front. The American 7th and French 1st armies battered their way toward the upper Rhine valley in the Vosges sector behind German demolitions indicating a general withdrawal.

BALTIMORE GETS ARMY, NAVY GAME

Washington, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—The Navy announced today that the Army-Navy football game will be played at Baltimore municipal (Md.) stadium, on Dec. 2.

A navy department statement said further arrangements have not yet been decided upon but will be announced later.

The stadium in Baltimore, the Navy said, is the Navy's "normal" home field.

The Baltimore stadium, where many of the Navy games are played, will hold 63,000 spectators compared with the 18,000 that can be accommodated at Thompson stadium at Annapolis, where the game had been scheduled.

Dorsey Trial Set For November 21

Hollywood, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—District Attorney Fred N. Hower, recovering from an acute shortage of witnesses, today said he would start the assault trial of trombone tooting Tommy Dorsey, his beautiful bride, and Gambler Allen Smiler November 21.

Most of Hower's cards were down on Antonio Icaza who flitted briefly across the Hollywood firmament as Panama's only movie actor north of the Tropic of Cancer before he was returned by immigration men.

"We are making every effort," Hower said, "to return Icaza, the chief prosecution witness, from Panama. We are offering to pay Icaza's expenses to return here by air."

Radio Highlights

Washington, Nov. 17.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt will officially launch the \$14,000,000,000 sixth war loan drive with a radio address at 7 p. m. PWT Sunday over the four major networks, it was announced today.