

REDS TAKE BASE WEST OF ODER

Weather
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday. Little change in temperature.
Highest yesterday 57
Lowest this morning 34
Precipitation past 24 hrs. .04

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

Thirty ninth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1945 NO. 269.

3700 Imprisoned Civilians Released in Manila



This is the campus of Santo Tomas University, in which Japanese imprisoned civilians during their occupation of Manila. More than 3700 thin, hungry Allied civilians, 2500 of them Americans, cried a hysterical welcome to liberating troops which made a dramatic dash through the city's back door.

Liberated Internees Get Three Square Meals; Camp Newspaper Chronicles Prison Life

By Robert Crabb
United Press War Correspondent

Manila, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—For the past three months, the Santo Tomas internment camp menu board had just three short lines. They were:
Breakfast—mush.
Lunch—soup.
Dinner—steamed rice, gravy.
Last night a small girl, reading the board on the third day following the liberation of approximately 3,700 internees, gasped and exclaimed:
"Look! The whole board is used just to tell what we get for breakfast."

Army Takes Over

The army has taken over the preparation and serving of daily meals to the 3,000 internees who still are eating in the central kitchen.
Meantime, the internment camp culinary department prepared to wind up its various functions.
Headed by Howard Hick of Easton, Pa., former manager of a Philippine coconut factory the Santo Tomas kitchen staff turn

MANILA ROUNDUP VIRTUALLY ENDED; TOKYO NEXT GOAL

Manila, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—Three American divisions encircled fanatical Japanese remnants in Manila today, virtually completing the liberating of the Philippines and setting the stage for the next phase of the march on Tokyo.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur officially proclaimed the fall of Manila, capital of the Philippines and largest city yet liberated in the Pacific war, and said the motto of his command now was:

"On to Tokyo!"

He said the "complete destruction" of the doomed enemy garrison of Manila was imminent and revealed that another 1,350 American and allied war prisoners and civilian internees had been freed yesterday with the capture of ancient Bilibid prison.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Friends of Belle Schenck deciding to give her a citation for awards received in Red Cross action.

Rawles Moore loaning his glasses to Mrs. Moore with poor results, neither being able to read a concert program with them.

Arnel Butler giving instructions about the use of his name in this alleged column of humor.

Lewis Ulrich proudly maintaining he still holds the long-distance street whistling record for Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Coos and Curry counties.

ed out every scheduled meal, despite critical interference at times from floods and typhoons, failure of gas, electricity and firewood, and during the last year the failure of the Japanese to provide sufficient food.
225 On Staff
The kitchen staff numbered about 225.
"There are not enough words of praise for my assistants and kitchen workers during the last trying months of starvation," said Chief Storekeeper Marvin Thomas of St. Louis. "As far as I'm concerned, I'd rather go right on working. The army moved in plenty of everything we need."

Manila, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—Twenty-four hours after American troops reached Santo Tomas, Peter C. Richards, who published a camp newspaper when permitted during the long internment, had produced an eight-page issue—"The Liberation Bulletin of Philippine Internment Camp No. 1 at Santo Tomas University."

Twenty-five hundred copies were printed on the camp mimeograph which did not fall during the three years. They sold for one peso each.
A drawing showed the open gates in the walls with the words:

"Ring open wide the golden gate and victors end."
The longest article was a chronological account of camp life, beginning January 4, 1942. It contained such entries as: Feb. 15, 1942—three men shot for escaping; April 15, 1942—last wheat bread; Sept. 13, 1942—daily cereal ration 250 grams.

Hope Returns
Only near the end do hopeful items appear: Sept. 21, 1942—the air raid; Christmas, 1944—American planes dropped greetings from MacArthur's command.

Another notice of a raid said:
"Ring open wide the golden gate and victors end."
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PLYWOOD PLANT AT ROSEBURG HAS WPB GREEN LIGHT

Washington, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—The War Production Board today approved the application of the Umpqua Plywood Corp. for construction of a \$400,000 plywood plant at Roseburg, Ore., Rep. Harris Ellsworth, R., Ore., reported.

The privately financed plant will cover an area of 45,000 square feet. Loren Haugen, president of the new company, is connected with a lumber concern at Fort Angelus, Wash.

Ellsworth also reported that the Smaller War Plans Corp. today approved a \$35,000 loan to the Coast Fuel Corp., Coos Bay, Ore., for purchase of additional equipment. The company, headed by T. O. Toon, has opened a new coal field near Coos Bay which will supply military installations in the vicinity.

"We all saw stars on their wings."
On February 3, the paper said, 10 American planes flew over the camp. One dropped goggles with a note saying liberation was coming soon. At 6 p. m., continuous machine gun fire was heard in the north. At 9 p. m. the tanks arrived.
The paper's statistics revealed that men lost an average of 51 pounds, women, 32 pounds. Prices in camp as of December 31, 1944, included sugar, \$105 per kilo; rice \$60 per kilo, cigarettes \$18 for 30.

HOOD RIVER POST DEFIES NATIONAL CHIEF OF LEGION

Hood River, Ore., Feb. 6—(U.P.)—The Hood River Post of the American Legion today stood in defiance of the National Legion Commander in refusing to restore to its war honor roll the names of Japanese-American service men.

Ignoring a recommendation from Edward N. Scheiberling, National Commander, the Post Monday night issued a statement saying:
"Hood River American Legion Post No. 22 deems it inadvisable at this time to take any action on restoration of Japanese-American names to the country's service roll."
The Post had expunged from the roll names of 16 Japanese-Americans on the grounds that they owed allegiance to Japan rather than to the United States. The action brought a nationwide wave of protest from religious and liberal groups.

Scheiberling had asked that 15 of the names be returned to the roll on the ground that one of the 16 had been dishonorably discharged from the army. His telegram to the Post had said:
"Your action has brought much unfavorable publicity and criticism to the American Legion and your action was officially called to my attention by the War Department."

Health Of County Officials Showing Slow Improvement
County officials away from their posts the past month due to illness, are all improving. Circuit Judge Herbert K. Hanna, now at his home in Jacksonville, after a stay in a local and Portland hospital, will return to the bench around April 1, or perhaps sooner, according to court-house reports.
County Judge J. B. (Blin) Coleman has been instructed by his doctor to take outdoor exercise when weather permits, to gain strength.
Sheriff Syd I. Brown is convalescing at his home. His doctor recommends rest and food to regain some of the weight lost during his illness.

HOUSE BOURBONS SECURE APPROVAL OF GEORGE BILL

Pressure on Banking Committee Wins Unanimous Recommendation.

Washington, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—The house banking committee, responding to pressure from Democratic leaders, today approved the George bill after rejecting three Republican amendments to impose further restrictions on the department of commerce.

Supporters of Henry A. Wallace are seeking to push the bill to enactment in its present form—whereby it would divorce the federal loan agency from the commerce department. They believe its approval would lead to prompt confirmation of the former vice-president as secretary of commerce.

Passed by Senate
The senate passed the bill last week. It then deferred action of Wallace's nomination until March 1, pending developments on the George bill.

The house committee considered the measure for an hour. Then it voted unanimously to recommend its passage by the house.
Rep. Jesse P. Wolcott, R., Mich., ranking minority member, offered the three rejected amendments. Votes on all three were almost entirely party line divisions.

CENTER OF REICH GIVEN BOMB BATH

London, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—More than 2,100 eighth air force bombers and fighters attacked industrial and communication targets in central Germany today following a night raid by R. A. F. Mosquito bombers on refugee-packed Berlin.

The American aerial fleet, comprising about 1,300 Liberators and Flying Fortresses and 850 Mustangs and Thunderbolts, concentrated principally on the Magdeburg, Leipzig and Chemnitz areas in the heart of Germany.

TO BERLIN

By United Press
The nearest distances to Berlin from advanced Allied lines today:
Eastern front—32 miles (from Oder river opposite Kienitz).
Western front—286 miles from point southeast of Nijmegen.
Italy—530 miles (from point north of Ravenna).

Ex-Police Officers Send Greetings To Friends In Medford

A V-Mail letter from Paul B. Lowery, Stuart Earl and Thomas N. Eaton, formerly state police officers attached to Medford headquarters, was received recently by the Mail Tribune. It consisted of a cartoon and greetings to their friends in southern Oregon and "good old Medford."
The men, who are now stationed somewhere in the Pacific, left the state police force July 12, 1943, to enlist in the Seabees.

Mrs. Earl and Mrs. Thomas now reside in Salem while Mrs. Lowery is making her home on Stewart avenue in Medford. Each has a child, born since their husbands entered the service.

DESPERATE MOVE BY NAZI TROOPS THOUGHT LIKELY

Washington, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—Qualified military observers said today the German army within a few days may make what could prove its last desperate throw of the dice in the east, a counterattack designed to cut off the nose of the Russian advance east of Berlin.

The outcome may determine whether victory in Europe will come this winter or must wait the end of the spring thaw.
The first objective of the expected Nazi counteroffensive, according to experts here, would be to force the Russians back to a line stretching from Breslau on the south through Poznan to Schneidemuhl in the north, on the old Polish border. For the Germans, a greater degree of success might enable them to link forces with the trapped garrison in east Prussia.

There is little doubt here but that such an attack will come. If it does not, it will serve as the frankest revelation yet of German's lack of resources and as testimony that the cause of Hitler's Germany is all but lost.

The steady movement of German troops eastward from the western front and the bitter resistance at Breslau, Poznan and Schneidemuhl, serve as evidence to support the theory that there will be a counter blow. The German garrison surrounded at Poznan is reported about 24,000.

Paris, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—Robert Brasillach, pro-Nazi editor who wrote under the pen name of "Robert the Devil," died before a firing squad at Fort Mont Rouge in Paris today.
Brasillach, chief editor of the pro-German Paris weekly Je Suis Partout, was convicted last month of intelligence with the enemy.

SCHOOL FINANCE BILLS APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

House Education Group Favors \$5 Million Additional For State's Schools.

Salem, Ore., Feb. 6—(U.P.)—The house education committee today gave "do pass" recommendations to three companion bills which, if passed, would grant an additional \$5,000,000 to schools of the state.

The committee vote was five to three, with Reps. E. W. Kimberling, Fred Himelwright and Giles French dissenting.

The bills were prepared by the education department. The money would come from a re-figuring of the tax reduction system known as the Walker plan. The bills, (house bills 121, 122 and 123) now go to the assessment and taxation committee.

Salem, Ore., Feb. 6—(U.P.)—The Oregon senate today gave final approval to an elections bill to eliminate mobile registration booths—used only in Multnomah county—despite protests that every county except Multnomah had adequate facilities for registering voters.
The vote was 24-5 and the bill now returns to the house for concurrence in amendments.

The election issue preceded senate action on a joint resolution calling for formation of a tax study commission and survey by nationally recognized experts.

Hiring Opposed

The senate had objected to hiring a tax firm.
The house military affairs and postwar planning committee was continuing study today on a bill to set up a department of veterans affairs. The committee heard affirmative arguments yesterday.

Cal Freilinger and Herbert Templeton, both members of the veterans service committee in Portland, urged "some sort of centralized organization" to care for returning veterans.

They supported the bill but suggested that the \$80,000 appropriation be considerably larger and that there be an emergency clause to make the bill effective immediately.

The bill provides for appointment of a \$5,000-a-year director and an advisory board of three, all veterans. Some objection was noted to the proposal that the members of the advisory committee be members of the three largest veterans organizations.

Only opposition to the measure came from Max Berg, Cottage Grove American Legion commander, who said he thought the existing set-up with the Red Cross and veterans organizations was satisfactory.

Committee Chairman Harvey Wells, Portland representative, said that "without doubt," the job of veterans affairs director would become one of the largest in the state.

Five other bills concerned with veterans welfare were due for "do pass" recommendation in the house today. They included provisions for making service community houses available to those to be inducted as well as men already in service; civil service preference for veterans; preference for veterans in state employment; free recording of discharges, and the automatic extension of military leaves for state officers in service who are re-elected, and qualifying them.

A bill providing for veterans education benefits, implementing the measure which passed in the November election, will be introduced soon. Main change is the payment of a straight \$35 monthly benefit for 36 months, instead of on a sliding scale. Another bill which will come up soon would levy a tax for armory construction.

RACE STAR DIES

Abbeville, France, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—Marcel Doret, 48, famous French World War I ace and later world's automobile and air racing record holder, died yesterday.

YANKEES CRACK SIEGFRIED LINE ON WIDE FRONT

3rd Army Closes in on Prum, West Wall Bastion; Nazis Flee Alsace Under Fire.

Paris, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—American Third Army troops broke through the Siegfried line at a number of points in Germany's Schnee Eifel forest today and closed in on the west wall bastion of Prum along an eight-mile front.

Twenty-five miles to the north, infantrymen of the U. S. First Army were locked in a hard fight for the Roer river dams and the last belt of Siegfried pillboxes covering the approaches to the Cologne plain.

Escape Under Fire

At the southern end of the front, American and French troops splintered the German pocket around Colmar into isolated groups and laid a curtain of shellfire across the enemy's Rhine river escape bridges.

Thousands of Nazi troops were reported in full flight across the Rhine from fire, leaving 1,500 to 2,000 of their number hopelessly trapped behind the Allied lines in the Vosges mountains.

Grind Forward

Field dispatches said the American First and Third Armies were grinding steadily forward through the eastern fringes of the Siegfried line, bursting through that barrier at some points in a methodical advance that was beginning to threaten the entire German position west of the Rhine.

German resistance was stiffening, however, particularly on the Third Army front where Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's infantry divisions ran into increasingly-heavy counterattacks.

Patton's troops hammered out gains of a mile and more on an eight-mile front before Prum, capturing Habscheid, seven miles west-southwest of that communications center, and Schluenbach, six miles to the northwest.

VERNON JONES, 19, DIES IN ISLANDS

Pfc. Vernon Jones, 19, formerly of Medford, died in the Philippine Islands Jan. 10 of pneumonia a message to Medford friends from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Jones, stated this morning. Pfc. Jones was wounded during the invasion of Leyte Island, spent a considerable period in a New Guinea army hospital and had returned again to the front when stricken with pneumonia.

The serviceman had been in the army about a year. He is survived by his parents, a brother, Bob Jones, in the navy, and another brother, Arthur, at home. The family lived in Medford for many years before going to Jennings Lodge, near Portland, about four years ago, and Pfc. Jones attended the Medford grade and high schools.

McNary Portrait Placed In House

Salem, Ore., Feb. 6—(U.P.)—A portrait of the late Charles L. McNary, longtime U. S. senator from Oregon and minority leader, which was painted by Mrs. Rose Twing, postmistress of Dorona, will be exhibited in the House of Representatives during the remainder of the session.

The picture, presented to the House by Mrs. Twing, was given its place of honor by a House resolution.

BILL ALLOWING DEPOSIT OF WILL BECOMES LAW

Salem, Ore., Feb. 6—(U.P.)—A bill that allows a testator to deposit his will with a county clerk for safekeeping was signed into law by Gov. Earl Sells Monday.

STEINAU, SILESIA CAPTURED AFTER FIVE-DAY BATTLE

Nazis Report Russians Now Have Three Bridgeheads 32-35 Miles From Berlin.

London, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—The Germans reported today that the Red army had seized three bridgeheads across the Oder 32 to 35 miles from Berlin and had captured the Silesian citadel of Steinau west of the Oder.

Marshal Gregory Zhukov's shock troops stormed across the Oder south of Frankfurt and "have been able to build up two rather small bridgeheads" while a third was established at Kienitz, 10 miles northwest of Kustlin, a German military spokesman said.

Ready for Last Lap
The unconfirmed Nazi reports indicated that in smashes through the Oder river line the Russians had been able to grab more or less solid footholds which, if developed, will serve as springboards for a plunge over the last lap of the road to Berlin.

The two new bridgeheads across the Oder on the Berlin front—the one at Kienitz was reported yesterday—were between Frankfurt and Furstenberg, the military spokesman was quoted by the Berlin radio.

They were located as two or three miles south of Frankfurt, the last great citadel before Berlin, which was threatened by any flanking drive Zhukov is able to develop from these reported crossings.

The Nazi spokesman said the "main Soviet masses" already were fighting on the Frankfurt-Kustlin line of the Oder, suggesting that Zhukov's major units had moved up to the river and were ready to refuse the push on Berlin, temporarily checked by the Oder defenses.

Defense Crumbling

The entire Oder river defense line through Silesia appeared to be crumbling under the trip-hammer blows of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's first Ukrainian army. Farther northwest, Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First White Russian army was storming the Oder line in front of Berlin. The Germans reported he had forced a crossing 32 miles from the capital. Moscow dispatches said his shock troops were believed to have reached the west bank at some points.

The fall of Steinau, key city 139 miles southeast of Berlin and 34 northwest of Breslau, was reported in a supplement to the German communique, issued from Adolf Hitler's headquarters.

The troops "defended Steinau in a heroic struggle for five days against far superior infantry and tank forces of the enemy," the statement said, and "only when all ammunition was used up did the gallant garrison fight its way through to our lines, according to orders."

The Nazi command also reported that Konev had deepened his bridgehead in the Brieg area southeast of Breslau, which already was about a dozen miles wide and deep. A communique said that southwest of Brieg the Soviets pressed deeper into Silesia "in the face of tough opposition from our troops."

SUSPECTED SPIES FACE ARMY TRIAL

New York, Feb. 6—(U.P.)—William C. Colepaugh and Erich Gimpel, alleged Nazi spies, pleaded innocent today as they went on trial before a military commission, sitting behind closed doors at Governor's island in the shadow of the Statue of Liberty.

The two men were arrested last November after a German submarine landed two spies on the coast of Main.

ONE POLIO CASE ON COUNTY ILLS REPORT

One case of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was reported to the county health officer, Dr. A. Erin Merkel, last week. The patient, a Griffin Creek school-girl, has been taken to a Portland hospital and it is thought the case will prove to be light.

One case of diphtheria, one of chicken pox and one of septic sore throat were reported in Medford and two cases of recurrent malaria and one of trench mouth from Camp White were also listed.

Tiny Victims of Jap Oppression



Tragic victims of Japanese occupation of Luzon are these pathetic Filipino youngsters, gaunt and emaciated, their bones almost protruding through their wasted flesh. They're now under care of these nurses at Tarlac Provincial Hospital. Signal Corps photo.