

Low 28
PRECIPITATION
24 hours to 8 a. m. Trace
Season to date 2.97
Normal precipitation 3.38
Last year to date 2.21



COLD

SUNRISE TABLE HUNTERS!
 Saturday, December 13 7:21
 Sunrise
 Duck hunting to 4 p. m.

WAKE, MIDWAY STILL HOLD OUT JAP WARSHIPS ESCAPE BATTLE

Russians Smash Through German Moscow Pincers

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
OUT of the fog of the past few days, some conclusions are beginning to emerge. They are guesses, of course, but they seem reasonable ones.

SUNDAY'S sudden attack on Pearl Harbor was a hit-and-run exploit — daring, skillfully carried out and unbelievably successful, but not followed up. Its purpose was primarily to cripple the Pacific fleet and secondarily to strike terror and confusion.

The Philippines, Singapore and the Dutch East Indies are the real objective. There the Japs are attacking PERSISTENTLY and apparently in force.

IN the fighting so far, AIR POWER is the weapon that has produced results.

The British have lost two battleships — and with customary British realism have admitted the loss. We have lost an undetermined number of warships and the Japanese an as yet undetermined number.

IN EVERY case, so far as the dispatches reveal, the loss has been inflicted by air power.

THE British battleships were sunk by torpedoes launched from planes. This was revealed first by Churchill and later, in fuller detail, by a London Express and INS correspondent who was aboard the Repulse and witnessed the battle.

ANOTHER definite conclusion: The Japs are tough and skillful fighters.

Admiral Hart, commander of the U. S. Asiatic fleet (operating in the Philippines) says: "The technique and efficiency of the Japanese are of a very HIGH order."

Their bombing marksmanship has been repeatedly praised by American fighters quoted in dispatches during the week.

ALL our propaganda, up to the beginning of the fighting, was to the effect that the Japs were poor little weak sisters, not very good fliers, not very good marksmen and not very smart.

We'd better forget that notion. Underestimating your enemy is a dangerous practice.

AND a word here of personal opinion: The Japs got in the first good lick. But it is seldom that a good little man, even when he gets in the first good lick, finishes off a good big man.

As time goes on, weight will tell against Japan.

THROUGHOUT this hectic week, we've concentrated on our own affairs, forgetting the WORLD situation. That is natural enough.

But it can't continue. This is a world war. Its strategy is on a world-wide scale. Our fate is bound up with the fate of our allies.

Our fight with Japan is merely one phase of the struggle.

20 Divisions Crushed Or Wiped Out in Drive, Report

MOSCOW, Dec. 12 (AP)—Russia claimed a sweeping victory tonight on the winterbound Moscow front with 85,000 Germans killed, 20 divisions smashed, put to flight or surrounded and strategic positions recovered on both the northern and southern flanks of the German line of siege.

(The reports indicated a success even more spectacular than the recent rout of the Germans on the southern front at Rostov and if the advantage can be clinched probably a definite lifting of the threat to the Russian capital.)

Victory was proclaimed in two communiques issued by the soviet information bureau and broadcast by the Moscow radio. Thirty thousand Germans were said to have fallen in recent actions with 85,000 the total for operations between November 17 to December 6.

In those 22 days the Russian land forces alone were said to have captured or destroyed 1434 tanks, 5416 trucks, 875 field pieces, 339 trench mortars and 870 machine guns.

Stalinogorsk and Venev, on the southern flank of the capital—actually to Moscow's south-east—were reported recaptured (Continued on Page Two)

Nine Killed in Blast at New Shell Plant

BURLINGTON, Ia., Dec. 12 (AP)—A heavy explosion rocked the Iowa ordnance plant here today, destroying a shell-loading unit and killing nine workmen, with injury to at least 20 more.

Commanding Officer Lieut. Col. Keith F. Adamson announced the toll more than two hours after the blast and stated that a military board of inquiry was flying to Burlington from Washington tonight.

The entire area was isolated to the civilian public.

The first identified dead was Pearly J. Pettit of Lansing, Ia., who died after being taken to a Burlington hospital.

Nineteen other victims were in two Burlington hospitals in addition to an unknown number in the plant hospital.

Especially has there been an excellent spirit shown since the early days of the week where the blackout is involved. Klamath Falls people consider it smart in more ways than one to show not only interest but cooperation in the requests made by the committees whose work it is to see that blackout orders are carried out to the nth degree.

Blue cellophane coverings on railroad engines' headlights, on the headlights of trucks which operate at night, as well as on



Picture shows plywood blackout panels being fitted to the windows of the editorial offices of The Herald and News. Windows in a number of buildings about town were fitted in this manner Friday, including some of the courthouse offices.

BRITISH DESTROY LIBYA REGIMENT

ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 12 (AP)—Sweeping within point-blank range, a British cruiser heavily shelled in the Libyan coast in a daring surprise attack today and safely emerged from one of the biggest dive-bombing assaults since Crete. Axis shipping and harbor installations were reported heavily damaged.

The cruiser was reported screened with destroyers and fired hundreds of 5.25-inch shells in the first daylight bombardment of the Libyan coast since the current British offensive began.

It stirred up a "hornet's nest" of enemy bombers which tried for hours to sink her, officials said.

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 12 (AP)—British troops have destroyed the German 361st Africa regiment (Continued on Page Two)

Warship Shells Axis Port of Derna in Daylight Raid

By LARRY ALLEN
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Panels, Cellophane in Demand As Klamath Folk Help Out in Defense

By LOIS STEWART
Men and women of Klamath county are "going to town" to back the federal government in any manner possible and solidarity in defense work is the keynote of the week as far as cooperation is concerned, a check of various agencies disclosed.

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One Way to Black Out



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Business Boom Expected for Saturday Here

Booming business is anticipated in Klamath Falls Saturday, after a mid-week slump attributed by local business men to the US entrance into war.

Saturday will be the day that Christmas shopping starts in earnest, as shoppers hurry to beat the annual rush, and records are expected to top those of previous years. This Christmas promises to be a "big" one, as citizens adjust themselves to the war situation and resume normal buying. Purchase of more expensive gifts and more practical articles is indicated this year, as defense regulations point to curtailed production for consumer use next year. Better clothes, better furniture, better household appliances, more stockings are on most shopping lists.

The business slump, which hit hardest on Tuesday and Wednesday, closely paralleled the slump that occurred here in 1938 after the terms of the Munich "peace" were announced.

Klamath Falls citizens had apparently adjusted themselves to a state of total war by Thursday, and normal buying was resumed with a spurt that is expected to gain momentum steadily through the holidays.

DECLARATION ASKED

HAVANA, Dec. 12 (AP)—President Fulgencio Batista asked Cuba's congress for an immediate declaration of war on Germany and Italy today and called it an extraordinary session at 7 p. m. Cuba already is the United States' ally against Japan.

Red Cross Lists Places to Take Contributions

Contributions to Klamath Falls' voluntary Red Cross drive for war funds will be received at the following places:

- Red Cross Headquarters, First National Bank, U. S. National Bank, First Federal Savings and Loan Association.
- Radio Station KEJJI Herald and News.

FLIGHT MADE UNDER COVER OF DARKNESS

Jap Planes Continue Heavy Damage on Island Targets

MANILA, Dec. 12 (AP)—Japanese warships fled from American surface ships in the first encounter of the two fleets since the war began and darkness prevented the Americans from reporting the action, it was reported today as Japan hurled fresh land and air attacks on the Philippines.

Admiral Thomas C. Hart, commander-in-chief of the U. S. Asiatic fleet, said ships from his command have had only one encounter with the Japanese warships but that ended without result. The size of the fleets involved was not stated.

However, he acknowledged that the Japanese air force had scored heavily in the "successful" raid Wednesday on the Cavite naval yard off Manila and that the raid caused a "considerable loss of life."

He said a single direct bomb hit smashed a navy dispensary in Cavite, killing all nurses, doctors and patients in the building. Their number is not yet known.

Admiral Hart said the Japanese had not been bombing hospitals, but that the dispensary was in the midst of a legitimate military objective.

Small Force Lands
At the same time, the far eastern army command announced that Japanese planes had raided widespread sections of the Philippines and an army spokesman said a small Japanese force apparently had landed at Legaspi, 250 miles southeast of Manila.

The Japanese attacked Olongapo, 50 miles west of Manila, one of the most important naval installations in the Philippines; the province of Batangas, and Clark field, 40 miles north of Manila. The spokesman also declared that the Japanese had improved (Continued on Page Two)

No Casualty Lists to Be Given Out

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—President Roosevelt told his press conference today that newspapers and the radio should refrain from using war casualty lists in full, that is, complications of names of those dead or wounded.

Mr. Roosevelt said that relatives will be notified of casualties as soon as possible but that he felt it best to keep accumulations of casualties out of print because it was possible for the enemy to use them to gain information.

The president said he thought it might be permissible for individual newspapers to print individual stories that a person had been notified that a relative was a casualty.

Shortly after the president made these remarks at a press conference, the navy issued this statement:

"The navy department today announced that for military reasons no list of names for casualties will be released to the public. The next of kin and dependents of naval casualties are being notified and are being asked not to divulge the name of the ship or station to which the relative was attached."

While the army issued no official statement, after a conference with Secretary of War Stimson and General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service head, said the legislation would make men from 19 to 45 "responsible for service."

"That is on the assumption that a boy of 19 would be trained a year and then be full grown and more ready for service," Rayburn said. "Of course, a boy 19 would not be sent into combat service."

"This registration is necessary to get an overall picture of the manpower of the country."

Trial Blackout On Sunday Night

Klamath Falls and its suburbs will have their first practice blackout Sunday sometime between 8 and 10 p. m.

The defense coordinator's office made this announcement Friday afternoon, asking that the people of the community be prepared for complete extinguishment of lights at a given signal at some time in the two-hour period.

The signal will be a series of two short blasts on mill and railroad whistles. The public should follow the instructions given in the "official blackout bulletin" which appears elsewhere in this paper and has been published through several editions.

The blackout will probably last 20 minutes. One long blast will be the all-clear signal.

The public was asked by L. Orth Sisemore, in charge of air raid precautions for the defense council, to spend Sunday evening in a normal manner but to follow the routine precautions of turning out all lights when leaving home and to be ready for complete cooperation when the blackout signal comes.

Spotters to Work
"We do not require people to turn out lights in a room which is light-tight," said Sisemore. "But it is essential that every light visible from the outside be extinguished and DO NOT LEAVE ANY LIGHTS ON WHEN YOU LEAVE HOME."

Spotters will be located on surrounding hills to observe the effectiveness of the blackout. Air raid wardens will cover each of 36 districts in town, and additional districts in the suburbs, to check up on failures to cooperate in the blackout.

The local radio station will broadcast instructions during the blackout period and radios should be left on.

Wardens Named
All wardens were appointed Friday and assigned to their districts. Each warden is selecting needed assistants, and high school boys will serve as messengers between the wardens and the air raid precautions headquarters.

While this practice blackout is intended for the city and suburbs, Merrill plans to blackout in coordination with the effort here. Later, a county-wide blackout will be attempted.

People of the community were again urged to read the blackout bulletin on page 2 carefully, and to obey its instructions implicitly. Motorists, in particular, were warned to avoid infractions of the rules.

Additional information will be printed in this newspaper Saturday and Sunday morning.

Army Cantonment For Medford Area Reported Approved

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 12 (AP)—Lieut.-Colonel Harold D. Stetson, ninth corps area, assistant constructing quartermaster, announced today he had received approval from Washington for construction of three major cantonments in the west.

Preliminary plans and engineering specifications for the camps — at Marysville, Calif., and Medford and Corvallis, Ore. — already had been drawn up.

Each cantonment will house 33,000 soldiers.

Colonel Stetson made the announcement to a convention of contractors.

House Gets Bill to Register All Men Between Ages 18-64

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—A war department bill to extend the draft registration to men from 18 through 64 and to make men from 19 through 44 subject to military training was introduced in the house today and sponsors said it would be approved quickly.

Chairman McKay (D-Ky.) announced that the house military committee would start hearings tomorrow and predicted that the members would send it on to the house in a few hours.

LOSS OF GUAM NOT CONFIRMED BY NAVY NOTE

Luzon Still Heavily Attacked, Says Communique

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The navy department announced late today that United States forces at Wake and Midway islands in the Pacific were continuing to resist Japanese invasion attempts and it added there was no confirmation of any occupation of Guam by the Japanese.

At the same time, in its fourth communique on the war, the navy indicated continuation of heavy Japanese attacks on Luzon, principal island in the Philippine group.

Naval and army forces operating by land, sea and air are coordinating their resistance to the attacks, the navy declared.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—President Roosevelt confidently predicted a victory over the axis in a cable to King George VI of Great Britain today and reported that the United States still held Wake Island against Japanese attacks.

In the meantime, the American Federation of Labor announced that it had "been informed by navy authorities that more than a thousand members of building trades union have been captured and taken prisoner by the Japanese on Midway and Guam islands."

Shortly after the AFL announcement the Postal Telegraph cable department at San Francisco reported that it was working Midway island without interruption "right now" which indicated the island was still in American hands.

French Boats Seized By U. S. Coast Guards

NEW YORK, Dec. 12 (AP)—The \$60,000,000 French liner Normandy, tied up here since the beginning of the war, was seized today by the coast guard.

The coast guard boarded the liner at her Hudson river pier last May 15 and placed guards aboard to prevent sabotage.

There have been frequent rumors that the American government would seize her for conversion into an aircraft carrier.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The state department announced today that the crews on all French vessels in American ports would be removed from the boats today.

An official statement said: "As a measure of necessary protection to the crews and vessels, arrangements have been made to remove today the French crews on all French vessels now in United States ports. This action does not preclude the return of the crews to any vessel, the resumption of service of which may be determined."

News Index

Church News	Page 14
City Briefs	Page 5
Comics and Story	Page 12
Courthouse Records	Page 2
Editorials	Page 4
High School News	Page 6
Information	Page 5
Market, Financial	Page 10
Midland Empire News	Page 13
Pattern	Page 8
Sports	Page 11