

Nazis Report Red Vanguard Only 58 Miles From Berlin

Weather
 Forecast: Occasional light rain tonight and Thursday. Snow in mountains. Little change in temperature.
 Temperature: Highest Yesterday 43
 Lowest this Morning 43

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BIG STRONGHOLDS ON DEFENSE LINE FALL TO INVADERS

East, West Drives Squeeze Germans



While massive Russian forces swept toward Berlin, 90 miles or less away, pressure also increased on Germans on the western front. General Patton's Third Army smashed into Reich from Belgian-Luxembourg border to take strategic town. French forces launched forward in southeast France, were reported to have seized Colmar. But the spectacular gains came again on the eastern front where Soviet troops pounded deep into Pomerania and Brandenburg provinces, crossed Odra River, last water barrier before Oder, and German dispatches indicated the Russians were bound for Kustrin, only 41 miles from Berlin.

Americans Make Bloodless Landing On West Luzon Coast; Push Toward Bataan

By United Press
 American invasion forces, after a bloodless landing on the west coast of Luzon, swarmed across Bataan peninsula today toward a junction with other U. S. troops driving on Manila as Liberators pounded strategic points around the Philippines capital and Superfortresses continued steady attacks on the Japanese homeland.

FIVE CARS PAPER SHIPPED IN DRIVE

Five carloads of salvage paper were collected and shipped during the recent drive, according to Robert A. Duff, county salvage chairman. Of the 178 tons of paper shipped, approximately 110 tons were collected by Medford school children, Duff reports, with Ashland collecting about 28 tons and rural districts sending in about 40 tons.

HOLLYWOOD CLEANS HOUSE

Hollywood, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Two thousand penny arcades were closed up and a third didn't get a chance to open as a result of a campaign by 200 citizens to clean out Hollywood syp joints, dives and other places that do not "comport with the public welfare."

TRIES AGAIN

Washington, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Rep. Louis Ludlow (D., Ind.) today introduced a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to guarantee equal rights to women. It is the eighth successive congress in which Ludlow has offered the resolution.

TALK MEDICAL EXAMS

Carson City, Nev., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Hearings on the highly controversial bill to require medical examinations of all persons seeking marriage licenses will get underway in the assembly of the Nevada legislature Monday, it was learned today.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS
 Little Carlin Phair cheerfully recounting the gruesome details of her latest injury.

Belated mention: A. C. Allen galloping through the sanctum like Henry Morgenthau was after him.

Groom—Jim Bayliss proudly bringing his bride to his "alma mater" for the basketball game at the High gym last night.

continued steady attacks on the Japanese homeland. The new landing on Luzon, the second by Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces, was made Monday between San Felipe and San Antonio by the newly-constituted U. S. Eighth army under Lt. Gen. Robert Eichelberger.

Not a man, ship or plane was lost in the invasion, which in the first day penetrated 11 miles inland and swept through San Marcelino and its airbase—the 23rd field captured on Luzon. The Eighth army troops were last reported pushing through Castillejos pass toward Olongapo, former U. S. naval base on the east shore of Subic Bay, and that town already may have been overrun.

Eighth army troops apparently were thrusting toward Dinalupihan, on the northeastern corner of Bataan, 13 miles east of Olongapo and 19 miles northwest of the sixth army forces at San Fernando on the Manila road.

Liberator bombers, striking ahead of the ground forces, continued their softening-up of the Manila Bay area, dropping 109 tons of high explosives on Corregidor and the Cavite naval base without opposition.

OSAKA BOMBED
 Tokyo radio reported that single B-29 Superfortresses from the Mariannas bombed the Osaka industrial area of the Japanese homeland twice during the night. The attacks were the third and fourth nuisance raids on the region in a little more than 24 hours and one enemy broadcast said the Superfortress incursions were becoming a daily routine—"just like rationing."

On the Asia continent, the Japanese claimed their forces had cleared the entire Canton-Hankow railway, slicing China in two, and also captured the Suichuan airfield in western Kwangsi province.

EDITORS ASSURED
 Paris, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Representatives of the American Society of Newspaper Editors touring Europe have been assured by Albert Bayet, president of the French Press Federation, of his unqualified support of all principles involving freedom of the press.

FAMED CORNETIST DIES
 Long Beach, Cal., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Dr. Herbert L. Clarke, 77, famous cornetist, died here today a week after a major operation. Clarke, who was cornet soloist for the John Philip Sousa and Victor Herbert bands for 25 years and who took two world tours with Sousa, had been in failing health since 1943, when he retired.

LINER TORPEDOED
 London, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The 24,000-ton British liner Strathallan with 5,000 troops aboard was torpedoed while en route to North Africa late in 1942, it was disclosed today. Loss of life was reported comparatively light.

BOARD OVERWORKED
 Washington, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The national mediation board told congress today that rail and airline labor problems have increased to a point where the railway labor act "is in real danger of breaking down" unless the board's staff is increased.

BENZOL PLANT EXPLODES
 Cleveland, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Officials today probed cause of the mysterious explosions and fire which destroyed the benzol plant of the Republic Steel Corp. here last night causing damage officially estimated at \$500,000. No one was injured.

BUS IN SMASHUP
 Colfax, Calif., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The driver of a westbound Pacific Greyhound Lines bus is hospitalized here with severe leg lacerations following a smashup early this morning on the icy Sierra mountain roads two miles west of Soda Springs.

OREGON BAN ON JIM CROWISM IS URGED BY NEGRO

Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing Attended by Over 500—Hotelmen Oppose.

Salem, Ore., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Negroes are "full blooded Americans," the Rev. J. James Clow, of the Mt. Olivet Baptist church, Portland, said last night in a hearing before the Oregon senate judiciary committee on the "civil rights" bill.

The bill, which would make it a misdemeanor to refuse public accommodations to a person because of race, color or creed, was discussed both pro and con at the meeting, which was attended by more than 500 white and colored people.

"We want the basic rights which every American has," Clow stated. "This bill is not exactly what we wanted, but it is a step in the right direction. We believe that it would bring about better race relations."

Hotelmen Oppose
 More than 15 persons spoke in favor of the bill. Chief arguments opposing the measure were presented by Walter Evans, Jr., representing hotel associations.

R. V. Carlson, a restaurant owner, said he thought that the law would force owners to grant accommodations to Japanese returning to the coast, and spoke strongly against it.

The Rev. Mr. Clow said that if the bill is not passed, the colored people would come back for it "again and again and again."

"If we must have a law against the murdering of men's bodies," he said, "can we not have a law against the murdering of men's souls?"

Freeway Favored
 Stronger arguments in favor of the freeway or limited highway access bills were presented at the second hearing on the measure than at the first, held last week. The re-hearing was held late yesterday upon the request of proponents of the bill.

The bill would prevent intersecting roads from entering main highways except at points designated by the highway commission.

Beef From Oregon Goes To Bay Area

San Francisco, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Arrival today of 6,250 pounds of beef from Oregon was expected to bring slight relief to the bay area meat shortage.

Meatmen, however, Milton Maxwell, butchers union executive, said butchers were going ahead with their plans for a mass meeting tonight to consider "meatless Mondays."

Wallace Rejection Urged By Senate Commerce Group

Washington, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The Senate Commerce committee today urged the senate to reject the nomination of Henry A. Wallace to be secretary of commerce and also to pass legislation to deprive the commerce department of its present vast lending powers.

The committee, headed by Sen. Josiah W. Bailey, D., N. C., submitted to the senate its formal reports on both the nomination and the George bill to re-establish the Reconstruction Finance Corp. in its former status as an independent agency.

YANK DIVISIONS SHOULDER INTO SIEGFRIED BELT

Paris, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—American forces more than seven divisions strong shouldered their way into the forefield of the Siegfried line today, crossing the upper Roer river east of Monschau and pushing beyond the line from which Marshal Karl von Rundstedt launched his winter offensive.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' first army was shelling the Siegfried belt, which was less than a mile ahead of his vanguard.

Doughboys of the first army drove into Germany at two more places, and tightened their grip on a cluster of villages and defense points east and northeast of Monschau.

1st Infantry Leads
 The veteran First Infantry division was leading the assault. It gained more than two miles through the woods east of Kirschbach, eight miles south of Monschau, for one of the new border crossings. The 82nd airborne division made the other east of Laxentzath, 10 miles northeast of St. Vith.

With the First and Third armies pushing through the outposts of the German westwall, a Berlin military commentator said it was increasingly clear that the allies were readying a major offensive, the main weight of which was expected to be focused against the Cologne plain east of Aachen.

Oregon State Loses To Cougar Quintet

Pullman, Wash., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Washington State college's quintet were victors last night over the favored Oregon State cagers 46-31 and moved into third place in the northern division hoop race.

Vince Hanson and George Hamilton of the Cougars tied for high scoring honors with 14 points apiece. High man for OSC was Bernie McGrath with seven points.

10 DIE IN AIR MISHAP

Meibourne, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—H. F. Black, an American representing the Allison Engine company, and all nine other occupants were killed today when a Stinson commercial plane was wrecked after taking off from Meibourne for Broken Hill.

JAP GENERALS DIE

The Japanese Domei agency today reported the deaths of five more Japanese army generals, bringing to 28 the number who have died since May 23, 1944. The Domei dispatch was recorded by FCC monitors.

TRANSPORT LAUNCHED

Wilmington, Cal., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The attack transport U.S.S. Geneva, named for Geneva county, Alabama, was launched today at Consolidated Steel Corp shipyards.

FOR POLL TAX REPEAL

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The Georgia house today approved a bill to repeal the state's \$1 poll tax, beating down opponents of the measure who charged that it had originated with "northern reformers."

TO BERLIN

The shortest roads to Berlin from advanced allied lines: Eastern front—58 miles (from Soldin, by German report). Western front—296 miles (from point southeast of Nijmegen). Italy—530 miles (from point north of Ravenna).

16 BABIES PERISH AS FIRE SWEEPS BOARDING HOUSE

Flames Follow Explosion—Unable to Reach Children Before Suffocation.

Auburn, Me., Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Sixteen babies died in smoke and flames before dawn today when fire swept a boarding house for war workers' children, and at noon a tragic line of mothers, fathers, and grandparents began filing through a silent funeral parlor to claim the bodies.

One adult attendant died with the babies, whose ages ranged from three months to five years. Mrs. Eva La Coste, operator of the house, and five other children, including three of her own, were saved. The oldest child among the victims was five years old.

Follows Explosion
 Mrs. La Coste said there was a "terrific explosion" and that the one-and-a-half story frame house instantly was a mass of flames. She believed the fire was started by the kitchen stove. Screams of the children awakened the neighborhood and moans and sobbing cries were heard through the flames, which cracked from every window and door.

Firemen who raced to the scene over icy streets were almost helpless for two hours. Fire Chief Ralph B. Harnden said he and some of his men darted inside the flaming building several times.

"We carried out babies—God, I don't know how many babies—all of them dead."

Fire Chief Weeps
 Harnden wept as he described the scene.

"We got two babies out of the front room and eight out of the next room. Then we lost count. We kept lugging them out, one after another."

The fire burned itself out after two hours leaving only charred walls around a confusion of blackened cribs, partly-burned teddy bears and dolls in scorched bassinets.

Some babies apparently died of suffocation in their sleep. Others held up tiny fists clenched in death agony. Rosa Cote, 50, an employee, was the adult who died in the fire.

Rush To Scene
 Parents and other relatives who rushed to the scene of the fire from the nearby factory areas, were kept at a distance until the bodies had been laid at Dillingham's funeral parlor. Then they filed in where the bodies were laid out.

Mrs. La Coste was almost hysterical when she gave her account of what happened.

She leaped from her bed, she related, and grabbed two of the babies—cribs and all. As she raced for safety, she said, she stumbled and fell, dropping both cribs and their tiny occupants.

Crazed with fear, she said, she dashed out of the building, leaving the babies behind. Her arms were burned severely.

Discovery of the prehistoric horse in America was first made by Mitchell in 1826 in New Jersey.

Hitler's Birthday Speech Warning Germany Will Fight To Final Gasp

London, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Adolf Hitler's 12th anniversary speech was seen today as a warning that Germany will fight on—even after the fall of Berlin—regardless of consequences for as long as his Nazi regime can control the army and restless hordes of war workers.

He bluntly served notice that the government will show no mercy toward any who waver from his policy of resistance to the end. The public execution of the deputy mayor of Breslau "for cowardice," as announced by the Berlin radio, was believed symbolic of bloodbaths to come, perhaps already under way.

Hitler spoke for 16 minutes last night over the Berlin radio in commemoration of the start of his 13th year as ruler of Ger-

Snow in Mountains Ranges From 12 to 28 Inches in Depth

The caretaker at Fish Lake, main source of irrigation water supply for the Medford district, reported today there is 28 inches of snow at Four Mile Lake, 28 at Dry Creek, and 12 at Fish Lake.

He said the snow contained a high water content and there were signs it has melted and frozen two or three times.

On his two-day trip he saw many deer, generally out of the region at this time of year. The upper end of Fish Lake was not frozen and ducks were present.

Rain of Monday and Tuesday in the valley, deposited a thin layer of snow on the mountains.

"WORK OR ELSE" PATH CLEARED AS AMENDMENTS FAIL

Washington, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The house today cleared the way to passage of the May compulsory war work bill by voting down the controversial amendments which might have killed it.

Shortly after rejecting an anti-closed shop amendment by a vote of 178 to 142, the house voted, 148 to 113, against a proposal by Rep. Charles R. Clason, R., Mass., to insert a fair employment practices provision in the measure.

The votes followed a plea by Speaker Sam Rayburn, who personally took command of the administration fight for the bill, for its approval without change. He warned that adoption of any controversial amendments would defeat the measure which he said was "vital to the success of the war effort."

Pfc. Leon L. Evans Slightly Wounded Jan. 8 in France

Pfc. Leon L. Evans, serving with the 12th armored division in France, was slightly wounded January 8 a wire to his mother from the war department stated last week. Evans has been overseas for the past seven months.

A message from Pfc. Evans' brother, Staff Sgt. Tyley Evans, with the 3rd army in Europe, received the same time stated that he had escaped the German drive the latter part of December and was safe but minus all his personal effects. The sergeant is with an anti-aircraft unit and has been overseas a year.

Both are sons of Mrs. Barbara Evans, Central Point, route 1.

SGT. WAYNE W. WHITE WOUNDED IN BELGIUM

S./Sgt. Wayne W. White, son of Mrs. Cora Wayne, 107 Almond street, has been slightly wounded in action in Belgium, Mrs. White was informed recently in a message from the war department.

She said she had heard nothing further either from Sgt. White, a paratrooper, or from the war department.

WEATHER

Northern California—Cloudy with occasional light rains but snow above 4500 feet today, tonight and Thursday; little temperature change except cooler today extreme southern parts.

Landsberg and 3 Anchor Bases East of Capital Captured in Fast Sweep.

London, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—The Paris radio said tonight that the rumble of big guns to the east now is audible in Berlin.

London, Jan. 31—(U.P.)—Russian mobile forces sweeping toward Berlin on a broad front today captured Landsberg, 89 miles northeast of the capital, and toppled the three anchor bases of the Nazi defense line 80 to 90 miles due east of the threatened German capital.

Marshal Josef Stalin announced the new soviet victories on an arching battlefield moving in against Berlin, and Nazi broadcasts said the Russian vanguard had reached the rail junction of Soldin, 58 miles northeast of the city.

Far in Brandenburg, key junction on the Berlin-Danzig railway, Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's army overran Meseritz, Schwelbitz, and Zullichau, vital transport centers and defense posts some dozen miles inside German Brandenburg.

Stalin, in his first special order of the day since Monday, hailed Zhukov's first White Russian army for the four-prong victory on the outer approaches of Berlin. He called the captured towns "large communications centers and powerful strongholds of the German defenses covering the approaches to Frankfurt."

At Landsberg the Russians were 28 miles from the Oder at Kustrin, where the Warthe flows into it and the Berlin trunk railway crosses it.

Disaster-laden Nazi Broadcasts
 said Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's first White Russian army was driving inexorably toward Berlin from the northeast, east, and southeast on a broad front.

Moscow dispatches said that after crashing through the Oder river defenses just inside Germany, Zhukov's forces were rushing westward along the main roads converging on the capital.

Bitter fighting in the areas of Soldin, Landsberg, and Zienelitz was reported by Nazi broadcasters, whose stark admissions of landslide advances by the soviet propaganda assurances that the enemy would be stopped in due time.

Russian and German reports agreed that the threat to Berlin was mounting steadily. Zhukov's forces already were within easy reach of the Oder, which winds about 35 miles east of the capital, and it was there that the Nazis must check the invaders if the siege of capitulation of Berlin was to be averted.

DR. CLENDENING FOUND WITH THROAT SLASHES

Dr. Logan Clendingen, nationally-known physician and writer of a syndicated newspaper column on health problems, was found dead in his home here today.

Police said his throat had been slashed.

CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON EM

Seattle (U.P.)—The little red schoolhouses were bursting with patriotism when the Sixth War Loan Drive rolled around. Students cracked open their piggy banks and shelled out \$564,000 for war bonds on a designated School Bond Day.

Mother, Daughter Guerrilla Team



Mrs. Iraline Dunning Acosta and her daughter, Dolly Dunning, 15, formerly of Los Angeles, reach the safety of American lines in Luzon after being flown out from a secret guerrilla airfield. Both are Americans, were caught in Manila at start of war and escaped to join guerrilla forces—the mother holding rank of lieutenant while her daughter worked as a nurse. Signal Corps photo.



BACK IN LIMELIGHT—After four years' Federal internment on charge of obstructing Canada's mobilization of manpower for war, Camille Houde has resumed political career in Montreal where he was five times mayor.