

### 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.

# Herald and News

ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN THE SHASTA-CASCADE WONDERLAND

NEA FEATURES

### Weather News

June 4. High 78, Low 59  
Precipitation as of May 29, 1942  
Last year ..... 12.25  
Normal ..... 10.98  
Stream year to date ..... 13.08

PR 3111 283002  
48003

CLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1942

Number 9506

# SEA BATTLE RAGES OFF MIDWAY

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FOR Americans, interest centers today on Midway island, where an important naval battle appears to be in progress.

Washington "sources" (meaning people who know but can't be quoted by name) say it looks like one of the greatest naval battles of the Pacific.

THE battle started on Thursday, with a Jap attack at dawn, which was beaten off with heavy losses inflicted on the attackers. Fragmentary reports tell of damage to a Jap battleship, an aircraft carrier and possibly other warships, as well as a heavy toll of planes.

Today's dispatches say: "The flaming sea battle is believed to be progressing long after the original attack on Midway was beaten off, with both sides maneuvering for advantage in what may be a crucial fight to determine Japan's ability to strike at such vital points as Hawaii, the Panama canal and the American Pacific coast."

THAT is to say, if the Japs WIN, seriously damaging our naval forces in the Pacific, they will be in a position to carry the war first to our outer ring of defenses and then to our homeland itself.

The Jap naval force involved includes battleships, heavy cruisers and aircraft carriers. This is the first time Japanese battleships have been reported east of their home waters.

So large a force so far from home (Midway is more than 2000 miles this side of Yokohama) suggests that the Japs mean business.

THE scope of the Jap plans is hinted at by their attack on Dutch Harbor, which is nearly 2000 miles from Midway. Unless that was merely a foray by a few planes, they are proceeding on a wide front.

SEATTLE, today's dispatches tell us, is stripped for action. Its state of mind may be guessed from this statement by Stephen F. Chadwick, former national commander of the American Legion, and now morale chairman for the Seattle civilian war commission:

"Morale is high, but rumor-mongering is continuing following the attack on Dutch Harbor and radio silences. More rumors are circulating this week than at any time since the war began. Each civilian must recognize that we are in a total war and must conduct himself accordingly."

THAT is true. The time is past when war was confined to the fighting services. Morale behind the lines is now as important as morale in the fighting lines themselves.

This fact, however, can't be overlooked:

Americans have been accustomed to ALL the news. They are not ignorant. They are not children. They have stamina, as long as they know what is going on, they can be trusted to keep their heads and follow leadership intelligently. The confusion and the sense of futility that follow the shutting off of news contribute to rumor-mongering, and will rumors spreading from mouth to mouth don't strengthen morale.

The public should be given every bit of news that is possible without tipping the enemy off to vital war secrets such as the disposal of forces. Too rigid censorship, by undermining civilian morale and promoting the spread of unfounded rumors, can work FOR the enemy as well as against him.

ON other fronts than the Pacific, the news is relatively quiet.

Rommel is reported to be moving STRONG reinforcements into the tank battle in Libya. How strong his reinforcements may be is the point of chief interest. Germany has been moving heaven and earth to reinforce (Continued on Page Two)

## 57 Missing in Blast

### BIG ORDNANCE PLANT SCENE OF EXPLOSION

#### Victims' Bodies Blown To Bits in Tragedy At Joliet

JOLIET, Ill., June 5 (AP)—Fifty-seven persons were killed or missing today in a terrific explosion which destroyed one building of the huge Elwood ordnance plant south of here. The casualties appeared to have been greater than in any other munitions plant accident.

Capt. David P. Tunstall, army public relations officer, said there were 21 known dead, of whom four were identified, and 36 missing. In addition 60 persons were injured.

Blown to Bits  
Many of the victims were blown to bits and authorities attempted the tragically slow process of identification by fingerprints.

Coroner E. A. Kingston of Will county said parts of 24 bodies were in an undertaking establishment in Joliet, with more bodies at the ordnance plant grounds in southern Will county.

The army said 61 persons were treated for injuries at the post hospital. Of these, 30 were soon discharged. Many of the injured had been working on ramps outside the shipping (Continued on Page Two)

### House Refuses Funds to Keep CCC in Operation

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—Supporting a recommendation from its appropriations committee, the house refused today to vote funds to keep the depression-born Civilian Conservation Corps going on a reduced basis during the war.

By teller vote of 158 to 121 the house rejected an amendment by Representative Tarver (D-Ga.) to add a \$75,818,000 allotment for the CCC to the \$1,058,451,660 supply bill for the labor department, social security board, and kindred federal agencies.

Tarver, fighting for continuation of the CCC, told the house an executive order to consolidate it with the national youth administration is in the offing.

## Tank Parade Followed by Heavy Sale of War Bonds

A 13-ton tank, from whose turret tumbled a young Johnny Sheffield waved to hundreds of bystanders, was the high point in the war savings parade which proceeded down flag decorated Main street at 1:30 o'clock Friday afternoon.

Immediately after the parade the tank returned to the intersection of South Sixth and Main streets and a program was presented which ended in the sale of \$8000 worth of bonds purchased by men, women and children.

Mayor John Houston led the program which included singing of "Any Bonds Today?" by five other well known men, all of whom purchased \$100 bonds when the audience advised them their money would work better than their voices. They were Lowell Stockman of Pendleton, Kenneth A. Moore, W. J. Dinsmore, Vern Owens, Paul Landry and Houston.

Star Speaks  
Johnny Sheffield, 11-year-old MGM star, loaned by his studio on a west coast tour to up the sales of war stamps and bonds, left the turret of the tank and spoke over the microphone to a cheering crowd. Johnny is the hero of "Tarzan Jr." movies. His mother, Mrs. Sheffield, was also in the crowd. She is the guest of Mrs. Rose Poole.

### Old Cologne Is "Forever Lost" Say Germans

BERN, Switzerland, June 5 (AP)—The first Cologne newspaper since the monster RAF raid of last Saturday night reached neutral territory today, carrying the somber statement that the historic Rhineland city, as its people have known it, is "forever lost."

The Koelnische Zeitung, resuming publication on Wednesday of this week, described Cologne as "still smoking ruins," with some fires still alight and "whole quarters of the town empty."

(A German dispatch quoted by the Stockholm newspaper Dagens Nyheter said all the property of 10,000 persons had been destroyed; that the central district of the city was ruined and that the damage had reached deep into the suburbs.)

Said the Koelnische Zeitung: "The entire aspect of the city (Continued on Page Two)

### ACCIDENT COST TO DEFENSE STAGGERS

#### Time Cost of Illness Would Build 3000 Bombers, Claim

Twenty-eight million man-days of working time were lost throughout the nation in one year due to temporary disabilities resulting from accidents, Otto Hartwig, state chairman of the national committee for the conservation of manpower in war industries, told the convening lumber section of the Western Safety conference in the Elk hotel this noon.

The loss, added to an average of 24,000,000 man-days lost each month due to preventable sickness, takes a terrific toll in America's war production capacity, he said. The time lost from preventable sickness alone, Hartwig asserted, if prevented would be sufficient to build over 3000 bombers or 15 heavy cruisers or 24,000 light tanks each month.

Hartwig, whose address highlighted today's luncheon meeting, urged a superhuman effort on the part of the lumber industry to stop the drain on manpower that preventable accidents and sickness works each day. The industry, he said, is asked to produce more than ever (Continued on Page Two)

### DESERT FRAY DRAWS FRESH AXIS TROOPS

#### British Smash German Assault on Bir El Hacheim

By The Associated Press  
Marshal Erwin Rommel was reported moving strong axis reinforcements into the bloody 11-day-old battle of North Africa today as the British announced they had smashed an axis tank assault on Bir El Hacheim for the second time in two days.

Bir El Hacheim, a desert water hole, is the southern anchor of a 50-mile British defense line stretched across the hot sands to the Mediterranean sea.

British headquarters said British and Indian troops struck from the rear to relieve the Free French and Indian garrison at Bir El Hacheim after the defenders had twice rejected German demands that they surrender the key stronghold.

Dive Bombers Busy  
Front-line dispatches said Rommel was speeding fresh troops and tanks into the battle sector around Tobruk in an attempt to relieve pressure on a 9-mile corridor which axis forces had driven into the British main defense line.

British mechanized forces were reported slashing at axis tanks holding the breach, while German dive bombers pounded furiously at British positions blocking Rommel's advance toward Egypt.

A Rome communique said German and Italian planes shot down 26 RAF aircraft in bitter dogfights over the Libyan desert battlefield yesterday, and declared counter-attacking axis (Continued on Page Two)

### Baseball

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

First game:	R.	H.	E.
Boston	2	7	1
Cincinnati	3	6	2
Javery and Lombardi; Vandermeyer and Hemsley.			
(First game)	R.	H.	E.
Brooklyn	6	8	1
Chicago	3	8	1
Wyatt, Casey (8) and Owen; Olsen, Bithorn (6), Erickson (7) and McCullough.			

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

	R.	H.	E.
Chicago	2	8	1
Boston	4	11	3
Humphries and Tresh; Terry, Brown (9) and Conroy.			
	R.	H.	E.
Cleveland	0	7	1
New York	6	11	2
Smith, Gromek (3), Embree (8), and Hegan; Gomez, Brewer (5), and Rosar.			

### German Battleship Reported Hit

LONDON, June 5 (AP)—The German battleship Tirpitz and the German heavy cruiser Admiral Hipper received "several direct hits" during the last RAF bombing raid on the Trondheim area, Norwegian sources reported here today, quoting advices from Trondheim.

One of the ships, not specified, developed a definite list, these sources said.

The Norwegians said the RAF raids April 29-30 also scored hits on airfields at Vaernes and Oerlandet. The Germans blocked off the Oerlandet field, but it was learned the barracks were hit and 17 Germans killed at Vaernes.

### Attractive Suburban Home Fire Victim



This picture shows the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex Tilton, 2506 Homedale road, as it went up in flames and smoke Thursday evening. The picture was taken by Mrs. L. Lambert, 5441 South Sixth street.

### 1500 LOCAL WORKERS RECEIVE PAY BOOST

#### War Labor Unit Grant Announced by PIRC And CIO Here

Lumber workers represented by the Klamath basin district council of the CIO International Woodworkers of America today were granted a 7 1/2 cent per hour pay increase by the war labor board, a joint announcement by the IWA and the Pine Industrial Relations committee revealed.

The pay boost is retroactive to April 1, 1942. It will affect approximately 1500 workers in the immediate Klamath vicinity and 4675 Klamath district council members in all, it was estimated.

The announcement said that hours of labor and vacation issues were still in the hands of the WLB and that decisions on both would follow.

The board decision was made one case No. 90, affecting CIO workers in the fir belt area north of Portland. The PIRC (Continued on Page Two)

### Boy, 7, Injured When Hit by Car On Highway West

Floyd Shepler, 7-year-old son of Charles S. Shepler of the Keno highway, is in Klamath Valley hospital suffering from serious injuries received when he was struck by a car two miles west of Klamath Falls about 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

The boy, a second grader at Riverside school, was walking toward home from Klamath Falls when he apparently started to cross the highway directly in the path of an oncoming car operated by a Sacramento, Calif., resident.

Floyd suffered a fractured right arm, a fractured left leg, severe head injuries and body bruises. His condition was said to be good by hospital attendants late Friday.

State police investigated the accident and released the operator of the car who left Friday to continue his way south. Officers said the boy was thrown 10 or 15 feet. The car stopped immediately and flagged a passing motorist who took the boy to Klamath Valley hospital.

### Fire Destroys Tilton Home on Homedale Road

The story and a half home of Mr. and Mrs. Alex D. Tilton, 2506 Homedale road, burned to the ground about 6:15 o'clock Thursday evening and despite the help of neighbors little was saved but downstairs furnishings.

Mrs. Tilton was alone at the time the fire was discovered blazing in the garage which adjoins the house. Even the garden hose, hanging on the wall, was burning and by the time another hose was brought to the scene, the flames were out of control and had reached the upper part of the house.

Friends carried furniture from the downstairs rooms. The electric range, the piano and refrigerator were among the articles saved. The Tiltons have five young children, three of whom were down town with their father, and two absent from home. Tilton is employed as sawyer with Ewauna Box company. The family purchased (Continued on Page Two)

### Committee Sets Soldier's Pay At \$46 a Month

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—A senate-house conference committee today compromised and agreed upon a basic minimum pay of \$46 a month for men in the armed services.

The \$46 would apply to buck privates and apprentice seamen and corresponding ratings in the marines and coast guard.

For the first class privates the conferees agreed on \$52 compared with \$48 voted by the senate and \$54 approved by the house.

The pay increase would be retroactive to June 1.

### 14 ARMY FLIERS PERISH IN CRASH

#### Heavy Bomber Goes Up in Flames Near San Rafael

SAN RAFAEL, Calif., June 5 (AP)—Fourteen army fliers died in the crash of a heavy bomber near here last night, the army said today.

Flames consumed the wreckage when the plane hit a hilltop as the pilot circled for an emergency landing.

The plane developed trouble soon after a takeoff and radioed nearby Hamilton field to clear a runway. The pilot circled toward the field.

The big ship lost altitude and then dove into a hillside on the Herzog ranch, three miles northwest of Hamilton field.

None Escaped  
As it crashed great flames swept through the wreckage. Not a man escaped.

The plane burned for about an hour, lighting up the countryside.

Flames did not spread to the surrounding farm area.

The heavily loaded plane had been in the air only a few moments before trouble developed.

It appeared to some that the pilot intentionally sought an emergency landing area nearby, rather than risk crashing on Hamilton field and setting fire to hangars and other buildings.

Last night's crash was the worst, in point of lives lost, in military flying in California.

Fourteen navy fliers were killed near Livermore on April 12 as two big Amphibian patrol bombers crashed in quick succession.

Expect Nazi Drive  
In short, the Nazi fuhrer is about to strike, and his allies and henchmen are coming into action.

Any day now we may expect him to launch against the Muscovites that much advertised "spring" offensive which has been so long delayed that summer already is edging onto the southern Russian steppes. We are on the verge of the conflict which bids fair to be the greatest and bloodiest of history, for (Continued on Page Two)

## HEAVY LOSSES REPORTED FOR JAP FORCES

### Two Jap Subs Sunk on Australian Route, MacArthur Says

By ROGER D. GREENE  
Associated Press War Editor

American battle forces were reported slashing anew at a powerful Japanese naval squadron off Midway island in the Pacific today after beating off a dawn attack yesterday by battleships, aircraft carriers and cruisers with heavy losses for the enemy.

Washington sources said American and Japanese fleet units apparently were engaged in one of the greatest battles of the Pacific.

The flaming sea battle was believed to be progressing long after the original attack on Midway was beaten off, with both sides maneuvering for advantage in what may be a crucial fight to determine Japan's ability to strike at such vital points as Hawaii, the Panama canal and the American Pacific coast.

"Our attacks on the enemy are continuing," said a bulletin from the headquarters of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet.

Poison Gas in China  
Meanwhile, President Roosevelt declared authoritative reports had been received that Japan was using poison gas in the war with China and promised that the United States would retaliate "in kind and in full measure" if Japan persisted in this form of "inhuman warfare."

Mr. Roosevelt read a statement making it "unmistakably clear" that the United States would consider the use of poison gas against China or any other united nation as an action against the United States.

"Upon Japan will rest the responsibility," the statement said.

Chinese dispatches have repeatedly charged that the Japanese were resorting to gas warfare.

Midway Attack  
The Japanese naval attack on Midway island struck at 6:35 a. m. yesterday.

Only minor damage and no (Continued on Page Two)

### Atlantic Shipping Losses Mount

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—The navy announced today that a small British merchant ship had been shelled and sunk by enemy submarine action in the Atlantic and survivors had been landed at two east coast ports.

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP)—A Norwegian medium-sized merchant ship has been torpedoed and shelled by an enemy submarine in the Atlantic and a Dutch medium-sized ship has been torpedoed, the navy announced today, adding that survivors of both vessels were landed at an east coast port.

Two more United Nations ships have been torpedoed in the Atlantic, the navy disclosed today, bringing the announced losses there in two days to six merchant vessels and a navy patrol boat.

As the navy reported yesterday the recent loss of the patrol boat and four merchantmen in the Atlantic and one merchantman in the far Pacific, Chairman Ellender (D-La.) of the senate naval affairs subcommittee said in Washington that naval officers might be called in a public hearing.

We are not entirely satisfied that everything possible is being done to halt these sinkings," Ellender declared, "we are going into the whole matter in public."

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