

Weather

Forecast: Sunday and Monday—slightly cloudy, little change in temperature.
Temp.
Highest yesterday 55
Lowest this morning 34

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MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1945

NO. 284.

CARRIER PLANES HIT TOKYO A NEW

HEART OF JAPAN HIT THIRD TIME WITHIN A WEEK

Adm. Nimitz Report Attack
Now Underway — Vital
Bases Raked

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, Sunday, Feb. 25—(U.P.)—A great force of American carrier-based aircraft are again attacking Tokyo and its surrounding military and naval installations for the third time within a week, it was announced today.

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz disclosed in a brief special communication at 7:15 p. m. (PWT) that the Fifth fleet carrier task force commanded by Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher had returned to strike again at the heart of the Japanese homeland.

There were no details of the action.

The strike followed two days of punishing blows dealt by Mitscher's navy and marine airmen last Friday and Saturday when 809 Japanese planes were destroyed or damaged.

The Fifth fleet, under the overall command of Adm. R. A. Spruance, had again accomplished the "impossible."

After standing to within 300 miles of the Japanese main island of Honshu last week end without meeting any enemy surface or air attack, they turned southward to support the Iwo Jima landing two days later. Now, in less than a week, they had returned to scourge Tokyo again.

Two-Day Assault
More than 1,200 American war planes roared over Tokyo for two consecutive days in the first great naval-air strike against the enemy's capital and it was believed that a force equally as large was again battering the important installations ringing the city.

Naval, military and air installations were being raked by the avenging carrier airmen.

The brief communication released by Nimitz merely said that the attack was going on. As in the previous raid, Mitscher's task force was maintaining radio silence while in enemy waters.

Text of the communication: "Carrier aircraft of the Fifth fleet are attacking military, naval and air installations in and around Tokyo."

"Adm. R. A. Spruance is in command of the Fifth fleet, Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher is in tactical command of the fast carrier task force making the attacks."

Tokyo radio reported the attacks before Nimitz' special announcement was made.

Japanese broadcasts said that U. S. carrier-based planes had raided the Tokyo-Yokohama area Sunday morning.

The broadcast, recorded by FCC, said the planes "are now carrying out an echelon attack." Tokyo radio, as usual, claimed that Japanese air units were intercepting the raiders.

Tokyo said the attack occurred at 7 a. m. Japanese time.

Mitscher, master of carrier warfare, had undoubtedly brought his great carrier task force just as close to Honshu as before. Standing 300 miles off the main island last week, he directed incessant aerial assaults against Tokyo and the surrounding area which spread fires throughout the capital.

Superfortresses had joined in the all-out air assault against Tokyo last. They appeared over the burning city while more than 1,200 carrier planes still roared over the area.

There was no hint of the amount of damage being caused to Japan's vital naval and military installations.

But it appeared that Japan's major docks and anchorages were being singled out for special attention in the latest carrier-borne strike.

Iwo Jima Invasion Casualty



A Marine casualty from first assault wave at Iwo Jima rests on a bed of life preservers aboard a Coast Guard LCPV puffing on a cigarette while on way to hospital ship lying off shore. Coast Guard photo.

STATERS DEFEAT IDAHO 44-33 TO TIE WITH DUCKS

Corvallis, Ore., Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The Oregon State College Beavers regained a tie for the top position in the northern division basketball standings here tonight when they defeated the University of Idaho Vandals, 44-33.

The Idahoans were much tougher than the night before when the Staters won 50-28. After 10 minutes of play, the Vandals held an 11-10 lead and held doggedly within shouting distance until late in the second half.

The Beavers held a 23-18 half-time lead but in the second half the Vandals kept on their heels until finally the Staters broke away with a scoring spree which rolled the count up to 41-28 and coasted home with reserves finishing the game.

"Red" Rocha, Oregon State's six-foot, eight-inch pivot man, dropped through six field goals and three free tosses for an evening's total of 15 and a series total of 31. Len Pyne played a stellar game at guard for the Vandals and contributed 12 points in the scoring column.

The victory left the Staters tied with the University of Oregon for first place with the Washington State Cougars not far behind.

JAPS VOW DEATH TO YANK ADMIRAL

Aboard Adm. Turner's flagship off Iwo Jima, Feb. 25 — (U.P.) — (Via Navy Radio) — U.P.—Tokyo radio said today that Admiral Richmond Kelly Turner whose forces supported the Iwo invasion "must not return home alive."

Describing Turner and Adm. R. A. Spruance as being responsible for the killing of "countless numbers of our own younger and elder brothers on various islands throughout the central Pacific," the enemy broadcast said "they have indeed led their men to the point where they are indeed close to the Japanese mainland."

"But they find themselves in a dilemma as they are unable to either advance or recede."

The broadcast concluded by saying that "this man Turner shall not return home alive—he must not and will not."

San Francisco, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The dairy market was unchanged today.

REDS ADVANCE UP POLISH CORRIDOR; SEAL OFF DANZIG

London, Sunday, Feb. 25 — (U.P.) — Red army troops advancing on a 65-mile front up the "Polish Corridor" and across eastern Pomerania, yesterday hacked to within 33 miles south of Danzig and 64 miles from the Pomeranian coast in a drive to seal off the former free city and its twin Baltic port of Gdynia.

Troops of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's 2nd White Russian army threatened the Nazi stronghold of Prussisch Friedland in Pomerania and in the "Polish Corridor" drove to a point nine miles from Starboard, an outer bastion of Danzig.

In East Prussia, Red army forces tightened the steel as around trapped enemy forces southwest of shell-ridden Koenigsberg, reducing the enemy pocket to 320 square miles.

In the lower Silesian capital of Breslau, eighth city of Germany, Russian infantrymen slashed deeper into the city streets in grim house-to-house battles with an estimated 100,000 Nazi troops who were under orders to defend the city to the last man.

Soldiers of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's 1st Ukrainian army captured another 15 blocks in the southern area of the city and won the suburb of Oltaschin, four miles south of the town center.

ALLIED BOMBERS KEEP UP NON-STOP DRIVE ON NAZIS

London, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — Heavy bombers from Britain blasted oil refineries and U-boat yards in northwest Germany today and tactical planes lashed railroads and front objects as allied airmen flew more than 6,500 sorties in the 12th consecutive day of the non-stop aerial offensive.

The British Second and American Ninth tactical airforces put almost 4,000 medium and fighter-bombers into the area, pounding German rail communications from the front lines deep into the Reich.

They also blasted enemy troops and supplies moving up to reinforce the fronts in the face of the allied ground offensive, striking with particular fury at enemy objectives opposite the Canadian First and American Ninth armies driving toward Cologne.

NINTH AND FIRST NEAR TO COLOGNE, SEIZE 13 TOWNS

Roer River Line Wobbles In
Drive For Rhine As Julich Falls

Paris, Sunday, Feb. 25 — (U.P.) — The American 9th and 1st armies, seized 13 more fortified towns and battled to within 16 miles of Cologne last night as they drove nearly five miles across the Cologne plain in their two-day-old offensive.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower spurred his armies forward with a demand for complete annihilation of Nazi forces defending the Rhine, and his men responded gallantly by bringing their two-day total of captured towns to 23.

One anchor of the formidable Roer river line toppled when the last Germans were driven from Julich, leaving the city a ruined shambles comparable to St. Lo, and the second wavered as infantry battled halfway through Dueren.

Only at Dueren was the 22-mile wide American bridgehead pinned against the Roer. Elsewhere the plunging tank and infantry teams were two to five miles inside the river line and rolling on for the Rhine.

The offensive front was widened to 31 miles during the day when the 9th army's northern wing swept up against the west bank of the Roer on a nine-mile stretch to cover the flank of the assault. The advance captured Porselen, Oberbruch, Kempen and Schanz.

The British 2nd army remained quiet along the Roer and Mass (Meuse) rivers. But the Canadian 1st added new fury to the allied assault by jumping off at dawn under a five-hour artillery barrage in a new drive for the Rhine. The attack gained a mile in the first few hours and there were signs that the Germans were withdrawing to high ground to meet it.

The greatest gains were scored by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd army as it smashed five miles deeper into disordered German defenses east of the Luxembourg border, seizing 21 more towns.

LABOR DISPUTES IMPERIL OUTPUT GUNS AND SHIPS

Chicago, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — Labor disputes involving some 20,000 workers at two major war production centers tied up output of weapons and ships tonight and threatened to spread to other areas.

The war labor board stepped into one of the strikes today with a back-to-work to 7,000 strikers at the Ingalls Shipbuilding Corp. at Pascagoula, Miss.

In Detroit government officials studied means to stop a widening strike of 13,000 workers and 154 inter-plant drivers which was in its second day at the main Dodge plant of the Chrysler Corp. Officials said the dispute might stop production at all Chrysler Corp. plants.

In Chicago, however, day shift employees of the cam and gear department of the Dodge Chicago plant stayed on the jobs today. They ignored the strike of 75 co-workers employed on the second shift.

At New Orleans, a strike involving 1,500 Lane Cotton Mills workers was threatened over a dispute involving the company's refusal to grant paid vacations.

The executive board of the textile workers union (CIO) voted to call a strike Monday unless the vacation demands were granted or unless the union was assured of federal seizure of the mills.

Rome, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The condition of Pope Pius XII is greatly improved, the vatican announced today.

DISTRICT 4 TITLE WON BY TORNADO

Medford high defeated Ashland 46 to 33 last night to win the District 4 championship, before a packed house. The Black Tornado was ahead at the half 23 to 11, and was never seriously threatened. They will next play the District Three winner for the right to enter the state meet at Salem.

In the first game, Klamath Falls defeated Grants Pass 32 to 22. Ashland won second, and the Pelicans third place.

Sportsmanship awards were presented to Jack Lutz of Grants Pass and James Noreen of Klamath Falls.

The outstanding players were listed as:
Riggs, Medford, Samuelson, Ashland, Noreen, Klamath Falls, Ross, Medford, Riebel, Grants Pass, Watson, Medford, Palmer, Klamath Falls, Jandreau, Ashland, Lutz, Grants Pass, and Thorn, Klamath Falls.

ADOLF DECLARES WAR TO TURN IN GERMANY'S FAVOR

Speech Broadcast By Aide
Threatens All Who Falter
— Sorry For Self

London, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — Adolf Hitler, in a speech read by a henchman, said today that the war will turn in Germany's favor during "1945" and grimly promised the "elimination" of any German who falters during the struggle.

The German radio reported Hitler's first reported speech since Jan. 30, 1945. The German DNB agency said it was read for him at a Munich Nazi party celebration by Secretary of State Hermann Esser.

As he had on Jan. 30, he made little effort to gloss over the struggle which faces Germany. He said that each German "must throw everything into the balance so as to free our people from this plight."

"There must be no doubt that the national socialist Germany will carry on the struggle until the historical turning point takes place, and this will happen during the present year," the speech said.

Hitler said that to preserve the German nation, its people must be ready "to shoulder every sacrifice in order to safeguard this life for the future."

"My own life has only such value as it has for the nation," he said.

"Therefore I am working relentlessly at the reestablishment and consolidation of our frontiers for the defensive and the offensive, at the production and employment of old and new weapons, at the stiffening of the spirit of our resistance, and, if necessary, just as in previous times, at the elimination of all wreckers who either do not join in the struggle for the preservation of our nation or who want to oppose it."

Hitler said he almost was sorry that Allied bombers hadn't wrecked his house at Berchtesgaden, for had such action been carried out, he could have shared this additional burden with his people.

GRANT-TO-BAKER HIGHWAY SOUGHT

Baker, Ore., Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — Under consideration of Governor Earl Snell and the state highway commission is a proposal by a delegation of Salem business men to construct a 50-mile highway from Grant county to Baker via Whitney and Sumpter according to A. S. Grant, president of the Baker county Chamber of Commerce. Grant has just returned from Salem.

DESTRUCTION OF ENEMY IN SOUTH MANILA IS TOLD

MacArthur Reports Enemy
Out of Philippines Soon
— Losses Heavy

Gen. MacArthur's headquarters, Luzon, Sunday, Feb. 25 — (U.P.) — Gen. Douglas MacArthur today announced the destruction of the trapped Japanese Manila garrison and forecast that the entire Philippines Archipelago soon would be freed from an enemy he said had been doomed by his heavy losses.

MacArthur, 22 days after his troops first entered Manila, announced that elements of Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beightler's 37th Infantry and Maj. Gen. Verne D. Mudge's First Cavalry had overwhelmed the last enemy positions in Intramuros, the ancient section of South Manila.

They "completed the destruction of the trapped garrison," he said. And 12,000 enemy bodies already had been found in Manila with "many more to come."

Some 3,000 civilians whom "the incorrigible enemy" had herded into Intramuros, including a number of Catholic priests and nuns, were freed.

MacArthur said the enemy "apparently expected to turn the tide of battle in a supreme effort." He had failed, and MacArthur's communique said:

"This operation and the tremendous and disproportionate losses in men and material sustained during the progress of our advance through Luzon, following the catastrophic defeat in Leyte, dooms General Yamashita's Philippine campaign and presages the early clearance of the entire archipelago."

Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, whose armies captured Bataan in the early days of the war, is the Japanese commander in the Philippines. His army on Luzon has been split. On Leyte, first major Philippine island to be liberated by MacArthur's men, Japanese losses were more than 112,000 men.

American troops are also levying a mounting toll of the trapped and desperate Japanese garrison of Corregidor, rocky island in the entrance of Manila bay.

POINT VALUE OF LARD, MARGARINE, COOKING OILS UP

Washington, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The office of price administration tonight increased the ration point value of lard, shortening, salad and cooking oils and margarine, effective at 12:01 a. m. Sunday.

A tight supply situation necessitated raising the margarine point value from three to five points a pound, OPA said. Likewise, lard, shortening and salad and cooking oil values had to be increased from two to four points per pound, it said.

Values for creamy butter and farm butter, OPA said, will remain unchanged at 24 and 12 red points, respectively.

Lard production fell substantially below last year's total and is now behind 1945 schedules, OPA said. Government set-asides of lard for war uses also are absorbing a large percentage of federally inspected lard.

Shortening and salad and cooking oils may be used interchangeably with lard, OPA explained, so it was necessary to increase their point values simultaneously.

WELDERS EYE PROPOSAL
Seattle, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — A proposal to return to work will be submitted to a mass meeting of the striking welders at two ship yards here at the request of Mayor William F. Devin. The welders have already rejected a proposal to return to work despite promises of no discriminations against them.

WAR BULLETINS

By United Press
A Japanese short-wave broadcast, recorded by the FCC, said Saturday that Japan will declare war on Turkey. The broadcast was in Italian beamed to the European continent.

Washington, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — Gen. Nicolae Radescu, premier of Romania, disclosed in a speech broadcast by the Bucharest radio tonight that an attempt had been made to assassinate him earlier in the day as he sat in the ministry of interior.

1944 CROP VALUE OF COUNTY FIXED AT 16 MILLIONS

Estimated value of agricultural products in Jackson county is placed at \$16,000,000, approximately three million dollars more than last year, in the annual report of County Agent Robert G. Fowler. Half of the total, came from the pear crop, and seed crops, beef cattle, grain, hay, dairy products, and poultry made up the balance the report shows. The report was filed last December with the Oregon state college extension service at Corvallis.

Receipts from turkeys were not up to expectations, due to adverse spring weather conditions, and late hatch. However, the prospects for next year are good, and the county agent figures there will be an increase in the number of birds this season. The prospective production is estimated at 100,000 fowls. The 1944 output was between 40,000 and 45,000 birds.

Deferred Men in 30-34 Group to Face Induction

Washington, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — Selective service tonight decreed induction for a considerable number of presently deferred men in the age group 30 through 33.

Heretofore industrial deferments have been granted men 30 to 34 who were "regularly engaged in" essential work.

Henceforth, selective service said in a new memorandum to local boards, such men must also be "necessarily engaged in essential activities to have a chance for deferment."

The new regulation means, selective service said, that physically fit men in the 30-33 group who do not meet the "necessity to" test will face the prospect of induction "to the extent necessary to fill the calls" of the armed forces.

It ends completely the granting of deferment to physically fit men in the age group who do not hold indispensable posts in war production or essential civilian activities.

Selective service told local boards that requirements of the armed forces for combat replacements have "sharply increased" and that the supply of physically fit men in the age group 18 through 25 is "practically exhausted." It also pointed out that the supply of men 26 through 29 is "extremely limited."

PRESIDENT SICK VATICAN CLAIMS

Rome, Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The semi-official Vatican News Service said today that it was believed in Vatican City that President Roosevelt "hurriedly returned to America due to the fact his condition of health is not too good."

MARINES CONTROL HALF IWO FIELD; 2,799 ENEMY DEAD

Sea and Air Forces Aid
Drive On Stiff Japanese
Defenses

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, Sunday, Feb. 25 — (U.P.) — Tank-led U. S. marines won control of half of Iwo's vital central airfield Saturday and expanded positions along the entire northern front, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today. The bloody struggle for the island has now taken a toll of at least 2,799 Japanese dead.

The Americans smashed into the middle area of the 5,525-foot airfield where Japanese government offices and military headquarters are located. They braved a terrible concentration of enemy gunfire from the most elaborate and difficult enemy defense system yet encountered in the Pacific.

Covered by a gigantic land, air and sea bombardment, dauntless fighting men of the 3rd, 4th and 5th divisions hurled their weight at the complicated maze of Japanese pillboxes and fortifications and broke through despite intense enemy fire.

Heavy weapons and rocket fire raked the advancing marines, Nimitz reported. But the American troops swept 300 to 500 yards northward through the interlocking concrete pillboxes, blockhouses and fortified caves manned by fanatical Japanese.

Troops on Mt. Suribachi were mopping up enemy remnants in the southern sector of the beachhead while the northern forces opened their all-out assault.

Supplies continued to pour ashore to support the new offensive and Japanese artillery fire already has begun to decrease as a result of the U. S. gains—the largest single day's gain of the bloody campaign.

All areas crossed were heavily mined by the Japanese.

By 6 p. m. Saturday, the Americans had reached the middle area of the central airfield, had pushed forward several hundred yards on the west and had begun a drive which expanded the beachhead northward along the east coast about 600 yards.

WEALTHY COUPLE DISAPPEAR FROM PORTLAND HOTEL

Portland, Ore., Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The mysterious disappearance of a couple registered at a Portland hotel as Dr. and Mrs. D. B. Gates was investigated tonight by police.

Chester Patterson, a taxi cab driver, reported that he had been instructed to pick up the couple every evening at ten o'clock.

Dr. Gates told Patterson that he had only a short while to live and he was out to enjoy himself.

The taxicab driver, who said Dr. Gates told him he had \$35,000 on his person, said he had promised to notify authorities if Dr. Gates and his wife did not show up as scheduled.

The two have not been seen since February 18, Patterson said in his report to police. A check disclosed that they had not checked out of their hotel and their luggage was still there.

California Estate Waits Nazis Fall

San Luis Obispo, Cal., Feb. 24 — (U.P.) — The distribution of a \$450,000 estate to 17 German relatives of a wealthy, Prussian-born rancher who died in Fresno, February 2, today awaits the fall of the Nazis—and the subsequent finding of the relatives in the war-torn country.