

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, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1942

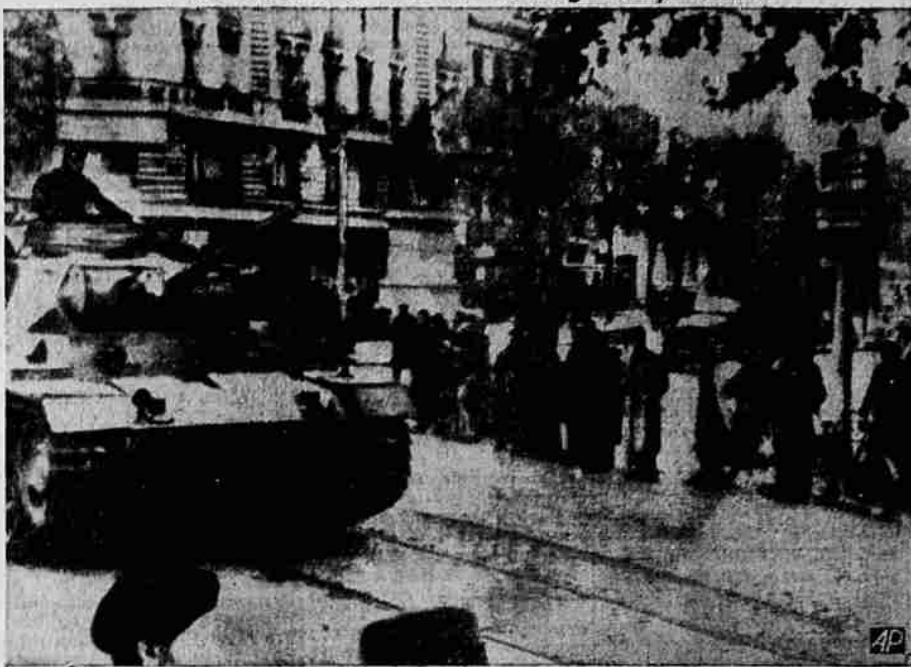
Number 9659

Weather News

December 2—High 49, Low 32
Precipitation as of November 28, 1942
Stream year to date 3.21
Last year 2.24 Normal 2.44
Dec. 4—Sunrise 8:13 Sunset 5:10

NINE JAP SHIPS SENT TO BOTTOM

First Picture of Nazis Invading Vichy France



A German tank rolled down the street in Toulouse, France, during the Nazi occupation of Vichy territory. Toulouse is in southwestern France, west of Marseille and Toulon, not far from the French-Spanish frontier. This picture reached London from neutral Portugal and was radioed from London to New York.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE news today is not so sharp and clear. We have to put two and two together, and draw conclusions. The conclusions thus arrived at, however, indicate that our side is still doing pretty well.

FOR a change, let's take a look at the Pacific war first.

The four Jap destroyers that were reported yesterday to be hanging off the New Guinea coast (probably loaded with Jap troops) made a night attempt to land reinforcements on the beach, but were driven off by U. S. and Australian air forces.

Some Jap troops may have been landed, but apparently not many.

ALONG the Buna-Gona beaches, a penned-in Jap force is fighting stubbornly. If these Japs aren't reinforced, they will be killed or captured by MacArthur's Americans and Australians who have come across the New Guinea hump from Port Moresby.

The Jap problem is to get reinforcements and supplies to them before it is too late. Our problem is to STOP the reinforcements and WIPE OUT THE JAPS on the beaches.

KEEP your eye on this Buna-Gona fighting. If we do well there, we'll probably go on to Salamaua, less than 100 miles north along the New Guinea coast, where the Japs have a minor base. From there, we might jump to New Britain, where the Japs have an important base at Rabaul. A lot of the Jap mischief in the Solomons has been brewed at Rabaul. The BIG Jap base is at Turk, some 800 miles north.

THE Germans seem to have got some reinforcements to their trapped forces in the Don-Volga area west of Stalingrad.

The Russians, who had taken two strategic hills southwest of Stalingrad, today take another one to the northwest. This, the dispatches say, gives them a field of fire over at least a part of the German-held corridor into Stalingrad itself.

This corridor must be used by the Germans for either escape or reinforcement. Russian artillery COMMANDING it from heights makes both more difficult.

BLIZZARDS of increasing fierceness are reported sweeping the Russian plains. Moscow dispatches speak of snow-blanketed Nazi tanks and trucks, now often found abandoned and frozen. Pravda (Russian newspaper) reports German captives still clad in summer uniforms, with only earmuffs to protect them from the cold.

Ski troops are taking an increasing part in the fighting on both sides. Moscow says the Russian winter drive is steadily mounting.

FRONT line dispatches today say a decisive battle for Bizerte and Tunis is apparently under way.

One allied column is reported to be striking from Medjez-el-Bab toward Tunis and another from Mateur toward Bizerte. Both are following railroads.

Your map will explain the situation. It will also tell you of the communications difficulties faced by both sides. Our communications are tremendously long. The Germans are (Continued on Page Two)

If You Stored Up Gas, Read This

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 3 (AP)—To the people who filled barrels and dishpans and buckets and jugs with gasoline for their automobiles State OPA Director J. G. Calloway proclaims:

It is not legal. Unless, of course, you surrender gas coupons for the amount you have stored, there's a two-year prison term or \$10,000 fine involved.

NAZIS PUSHED WESTWARD ON MOSCOW LINE

Axis Fights for Life On Stalingrad Front

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW, Dec. 3 (AP)—White-clad Russian ski troops pressed the Nazis back on blizzard-swept battlefields west of Moscow today while between the Don and the Volga the red army steadily closed the trap on Stalingrad's besiegers from recaptured heights northwest and southwest of the city.

Battlefront dispatches gave this account of the steadily mounting Russian winter drive:

South of Leningrad and west of Moscow the Germans were dying 1000 a day as ski troops armed with tommy guns clashed with Nazi alpinist reinforcements in some of the fiercest fighting of the past two weeks amid snow-blanketed Nazi tanks and trucks, now often abandoned and frozen.

Reds Take Height

On the Stalingrad front the Germans were resisting savagely in a fight for life, and the Russian onslaught went into its third week slowed but unstopped.

A communiqué said Soviet troops stormed and held another strategic height northwest of the city. This, with the height southwest of Stalingrad which was reported yesterday as recaptured, gave the Russians a field of fire over at least a part of the German corridor of escape or reinforcement to Stalingrad.

Nazis Reinforced

The Germans rushed reinforcements into at least three key salients in a desperate effort. (Continued on Page Two)

2 Charged With Passing Faulty Ammunition

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2 (AP)—Attorney General Biddle announced today the indictment of Robert C. Mercer, chief area supervisor of inspection at the Des Moines, Iowa, ordnance plant, and Henry A. Replogle, former assistant chief, on charges of causing defective ammunition to be approved and certified as of high quality.

The indictment was returned by a federal grand jury at Des Moines in what the justice department's war frauds unit described as its first case involving ammunition intended for use on the fighting fronts.

The men have been accused, the department said, of altering an inspection machine so it would pass defective ammunition, and of having substituted approval slips for rejection slips which were removed and destroyed.

In some cases the men had approved ammunition containing insufficient powder, the department said the indictment charged.

A justice official said Mercer still was employed at the plant, but that Replogle had resigned.

"Unidentified Vessels" Reported Off West Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 3 (AP)—The 12th navy district said today that "a large number of unidentified surface vessels" had been reported 450 miles off the California coast, but that a thorough search of the area "failed to confirm their presence."

(Presumably the order broadcast before dawn today for fleet personnel to return to their ships was based on this report.)

The navy's statement follows: "A large number of unidentified surface vessels was reported by naval patrol at dusk on the second of December on an easterly course 450 miles off the coast of California."

"Since the presence of such a force would constitute a serious

BRITISH FLAT-TOP LOST IN LANDINGS

Eight Smaller Vessels Downed in African Occupation

LONDON, Dec. 3 (AP)—The British Aircraft Carrier *Avenger*, three destroyers and five lighter vessels were among allied naval losses incident to the North African landings. A. V. Alexander, first lord of the admiralty announced today.

Alexander said the British destroyers *Brook* and *Martin* and the Netherlands destroyer *Isaac Sweers* were lost, along with the *Avenger*, two cutters, a sloop, a minesweeper and an anti-aircraft ship.

The *Avenger* is not listed in Jane's directory and naval sources declined to identify her further. It is possible that she was a converted merchantman.

The allied naval losses were considerably smaller than expected, Alexander reported in a statement to the house of commons. (Continued on Page Two)

RAF Renews Raids On Reich; 6 Planes Lost in Frankfurt

LONDON, Dec. 3 (AP)—The RAF, renewing its night assaults on the Reich after a lapse of 10 days, struck last night at Frankfurt and several other objectives in western Germany, the air ministry announced today.

Six aircraft were lost in the assault, said the announcement, which gave no indication of the size of the raiding force.

(Estimating that the losses were five per cent, however—a figure frequently used as an index in the past—this would mean that a force of about 120 bombers was employed.)

The Berlin radio referred to the raids—the first on Germany by night since the attack on Stuttgart November 22—as "nuisance raids."

"Unidentified Vessels" Reported Off West Coast

hazard to the west coast, every effort was made by army and navy aircraft to verify the reported contact and all available forces were alerted and steps taken to intercept any enemy force.

"A thorough search of the area concerned failed to confirm the presence of any unidentified vessels and the report is considered in error."

The statement was issued by Vice Admiral John W. Greenblade, commander of the western sea frontier.

Starting at 4 a. m., radio stations had broadcast orders to fleet personnel to report at once to their ships. (Continued on Page Two)

Five Naval Transports Lost in North African Landings, U. S. Reveals

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3 (AP)—The navy department announced today that five United States naval transports were lost during the occupation of North Africa by United States forces.

Three other transports, one destroyer, and one tanker were damaged during the operation.

A navy spokesman said casualties were very small.

The transports sunk were listed in the communiqué as the

Tasker H. Bliss, the Hugh L. Scott, and the Edward Rutledge, which were sunk off Casablanca; the Joseph Hewes, sunk off Rabat and the Leedstown, sunk off Algiers.

The early morning communiqué said the next to kin of personnel killed, wounded, or missing were being notified by telegram.

The names of the damaged vessels were not disclosed.

Communicé, number 209, follows: (About 100):

"1. The following United States naval transports were lost during the early part of November as a result of enemy submarine torpedoes during the occupation of North Africa by United States forces.

"(A) The Tasker H. Bliss, Hugh L. Scott and the Edward Rutledge were sunk off Casablanca.

"(B) The Joseph Hewes was sunk off Rabat.

"(C) The Leedstown was sunk off Algiers.

"2. Three other United States (Continued on Page Two)

Gas Rationing Brings Some Bright News

SALEM, Dec. 3 (AP)—Motorists who've been kicking about gasoline rationing got some bright news today—their collision insurance rates are reduced.

Independent companies, which write 60 to 70 per cent of the collision insurance in Oregon, announced the reduced rates effective as of December 1. All other companies are expected to follow suit, the state insurance department said.

The reduced rates are not retroactive, and no refunds will be granted on policies now in effect. But the lower rates will apply to all new insurance.

Rates for holders of "A" ration cards will receive a 20 per cent cut, while the reduction on "B" card holders will amount to 10 per cent. There will be no reduction for holders of "C" cards.

Effective September 1, rates for public liability and property damage were reduced. (Continued on Page Seven)

Japs Claim More U. S. Ships; Admit Loss of Destroyer

TOKYO (From Japanese Broadcasts), Dec. 3 (AP)—Imperial headquarters announced today the sinking of an allied battleship, a cruiser of the Augusta class and two destroyers on the night of November 30 off Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands.

(The Japanese claims were not confirmed by any allied sources.) The Japanese asserted they also had set fire to two other allied destroyers, and acknowledged the loss of one of their own.

Axis Drive Smashed

BATTLE RAGES FOR CONTROL OF TUNISIA

Nazis Make Vain Effort to Cut Off Allied Wedge

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Dec. 3 (AP)—The allied command announced today that a second enemy attack on a larger scale than that of yesterday was repulsed today with considerable destruction of enemy equipment.

The action again took place in the area of Tebourba, 20 miles west of Tunis and 35 miles south of Bizerte.

LONDON, Dec. 3 (AP)—The decisive battle for Bizerte and Tunis apparently was under way today with British and American troops converging on the bomb-battered axis strongholds after smashing a German counter-attack which touched off the heaviest fighting of the Tunisian campaign.

Dispatches from the front said the Americans had played a major role in repulsing the Nazi assault, directed at the allied lines in the vicinity of Tebourba, vital railway junction 20 miles west of Tunis and 35 miles south of Bizerte.

Drive Repulsed

Allied headquarters declared the Nazis had lost heavily in their unsuccessful counterblow, launched with the apparent hope of cutting off the wedge which the allies have driven between the two ports.

Another German counter-attack, said a communiqué broadcast by the Morocco radio, was repulsed at Pont de Fahs, 30 miles south of Tunis, by French forces which captured that place several days ago.

P-38's Score

Heavy fighting also was reported around Mateur, 12 miles south of Bizerte, where allied columns is driving toward the coast.

American medium bombers, escorted by P-38 fighters, raided the Tunisian airfield for the fifth (Continued on Page Two)

RAF Keeps Slugging At Japs in Burma

NEW DELHI, Dec. 3 (AP)—Blenheim bombers of the RAF, escorted by fighter planes, successfully attacked the Japanese airfield at Magwe, Burma, yesterday, scoring hits on the main runway and dispersal bays, a British communiqué announced today.

Railway stations at Kadu and Hantong on the Mandalay-Mylkya line also were attacked, the bulletin said.

Some anti-aircraft fire but no fighter opposition was encountered in the communiqué added, and all the raiders returned.

Infantrymen of the British first army supported by United States forces pressed into this key point last night to find that the Germans had fled.

Our forces pressed on in pursuit, making contact with the foe again at Tebourba (20 miles west of Tunis and 35 miles south of Bizerte) where the drive toward the sea was held up momentarily by a counter-attack into the town by a small group of German tanks.

The Germans fleeing from Medjez-el-Bab blew a gaping hole in the ancient Roman bridge spanning Oued Medjedra (a river) in an effort to slow (Continued on Page Two)

Sinks Eight Jap Ships



Lt. Comdr. T. B. Klakring (above), of San Mateo, Calif., was to receive the navy cross for his part in the sinking of eight Jap cargo ships and damaging four others. Klakring's sub was so close to Japan that its crew "watched Jap pony races at a big city track."

Losses inflicted on the enemy during the night of November 30-December 1, included two large destroyers or cruisers sunk; four destroyers sunk; two troop transports sunk; and one cargo ship sunk, the navy said.

The possibility that the two troop transports were heavily loaded with Japanese soldiers headed for the battle of Guadalcanal was seen in reports that no soldiers were landed.

U. S. Cruiser Sunk

Such transports could carry a total of between four and five thousand men.

In the sharp night action, which followed interception of the Japanese force by a United States task force, one American cruiser was sunk and other United States vessels were damaged, the navy said.

No word as to the number of casualties has been received, nor (Continued on Page Two)

ALLIES BALK JAP LANDINGS IN BUNA

Destroyers Forced to Withdraw From Island

By C. YATES MC DANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 3 (AP)—General Douglas MacArthur's air forces supporting ground troops closing in on the Buna-Gona area on the New Guinea coast have smashed new Japanese attempts to land reinforcements in a 12-hour running battle with four Japanese destroyers and their screen of fighter planes.

The allied planes knocked 23 enemy fighters out of the air as they carried the attack to sea, forcing the destroyers to withdraw without materially adding their hard-pressed forces on the shallow beachhead ringed by allied ground troops.

Sighted Tuesday

Brief reports from allied airmen described the night fight in the air and at sea as "a great fireworks display with enemy warships shooting rockets" (Continued on Page Two)

Mussolini Orders Urban Evacuation

LONDON, Dec. 3 (AP)—Reuters said today that the Rome radio broadcast an appeal by Premier Mussolini to all Italian mayors to "get to work with a minimum of red tape on the evacuation of Italian cities."

The United States acted, it said today, at the request of Liberia, which said that because of the nation's strategic location it was in danger of attack and wanted to "safeguard the independence and security of the republic."

"The traditional friendly interest of the United States in the welfare of Liberia" led to the agreement, the state department said.

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