

Blackout Signal

One 5-minute blast on sirens and whistles is the signal for a blackout in Klamath Falls. Another long blast, during a blackout, is a signal for all-clear. In precautionary periods, watch your street lights.

Klamath's Quota
\$10,000
Received to Date
\$3282.35
Needed
\$4717.65



BRITISH FALL BACK IN MALAYA

Swampy Jungles Dot Malay War Zone



Advancing through the swampy jungles of Malaya, wary troops of the British 9th Gurkhas, pictured on maneuvers, now battle Japanese invaders of the peninsula. Temperatures as high as 130 degrees have been reported here since the war began.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE news from the south Pacific today is nearly all bad. MacArthur's little army on the Batan peninsula and at Corregidor island is being repeatedly pounded and machine-gunned by a virtually unchallenged Jap air force.

The Japs, driving down the east side of the Malay peninsula, claim to have taken Kuala Lumpur, less than 200 miles from Singapore. The British say they are holding 60 miles north of there.

The Japs have taken the British airport at Kuantan, 100 miles from Singapore. That is only a few minutes by air.

THE assault on Singapore down the Malay peninsula is led by the Japanese fifth division, veterans of the China war, supported by swarms of Jap fighters, bombers and dive bombers. Today's dispatches say: "Once again—as in France, Greece and Crete—the British appear to have lost air superiority (in Malaya) and are being punished severely from the skies."

THE British have lost 15 airdromes in their withdrawal (in the face of superior forces) toward Singapore. Airdromes are supremely important.

In London an official spokesman reveals that a special corps of airmobile defense troops will be formed to defend airdromes against invaders of British territory to prevent repetitions of the Crete invasion.

It should have been done before, of course. But so many things should have been done before. We can't afford to spend our time now crying over milk already spilled.

Our time can be put to better use making the warplanes that are so sorely needed.

CRITICISM of Britain's lack of adequate preparation in the Far East crops up in parliament today. Major Clement R. Atlee, speaking as Churchill's deputy, tells the house of commons the fact that Britain's positions in the Pacific are less strongly garrisoned and equipped than could be wished is not due to lack of foresight.

"Rather," he says, "it is because it has been BEYOND BRITAIN'S RESOURCES to be STRONG EVERYWHERE."

He adds that at present the Japanese have the MOST POWERFUL FLEET in THE PACIFIC.

NO one as yet thinks the Japs will be able to take Singapore, one of the most strongly defended citadels in the world. But if they can ring it around with airfields and maintain command of the air they may be able to prevent its use as a base by the American-British-Dutch naval forces.

That is the real nub of the situation.

FROM everywhere the cry is the same: "Give us airplanes! Give us more airplanes! Give us STILL MORE AIRPLANES!"

Until we can provide the planes, we must be prepared for bad news.

TODAY'S good news comes from Africa, where Hitler's battered armies are starting a new retreat westward toward Tripoli, and from Russia, where the Germans are being forced back farther from Moscow and are facing the danger of losing the Crimean peninsula entirely.

INTERIOR SECRETARY ICKES tells his press conference there is no immediate prospect of gasoline rationing. Tire rationing, he says, is expected to result in 35 per cent reduction in civilian gas consumption, which ought to be sufficient to meet the situation.

He added that a 40 mile speed (Continued on Page Two)

Nazis Retreat in Libya

SOVIET TROOPS CUT NEW GAPS IN WAR FRONT

African Report Seen Big Advance for British Force

By The Associated Press

Adolf Hitler's tattered North African armies have started a new retreat on the west-bound road to Tripoli, the British announced today, and British spearheads now are operating 600 miles from the starting-point of the drive into Libya.

A bulletin from British middle east headquarters said the axis forces, which failed to give battle at Agadabia, 90 miles south of Bengasi, were falling back under cover of a blinding sandstorm.

Russians Advance

The communice said British mobile columns were in pursuit, slashing at the axis flanks and rear.

More good news came from the soviet battlefield, with Russia's armies officially reported to have advanced within 40 miles of the Vyazma-Bryansk line on which the Germans had been expected to attempt to dig-in for the winter.

Soviet dispatches said Russian troops had driven wedges more than half way through nazi defenses on the central front, ranging as deep as four and one-half miles, including a system of camouflaged dugouts heated by stoves and covered with six or seven tiers of logs.

The dispatches did not say (Continued on Page Two)

PHILIPPINE FORCES AWAITING ASSAULT

Japs Seen Preparing For Furious Stab At U. S. Lines

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (P)—The navy announced late today that additional reports from Wake island brought the total of Japanese warships lost there to seven.

The total represented an increase of two, a destroyer and a gunboat, over the originally reported cruiser, submarine and three destroyers.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (P)—The war department said today that defenders of the Philippines were bracing themselves for a "large scale general attack" by the Japanese invaders.

General Douglas MacArthur, Far East commander, personally directing the fighting men drawn together north and west of Manila bay, reported that morale and determination of the United States and Filipino troops was high and declared they will "continue their resistance with skill and courage."

Air Recess

There was fighting of "varying intensity" on all sections of the Luzon front, the war department said, but the lack of enemy bombing and aerial machine gunning recently indicated the Japanese probably were drawing up (Continued on Page Two)

Three Fliers Die As Army Plane Plunges in River

LANGLEY FIELD, Va., Jan. 8 (P)—Three army fliers were killed and four injured last night when a B-18 bombardment plane plunged into the James river near here during a snowstorm.

The dead were listed as Corporal Harold E. Decker, New Milford, Pa.; Private Dusan J. Orance, Monaca, Pa., and Private James B. Shannon, Forest, Va.

The plane, with bodies of the three men still aboard, sank after a tug had rescued four officers and crewmen. These are Major E. P. Hampton, pilot; Captain Carl R. Russell, co-pilot; Aviation Cadet Robert W. Wert, navigator, and Private William E. McKinley, all taken to a Newport News hospital with undetermined injuries.

Residents near the river said the plane circled at a low altitude as if seeking a landing site and then crashed into the water at 9:30 p. m.

Contributions Received by Red Cross in War Relief Campaign

Contributions previously acknowledged	\$5146.98
Contributions received Thursday	\$ 115.37
Total	\$5262.53
Klamath county held steadily to its \$100 a day average in the drive for Red Cross war relief funds Thursday. Quota here is \$10,000 of the \$50,000,000 nationwide total.	
National contributions average is a million dollars a day, with \$20,000,000 reported since the drive began December 12. Not only North, but South America, has rallied to the drive, with a \$235 contribution sent in by employees of a firm in Buenos Aires.	
Thursday, the following contributions were received:	
Earl W. Mack	\$ 10.00
M. Ellis Smith	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. Silas Grizzle	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Johns	1.00
Dr. and Mrs. E. D. Johnson	5.00
A Friend	1.00
Mrs. D. Cleig	1.00
Kate Flynn	1.00
John Fogarty	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. John Banks	2.00
R. L. Kent	2.50
Anna and Mabel	1.00
Buzz Cody	1.00
Su-goo-gl-hoose-kungu, Chilquian	5.00
Alford Lilly, Bonanza	1.00
Earl Webber, Bonanza	1.00
Everett Malone, Bonanza	1.00
Louie McDonald, Bonanza	1.00
Lucia Hughes, Bonanza	.50
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ware	4.00
Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Meinas	2.00
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Cork	2.00

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PRESIDENT FAVORS SINGLE PRICE HEAD

Executive Frowns on Farm Bloc Move For Control

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (P)—President Roosevelt asked the senate today to vest broad wartime price controls in a "single responsible individual."

In messages to Democratic Leader Barkley (Ky.) and Senator Brown (D-Mich.), floor manager for the pending price control measure, the chief executive said "I am somewhat disturbed by reports that a board has been suggested as a substitute for a single individual. I am also disturbed at the suggestion that control over agricultural commodities be separated from all other articles and vested in the department of agriculture."

The unusual presidential message on a pending legislative measure was seen as an administration effort to defeat two proposed amendments, one by the potent senate farm bloc, led by Senator Bankhead (D-Ala.), to give the secretary of agriculture a veto power on all farm price ceilings, and a second by Senator Taft (R-Ohio) asking that price fixing powers be placed in a board of five members.

"I strongly hope that no division of control will be made," the president wrote. "The whole price structure is linked together."

Federal Auto Tax Stickers to Be Put on Sale

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (P)—The treasury said today that the new automobile tax stickers would go on sale in postoffices and federal revenue offices throughout the country January 26.

The first sticker, which every private automobile or truck will have to carry after February 1, will cost \$2.09 and will be good until July 1, when new stickers will be sold at the annual rate of \$5 apiece. Other stickers at varying costs will be sold for all other types of motor vehicles and motor boats.

To begin with, the treasury is going to ask motorists to go to postoffices or revenue offices and buy stickers on their own initiative. A record will be kept of those who pay and compared with registration lists to find out how many people will have to be reminded of the new tax, which was enacted by congress last fall.

The first sticker will be a green revenue stamp showing a liberty bell design.

The treasury said that because these stamps have an actual value, they will be sold only for cash or money orders or certified checks. No personal checks will be accepted.

Chinese Airmen Join in Battle Hunan Area

CHUNGKING, Jan. 8 (P)—The Chinese air force, in one of its rare offensive operations, was reported authoritatively tonight to have joined in the battle of northern Hunan province, battling fiercely at Japanese troops and supplies.

A Chinese dispatch said a full squadron took part in the attack, causing extensive military damage.

A single Chinese plane was reported missing after the operations on the North Hunan front.

An army spokesman declared that Chinese forces had intercepted several thousand Japanese troops rushed south from their base at Yochow in an effort to relieve some 30,000 comrades still hemmed in after being driven from Changsha.

The reinforcements were re- (Continued on Page Two)

Fuel Shortage, Power Trouble Closes Schools

EUGENE, Jan. 8 (P)—The University of Oregon and Eugene and University high schools were still closed today because of fuel shortages and trouble with power lines. Eugene water board officials were unable to give any definite information as to when power would be restored, but they "thought service could be given by tonight."

Josef Hofmann, noted violinist, was scheduled to appear at the university in a concert last night, but the event was postponed until next April. It was believed that the northern division, Pacific Coast conference basketball opener between Oregon and Washington State college, scheduled for McArthur court Friday and Saturday nights, would be played.

The university was closed all of yesterday when all local schools, with the exception of Eugene high, were also shut down. Lack of power and fuel was the reason in all cases except Eugene high. Flooded furnace rooms caused the school to close this morning.

Italians Report Attack on Fleet

ROME, Jan. 8 (Official broadcast recorded by AP)—The Italian high command reported today that Italian fleet assault units attacked British warships in the harbor of Alexandria, Egypt, last month and seriously damaged a battleship of the valiant class.

(There was no explanation why such a daring attack by Italian naval units had gone unannounced so long.)

The Italians also declared it had been established that the British cruiser Phoebe was sunk by torpedo bombers off Tobruk. The Alexandria raid was carried out on the night of Dec. 17, the high command reported.

BANGKOK RAIDED BY BRITISH AIR FORCE

Fires Blaze in Thai Capital, Pilots Say on Return

RANGOON, Burma, Jan. 8 (P)—Flying for more than 300 miles over jungle and mountain bases in Burma, five aircraft of American volunteers operating with the British air force attacked airdromes near Bangkok today in the second raid in 24 hours on the Thailand capital and nearby airdromes.

RANGOON, Burma, Jan. 8 (P)—The RAF left huge fires blazing amid military objectives at Bangkok, capital of Japanese-occupied Thailand, in the first British counter-blow of a rising fury of air war over the storied road to Mandalay.

Flames were visible for miles as the British airmen returned from their attack, which a British announcement said was made last night and indicated was in retaliation for repeated Japanese attacks on Rangoon, capital of British Burma. All British planes were said to have returned safely.

Damage Listed

(However, a Bangkok dispatch broadcast by the Berlin radio placed the attack at 4:15 a. m., local time, Thursday—1:15 p. m. Wednesday, PST— and said two British planes crashed in residential districts.)

(The axis listed the Thailand hospital, the French church and the bank of Indo-China as damaged by bombs, and said several civilians were killed. Three fires resulted from incendiary bombs in the raid, the Bangkok dispatch said.)

Moulmein, east of Rangoon, was reported bombed Wednesday afternoon and Rangoon itself underwent another air (Continued on Page Two)

JAP PUNCTURES IN LINE FORCE DEFENSE MOVE

All-Out Offensive at Singapore Under Way, Report

By The Associated Press

British jungle fighters defending the road to Singapore were forced to execute a new withdrawal today south of the Slim river, in northwest Malaya, as Japan's invasion hordes struck down the peninsula with peak fury in a drive aimed at Kuala Lumpur.

The Slim river, a tributary of the Bernam river building Perak and Selangor provinces, is 59 miles north of Kuala Lumpur, Malaya's second city, 240 miles from Singapore.

Solid Front

British Far East headquarters said the retirement was necessary to preserve a solid front.

Tokyo dispatches broadcast by the German radio said that Japanese troops now "threaten the outer positions of Kuala Lumpur" and that Japanese tanks and artillery had crossed a river west of the town, cutting off the rear of British defense forces.

All-Out Offensive

The German radio, quoting "last-minute messages from Tokyo" said the Japanese had opened an all-out offensive aimed at Singapore, Britain's No. 1 defense stronghold in the Far East.

A British spokesman admitted that so far the British have lost 15 airdromes during retirements in Malaya.

Coinciding with the Japanese land drive southward, Japanese warplanes were reported to have violently attacked military objectives in Dutch Sumatra, across the narrow Malacca strait from Singapore, and raided the big Dutch East Indies naval base at Amboina for the second time in two days.

Britain Looks to Stronger Guard On Airdromes

By The Associated Press

LONDON, Jan. 8—Britain is creating a special defense corps for protection of her airdromes from "vertical envelopment" by air-borne troops such as won Crete for Germany and the troops will be commanded by Major General O. F. Liardet, it was announced today.

The corps will be under the control of the air council and will operate under the RAF. Liardet, 61, has been in command of London's territorial, British version of the American national guard, since 1938.

He entered the artillery 43 years ago and in the world war earned the distinguished service order and was five times cited in dispatches.

Lord Moyne, British colonial secretary, said that while the army's responsibility for the ground defense as a whole would be maintained the RAF "under military direction and as the agent for the army" would undertake the entire local defense arrangements for airdromes.

Cigarette Prices Rise Here When New Tax Added

Popular-priced cigarettes went up two to three cents per package Thursday and the normal daily demand slumped noticeably in Klamath Falls.

A survey revealed that most retail dealers were asking 17 cents for heretofore 15-cent brands. Some hotels, however, were getting 18 cents.

One chain grocery house, whose price was formerly 13 cents per package and 25 cents for two packages, boosted its scale to 15 cents per pack and two packs for 29 cents. Ten-cent cigarettes were raised to 12 cents. So-called "cut-rate" drug stores also adhered to this scale.

The single city cigarette vending machine firm was unavailable for a statement but it was said that the new machines were equipped to furnish change with each pack. In older machines, the change was inserted underneath the cellophane wrapping.

Price data was unavailable. Many Klamath Falls smokers had stocked up heavily earlier in the week before the two-cent tax went into effect, accounting for the slump in demand Thursday.

The 18-cent price was attributed to a slightly increased cost of cigarettes to the retailer coupled with recent boosts in the price of give-away matches. Jobbers said a small adjustment was necessary in their prices to cover increased overhead in the form of stamping and bookkeeping.

Storms in Store For Portland Area

PORTLAND, Jan. 8 (P)—The weather bureau here, with permission of the second interceptor command, announced that more sleet and sub-freezing weather were in store for the Portland area tonight. An earlier forecast had been for light rains.

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