

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

PRICE FIVE CENTS

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1942

Number 9655

Weather News

November 28—High 41, Low 30
Precipitation as of November 20, 1942
Stream year to date 3.30
Last year 2.24 Normal 2.11
Nov. 28—Sunrise 8:08 Sunset 5:12

FRENCH SCUTTLE FLEET AT TOULON

Allies Near Tunis

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

WELL, it finally happened. The Germans tried to seize the French fleet, and the French scuttled it.

THERE is probably no one in the world who hasn't expected the Germans to attempt the seizure of the fleet and there are few on our side who haven't HOPED the French would destroy it rather than give it up.

FOLLOWING the destruction of the fleet came the inevitable tragedy of treason.

Laval (wash your mouth after pronouncing the name) summons the "French" cabinet into session, deprives Darlan and Giraud of their French nationality and then reads the Hitler letter to Petain announcing the German march into Toulon.

Thus perishes present-day France—a great nation wrecked by termite politicians.

MANY questions occur. We can only GUESS at the answers.

WHY didn't the fleet, when the hour of decision struck, sail out of Toulon and join the allies in Africa—instead of committing suicide?

Today's dispatches provide the answer.

German planes had sowed the narrow harbor entrance thickly with MINES.

A MORE difficult question:

Why didn't the French fleet join our side when the African invasion began?

The probable answer is that the fleet was France's ONLY trading stock and was saved up in the hope of forcing some kind of last-minute concession from Hitler.

THERE are so many ifs.

If the French had retired to Africa when the British retired from Dunkerque and had carried on the war from there, Hitler might be whipped by now.

But let's not waste time crying over ifs.

It's better to have the French fleet on the bottom of Toulon harbor, with its arsenal, its munitions dumps, its oil tanks and its protecting coastal batteries destroyed by French hands at the last minute, than IN THE HANDS OF THE GERMANS.

LET'S hold this in memory:

When the final, fatal hour came, Frenchmen DIED holding back the Germans to give other Frenchmen time BEFORE THEY DIED to destroy the great fleet of 62 ships to prevent it from falling into German hands.

In that last heroic gesture shines the soul of France.

The politicians couldn't kill France's SOUL.

THE dispatches today note that this is the second time in 18 days Hitler has violated his pledged word to the defenseless French—first tearing up the 1940 armistice and then seizing Toulon.

Don't spend too much time weeping over that.

Who expects a gangster to keep his word?

Who expects a skunk not to be a skunk?

KEEP this in mind:

Scarcely a week—hardly a day, for that matter—passes without its quota of significant developments. Great events fairly trip on each other's heels.

The war is approaching its crisis.

When the END will come no one can say. But the crisis must come before the end.

Guadalcanal Forces Mop Up On Jap Patrols

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17 (AP)—The navy announced today that army and marine corps troops on Guadalcanal island spent Thanksgiving day in "mopping up isolated enemy patrols" while the Japanese made an early-morning attack with two bombers but caused no damage.

The bombers, a communique said, dropped bombs on United States positions but without results.

On Thursday night, American dive-bombers maintained patrol over enemy positions on the island, following the day's minor ground activities of army and marine patrols.

"No major ground activity was reported," the communique said.

The attack of the two bombers was the second light air raid reported by the navy on Guadalcanal in two days. Whereas the latest one was carried out at 4 a. m. (Guadalcanal time), the first one, November 25, was at 3 a. m., and it resulted in some personnel casualties.

REINFORCED JAPS HOLD IN GUINEA

Pressure of Allied Ground Forces Abates

By C. YATES MAC DANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Nov. 27 (AP)—

Reinforced by strong and well-equipped marine units, Japanese troops crammed into the narrow Buna-Gona beachhead are holding their major positions in the face of daylong air assaults and steady but slightly abated pressure from allied ground forces.

Comparatively meager official reports from the New Guinea front today showed little geographical change in the battle picture in the last 24 hours.

But a check on the Japanese dead confirmed earlier indications (Continued on Page Two)

F and G Bonds Should Be Bought Now, Says Collier

Andrew Collier, county war savings chairman, warned Friday that if F and G bonds are to count on Klamath county's war savings quotas, they must be bought by noon Saturday.

He said that after that, the county committee will not get credit for F and G sales.

"We know many people are contemplating purchases of F and G bonds," he said. "We hope they will make these purchases Saturday morning."

F and G are the larger bonds.

Negro Soldiers, Police Battle in Phoenix Riot

PHOENIX, Ariz., Nov. 27 (AP)—A big section of the city was turned into a battleground early today by a wild gun fight between negro soldiers and military and civilian police in which two men were killed and 12 wounded.

Bullets flew for nearly three hours before the riot was quelled.

Twenty-eight blocks in the eastern end of the city still were being patrolled by armed cars at dawn and the last of the soldiers were being removed from houses.

More than 100 military and civilian police battled soldiers who had obtained guns and ammunition.

The trouble began about midnight with a fight between a negro trooper and a negro girl. The soldier resisted arrest by a military policeman and was shot. From then on the turmoil

BRITISH DRIVE TO WITHIN 15 MILES OF CITY

Ground Engagements So Far Held on Small Scale

By The Associated Press

LONDON, Nov. 27 (AP)—Allied spearheads were reported today to have lanced to a point 15 miles from Tunis and to have clashed with axis forces at Mateur, a communications junction 25 miles south of Bizerte, in an effort to drive a wedge between the fortified capital and the naval base at Tunis.

Both developments were announced in a Berlin radio broadcast.

The position of the task force striking at Tunis was not stated, but an allied communique earlier announced that British first army troops, striking northeastward, had captured Mejez El Bab, 30 miles southwest of Tunis, over stiff resistance and were "advancing successfully."

Small Scale

Mateur lies athwart the railway line and one of two highways between Tunis and Bizerte, in which Hitler has concentrated the majority of German and Italian troops in Tunisia. London commentators estimate their numbers at 20,000. It is 40 miles northwest of the capital. Eastward, toward the Mediterranean (Continued on Page Two)

Bulletin

LONDON, Nov. 27 (AP)—Reuters said the Algiers radio broadcast tonight that the British first army had opened a "big offensive" in Tunisia.

The veteran first army under British Lieut. Gen. Kenneth A. N. Anderson has been pressing eastward with an American mobile force.

"The period of patrol activity is finished," the radio said. "The first army has left its defense positions for the big offensive."

Spain Calls Up 1941 Army Class

MADRID, Nov. 27 (AP)—The call to the colors has been cancelled and only the 1941 class ordered to report November 29, it was announced officially today.

(The four classes were called yesterday. No reason for the partial cancellation was given immediately.)

(The four classes were expected to swell Spain's army to about 750,000.)

Loss of American Destroyer Duncan In Solomons Told

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 27 (AP)—Loss of the American destroyer Duncan in a night action off Guadalcanal on October 11-12 was disclosed here today by the fourth naval district with the announcement that 150 survivors were landed by the light cruiser Boise when it put into the Philadelphia navy yard for repairs on November 19.

The Duncan was sunk in the same action in which the Boise achieved an amazing record by sinking six Japanese warships—three cruisers and three destroyers—with 27 minutes of deadly close range firing.

The Duncan, whose loss was mentioned by the navy department in Washington in communique 149 on October 13 without revealing her name at the time, was the only American ship sunk in the action.

Five officers and 55 men aboard the Duncan were listed as killed or missing.



Vichy broadcasts today said that every one of the 62 French warships based at Toulon had been scuttled by defiant French seamen as Hitler grabbed the great Mediterranean base. A portion of the great fleet is shown above, photographed while on maneuvers earlier this year.

FRESH RED TROOPS POUR INTO BATTLE

Red Offensive Sweeps To 100 Miles of Latvia

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW, Nov. 27 (AP)—Danger deepened hourly for Hitler's battered spearhead at Stalingrad today, the latest battle dispatches indicated, as fresh strength poured into the aggressive red army garrison over a newly won land route and fast-wheeling field columns cut across the besiegers' lifelines to the west.

A confused war of movement swirled across the broad steppes west of Stalingrad and it was impossible to define battlelines clearly, but overnight dispatches said that in some places the red offensive gained such momentum that fleeing Germans were frustrated in efforts to burn warplanes on fields overwhelmed too swiftly to permit takeoffs.

Nazis Admit Action

Overnight reports pushed to 115,000 the number of axis soldiers said to have been killed or captured in the nine-day-old drive, with possibly another 150,000 wounded.

(The German radio not only acknowledged the Russians remained on the offensive around Stalingrad but explained on earlier reports of a major soviet (Continued on Page Two)

Re-Study of Spud Ceiling Gets Underway

A re-study of the potato price ceiling in this area is being made by the OPA and the U. S. department of agriculture, according to a telegram received Friday by the Tulelake Growers from Senator Sheridan Downey of California.

Meanwhile, Klamath Potato Growers officials said they expected a representative of the State OPA offices here from Portland December 2 or 4 to talk about ceilings, which have been set at \$2.05 per cwt. on U. S. No. 1 potatoes.

Senator Downey wired Chester Main, president of the Tulelake group, as an aftermath of a ceiling and manpower hearing held in Sacramento last week, attended by several men from the Tulelake organization.

Senator McNary of Oregon is co-operating in presenting the potato growers' views on the ceiling (Continued on Page Two)

Adolf Was Foiled

Explosions Rack Toulon As French Put Torch to Fleet in Face of Nazis

LONDON, Nov. 27 (AP)—The great naval harbor of Toulon, where, according to Vichy accounts, the French fleet was scuttled, is a "scene of utter desolation with all the magnificent ships of the French navy lying on their sides and with dense clouds of smoke rising from them," said a Vichy broadcast today, that was recorded by Reuters news agency.

(The Germans said part of the fleet was scuttled.)

"The maritime prefecture, the postoffice and the town hall fell quickly into the hands of the German troops who swarmed in through the windows from ladders placed against the walls," said the radio account.

"A column of German tanks and armored cars entered the arsenal of the Castigneau gate and dashed full speed to the Mill-haud docks, where the battleship Strasbourg was moored.

"Another German motorized column brought soldiers armed with tommy guns to the Vauban basin, in which the battleship Dunkerque was undergoing re-

pairs and in front of which the cruisers Foch, Algeria, Duquesne and Jean de Vienne, together with a number of light cruisers, destroyers and corvettes were moored.

"A sudden explosion rent the air. It came from the Strasbourg, which had just scuttled itself. Explosion after explosion followed as all other ships in the harbor and the French coastal batteries blew themselves up.

"On some ships preparations (Continued on Page Two)

FARMERS, WORKERS TO GET MORE GAS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27 (AP)—Farmers and war workers will be allowed necessary gasoline to meet their needs, Rubber Administrator William M. Jeffers told senate investigators today in reiterating that immediate nationwide rationing was "an absolute necessity."

Jeffers went to Capitol Hill backed by President Roosevelt's order of yesterday that nationwide gasoline rationing should go into effect December 1 to conserve rubber, despite protests from congress members.

Normal Operations

Testifying before the special senate defense investigating committee, Jeffers disclosed he had asked Price Administrator Leon Henderson and Transportation (Continued on Page Two)

Klamath's First Community Sing Set for Tonight

A full house is expected tonight at 8 o'clock when Klamath's first community sing is held in the Klamath Union high school auditorium as the final wind-up event of Women at War week.

Charles Stanfield will direct the singing and there will be band, solo and group numbers in addition to the general sing. Frank Jenkins, publisher of The Herald and News, will be the speaker. There is no charge and bonds and stamps will be sold in the hall following the sing.

LOTS OF WATER

VALSETZ, Ore., Nov. 27 (AP)—This western Oregon town, which claims to be the state's rainiest, experienced a fall of 5.83 inches for the 24 hours ending at 5 p. m. Monday, Randolph H. Butler, local weather observer, said today.

Nazis Quell Resistance, Occupy Base

By The Associated Press

LONDON, Nov. 27—French sailors scuttled their proud fleet in the Mediterranean harbor of Toulon at dawn today, the Vichy radio announced. French captains went down with their ships and French crews fought off German boarding parties as Adolf Hitler moved in and occupied the naval base, the last bit of heretofore unoccupied France.

The battleships Dunkerque and Strasbourg and the cruisers Foch, Algeria, Duplex and Jean de Vienne were among the 62 ships rent by mighty explosions as German motorized columns poured through the streets of Toulon and nazi soldiers swarmed through windows of strategic buildings in an apparent effort to seize the base and perhaps the fleet by surprise.

Nazis Admit Opposition

As an excuse Hitler accused the French, in a letter to aged Marshal Petain, of having ordered the French forces there not to resist if British or American forces landed.

Although the German communique said only that part of the fleet was scuttled, the Germans themselves gave weight to the French report by rebroadcasting the Vichy announcement that all the French warships at Toulon had gone down.

The Germans admitted also that this latest broken Hitler promise had encountered opposition.

The nazi communique did not tell which or how many of the French warships—including three battleships—were sunk but a Vichy broadcast recorded by Reuters announced:

"By orders of Admiral De Laborde, vessels of the French squadron at Toulon scuttled themselves.

"At 10 a. m. there was not one vessel afloat."

At the moment that nazi armored columns entered Toulon at 4 a. m. today, said the Vichy broadcast quoting a dispatch from Marseille, "Admiral De Laborde gave the order to scuttle which was immediately carried out."

Mines Prevent Escape

Flares from one big force of German bombers spotted the ships at their anchorages before dawn, it said, while other bombers sowed magnetic mines to block the Roadstead entrance.

This sudden stroke, in violation of Hitler's specific promise, provoked the first officially-recorded resistance to the Germans by French armed forces on home soil since the armistice of Compiegne in 1940.

It was the final bid by Frenchmen for their liberties, for with it the last trace of their sovereignty was obliterated, the last spot of unoccupied motherland seized and the whole country turned over to nazi military rule.

French Not Subdued

And the indications from both sides were that they fought to the end of their limited power.

The Germans acknowledged officially that it took them hours to wrest firm control of the port. Their report that "the demobilization of disintegrated French formations is under way and will have been completed shortly" indicated that the final remnants of the smashed French forces still had not been subdued.

The Vichy radio said the French had blown up their coastal batteries at Toulon after nazi bombers had dropped explosive bombs on the harbor's fortifications and nazi armored columns had reached the main harbor. The navy arsenal, munition dumps, and oil tanks were said also to have been blown up.

With German bombers overhead, it said, French anti-aircraft batteries opened fire trying to protect some ships attempting to leave their moorings.

Von Rundstedt in Charge

A German communique frankly attributed the step, jointly ordered by Hitler himself and Mussolini, to fear of the growing allied might in North Africa and the refusal of French armed forces to submit to the axis will.

An accompanying letter to Marshal Petain informed the French chief of state that Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd von Rundstedt "will be in charge of all measures deemed necessary and will make all decisions in French territory."

All French naval and army forces were demobilized by Hitler's order. The armistice of 1940 had allowed France an army of 80,000 men.

The communique contained only the line that "part of the French fleet has scuttled itself" and it was not known which or how many of the 62 French war vessels—including three battleships—of France's Mediterranean fleet were at the bottom of Toulon harbor.

The order to enter Toulon was given by the axis war leaders last night "to prevent the French fleet from putting to sea as planned and to demobilize unsure contingents of the French army," it said.

Hitler's Hope

"I am determined not to, in any case, give Europe over to chaos by allowing a free hand to these agitators," Hitler wrote Petain, apparently meaning his opponents generally and the fighting French and anti-axis Vichy French specifically.

"I sincerely hope it will be possible to give back to France an army whose officers at least obey the chief of state.

"I am convinced you took no part in any of these activities, but I am compelled to carry this war through to the end."

Hitler accused Admiral Jean Darlan of having "once more betrayed Germany and Italy."

This was the second time in 18 days that Hitler had violated his pledged word to defenseless France.

Allied Inventions

When he tore up the armistice of 1940 on November 11 and axis forces obliterated the former line of demarcation between occupied and unoccupied France, Toulon specifically was excepted.

Berlin broadcasts later ascribed this to a gesture of generosity from Hitler himself.

Now he promised Petain that "I am irrevocably determined to help France to reconquer her colonies by all means in my power" and that he had no designs on France's fleet.

"You know, Herr Marshal," he wrote Petain, "all statements made from the English and American sides . . . to the effect that Germany wants to take over the French fleet are pure inventions."

Abrial Gave Order

Only Wednesday, the Vichy radio announced a decree under which the maritime prefect of Toulon took over powers of the civil authorities. The same day, Admiral Jean Abrial, new Vichy (Continued on Page Two)

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22 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT.

TO BUY TOYS FOR THE KIDS

Buy Christmas Seals