

NAZIS HALTED SHORT OF MEUSE

Weather

Forecast: Cloudy with occasional rain tonight and Thursday. Little change in temperature. Temp. 42
Highest yesterday 42
Lowest this morning 42

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Thirty ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1944

NO. 235.

B-29 Bombs Smash Tokyo

INDUSTRY PLANTS TARGET IN HEAVY SUPERFORT RAID

Clear Skies Permit Visual Sighting; 50 to 70 Planes Engage in Heavy Attack.

21st Bomber Command HQ, Saipan, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—A sizeable task force of Superfortresses, striking at Tokyo for the fifth time since Thanksgiving, bombed industrial targets in Japan's capital city beginning at 1:30 p. m. (Saipan time) today.

Axis reports said the force consisted of 50 to 70 planes. Reports from early elements over the target indicated the huge bombing aircraft were unloading their explosives, with visual sighting, indicating the planes encountered clear weather.

Hit On December 3
The Superforts last hit Tokyo on December 3 with a strike on the Musashino plant of the Nakajima aircraft factory in the western suburbs of the capital.

(Reports from Washington suggested that the Musashino plant again may have been the target today.)

The Superfortress task force rolled and roared off the long runways early this morning on the start of the long and hazardous run to dump bombs on the heart of Japan's industrial empire.

The Japanese Domei agency said that B-29s dropped explosive and fire bombs at scattered points in the Tokyo area shortly after noon (Tokyo time) today, but claimed "no effective damage" had been done.

"Details of the war results inflicted against the raiders by our air and ground resistance are now being investigated," Domei said.

Another Tokyo broadcast said downtown Tokyo cheered and applauded when a B-29 broke out of formation amid a cluster of anti-aircraft bursts and "hurled" toward the ground.

Hansell's statement disclosed that the 21st bomber command had dropped an average of 100,000 pounds—50 tons—of bombs a day on the Japanese homeland during the first month of operations from Saipan, November 24 to December 24.

By United Press
The Japanese were believed to have rushed air reinforcements from their homeland to bolster the faltering defenses of Manila in the Philippines, where Navy Minister Matsunaga Yonai told the Japanese diet the "decisive battle" in the war would be fought.

American pilots were meeting increasing opposition in their almost daily attacks on targets in and around Manila. Some 50 enemy fighters intercepted an American raid on Clark Field Christmas day, but escorting American fighters shot down at least 39, and possibly 43 of them.

A belated dispatch from south-east Asia disclosed that carrier planes from a British task force bombed and strafed four Japanese bases on the east coast of Sumatra on Dec. 20. The attack carried within 40 miles of Singapore and drew only token opposition from the enemy.

Lady Shoplifter Gains Knowledge

Chinook, Mont., Dec. 27—(U.P.)—A woman caught shoplifting in a local store told the police judge that she needed "first-hand knowledge of what happens when a shoplifter is caught with the goods" for a magazine story she was writing.

She found out. The judge sentenced her to 60 days.

JUDGE H. K. HANNA RUSHED TO CITY FOR MEDICAL AID

Circuit Judge Herbert K. Hanna, seriously ill for the past few days, is being taken to Portland this afternoon in the Conger-Morris ambulance where he will be placed under the care of Dr. Laurence Selling of that city. Judge Hanna's Medford physician stated that the judge's condition was "poor" and since his illness was not easily diagnosed, it had been thought advisable to take him to Portland.

The judge was accompanied north by his brother, Leon Hanna, who came up from San Francisco yesterday, and the judge's wife. A nurse, Mrs. Rara Rucker, was a passenger in the ambulance in order to care for the patient during the trip north. The ambulance left shortly after noon.

Judge Hanna had been under the doctor's care for several days. His condition was considered worse Sunday and he was removed from his home in Jacksonville to a Medford hospital.

RAIN, ICE COVER ROADS IN SOUTH COLD HITS EAST

By United Press
The Midwest escaped a freezing rain today when the storm halted its northward course and began moving to the east.

The rain covered highways with ice in northern Texas through Arkansas, Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee, while the north central states had snow and rising temperatures.

The Chicago weather bureau forecast that the snow would continue early tonight and that the minimum temperature in the Midwest would be about 20 degrees above zero.

Sub-zero temperatures hit the east today as the severest cold wave of the season arrived there from the Midwest. Lowest reading was at Tyler, Texas, Pa., where the mercury sank to 16 below. It was five below at Cleveland. New York reported 18 above, Boston 12 above.

GERMANS LAUNCH SURPRISE ATTACK

Rome, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The Germans have launched a surprise attack in the western sector of the Fifth Army front, striking in strength in the Serchio valley area, 15 miles inland from the Ligurian coast, headquarters announced today.

The attack, made in one of the few Italian front areas not blanketed by snow, was aimed at the town of Galliano, a half mile from the Serchio river. A communiqué said Americans were forced to withdraw from outposts to prepared positions.

The Germans also increased artillery fire in the central sector and planes dropped anti-personnel bombs behind Fifth Army lines below Bologna.

Eighth army troops, supported by artillery, continued to mop up German rear guards east of the Naviglio canal between Bagnacavallo and Faenza.

REDS IN EFFORT TO SPLIT NAZIS' BUDAPEST FORCE

Germans Blowing Up Ammunition Dumps, Setting Fire to Railway Yards.

Moscow, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—Russian tanks and infantry stabbed into the heart of flaming Budapest, western half of Budapest, today in an attempt to reach the Danube and split the encircled enemy garrison.

A front dispatch to the government newspaper Izvestia said the Germans were blowing up ammunition dumps and dynamiting and setting fire to railway yards, public buildings and private dwellings as they slowly gave ground under the powerful Soviet assault.

Great columns of smoke were rising over the apparently doomed Hungarian capital, Izvestia said. Red army forces were said to have captured a trainload of German officials attempting to flee to the Reich.

The bloody battle inside Buda, that part of the capital lying on the west bank of the Danube, appeared to be developing on the Stalingrad pattern. All government buildings are in Buda.

Germans regiments believed to be among the best in the Wehrmacht were entrenching themselves in the ruins of the city's stone houses and the process of cleaning up Buda may be difficult and protracted unless a sudden collapse comes.

A Soviet breakthrough to the Danube, however, would split the garrison and conceivably hasten its annihilation.

Field reports said the Russians were stepping up the intensity and height of their attacks in Buda almost hourly. Siege guns were being brought up in a solid ring around the city, ready to pound it to pieces unless the enemy surrenders.

Red air force planes maintained a constant air umbrella over Budapest and pilots reported the squares appeared deserted except for occasional Germans scurrying from building to building. German gun batteries were said to have been mounted in the city's parks.

FIRING SQUADS KILL GESTAPO RING-LEADERS

Paris, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—Three firing squads today executed eight ring-leaders of the notorious French Gestapo, which engaged in wholesale treason, torture, murder, and embezzlement during the German occupation of France.

The bloody machinations of the Gestapo were bared early this month in a trial of its leaders.

Buffalo, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The navy department today notified the Fairview Athletic club that Gus Lesnevich, light-heavyweight champion now a coast guardman, had been forbidden to fight his scheduled 10-round, non-title bout with Phil Muscato here tonight.

Doctor Doubtful Charlie Chaplin Father of Joan Barry's Baby Girl

Hollywood, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—One of three doctors who tested a drop of blood from the arm of Charlie Chaplin and a like sample from Joan Barry's baby girl, today testified he believed the British comedian could not possibly be the little girl's father.

After dropping on for nearly an hour about red cells and such, Dr. Newton Evans woke up the court with the point of his testimony.

"I reached the conclusion," he said, that the test showed it was impossible that Mr. Chaplin be the father of the child, assuming that Miss Barry was the mother.

Nobody was arguing the lat-

GREEK LEFTISTS BREAK TRUCE AS LEADERS CONFER

ELAS Fire on Warships and Naval Installations at Piraeus; Churchill Warns.

Athens, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The second session of a Greek peace conference broke up late today with representatives of Premier George Papandreu's government professing indignation at settlement terms proposed by the leftist ELAS delegates.

Athens, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—Greek factional leaders today resumed their peace conference called by Prime Minister Winston Churchill under a semi-truce which ELAS armed forces broke by firing on warships and naval installations at Piraeus.

Exhorted by Churchill to cease their civil war and establish a coalition government, the Greek delegates met for the second session of the conference after an order to cease fire for 45 minutes along certain streets permitted ELAS representatives to enter central Athens.

Churchill warned that if the rebels fail to come to terms, Britain will feel bound to aid Premier George Papandreu's government in "rescuing Athens from anarchy and the miserable conditions now prevailing."

Authorities announced that 10 minutes after the beginning of the semi-truce incident to the conference yesterday, ELAS guns hurled two 75-millimeter shells into Piraeus. One landed near the navy house and the second in the harbor between the house and a warship.

The British had agreed to refrain from air attacks to enable ELAS delegates to go safely to the conference site. (Where the conferees were meeting was not disclosed, but it appeared to be in the Great Britain hotel, headquarters of the British and Greek government.)

REVEAL NAME OF LOST DESTROYER

Washington, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The navy today identified as the 2,200-ton Cooper a destroyer recently announced as lost off Ormoc, Leyte, and also announced the loss of a landing craft—the LSM-20—in the same waters.

Both skippers, Cmdr. Mel A. Peterson of the Cooper, and Lt. John R. Bradley of the LSM-20, survived, but Bradley was wounded, the navy said.

Casualties were not announced. Normal complement of the Cooper is about 275 men and of the landing craft, 52.

These losses raised to 238 the total of U. S. naval craft lost in this war.

Further commendation was paid to F. W. Woolworth, J. W. Copeland, Trowbridge & Flynn, Pacific Gamble Robinson, Pacific Greyhound Lines, Shell Oil company, W. P. Fuller company, General Petroleum Corporation of California, Union Oil Company of California, Zellerbach Paper Corporation, Equitable Savings & Loan association, Richfield Oil company, United Air Lines, Trust Investment Co., Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, American Telephone & Telegraph company, Foster & Kleiser, Firestone company and Western Auto Supply company.

Portions of War Bond investments of these companies were allocated to their representatives in the county and were credited to the quota here.

Chairman Thorndike also lauded the Junior Chamber of Commerce here, the granges and a host of volunteer workers for their local efforts during the Sixth War Loan. Tribute was also paid to merchants of this community for their generous assistance in advertising the drive.

Flourished For Time
A spokesman acknowledged

Nazis Jam Roads in Break-Through



In this photo taken from a roll of captured German film, Nazi troops advance during heavy fighting in bitterly contested break-through into Belgium. German drive that threatened entire left flank of Allied western front, has been stopped.

Sale of American Gas and Cigarettes Stamped Out In Paris Black Markets

Paris, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—A wave of black market operations which threatened to disrupt American army economy early this month has been brought "definitely under control" by the army, the judge advocate general's office said today.

As a result, black market offenses have comprised the smallest percentage of all crimes brought before the four courts-martial in Paris during the past week.

Flourished For Time
A spokesman acknowledged

JACKSON COUNTY OVER-SUBSCRIBES WAR BOND QUOTA

Jackson county has over-subscribed its quota for the Sixth War Loan by nearly 59 per cent, according to an announcement today by Eugene Thorndike, chairman for the drive here. Although final figures are not yet available it appears now that this sum is not too optimistic, Thorndike said.

A special tribute to out-of-town organizations with local representation for their generous support of the recently completed drive was voiced by the chairman. Among the concerns cited were: Tide Water Associated Oil company, Pittsburgh Plate Glass, American Fruit Growers, Inc., Standard Oil Company of California, Montgomery Ward & Company, The Oliver Corporation, Karl's Shoe Stores, Ltd., Medford Corporation, Southern Pacific company, Pacific Portland Cement company, M. E. Newton, Gilmore Oil company and the Texas company.

Further commendation was paid to F. W. Woolworth, J. W. Copeland, Trowbridge & Flynn, Pacific Gamble Robinson, Pacific Greyhound Lines, Shell Oil company, W. P. Fuller company, General Petroleum Corporation of California, Union Oil Company of California, Zellerbach Paper Corporation, Equitable Savings & Loan association, Richfield Oil company, United Air Lines, Trust Investment Co., Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company, American Telephone & Telegraph company, Foster & Kleiser, Firestone company and Western Auto Supply company.

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that illicit sales of American gasoline and cigarettes were flourishing in Paris early in December, but he credited stiff life sentences imposed on convicted offenders with successfully curbing the abuses.

"We are only picking up two or three suspects daily now compared with many times that number three weeks ago," the spokesman said.

Deputy Judge Advocate General Lt. Col. K. G. Avery said the surest proof that the Paris black market wave was subsiding was the fact that army undercover operatives report market prices of illicit goods were ballooning.

"The price naturally goes up when there are less such goods on the market," he said, "and in the past week the price of cigarettes jumped from 60 francs a pack to 150, (\$3), while gasoline which a few weeks ago brought 500 francs per five-gallon can now costs 650."

French Cooperate

In view of the fact hundreds of French civilians were involved behind the scenes, the French police cooperated with the army in gaining control of the situation.

The stiffest sentences included life terms for gasoline theft and

BIG JAP CARRIER, 26 OTHER SHIPS SUNK BY U. S. SUBS

Washington, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—A large Japanese aircraft carrier and 26 other enemy vessels have been sunk by U. S. submarines in their mounting offensive against enemy sea power, Secretary of Navy James Forrestal announced today.

These latest sinkings included seven enemy combat ships in all. This latest haul raised to 1090 the total of Japanese ships sunk, probably sunk, and damaged by the U. S. undersea fleet.

Forrestal said that the total of U. S. submarines' successes in the Pacific covers the sinking of more than 3,500,000 tons of Japanese shipping.

Beside the aircraft carrier, the other enemy combat ships sent to the bottom recently were a converted light cruiser, a destroyer, two destroyer transports, and two escort vessels.

The rest of the ships included two large transports, 10 medium cargo vessels, three small cargo ships, a small hauler, two medium cargo transports and two medium tankers.

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10 years for large-scale cigarette vending.

The judge advocate's office also acknowledged that there had been widespread reports of a black market in currency with the French paying Americans to send their money to the U. S. for safekeeping, but an officer said this was virtually impossible in view of army mail censorship and the \$100-limit on GI money orders.

Two persons who, Dearborn police said, led an estimated 75 union members into the store and during a 15-minute rampage through its first floor aisles were arrested on charges of malicious destruction of property.

Police identified the arrested ring-leaders as Stanley Bukowsky, 45, Detroit, and William E. Smith, 32, Dearborn. Police said that neither had been a Ward employee, but that they were members of either the striking union or the United Automobile Workers' Union (CIO), which has been actively supporting the Ward walkout.

The store management said that no estimate of damage would be available until an inventory is taken.

Roy Scoggins, Michigan director of the striking United Retail, Warehouse and Department Store Employees (CIO) union, declared that the disturbance began when "company imported strikebreakers attempted to interfere with our members who went into the store for a peaceful demonstration."

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YANKS RECAPTURE TOWN OF CELLES; AIR FORCE HELPS

Clear Skies Enables Heavy Toll of German Transport and Armored Equipment

London, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The Brussels radio reported today without immediate confirmation in an authoritative source that an American relief column has broken through the German ring around Bastogne and linked up with the doughboy defenders of the Belgian road center.

Paris, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—American forces today jabbed the Nazis to a halt four miles east of the Meuse, recapturing the town of Celles, and front reports said the American drive into the southern flank of the German salient was "making excellent headway."

No notable changes of position were reported but the Germans were still probing and punching along the north flank of their salient from Stavelot to Marche, apparently hunting a soft spot where they could renew their northward thrusts toward Liege and Namur.

Weather Aids
The weather was again bright and clear, allowing the American air power to turn out in force, and take a deadly toll of German armor and transport.

The first allied airborne army announced that hundreds of tons of supplies, mostly ammunition, have been dropped to the powerful American force holding out at Bastogne, a Belgian highway center, which has been under German attacks for a week.

Paratroops were landed first in the area to mark out landing zones, then the supplies rained down.

Three Towns Taken
No specific report was released on the progress of the strong American relief column which has narrowed the gap that separates them from Bastogne to less than five miles. However, John McDermott, United Press war correspondent with the American first army reported that "at least three towns have been taken by the Americans" in this vicinity. In the northern first army area, he reports, at least one town was recaptured from the Germans.

Two night armored engagements were fought in the vicinity of Celles, which lies four miles east of the Meuse and due east of Dinant.

In one of these battles the Americans knocked out 12 German tanks and two self-propelled guns and at another seven Mar-5's, one Mar-4, three half-tracks, three armored cars, ten trucks and two antitank guns.

Transport Trouble
Evidence of German supply difficulties in the Celles area, their point of deepest penetration about 50 miles from the Belgian frontier, was uncovered.

About a dozen tanks and self-propelled guns were found abandoned by the Germans because they had run out of gasoline. Five more, also out of gasoline, were found elsewhere on the front, an indication that the American air assaults were biting into Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's supply lines.

By noon today the American ninth air force had flown more than 30 sorties, blasting 40 tanks and armored vehicles and 158 motor transports. Five German planes were shot down and five damaged with a loss of three U. S. planes.

While the whole picture was regarded as measurably brighter today, military observers cautioned that there was every indication that Von Rundstedt was preparing to hurl powerful new blows at our lines.

The Americans were fighting in really bitter cold.

TRENCH FOOT LICKED
Washington, Dec. 27—(U.P.)—The army announced today that after a vigorous campaign of educational and preventive measures it had brought under control "one of war's most dreaded cripplers of men—trench foot."

Radio Highlights
A special program by the Shrine's Islam temple band, Chanters and children in the Shrine's hospital for crippled children at San Francisco, will be broadcast tonight from 9:45 to 10:45 o'clock over KMET.

A special Red Cross program will be given from 6 to 6:30 p. m. Dec. 28, over CBS station.