

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

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IN THE SHASTA-CASCADE WONDERLAND

NEA FEATURES

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CLATSOP FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1942

Number 9666

Weather News

December 10—High 41, Low 30
Precipitation as of December 4, 1942
Stream year to date 4.57
Last year 2.97 Normal 2.98
Dec. 12—Sunrise 8:20 Sunset 6:10

ALLIES BEAT OFF TANK ASSAULT

New Drive Menaces China

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

ABOUT the only interesting big news today is that there isn't any interesting big news.

THAT sounds like a smart crack, but isn't so intended. Big-scale ground fighting in Tunisia has lulled until one side or the other gets command of the air.

The news from Russia is comparatively quiet because neither side is able at the moment to put on a full-dress offensive.

There is nothing startlingly new from the South Pacific because the Japs haven't yet launched another important attempt to relieve their beleaguered forces on the Buna beaches or on Guadalcanal.

WHENEVER one side or the other gains command of the air in North Africa, or the Russians or the Germans get set for another big push in Russia or the Japs try again to relieve their forces in the New Guinea or the Solomons, THERE WILL BE big news.

A WORD here on the North African air fighting.

Maybe the German air force will come to Africa and weaken itself critically in attacks against us there, as the Japs have weakened themselves by COMING AGAINST US in the Solomons.

That would be useful.

The German air force HAS to be weakened to the point of inferiority before Germany can be defeated, and if we can get them to COME TO US it will be cheaper than GOING TO THEM.

THERE'S an interesting sidelight today on the air fighting in Africa.

The Germans are using SIX-MOTORED transport planes and trains of gliders to bring reinforcements to Tunisia. These big six-motored transports are capable of carrying 80 men fully equipped. The Australian pilot who shot down the first of them some time ago says he thought when he saw it on the horizon it was a 3000-ton merchant ship. (Meaning it looked so big.)

While we were arguing about PERMITTING Kaiser to build big cargo planes, the Germans were ALREADY BUILDING them.

ANOTHER word here on Russia.

The present objective of the Russians is to save the Caucasus oil and protect their Caspian-Volga supply line. The Caucasus oil has to get to the rest of Russia by way of the Caspian and the Volga.

But that isn't all. The Caspian and the Volga are indispensable links in the supply line we are building to Russia by way of the Persian gulf. If we can make the Mediterranean safe for our ships, this will be a comparatively short and efficient line.

Your map (or, better, your globe) will tell you all about its possibilities.

IN order to make the Caspian-Volga supply line safe, the Russians must drive the Germans westward out of bomber range of the Volga and the Caspian. If the Germans can be driven back to Rostov, their most menacing drive against the major Caucasus oil fields will be cut off.

THE cruiser San Francisco gets home today.

It led its formation between Jap columns that were superior both in numbers and in fire power. ON ITS OWN, it blew up a Jap cruiser, sank a Jap (Continued on Page Four)

ONE MILLION YANKS ABROAD, FOR REVEALS

Axis Powers Now on Defensive, President Says

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—President Roosevelt informed congress today that by the end of this month American forces overseas will number more than 1,000,000 men.

The president, in the seventh quarterly report on lend lease operations, said in a letter of transmittal that the axis powers "have, temporarily at least, lost the initiative," and added: "We must do all we can to keep them from regaining it."

New Phase

Lend lease aid in the last three months up to December 11, totaled \$2,367,000,000, he reported. This was more than a third higher than the figure for the previous quarter and four times the total for the three months immediately preceding United States entry into the war.

The president said that since the last report the war had entered a new phase with United Nations forces attacking from Egypt and North Africa and contesting with the axis "for control of the African coastline of the Mediterranean."

Initiative Lost

"The soviet army, having held with stubborn bravery at Stalingrad, has now assumed the offensive," he added. "The Japanese have been recklessly expending ships and men in the Solomons, a battleground of our own choosing."

"The axis powers have, temporarily, at least, lost the initiative," he added.

Escaped Youth, Disguised as Woman, Captured

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 11 (AP)—Glenn Wilson, 17, one of two brothers who escaped over the walls of the Oregon State prison at Salem last month, was surrounded and captured at the home of his mother east of here this morning.

He had a turban on his head and wore a long robe in an attempt to disguise himself as a woman.

Wilson, who was serving 10 years for robbing and kidnapping two 17-year-old girls in Portland last June, escaped November 20 with his brother, Turman, 16. Turman was captured the following day at La Grande but Glenn eluded officers.

A posse of nine officers led by Clark county Sheriff Leland Morrow which included Assistant Warden Sol Warden of the Oregon prison, and Guard George Thomason, also of the (Continued on Page Four)

Confusion Still Exists In Klamath Meat Quota

Confusion still existed in the Klamath meat quota situation Friday.

Final disposition of the quota of the Klamath Packing company plant, which burned down in October, evidently has not been made. Local officials connected with the food and livestock have been trying for the last two weeks to get OPA to authorize the use of this quota by some operating firm, so that consumers here may get a full 70 per cent of the 1941 kill of meat.

Senator Charles L. McNary, in a wire to The Herald and News, said that he had been informed by OPA "that the Klamath Pack-

U. S. Auxiliary Cargo Ship Lost In Solomons Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—The navy announced today that the U. S. S. Alchiba, a 6198-ton auxiliary cargo ship was lost in the Solomons area recently, "as the result of enemy action."

Communique number 216 said: "South Pacific:

"1. An army 'Flying Fortress' on a reconnaissance flight over the island of New Guinea was attacked recently by 15 'Zero' fighters; the 'Fortress' returned to its base after shooting down five of the enemy fighters.

"2. The U. S. S. Alchiba, an auxiliary cargo ship, was lost recently as the result of enemy action. Reports indicate that total casualties amounted to three missing."

The Alchiba, with a normal crew of 46 officers and men, was commanded by Commander James Shepherd Freeman of (Continued on Page Four)

FIGHTING FLAMES ON CENTRAL FRONT

Reds Make Progress In Stalingrad Sector

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW, Dec. 11 (AP)—Violent fighting flamed along a broad area of the central front today with a break in the blizzard which had swept the Muscovite plains for several days while on the Stalingrad front the red army has made fresh progress in three sectors, the Russians reported today.

Resumption of big-scale operations in the snow-crusted Vellike Luki-Rzhev area, west of Moscow, was reported to have started with heavy but ineffective German counterattacks upon wedges driven into enemy lines in the recent red army offensive.

Three Areas

These clashes were developing all along the 140-mile strip where soviet forces now stand only 90 miles from the Latvian border.

On the Stalingrad front, soviet dispatches and official announcements listed three active areas of (Continued on Page Four)

Milk Now Costs 14 Cents a Quart In Klamath Area

The promised one-cent raise in the price of milk, accompanied by an increase in quality, has gone into effect here.

Distributors made the raise this week. Milk now costs 14 cents a quart, but the butterfat content is higher than it was in the 13-cent milk.

Purpose of the raise is to return more money to producers, in the hope they will be encouraged to remain in the business.

Ing company may complete its quota by purchases from some other packing plant, thus assuring the community of the full allotment."

But the head of the Klamath Packing company, Frank Lowell, has joined the navy and left this week for the eastern seaboard. Lowell informed The Herald and News that he was attempting to have the quota transferred to another local man so that the community could obtain this meat. He said he wanted the "folks down there" to be assured he had not "let them down."

Final OPA authorization for transfer of the quota, and arrangements for handling the ad-

JAPS STRIKE AT BACK DOOR TO CHUNGKING

Allies Concentrate on Japs Hemmed in at Buna Beach

By The Associated Press

The long expected Japanese offensive against the back door route to Chungking appeared today to have started in Yunnan province where the Chinese command said strong Japanese forces, recently reinforced from Burma, have struck in a hard, continuing assault.

The Chinese reported that so far they were holding their lines in the new battle zone north of Tengyueh, west of the upper Salween river. That is in the wedge that the Japanese drove into mountainous Yunnan province last spring in the final days of the Burma campaign.

The Chinese said the fighting flared up December 6 when the Japanese attacked with three columns totaling 8000 men. Chinese riflemen were said to have held off night attacks December 7. Since then the fighting has intensified and the Chinese are resisting bitterly, the high command reported at Chungking.

Presumably the Japanese drive was aimed at Kunming, mountain-girdled capital of Yunnan province, and Chinese terminus for air-borne supplies from India.

Fresh from the victory at Gona, allied troops on New Guinea concentrated today upon the Japanese hemmed in along nine miles of the Buna beach between Cape Killerton and Cape Endiader, repulsing one counterattack and battering the invaders with howitzer and mortar fire.

Australians who stormed the Gona beach defenses 12 miles northwest of Buna were reported to have mopped up quickly and pressed down along the coast to be in on the assault.

Their advance was toward Cape Killerton, six miles northwest of Buna, where American and Australian troops already had boxed in one Japanese flank.

Farmers Wait Reports on Spud Ceiling Break

Farmers engaged in current shipments of potatoes at ceiling prices anxiously awaited reports from Washington of any change in the ceiling Friday.

Senator McNary said recently that price ceilings would be adjusted upwards, probably about December 10. No announcement came Thursday or Friday, however, and the old ceiling of \$2.10 for November delivery was still on. A Washington message to The Herald and News said the OPA had the change under consideration but had not acted yet.

Farmers actually loading out their potatoes at this time found themselves in the position of selling at a price which may be momentarily moved up by OPA action, each hour of delay by the OPA costing them money.

Sounds Like Stove Oil Works Just Fine in a Car

PORTLAND, Dec. 11 (AP)—Deputy Sheriff Gordon Auburn arrested Willard Chase, 18, Troutdale, last night on a charge of speeding and reckless driving.

Explained Chase: "I'm burning stove oil (coal oil) ... I wanted to see how fast it would make a car go."

Water's No Barrier to Troops in New Guinea



United States soldiers, laden with packs and followed by native porters, wade a turbulent jungle stream in New Guinea. American and Australian forces have won through to Gona and are concentrating today on the Japs hemmed in along the Buna beach on the northeastern shore of New Guinea.

The Gallant Cruiser "San Francisco" Is Home After Win-or-Die Encounter

By WENDELL WEBB

ABOARD THE CRUISER SAN FRANCISCO, San Francisco Bay, Dec. 11 (AP)—The words, "We'll take the big ones first," rang through the wardroom of this gallant ship today as surviving officers told of the win-or-die battle of the Solomons which sent their shipmates to a hero's death thousands of miles away.

The words were the last challenge which Rear Admiral Daniel J. Callaghan hurled at superior forces of the Japanese when he led this flagship to point-blank range with the 14-inch guns of an enemy battleship in the early morning of last November 13. The admiral and Captain Cassin Young died in the torrent of fire three minutes later.

The story was related aboard the battered ship today when reporters were taken aboard a few minutes after it passed through the Golden Gate en route to the Mare Island navy yard for repairs.

Lieut. Comdr. William Wil-

bourne, 34, of Marion, Ala., gunnery officer, said the words were the last he heard from the admiral in the violent engagement which lasted 35 minutes and thwarted a Japanese attempt to bolster their garrisons in the vicinity of Guadalcanal.

Blue jackets stood at attention and saluted smartly as officers boarded the ship from the shore today. The ship was as neat as possible within the limits of its condition—admittedly badly damaged. She made port under her own power.

Most anxious to get aboard was Capt. Byron McCandless, commanding the destroyer base at San Diego, whose curly-haired, young-appearing son, Comdr. Bruce McCandless, assumed control of the ship when senior officers were killed in the heat of the battle, and brought it safely through.

The ship, which survived one of the most amazing chapters in modern naval history, the November 13-15 battle in which 28 Jap ships were sunk, came in for repairs and, incidentally, for the homage of her proud home port and the nation at large. She is the first American combat vessel of the war for which a decoration has been designated for gallantry in action.

The navy said the San Francisco would lie at anchor inside the bay of that name this morning. She was to dock this afternoon and civic and military authorities were to go aboard for brief welcoming ceremonies (2 p. m. Pacific War Time). Stories of her exploits were to be broadcast nationally from her wounded decks (3 p. m.).

The ship was in command of Capt. Albert F. France Jr., of New York City.

The San Francisco, as the task force flagship, led an American formation between two Japanese columns superior both in numbers and firepower. The ship blew up an enemy cruiser, sank a destroyer and challenged the 14-inch guns of a Japanese battleship of the Kongo class so successfully that the enemy craft was comparatively easy prey the next day for the torpedoes and bombs which finally sank it.

It was not until the latter stages of the engagement—after Lieut. Comdr. McCandless, himself wounded, had taken over command of the San Francisco when his senior officers were killed—that American battleships engaged the Japanese in full array for the first time.

The memorable cruiser-battle-ship battle was at the extremely close range approximating 2000 yards.

Excess Tires Pour in Here to Express Office

Excess tires continued to pour into the Railway Express office here Friday, with December 12 set by the government as the deadline for disposing of all tires over five for each passenger car.

The local express office has been hampered by a shortage of forms, but had a supply on hand Friday.

The office has run out of forms a number of times, necessitating turning away Klamath motorists who went there at (Continued on Page Four)

Army Up in Arms Over Wickard's New Food Powers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—Talk of a possible new row between the army and the civilian administration was heard in senate cloakrooms today—this time over Secretary of Agriculture Wickard's food control powers.

As reported by one senator, who asked to remain anonymous, the army is apprehensive over the broad new powers delegated to Wickard, pointing out that he could, if he so chose, make the army eat beans seven days a week.

There has been no suggestion that Wickard harbors any such intention, the army critics concede, but they would like to regain full control over the army's diet.

FOES BATTLE FOR AFRICAN AIR CONTROL

Nazi Drive Stopped 2000 Yards From Vital Center

By WES GALLAGHER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Dec. 11 (AP)—Allied forces beat back an enemy tank and infantry attack in a battle fought yesterday almost at the edge of Medjez El Bab, 25 miles southwest of Tebourba, allied headquarters announced today.

The assault was made by one of two enemy tank columns both of which, the communique said, suffered considerably heavier losses than they inflicted on the allies.

Shift

The communique said one arm of the axis tank and infantry drove within 2000 yards of the vital communications center, but withdrew under bomb and shell fire from allied artillery and planes.

(Medjez El Bab has been occupied by the allies since November 26.)

(The sudden shift back from the Tebourba-Medjez-Djedida triangle, where British and American forces have been holding a horseshoe line on heights dominating that battlefield, indicated that the weight of the Tunisian battle had veered to the southwest.)

(The enemy, apparently, aimed a blow against the right flank of the main allied front.)

Hide and Seek

"We lost a few tanks. Enemy losses were considerably higher," the communique added.

This spurt on the rain-soaked, dormant main Tunisian front paralleled a German attempt to halt an advance of American tanks and paratroopers on the opposite side of Tunisia, between Tunis and Tripoli, by rushing in reinforcements by transport planes and glider trains.

While big Junkers-52 transports and their glider tows played a deadly game of hide and seek with United States P-38 fighters trying to break up the traffic, other axis forces were reported pushing inland from coastal bases at Sfax, Gabes and Sousse to meet the Americans.

French Help

Supporting the American troops—picked fighters commanded by Col. Edson Raff—are French forces consisting of (Continued on Page Four)

"Gona Gone" Were Words That Marked Allied Victory

SOMEWHERE IN NEW GUINEA, Dec. 11 (AP)—An Australian commander's terse announcement at 5 p. m., December 9—"Gona gone"—marked the capture of the tough position on the northern Papua coast which was first taken by the Japanese July 22.

The Australians slackened fire just before dusk to observe enemy movements and the possibilities of counterattacks or escapes by the foe. For the first time, the full effect of American aerial bombs and heavy allied ground fire on the Japanese was plainly evident as the Aussies saw enemy soldiers wandering about dazedly.

Australian small arms dropped several of these Japanese from close range. Near midnight, amid drenching rain, 100 Japanese made a last—and futile—effort to reach their positions at Sanananda, creeping along the beach next to the rolling surf, and leaving a few pockets of troops in the Gona area to return the Australian fire.

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11 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

STATIONERY FOR JEAN GET IT MONOGRAMMED

Buy Christmas Seals