

SOVIETS OPEN POLISH OFFENSIVE

Weather
Forecast: Partly cloudy and slightly cooler tonight. Saturday cloudy with rain. Temp. Lowest this morning 41. Lowest this morning 41.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire
MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1945
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MASSSED FORCES ADVANCE AFTER HEAVY BARRAGE

Several Wedges Driven In Nazi Defenses in Initial Impact Berlin Admission.

London, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Berlin reported today that the long brewing Russian winter offensive in Poland had started on a broad front west of the Vistula some 120 miles below Warsaw with an initial impact which drove several wedges in the German defenses.

Nazi broadcasts reporting the new soviet drive from the long dormant Sandomierz-Baranow bridgehead across the Vistula said extremely bitter fighting was raging, and acknowledged German reverses in the first phase of the battle.

Follow-up reports from the Russian bridgehead won by the Red army last summer mounted the offensive after a drumfire barrage of hundreds of guns, the Germans reported.

SALVAGE PAPER NEEDED TONIGHT

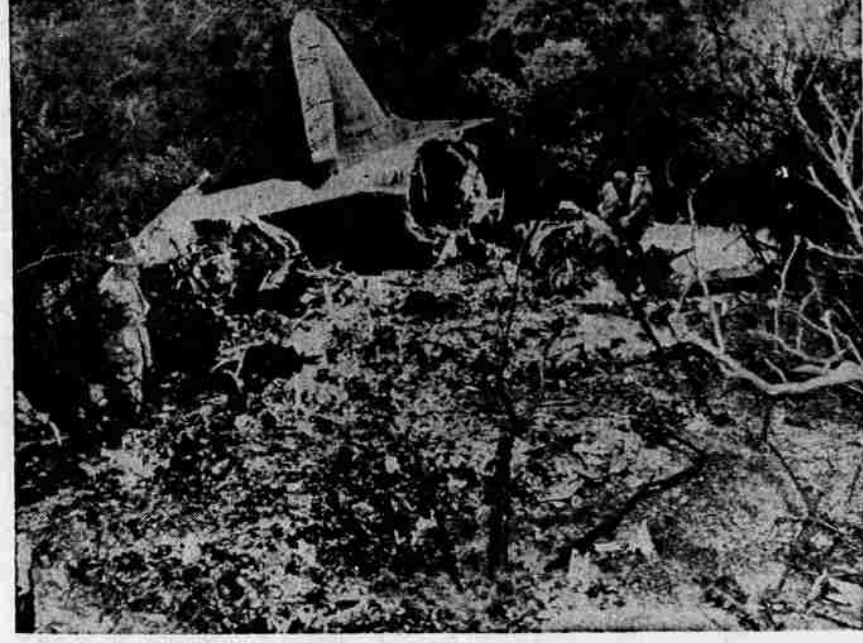
Medford residents were urged today to take waste paper this evening to the junior high school since the salvage committee wishes to fill a car tonight for shipment to Morrow. Robert Duff, salvage chairman, stated that considerable additional paper is needed to fill the car and added that the school building will be open until 11 p. m. to receive the paper.

Jap Airmen Offer Services For Part In Suicide Attacks

All Japanese pilots in the Philippines have volunteered for suicide service in the so-called Kamikaze special attacks corps, Tokyo radio reported Friday in a broadcast recorded by United Press, San Francisco.

A Domei news agency Manila dispatch said Lt. Gen. Yasuji Tomioka, commander of Japanese air forces in the Philippines, had "respectfully bowed" to the request of his "Wild Eagles" that all combat pilots there be incorporated into the Kamikaze corps.

24 Die In American Airliner Crash



This is all that remains of charred and tangled wreckage of the New York-to-Los Angeles American Airliner which crashed and burned five miles from fog-shrouded Burbank, Calif., airport, after turning back toward an emergency landing field. All 24 persons aboard were killed.

HOOD RIVER POST TO CONDUCT POLL ON NISEI RETURN

Hood River, Ore., Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Law enforcement officials today were investigating reports that Hood River valley residents were preparing to meet Japanese-Americans in an effort to dissuade them from staying in this area.

Meanwhile the American Legion post was preparing to conduct a county-wide poll to determine public opinion on the question of allowing the Japanese to return.

Although no nisei have returned, some of their baggage has arrived at the railroad station here. Reports were current that valley residents sought to organize a committee to meet trains and inform returning Japanese-Americans that they are not wanted in the region.

Bare Midriff To Be Spring Style Note For Women

New York, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Stylish women are going to bare their middles this spring, which should provide a lot of extra yardage for the war effort.

In fashion shows here the "bare midriff" produced by the same methods as the hole in the doughnut, takes the honors.

Adele Simpson, who launched the fad, predicts "millions of women will be braving the airs and stares of spring with a high sense of fashion adventure—and nothing else—around the middle."

SIDE GLANCES

Gladys York worrying about serving as publicity chairman for two groups and wondering what would happen if she mixed up her notes.

Lester Higinbotham turning out to be a super-salesman of banquet-dance tickets for the junior C. of C.

Mel Hogan making his semi-annual visit west of the tracks.

Carrier Planes Engage Japanese Naval Force Off French Indo-China

U. S. third fleet carrier planes, striking into the South China sea, attacked Japanese forces off the coast of French Indo-China today while American sixth army forces on Luzon sent patrols to within 80 miles of Manila and expanded their invasion beachhead to at least 200 square miles.

FINES AND PRISON URGED TO PUNISH SLACKER LABOR

Washington, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Lt. Gen. William S. Knudsen, army production director, today joined advocates of stiff fines and prison sentences, rather than induction into the armed forces, as the enforcement weapon in proposed work-or-fight legislation.

Soon after congressional leaders had indicated that such civilian penalties would be provided rather than induction, Knudsen told the house military affairs committee it "would be bad if we put them (recalcitrants) into the army."

"Let's keep them on a civilian basis," he added.

Absenteeism in war plants, he said, is "very bad"—almost double what normally should be expected. Average absenteeism in peace times, he said, runs about 3 per cent. Because of the additional personnel employed in wartime it should be about 5 per cent, he said, but it is now running around 9 per cent and one month was as high as 11 per cent in one of the Wright Field, Dayton, O., plants under his direction.

PIPE SMOKERS TO FACE SEVERE SHORTAGE SOON

Washington, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Pipe smokers, who so far have largely escaped the plight of their cigarette-smoking brothers, may soon be joining them in line at tobacco store counters.

There have been mounting signs of scarcity of many popular brands of pipe tobacco. And tobacco industry spokesmen, here to seek price increases, said today that the shortage would become severe by March.

TRUCKERS OPPOSE TAX

Sacramento, Calif., Jan. 12—(U.P.)—A proposal to increase the state gasoline tax by 1½ cents a gallon to finance a postwar system of state superhighways had the opposition today of 14 associations of "for hire" trucking agencies which claimed the additional tax would prove ruinous to the trucking industry.

Yankee, British Meat-Chopper Eliminates German Remnants

MONTY'S FORCES JOIN PATTONITES NEAR ST. HUBERT

Nazis Fight Hard to Protect Withdrawing Forces—Allies Near Houffalize.

Paris, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—American and British forces joined today in a meat-chopper operation which virtually eliminated the last remnants of Nazi panzers west of the Ourthe and penetrated almost to the heart of the once threatening Ardennes bulge.

Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery's British troops rammed east to establish firm contact with Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army at the southwestern corner of the melting Nazi salient, southeast of St. Hubert, now firmly in our control.

The Nazis were fighting stubbornly at key points to protect the still orderly withdrawal of their forces, now almost entirely east of the Ourthe. Whether Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt proposed to pull back the battered elements of his original 20 divisions to the positions they held before the counteroffensive was not yet clear.

On the northern flank the American First Army's 83rd Infantry and 3rd armored divisions fought through Langlier, a mile southeast of Bihain, house by house, and by late afternoon the town was in their hands. Meanwhile Patton's forces slugged their way north.

Advance elements of both forces were within four miles of Houffalize, key transport center which the Nazis must hold in order to evacuate retreating elements still engaged in the St. Hubert corner.

Half of Area Cleared British troops reported they had entirely cleared out the area west of the Laroche-St. Vith highway.

The Germans have now been driven out of roughly one-half the area they occupied at the time of their deepest penetration of the American lines.

The American First Army reported today that since Dec. 16 it had taken 18,248 prisoners, destroyed 225 tanks, 19 self-propelled guns, 627 motor transports, 39 artillery pieces, 19 anti-tank guns and captured 14 tanks, four self-propelled guns, 11 motor transports, and four anti-tank guns.

The first army figures are exclusive of air force destruction.

Invading Doughboys Welcomed by Filipinos; Given Smiles, Bananas

Oslo, Norway, is farther north than Ketchikan, Alaska.

By H. D. Quigg
United Press War Correspondent
With Luzon Assault Forces at the Front, Jan. 11—(U.P.)—The army beachhead in this sector expanded like a balloon today as all enemy opposition melted away and doughboys sauntered along roads swarming with flag-waving Filipinos.

At the public square of one town, a large sign read, "Welcome warriors of freedom!" while beneath it the townspeople gave the infantry smiles and bananas.

Mates Swapped In Friendly Fashion After Four Months

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Two St. Louis couples were honeymooning today after a mate-swapping deal so amicable that one man moved from his apartment so his former wife might share it with her new husband.

Acquaintances only four months, all four principals agreed that their change-of-marital-scene arrangement was "a perfectly natural thing to do."

Percy W. Radford, 46, a newspaper printer, and his former wife, Gladys, had been married 17 years. Their friends, George H. Hause, 41, a war plant worker, and his ex-wife, Charlotte, had been married nearly five years.

Both couples were divorced Monday. The same day, Hause and Gladys Radford were wed by a justice of the peace at Hillsboro, Mo. Two days later, Radford and Charlotte Hause exchanged vows here.

GREEKS AGREE TO CIVIL WAR TRUCE STARTING MONDAY

Athens, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—The bloody Greek civil war will end, at least temporarily at 12:01 a. m. next Monday under a truce signed by Lt. Gen. Ronald Scobie, British commander in Greece, and four representatives of the rebellious left-wing EAM, it was announced today.

The truce was agreed upon last night and will prevail during negotiations between the EAM and the new Greek government under Regent Archbishop Damaskinos and Premier Gen. Nicholas Plastiras.

Main points at issue between the EAM and the government were believed to be the disarmament of both the Greek national guard and EAM-ELAS forces and the early trial of Greeks accused of collaborating with the Germans.

Coincidentally with the signing of the truce, it was announced that a British patrol had entered Lamia, nearly 100 miles northwest of Athens, and formerly ELAS headquarters, without opposition.

Paulette Goddard Undergoes Surgery

Hollywood, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Paulette Goddard, dark-haired film star, was reported "resting well" at St. John's hospital in Santa Monica today after an emergency operation for an abdominal pregnancy.

Miss Goddard, wife of Army Air Force Captain Burgess Meredith, film and stage actor, was rushed to the hospital last night.

HANNA MAKING RAPID RECOVERY

Judge Herbert K. Hanna may be able to leave the Portland hospital where he has been a patient for two weeks some time next week, according to the daily United Press bulletin from Portland received this afternoon.

Much improvement is indicated in the message which read "Judge Hanna fine; walking, be out next week."

LAWMAKERS ASK FOR ADDED WORK, FIRST WEEK ENDS

Interim Tithing Committee Recommendation Expected to Bring Repercussion.

By Eric W. Allen, Jr.
United Press Correspondent
Salem, Ore., Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Only the senate was in session today as the 1945 Oregon legislature wound up its first week of deliberations with a plea for more bills to work on.

The house was in session for a total of only about 30 minutes yesterday, and in the afternoon adjourned until 11 a. m. Monday. The senate's brief session today followed an afternoon of idleness as the upper house adjourned out of respect for the mother of Howard C. Belton, senate president. Mrs. Belton died earlier in the week and her funeral was yesterday. Belton was unable to attend.

A proposal which may result in repercussions came before the senate after recommendation of the interim tithing committee. It would charge all but two state departments, the land board and the education department, a certain percentage in tithing fees.

Seven minor bills were brought before the house. Among them was one which would make it unlawful to sell alcoholic liquor while the polls were open on election day, and another which provides for the election of school clerks for three years instead of one year.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Sen. Thomas R. Mahoney, Portland, said today that he intends to present to the legislature the civil rights bill which was defeated at the 1939 session.

The Rev. J. J. Clough, pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist church in Portland, a Negro, was the guest of Senator Mahoney at the morning session yesterday, and received the courtesy of the senate. He was here in the interests of the bill, which would prevent hotel discrimination against members of his race, Mahoney said.

WOMAN HELD ON CHECK FORGERIES

Mrs. Thelma McIntire, 27, was arrested by local police for forgery yesterday and placed in the county jail with bond placed at \$500, after a report was made to Chief of Police Clotus McCredie that the young woman attempted to cash a forged check for \$65 at the Riverside Market.

According to police authorities she had cashed three forged checks during the last two weeks, one for \$60 at the Big Y market and two for \$5 and \$35 each at the Holly market. According to a statement made by the young woman herself she had also cashed bad checks at Snider's dairy for \$25 and another \$40 check at the Big Y market.

QUAKE RECORDED

Pasadena, Cal., Jan. 12—(U.P.)—The California Institute of Technology seismological laboratory today announced it had recorded a large earthquake, centered approximately 5800 miles away, at 11:50:45 a. m. The direction was unknown.

TWO JUDGES FOR COURT DISTRICT JOSEPHINE IDEA

Rep. Bengtson Says Grants Pass Solon Legislator Plans Bill for 2nd Arbiter.

A bill providing for appointment of two circuit court judges in the district made up of Jackson and Josephine counties, instead of but one, will probably be introduced into the present session of the Oregon legislature by the Josephine county delegation according to Representative O. H. Bengtson, Medford member of the house of representatives. Bengtson is here for the week-end.

Bengtson stated the Josephine county men declared that in the interest of increased efficiency the judicial work of the county should be rearranged, with probate and juvenile matters handled by the circuit judge instead of by county judges, as at present. The legislator pointed out that in some instances the county judges are not trained in legal matters and that this proves a decided disadvantage, especially in the handling of probate cases. Many districts already have probate and juvenile cases assigned to the circuit judges, according to Bengtson.

Josephine county delegates are of the opinion that the judges should each be chosen from his own county, Bengtson said, but pointed out that this might be impractical at times and he thought perhaps the bill could omit this stipulation and that there could be a "gentleman's agreement" where by judges would be selected from each county if adequate men were available.

Views Bought

An expression of his constituents on this proposed legislation is desired by the local legislator, who declared he had an open mind on the matter and is interested in the reaction of Jackson county residents. In all probability attorneys of both counties will favor the proposal, Bengtson believes. Circuit judges in this district receive a salary of \$6000, paid from a state fund. The attorney said he found the opening meetings highly interesting and he predicts a long 1945 session.

CAMP GUARD NIPS ESCAPE ATTEMPT

Wounding of an escaping German prisoner of war at the Camp White compound was reported today by Lt. F. J. Johnston, camp public relations officer. According to Lt. Johnston, the 23-year-old prisoner, was discovered early Wednesday morning outside the compound and when challenged by a guard started to run. The guard shouted "halt," several times and followed with a shot into the ground and one over the man's head. When the German failed to heed the warnings, the guard shot again, inflicting a minor flesh wound in the left side.

Lt. Johnston said the German had been detailed to work in a kitchen outside the compound some distance from where he was found.

SCREEN STAR WEDS

Hollywood, Jan. 12—(U.P.)—Screen Star Joyce Reynolds and Lt. Robert Lewis, marine fighter pilot from Houston, Tex., were married last night in Westwood Community Methodist Church in a double ring ceremony.