

Weather

Forecast: Cloudy with occasional rain Sunday. Temp. 46.0 Highest yesterday 46.0 Lowest this morning 33.4 Precipitation .02

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Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 1945

NO. 243.

YANK INVASION OF LUZON NEARS

4 DAYS OF YANK PACIFIC ATTACK NETS HIGH TOLL

B-29's Hit Japan—Mighty Fleet Pounds Iwo and China Coast.

By United Press Japanese broadcasts Saturday hinted that an invasion of Luzon island, largest of the Philippines group, was imminent as Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz announced that at least 83 enemy ships and 331 planes were destroyed or damaged in four days of air and surface bombardment of Japanese installations from the volcanoes to the coast of China.

At the same time, new B-29 Superfortresses strikes against the Japanese homeland were reported as the Pacific war reached its greatest offensive tempo.

An aircraft plant and other targets at Omura, Japan, were hit by China-based B-29's, Washington announced, while Tokyo—indicating growing fear of the stepped-up air and sea assault against her tottering island empire—reported new B-29 blows against Tokyo and Nanking.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur reported from the Philippines that his land-based bombers had blasted the key railway yards at Los Banos, south of Manila, but gave no information on the large convoys of warships and transports which Tokyo suggested were headed for an invasion of Luzon.

Tokyo said that three U. S. convoys were at sea and that their positions "point to a landing on Luzon island."

Meanwhile, Nimitz disclosed that powerful Pacific fleet task forces, striking over a 1,300-mile stretch of the Pacific, had battered Formosa and Okinawa islands and swept a 450-mile area of the China coast Wednesday and Thursday. Warships and planes hit the Jap airbase island of Iwo for the 30th consecutive day Friday and moved northward Saturday, to hammer Chichi and Haha in the Bonin group.

The Pacific fleet unleashed its greatest display of surface and air power in three years of war to hurl great salvos of shellfire into Jima while reports from the fleet revealed that carrier units had reached the China coast for the first time in the Pacific war.

Enemy broadcasts reporting the presence of strong convoys off Luzon frankly admitted the possibility of landings on the large island, but MacArthur's communique merely reported destructive strikes at important railroad lines running south from Manila. One locomotive and 100 freight cars were destroyed and three key railroad bridges were wiped out or wrecked in the damaging attacks.

Nimitz also reported the occupation of the tiny stilt island of Fais (Tromelin), 950 miles east of the Philippines. Slight resistance was met in taking the small Caroline island.

The communique said 111 Japanese planes were destroyed and 220 damaged, with 25 ships sunk and 38 damaged by third fleet units. The high toll of ships and aircraft, taken largely around Formosa—vital staging point to the Philippines—indicated that the fast carrier forces might have smashed a major enemy concentration, possibly assembling for a counter-offensive against MacArthur's forces.

The U. S. navy and marine airmen swept the China coast from Foochow to Hong Kong and could have landed at U. S. 14th air force army bases in China, dispatches from the fleet said.

JAMES M. WALL DIES AFTER BRIEF ILLNESS James M. Wall, 78, of route 4, box 172, passed away in a local hospital Saturday evening after an illness of two weeks. Funeral arrangements, which will be announced later, are in charge of Conger-Morris Funeral Home.

San Francisco, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—The dairy market was unchanged today.

WAR BULLETINS

Ankara, Jan. 5.—(U.P.)—Tadashi Huxikara, Japanese ambassador to Turkey, was granted a week's extension on the time limit of his departure from Ankara today after a conference with Turkish Foreign Minister Hasan Saka.

London, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—The admiralty announced today that the destroyer HMS Aldenham has been lost.

MYSTERY VERGING ON SABOTAGE TRY STUDIED BY FBI

Pittsburgh, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—The "human bomb" death of a veteran workman at the war-vital East Pittsburgh plant of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., tonight confronted federal bureau of investigation agents with a mystery verging on a possible ingenious attempt at sabotage.

There seemed no apparent explanation for the sudden death of Rudolph Bogovich, a carpenter, who "just seemed to disintegrate" before the eyes of a fellow workman as he walked toward a storeroom for more material to be used in crating a machine.

Bogovich, 50, a veteran of 20 years at the plant and the father of two soldier sons overseas, was almost disemboweled by the blast, which also blew off his left hand. Bits of his clothing were blown more than 50 feet. No material damage resulted.

Two twisted bits of wire, a flake of what appeared to be zinc, a bit of waxed cardboard and the smell of gunpowder were the only clues left to investigators. The FBI assigned two men to the case.

Belief was expressed that some sort of small bomb was responsible for Bogovich's death. The fragments could have been part of a vest-pocket bomb, it was said.

BOMBERS PUMMEL GERMAN BRIDGES, RAILWAY CITIES

London, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Nearly 1,400 U. S. 8th air force heavy bombers and fighters attacked bridges and rail yards at a half-dozen cities in western Germany today, and observers estimated that allied air fleets had dropped 10,000 tons of bombs on German industrial and communications centers in the 36 hours ended at 6 p. m.

Between 750 and 1,000 RAF heavy bombers continued the offensive tonight, striking at targets in Germany, with their main objective the rail city of Hanau, 10 miles east of Frankfurt.

Escorted by some 550 Mustang fighters, which dropped down to strafe ground targets when they found no airborne German fighters, more than 800 American heavy bombers attacked the road and rail bridges over the Rhine at Cologne and Bonn, the freight yards at Cologne, Coblenz and Ludwigshafen and the communications centers of Stuttgart and Wurzburg.

They were blasting at the routes to and from the German counteroffensive bulge into Belgium and Luxembourg, and to the Rhine front where the Germans are pressing against the U. S. 7th army.

German broadcasts also reported allied bombers over the Bay of Danzig.

Official sources announced that in the past six days—not including the attack on Hanau Saturday night—the RAF had dropped some 15,680 tons of bombs on enemy targets.

A U. S. communique said seven bombers and nine fighters were missing from the Saturday daylight operations, although some fighters apparently landed in friendly territory.

First Opens New Attack on German Lifelines

PRESIDENT ASKS NATION'S SERVICE LAW BE PASSED

Total Mobilization of Resources Needed in Crisis, Congress Message Says

Washington, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt promised the American people tonight—8½ hours after he called on congress for a national service law—that their sons and brothers and loved ones on the fighting fronts will receive "all the support of which this great nation is capable."

In a 30-minute address over all major radio networks, Mr. Roosevelt summarized his 8,000-word annual message to congress in which he had stated that "we have reached the most critical phase of the war."

To the people he repeated: "Everything we are and have is at stake. Everything we are and have will be given."

He told the people that he had asked congress for a national service law to bring about "total mobilization of all our human resources." He said he had asked legislation for utilization of the nation's 4,000,000 4-F's in the war effort. He declared that nothing must be permitted to stand in the way of early establishment of "permanent machinery for the maintenance of peace."

After promising all support to the nation's warriors, the president added in his radio address that: "No matter how well they may be equipped with weapons and munitions, their magnificent fight will have been in vain if this war should end in the breaking of the unity of the united nations."

He quoted from the army newspaper, Stars and Stripes, this passage: "For the holy love of God let's listen to the dead. Let's learn from the living. Let's join ranks against the foe. The bugles of battle are heard again above the bickering."

"That," the president said, "is the demand of our fighting men. We cannot fail to heed it."

Congress had received Mr. Roosevelt's message with every indication that his requests would receive prompt and careful consideration. His statements on foreign policy drew generally more favorable responses, however, than his recommendation for national service legislation.

Although some congressmen approved the proposal, others adopted a "wait and see" attitude, mindful that the president's similar but qualified proposal a year ago was not followed up by White House efforts to get such legislation enacted.

The American Federation of Labor announced continued opposition to "compulsory service."

In his message to congress the president indicated that he hoped to submit this year an international security agreement based on the Dumbarton Oaks conferences.

HANNA CONDITION REPORTED BETTER

Condition of Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna seems to be showing slight improvement, according to a telephone call received Saturday from Mrs. Hanna. He was conscious all day Thursday and Friday, took some food, and appeared cheerful, Mrs. Hanna said.

The judge was stricken with an undiagnosed malady and taken to a local hospital Christmas day and was rushed to St. Vincent's hospital in Portland by ambulance, on December 27.

BULLETINS

Moscow, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—University of Oregon Webfeet tonight turned back a second-half rally by University of Idaho Vandals to defeat their conference basketball rivals 41 to 38 in a fast rough game, featured by two double fouls.

Idaho led three times in the first half, which ended in favor of Oregon by a 24-19 score. Oregon piled up their biggest lead, of seven points, over Idaho's 19 in the first of the second half, but the Vandals remained a threat at 30 to 32 with 10 minutes left to play.

Two Idaho starters were forced out of the game, Jeff Overholser on a foul and Len Pyne, by a charley horse in the middle of a shot.

Seattle, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Robbed of their height by flu and fouls Oregon State College basketball quintet crumbled under a powerful University of Washington second half drive to go down to a 42-22 defeat.

Washington State 56, Eastern Wash. College of Education 49, Idaho 38, Oregon 41.

5-DAY NAZI TANK OFFENSIVE UPON BUDAPEST HALTS

London, Sunday, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—The Hungarian command claimed last night that Germany's five-day-old offensive to break through to encircled Budapest has smashed to within 15 to 18 miles to the Hungarian capital, but Moscow said that red army troops had held, in check wave after wave of attacking enemy panzers after a great five-hour tank battle.

The soviet high command indirectly confirmed the Hungarian report that German and Hungarian armored forces, attacking in two sectors while German paratroopers landed behind soviet lines, had penetrated some 12 to 15 miles into the red army's 31-mile wide wall west of Budapest.

The Hungarians asserted that enemy spearheads were "standing before Bloske" only 15 miles west of Budapest. A few hours later, the soviet midnight communique reported a bitter hand-to-hand battle in the Vertes mountains west of the Russian-held stronghold.

Soviet units in this sector, Moscow said, "held the assault of the numerically superior enemy and repelled his attacks. According to incomplete data, more than 1,000 German officers and men were killed in the area."

Views differ on annual message

Washington, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Congressmen generally manifested the attitude tonight that both house and senate would give serious consideration to the recommendations and views expressed by President Roosevelt in his annual message.

Chairman Tom Connally, D. Tex., of the senate foreign relations committee and Sen. Warren Austin, R. Vt., a member, approved the president's statements on foreign policy. Connally liked the message's emphasis on a "people's peace," and Austin said it proved "the validity of the Atlantic charter."

Senate Republican Leader Wallace M. White, Jr., Me., regretted that the message "did not in more direct fashion voice the disapproval of the American people of the invasion of Greece and Poland."

Sen. Robert A. Taft, R. O., said no one could disagree with "the president's ultimate aims of victory, peace and utopia. He added, however, that "one may question whether the means he suggests are necessary."

STETTINIUS SAYS WHEELER BOOSTS HUN PEACE HOPE

Unprecedented Statement Issued By State Dept. On Montanan's Attitude

Washington, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., in an unusual statement today accused Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, D., Mont., of encouraging the enemy to hold out for a negotiated peace.

Stettinius issued an unsolicited statement, unprecedented in the state department during the Roosevelt administration, denouncing Wheeler for urging abandonment of what Wheeler, a leading pre-Pearl Harbor isolationist, termed the "brutal and costly" unconditional surrender principle.

Wheeler retorted in the senate that he was "not for a negotiated peace."

"I am simply stating to the Germans," he said, "the terms they may expect when they are beaten, so that it may induce them to get rid of their Nazi leaders and surrender."

"Of course," he added, "I don't speak for all the American people. But I will venture the statement that I speak for more of them than Mr. Stettinius does, for he has never faced a constituency in an election. Possibly he does represent the big business interests which he has represented heretofore."

Sen. Claude Pepper, D., Fla., remarked that "it is extremely unfortunate for anyone to express sentiments which might be interpreted as an indication of possible weakening in our determination to crush Germany and Japan."

Wheeler replied that "for anyone in America to express criticism is to disrupt the war effort and allied unity."

RELOCATION HEAD URGES HELP FOR NIPP AMERICANS

San Francisco, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Dillon S. Myer, national director of the war relocation authority, tonight called upon other federal agencies and private organizations to help Japanese-Americans relocate on the west coast and thereby "save American lives on the battlefield."

"Japanese-Americans can make a substantial contribution to the war effort," Myer said, "if people will see that they get a chance, but WRA cannot do the whole job. Gearing the returning Japanese-Americans into the war effort calls for the services of other agencies, both federal and private."

Myer, here to study problems incident to the return of Japanese-Americans, said that the war manpower commission, federal public housing authority, the department of agriculture and other agencies will assist in some phases of the relocation work.

Meanwhile, it was announced today that representatives of more than a score of organizations concerned with race matters in California, Washington and Oregon, will meet here Jan. 10 and 11 to evolve a co-ordinated postwar race relations program for the Pacific coast.

The conference, said Dr. Monroe E. Deutsch, member of the executive board of the committee on American principles and fair play, will deal with Filipino, Chinese, Negro and Japanese-American problems, and attempt to integrate the activities of some 300 west coast groups concerned with race relations.

Hitler Examines War Ruins



A sad-faced Adolf Hitler, hat in hand, surveys ravages of war with unidentified Nazi leaders in an undesignated German city. This picture was captured by U. S. Signal Corps on western front but date it was taken is unknown.

WAR TIME ISSUES WILL DOMINATE B-29'S HIT OMURA, WILL DOMINATE AIRCRAFT PLANT STATE ASSEMBLY CITY, AND TOKYO

Salem, Ore., Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Oregon's capital city was crowded tonight with legislators and others connected with the 43rd annual session of the legislature, which opens Monday after informal caucus meetings Sunday.

Gov. Earl Snell will deliver his biennial message to the houses in joint session Monday afternoon.

War time issues will dominate the agenda, especially for the postwar period. Other major topics include requests for expanded educational support, building programs for state institutions, labor legislation, liquor laws, tax study, community property law, health services, unemployment compensation and many other issues.

It was conceded that Sen. Howard Belton, Canby republican, would be president of the upper house and Rep. Eugene Marsh of McMinnville has enough pledges to head the lower chamber. Attaches and other employees will be chosen at the Sunday caucus and elected officially Monday morning.

BLUEBEARD TRIES INSANITY DODGE

Paris, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Dr. Marcel Petiot, alleged modern bluebeard charged with murdering scores of persons and chopping them up before burial in his Rue Lesueur cellar, attempted a new line of defense today when he adopted all outward appearances of insanity.

Apparently deciding all previous protestations of membership in underground resistance units had failed, the magnetic-looking Petiot burst into hysterics when called before an alienist commission for a routine examination.

COACH TO ARMY San Francisco, Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Ed Storm, 240-pound former San Diego professional football coach and a star grizzer at Santa Clara college, was classified fit for "general military service" at the induction center here today.

FLANK OF ENEMY UNPREPARED FOR SWIFT MANEUVER

German Defenses Yield — Battle of Bulge Sees Greatest Massing of Men

Paris, Sunday, Jan. 7.—(U.P.)—Veteran U. S. First army columns opened a powerful new attack due south of Stavelot Saturday and smashed two miles through yielding German defenses while tanks in a similar advance to the west virtually severed the La Roche-St. Vith highway, one of two lifelines for thousands of Germans in the bottom of the Ardennes sack.

The new drive carried down the east side of the Salm river and appeared to have caught the German flank unprepared after the enemy's main forces had shifted over to meet the tank-powered drive through the center south of Grandmenil.

The latter drive was being carried out by Maj. Gen. Ernest (Old Gravel Voice) Harmon's "hell on wheels" second armored division and the third tank division under Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose.

Odeigne Taken Pounding ahead in three columns, the tanks captured Odeigne after a roaring 24-hour street battle and then plunged on two miles southeast through a forested area with their vanguard reaching within 100 yards of the crossroads at Baraque de Fraiture, 4½ miles southeast of Grandmenil on the St. Vith-La Roche road.

Their guns already were blocking with point-blank fire the vital highway at the point where it intersects the Bastogne-Liege road, main enemy north-south communications artery within the bulge.

As the battle of the bulge entered its fourth week with perhaps the greatest concentration of arms in history locked in battle around the relatively small perimeter, the Germans were estimated already to have lost 100,000 men killed, wounded or captured in the struggle.

Both sides still were hurling more men and weapons into the vortex, with the entire winter campaign believed hinging on the outcome despite disquieting reports of German aggressive activity from other fronts, particularly the upper Rhine flank.

U. S. Seventh army troops were said to have brought under control for the moment the enemy's southern thrusts—that seeking to get at Strasbourg from the west through the Saverne gap. But at the same time the enemy was reinforcing small groups which had crossed the Rhine northeast of Strasbourg and had reinvented Alsace through the Sissemburg gap to the northwest to a depth of five miles in a possible effort to link up with the Rhine bridgehead.

From the south, the stubborn Colmar pocket on the west side of the Rhine had been expanded by the Germans to the Rhinau area only 17 miles south of Strasbourg, thus placing the old Alsatian capital under a four-way threat, remote as it may be regarded in some quarters.

Late dispatches to allied headquarters said that the Americans had surrounded the remnants of two German battalions at Wines, on the Haguenau-Saarbrücken highway where the enemy was probing toward the Saverne gap.

Former Opera Star Perishes In Fire

Muskegon, Mich., Jan. 6.—(U.P.)—Firemen recovered the body of Mrs. Amelia Schwab, 77, former grand opera star, tonight from the smoldering debris of a general alarm fire which ravaged a hotel and eight business establishments and is believed to have cost the lives of at least two other persons.

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