

Massed Yankees Move Up in Effort to Stem Counter

Weather
Forecast: Cloudy with occasional light rain tonight and Wednesday; mild temperatures.
Temp.
Highest yesterday 46
Lowest this morning 41
Precipitation .44

MEDFORD
United Press—Full Leased Wire

MAIL
PULITZER AWARD 1934

TRIBUNE
United Press—Full Leased Wire

Thirty ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1944

19, 1944

NO. 229.

First Photos Of Fighting In Battle Torn Athens



Shouting ELAS sympathizers wave a huge American flag (left) during demonstration in Athens that preceded armed conflict between their anti-government organization and British troops. At right, an enraged and excited crowd mills around bodies of first two victims of fighting, killed by Athens police during violent street battle. These are the first photos of actual fighting in Greek capital to reach the United States.

WARD CO. SEIZURE IN SEVEN CITIES IS EXPECTATION

Chicago, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Government seizure of Montgomery Ward and Company properties in seven cities appeared imminent today as the firm reiterated determination not to comply with a War Labor Board directive which included a demand for maintenance of union membership.

The company met the minimum wage scale set by the WLB for employees of its Detroit stores, but a company spokesman said Wards would not accede to other WLB demands.

Offer Unacceptable
In Washington the WLB said Wards offer to make Detroit wage increases retroactive to Sept. 7, 1943, did not comply with the directive which ordered them retroactive to Dec. 7, 1942.

Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of Montgomery Ward, said the Detroit wage increase was made independently and that he had not changed his previously announced attitude that the company "cannot in good citizenship" comply with the WLB directives.

At Detroit, W. R. Rosevear, area manager, said Wards was putting a new basic wage scale of 46 cents an hour into effect.

Rejected by Union
Handbills distributed to Ward employees in the Detroit area said the company had offered to adopt a scale of minimum wage rates in September, 1943, that the WLB had recommended "a similar scale of minimum rates, but that the union had rejected the proposal."

A spokesman for the United Mail Order, Warehouse, and Retail Employees' Union (CIO), on strike against Wards at Detroit, said the wage increase was the "first move in the company's back-down."

At Chicago, however, a company spokesman said the wage decision did not alter the company's stand.

Jackson County sales to date in the Sixth War Loan are —
"E" Bonds\$40,618
"E" Quota\$600,000

Churchill Will Keep Lip Zippered On Political, Military Situation Until Western Front Crisis Past

London, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Prime Minister Churchill announced in Commons today that he had decided to postpone any further statement regarding the international political and military situation until after Christmas because of the "great battle" under way on the western front.

Hard-pressed by laborites for a statement regarding Greece, Churchill said he was unable to make a full-length statement but would answer questions if raised on an adjournment motion.

Prime Minister Weary
The prime minister looked weary and mumbled his answers. He showed nothing of the oratorical fire which he had flashed during his recent Polish and Greek statements.

He said the "great battle proceeding now" in and on the approaches to Belgium and Luxembourg made any formal statements undesirable.

Replying to laborite Arthur Greenwood's assertion that the Greek situation was "developing and deteriorating," he said: "I do not think the situation is deteriorating. I think it has greatly improved."

Mum on Greeks
Another laborite asked whether King George of Greece was frustrating or impeding the establishment of a Greek regency, but Churchill declined to reply on grounds that he was not making a formal statement.

Laborite Aneurin Bevan charged that the country was divided badly over the situation in Greece.

"I do not intend to discuss the Greek issue at the moment," Churchill reiterated. "So far as

the opinion of the country is concerned, of course anybody can always say what the opinion of the country is."

Girl's Complaint Brings Arrest of K.F. Police Chief

Klamath Falls, Ore., Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—On complaint of a 15-year-old girl, Chief of Police Earl Heuvel of Klamath Falls was charged today with contributing to the delinquency of a minor and was released after posting \$1,000 bail.

Chief Heuvel, when informed of the charge, went voluntarily to the office of Justice of the Peace Joseph Mahoney and submitted to formalities of arrest and posting of bail.

Says Charge False
"All I can say now is that the accusation is false," he said, as he left the court, after hearing the complaint.

District Attorney Orth Sismore said that the complaint was based on the girl's story that Chief Heuvel committed an unlawful act while she and her older sister were leaving town in compliance with a justice court order.

Previously, the older sister had appeared in court on a vagrancy charge and was given a "floater" sentence—suspended if she left town. Heuvel was alleged to have accompanied both girls for some distance outside of the city limits.

The district attorney said that the girls returned to Klamath Falls, where the older juvenile was again picked up for vagrancy and ordered to serve the suspended sentence. It was then that the younger girl told the story that led to Heuvel's arrest.

Sunday, the older sister was reported to have escaped from police custody while Chief Heuvel and another officer were permitting her to recover her clothing in a house where she had left it. Heuvel said she fled through a door after asking permission to go to the wash room. The 15-year-old complainant today was in custody of the county juvenile officer.

After the reported escape, the district attorney's office called in the younger girl and filed the complaint.

In another case, J. C. Jones, city marshal at Merrill, near Klamath Falls, today was being held in the county jail, awaiting sentence, after pleading guilty to a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor girl.

NAZI DEFENSES CRACK WIDE IN RED OFFENSIVE

London, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Moscow reported that the Budapest-Vienna railway, the last practical escape route for the garrison of the beleaguered Hungarian capital, had been brought under Russian artillery fire.

Land-based planes of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's southwest Pacific command extended the aerial neutralization campaign over the remainder of the Philippines and reported that his aircraft, together with those of the Third fleet, had destroyed or damaged severely 741 enemy planes in the week ended Sunday.

On the ground, Brig. Gen. William C. Dunckel's invasion forces on Mindoro, only eight and a half miles across the Verde island strait from Luzon, were encircling a large pocket of Japanese in the hills east of captured San Jose in the southwest corner of the island.

State Income Tax Blanks In Mails
Salem, Ore., Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—About 450,000 state income tax blanks are in the mails or are ready for mailing, Earl Fisher, state tax commissioner, said today. Covering returns for 1944, the blanks must be filed with the commission not later than April 15, 1945.

A 70 per cent discount was permissible on taxes paid this year in comparison with 30 per cent for 1945 payments.

Liberty Ended For Belgian Population As Nazis Sweep Back in Counter Drive

By Jack Frankish
UP War Correspondent.
With the U. S. First Army, Belgium, Dec. 18.—(U.P.)—Three months of liberation ended today for hundreds of Belgians caught in the path of the German counter-offensive, and tonight the roads are lined with silent, resentful villagers watching the Americans retreat and waiting for the Nazis to come back.

German tanks, many of them manned by fanatical crews clad in the black uniforms of the Nazi Schutzstaffel, are rolling over the countryside not far from this town northwest of Stavelot.

Tension at Front
There are reports that the enemy's armored spearheads have reached Stavelot, 20 miles inside the Belgian frontier and six miles south of Spa.

A strange air of expectancy and tension hung over the entire front this evening as "umor" followed rumor and the roads became jammed with traffic moving to the rear and men and guns moving forward to meet the enemy.

But there is no denying that the first army is being forced to fall back for the present and that one corner of Belgium which they liberated is once again coming under Nazi control.

The Belgians know it too, and those who had been friendly with the Americans already are fleeing westward before the German approach.

Resentment Shown
As the great, long convoys roll back to the west, hundreds of black-clad Belgians stand beside the roads in little groups. They are not waving to the Americans any more, and, in fact, many of them show their resentment plainly.

Still others give clear indication that they are ready to welcome the Germans back as "liberators."

But the little people who always suffer in the sweep of war are unhappy. The three months of freedom that followed their four years of slavery seem to

Luzon Bomb Bath in Sixth Day; Expect Early American Landing

CARRIER PLANES SINK OR DAMAGE 94 JAP VESSELS

Long-Continued Series of Attacks by Halsey's Men Cause Heavy Losses.

Washington, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Superfortresses in a three-day daylight strike today hit enemy targets at Omura, Japan, and Shanghai and Nan-king, China, the war department announced today.

The raiders over China reported they shot down five enemy planes, probably destroyed three and damaged nine others.

Allied Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Carrier planes of the Third fleet, credited with destroying or damaging 94 ships and 461 planes in the first 72 hours alone, sent an unparalleled aerial bombardment of Luzon into its sixth straight day today with a new round of attacks.

With the ground campaign on Leyte in its final stages and the beachhead on Mindoro secure, a front dispatch said Filipinos in Manila confidently expect American invasion forces to land on Luzon and reach the Philippines capital city "soon."

Convoy Sighted

(A Japanese broadcast yesterday said an American convoy of "considerable strength" had been sighted in the Sulu sea south of Mindoro and speculated that further American amphibious landings might be in prospect, perhaps on Luzon.)

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Spain Under Nazis For Past 5 Years Says British Envoy

London, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Lord Templewood said today in his first speech since his retirement as British ambassador to Madrid that Spain was "morally occupied" by the Germans for most of the past five years.

Templewood, the former Sir Samuel Hoare, made his maiden speech in the House of Lords after his return from Spain last week.

He said that while he was in Spain, Nazi Gestapo agents watched every move he made, living in a house next door to his residence and looking over the wall at him.

Templewood told the house that German influence pervaded many important sections of Spanish life, adding:

"Although Spain was not militarily occupied in those early years of the war, Spain was morally occupied."

PEPPER TO DROP FIGHT TO DELAY CONFIRMATIONS

Washington, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—The senate today confirmed the nomination of Joseph C. Grew as undersecretary of state in a general reorganization of the state department.

White House

White House on the Warm Springs Foundation, Mr. Roosevelt came home to a wide assortment of official tasks—a complicated foreign affairs situation, furtherance of plans for a meeting of the "Big Three," completion of the administration's program for the new congress, final drafting of the government's new financial budget, and his January 20 inauguration.

Gene Since Nov. 27
Mr. Roosevelt left Washington November 27 and reached Warm Springs the next day. He left the Georgia Spa, famous for the after-treatment of polio patients, on December 17, and stopped yesterday to inspect the 107,000 acre marine corps training base at Camp Lejeune, N. C.

(This was the first public disclosure of Mr. Roosevelt's whereabouts for the past three weeks. He was accompanied on his trip by correspondents for the three press associations.)

Many Problems Await
Problems competing for the president's immediate attention included:

1. The military reverses on the western front where the Germans have driven the American 1st back into Belgium and Luxembourg.

2. Mounting diplomatic pressure for a meeting with Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin as a consequence of the explosive Greek, Belgian, Italian, and Polish situations.

3. The senate controversy over nominations to six high state department posts.

4. The War Labor Board-Montgomery Ward crisis, now at a stage requiring white house action.

Los Angeles House Shortage Critical
Los Angeles, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Los Angeles housing shortage is the most critical in the nation, David Barry, Jr., district rent director of the office of price administration, said today as he submitted his resignation effective Jan. 5.

Barry said that the Los Angeles area, with a population of nearly 4,000,000, handles three times as many rent cases as does the Chicago area, which has 7,000,000 population.

The elk ranges only a daily average of one-half mile.

NAVAL OILER SUNK BY ENEMY ACTION IN PACIFIC AREA

Washington, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—The 23,000-ton naval auxiliary oiler Mississinewa was sunk recently in the central Pacific by enemy action but nearly 80 per cent of the crew was saved, the navy announced today.

The normal complement of the ship is about 250 officers and men. The nature of the enemy action was not disclosed.

Among the survivors was the skipper, Capt. Philip G. Beck, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Mississinewa, built at the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corporation's Sparrows Point, Md., plant, was commissioned last May 18.

A daring pilot in a filmy float plane and emergency boat crews from a nearby vessel were credited with saving most of the men from the oiler after it had been turned into a blazing inferno.

The ship admittedly achieved considerable surprise with their attack, which apparently is aimed at seizing important American supply dumps to replenish their own stores, particularly gasoline.

DOUGHBOYS RALLY FROM STUNNING NAZI ONSLAUGHT

Line Appears Stabilizing On Northern Half Is Word; Planes Swarm to Assist.

Paris, Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—Massed American tanks, guns, and men moved up today to meet German armored columns striking more than 20 miles into Belgium, and a front dispatch said Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' 1st army lines "appeared to be stabilizing" along the northern half of the 70-mile defensive front.

The British radio said the battle to stem the big counter-offensive of Marshal Gerd Von Rundstedt "is now in full swing."

Advance Slowed
United Press Correspondent Jack Frankish, with 1st army forces, said reports were circulating that the Germans advance in Belgium had been slowed to a snail's pace if not completely stopped.

Rallying from the shock of their most stunning setback since Kasserine Pass in Tunisia, Hodges' doughboys had succeeded in regrouping to meet the onslaught which pushed them on of Germany at points on a 50-mile front, Frankish reported.

Low clouds and haze blanketed a considerable part of the battle zone, but allied planes again were swarming to the attack wherever they could find Nazi panzers and infantry.

Americans Grim
Grim and tense, the Americans were pouring up into defensive positions, United Press Correspondent John McDermott reported from another sector of the front in a dispatch which quoted a staff officer as saying: "We've got plenty to halt the Germans. It looks like the Jerries want their finish this side of the Rhine."

At supreme headquarters it was reported that the Germans not only were continuing their offensive against the U. S. 1st army, but were fighting harder against the American 3rd and 7th armies.

From Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd army front, United Press Correspondent Robert W. Richards reported generally stiffening Nazi resistance which virtually paralyzed the drive into the Saarland and the section of France manned by Patton's right wing.

Seventh Edges In
Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th army was reported edging deeper into the forefield of the Siegfried line in the Rhenish Palatinate and storming the fortifications of Bitche in the French border zone.

Both Germany and the allies maintained news blackouts over the battle in Belgium and Luxembourg. There were no specific locations beyond the disclosure last night that German tank destroyers were in the area of Stavelot, 20 miles inside Belgium and a like distance south-east of Liege.

The shower of German V-bombs on the areas behind the battle zone continued today, Frankish reported. He said the roads in the forward areas were choked with traffic—units moving to the rear and tanks, guns and men moving forward.

MORE OREGONIANS WILL BE DRAFTED

Salem, Ore., Dec. 19.—(U.P.)—The newly increased draft quotas for the nation during the next few months will materially increase the number of men called up from Oregon, Col. Elmer V. Wootton, state selective service director, said today.

The deciding factor in many cases is the provision under which any man who has been deferred and who changes his job is automatically reclassified as available, Wootton said. He was not prepared to estimate the number of men who would be called, he said.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Betty Mack, Paula Blanton, Ann Scripser and Betty Rose, with other Alpha Delta Pi's, excitedly watching the Eugene firement extinguish a flue fire at the sorority.

Dean Shelton and Marvin Doty, as spotted in San Diego by another boot, Robert Crowl, looking pretty salty sans hair and dressed in navy dungarees.