

Blackout Signal

One 8-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.

Gerald and News

ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN THE SHASTA-CASCADE WONDERLAND

NEA FEATURES

PRICE FIVE CENTS

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1942

Number 9667

Weather News

December 11—High 93, Low 27
Precipitation as of December 5, 1942
Stream year to date 4.75
Last year 2.97 Normal 3.02
Dec. 13—Sunrise 8:21 Sunset 5:10

8TH ARMY OPENS UP ON ROMMEL

Battle for Don Elbow Flames

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THERE is still no big news. War Secretary Stimson steps in today to warn us that no big FAVORABLE news is likely to come from North Africa until our side has gained air supremacy.

(Note Stimson's use of the term "air supremacy." There's a sharp difference between air supremacy and mere air superiority.)

HE says the North Africa campaign is just beginning, and adds: "The main and BIG work remains to be done when steps can be completed to make us supreme in the air."

STIMSON says there have been two big helps—calm weather in a normally stormy area and DARLAN.

He adds that Darlan's action in turning northwestern Africa over to us couldn't have been anticipated, and with the favorable weather has put us a month ahead of schedule.

ACCORDING to Stimson, three objectives lie ahead after air supremacy has been obtained:

1. Expel or destroy axis forces in Tunisia.
2. Attack Tripoli and destroy the Germans under Rommel by GETTING BEHIND him.
3. Co-operate with the British in making the North African shore and the Mediterranean a safer line reaching to the Egyptian area.

THERE are cautious hints in the news today that Rommel may not be planning to make a stand at El Aghella, in the narrow pass between salt marshes and the sea. British patrols are reported to have penetrated two miles into the El Aghella defile without "interference from the enemy."

Don't pay too much attention to these hints. The pass at El Aghella is a good place for Rommel to make a stand, and unless our side has got around behind him, or is THREATENING to, he's likely to fight there.

Narrow passes with both flanks protected are historically favorable for a delaying stand by inferior forces.

THERE are clear indications in the news today, especially Stimson's appearance in the picture, that further progress in Tunisia won't be swift. There are no indications, however, that we are slipping up in our plans.

A NEW development in the Solomons is reported today. The Japs, we are told in a navy communiqué, are establishing a flying field at Munda, on New Georgia island, about 150 miles northwest of Guadalcanal.

The navy says it is known to have been under construction within the past few weeks and may now be finished. This Munda field will enable the Japs to concentrate fighter plane strength against Guadalcanal, which so far they have been unable to do—that is, it will enable them to protect their bombers and their ships with fighters. We've just bombed the new field with Flying Fortresses.

TODAY'S dispatches report that the Japs are trying desperately but unsuccessfully to break out of the narrowing circle in which they are held on the Buna beach. They're still trying to get in relief by air.

IN Russia, the third battle for the Don elbow is reported to be under way, with the Germans attacking WESTWARD from the east bank of the Don. The Germans are apparently

FLYING FORTS BOMB NEW JAP FLYING FIELD

Japs Have New Base Built Near Guadalcanal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—Army planes bombed a Japanese tanker, possibly damaged another and shot down six Zero planes in the northern Solomons recently, the navy announced today in a communiqué disclosing that the enemy had established a flying field only about 150 miles from the American position on Guadalcanal.

Communique No. 217: "South Pacific: (All dates are East Longitude.)

"1. On December 9:

Munda Bombed

"(A) Eleven army 'Flying Fortresses' (Boeing B-17) and eight 'Lightnings' (Lockheed P-38) attacked enemy surface vessels in Fasi harbor near Shortland Islands. Three bomb hits were scored on an enemy tanker and two bomb straddles were observed on a second tanker. The army 'Lightnings' shot down five intercepting 'Zeros' and the 'Fortresses' destroyed another. All army planes returned undamaged.

"(B) Army 'Flying Fortresses' bombed the Japanese flying field at Munda on New Georgia island.

"(C) Ground activity on Guadalcanal island was limited to patrol contacts with small enemy groups. A Japanese artillery position containing mortars and machine guns was silenced."

A naval spokesman said that the flying field at Munda was a new installation. It was known to be under construction within

(Continued on Page Four)

Sen. Chandler Predicts Aleutians Will Be Cleared

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 12 (AP)—Sen. Albert B. Chandler (D-Ky.), returning from an inspection of northernmost United States army bases, says American troops will drive the Japanese from the Aleutians when the right time comes.

"We need not worry about Alaska or the Japs in Attu and Kiska," said Chandler, chairman of the senate committee to investigate military establishments of the western hemisphere. "Morale of our men up there is high and they are well equipped."

Allied Airmen Blast Anew at Nazi Europe

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—Strong forces of allied bombers and fighters winged across the channel throughout today in unabated assault on the axis following the double-barreled blow on Italy with an American dusk blasting of the Naples waterfront yesterday and another RAF pounding of Turin last night.

Many of the planes in the daylight foray across the channel were believed to be American and observers on the south coast said the relays were shutting over in considerable volume.

The scale, apparently, was short of the unprecedented daylight air onslaught last Sunday, however.

Second Smash
The RAF attack on Turin was made despite a five-mile layer of clouds over the continent. The raiding force was smaller than those before it, but had to buck severe icing and electrical storms in the 1500-mile flight over the Alps to Italy's northern arsenal city and back. It was the second smash at

the South Italian port in eight days and emphasized anew Prime Minister Churchill's warning that Italy would be placed under shattering and scientific attack from the air. The Italian communiqué acknowledged heavy damage at Naples and said casualties were 57 dead and 138 injured.

Captives Taken
On December 4, a great armada of four-engined United States bombers loosed tons of bombs on Naples, sinking one Italian cruiser, crippling a battleship and scoring hits on another cruiser.

Although the Italian high command said 10 American fliers, the crew of one out of five downed bombers, had been captured, a U. S. army middle east communiqué announced that all the raiders returned safely.

Heavy American bombers—probably four-engined Liberator B-24's of the same type that made the first raid—scored hits, touching off big fires and explosives, on the waterfront and on ships moored in the target area, it said.

Cloudy Weather
Only a few hours after the attack on Naples, big four-engined

(Continued on Page Four)

Chinese Hold Solidly Against New Jap Thrust

CHUNGKING, Dec. 12 (AP)—Chinese lines are holding firmly against a new Japanese thrust in the southwestern province of Yunnan, the high command announced tonight.

Fighting has been severe, the war bulletin said, in the week-old operations launched by the enemy with a force of 6,000 infantrymen north of Yengyueh, in western Yunnan near the frontier of Japanese-occupied Burma.

Local fighting was reported in Hupei, Honan and Kwangtung provinces, with heavy casualties inflicted by hit-and-run Chinese forces in an attack on the Japanese near the southern port of Swatow.

READ IT TODAY
Turn to the comics page today for the first of six play-by-play accounts of how our men live on Guadalcanal, engaged in the fight for the Pacific. This series of six articles will be carried in place of the regular continued story which will be resumed when the Guadalcanal stories are concluded.

Walter Salsbery Dies in Plane Crash; Richard Muskopf Missing on Flight



Staff Sgt. Walter E. Salsbery

The names of two Klamath men, one listed as dead and the other as missing in routine air maneuvers, were issued by the war department this weekend and next of kin notified.

The dead youth is Staff Sgt. Walter Edward Salsbery Jr., 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter E. Salsbery, 4339 Altamont drive, killed early Friday morning five miles southeast of the Colorado Springs army air base near Colorado Springs, Colo. Young Salsbery was piloting a P-38 and during the flight was carrying out a photographic assignment.

Missing is Tech. Sgt. Richard Fred Muskopf Jr., 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard F. Muskopf of Pelican City, one of seven army fliers who left a week ago on a routine flight along the Pacific shoreline. The plane was last heard from the morning of December 6.

Both young men were graduates of Klamath Union high school, Salsbery with the class (Continued on Page Four)



Tech. Sgt. Richard Muskopf

GERMAN ARMY HAMMERS AT EASTERN BANK

Nazis Strike Back to Help Beleaguered Garrisons

By HENRY CASSIDY

MOSCOW, Dec. 12 (AP)—The third battle for the elbow of the Don river west of Stalingrad appeared to be underway today with axis forces launching repeated attacks on the east bank of the river but Russian advances from the front said that the red army was repulsing all assaults.

The Russians declared their own advance continued on sectors of both the Stalingrad and central fronts, including a point west of Rzhnev where they forced a water crossing and captured enemy frontline trenches.

Strike Back
The Don elbow, which the Germans occupied last August, was reconquered by soviet troops in a sweeping push that got underway in force November 19.

The main German object now appeared to be to strike back in this sector to relieve garrisons at which the Russians are pounding.

In a campaign marked by swift turns and surprising maneuver, the red army had pushed south from Serafimovich and then turned last toward Stalingrad.

Nazis Confined
The Germans replied by attacking westward from Stalingrad although they continued to hold the siege before the city against vicious assaults by red army troops within the factory area and on the southern fringes.

Despite the repeated counterattacks of the Germans on the Don bend, the Russians said that they held them still confined to the east bank.

The Nazi command has reverted to pincers attempts in their new attack.

Inside Stalingrad, in the southern area of the city, Red Star said soviet troops drove the (Continued on Page Four)

Bulletin

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—United States heavy bombers attacked Rouen in France this afternoon, a joint communiqué of the British air ministry and United States headquarters announced.

Strong opposition was encountered from enemy fighters and 18 of them were shot down, 14 by bombers and four by the squadrons of allied fighters which accompanied them.

Two of the bombers and four of the allied fighters are missing.

The weather was unfavorable, the communiqué said, and the results of the raid could not be observed.

Nazis Claim U. S. Destroyer Sunk

BERLIN (FROM GERMAN BROADCASTS), Dec. 12 (AP)—The German high command said today that a United States destroyer was sunk by a U-boat off Oran and that a British destroyer was sunk in a naval engagement in the English channel last night.

(These claims were not confirmed from any other source.)



William E. "Father" Riker, leader of the Holy City colony in the mountains south of San Francisco, was cleared in federal court last night of sedition. "God Almighty has blessed me with another blessing," said he, on hearing the jury's verdict for acquittal. He drove to the San Francisco courthouse in his red, white and blue automobile, on which he had posted the sign, "To Hell With Hitler."

Klamath Meat Situation Not Serious, Says Packer

Another angle on the local meat supply problem came Saturday from C. A. Johnson, owner of the Pauley Packing company, who cited a number of factors which he said show that Klamath is getting along "very well" in comparison with other communities on the meat situation.

Pauley Packing company is the only plant slaughtering here at the present time. The Klamath Packing company plant burned down last October, and recently a local effort has been made to assure the availability of the Klamath Pack quota to the consumers of this community. Under OPA, slaughtering is permitted this year on a quota based on last year's kill.

Johnson, who recalled that immediately after the Klamath Pack fire he assured the community that no critical meat shortage exists here, made the following four points:

1. We now have a larger meat quota at my plant than we will use up during the remainder of this year.
2. We have killed more beef at my plant during the past several weeks than the local markets could consume, and, therefore, have shipped dressed beef to dozens of outside markets in this state where the situation really is critical.
3. There will be a meat shortage in this community during the early part of 1943, because only a small percentage of the normal number of cattle are being fed, and, therefore, there simply won't be enough fat cattle. This has nothing to do with quotas or the number of packing plants here. If there were 10 plants here, the condition would be the same.
4. I am the only packer in this community, to my knowledge, who is endeavoring to supply my trade by fattening cattle in the feed lot myself, even though it is an unprofitable operation.

"All You Want"

"I would seem from the above that we are getting along very well here particularly since I read in your own paper that other districts in Oregon have less (Continued on Page Four)

British Cut Into Convoy Off Dieppe

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—British light naval forces sank a medium-sized supply vessel and an escort ship in an attack on an axis convoy off Dieppe last night, an admiralty communiqué announced today.

Demand for Homes to Rent Strong Here, Say Agents

Housing occupancy in Klamath Falls and suburbs bears out the evidence given earlier in the week from the school census that population trends here are on a stable basis and there has been no notable decline, it was indicated Saturday in comments from a number of local real estate men.

There is a notable lack of good houses for rent. Virtually all of the medium and better class houses are now occupied, and there are few vacancies even among the poorest type of dwelling, it was learned.

One agent, who handles a large number of rental collections, said that the demand for rental property has been very strong throughout the fall. He also added that there has been a brisk sale of good houses both in the city and suburbs with people who find themselves un-

able to build because of war conditions.

For a time, when housing conditions were somewhat looser several months ago, there was a movement from poorer class houses into better residences as the latter were vacated by people moving to large defense centers. However, people have been moving into the marginal type places which were vacated.

One real estate man said that contrary to the beliefs of some people he had talked to, the real estate business has been exceptionally good here in recent months, indicating the presence of a population at least equaling the housing available and also indicating confidence in the value of Klamath real estate.

The school census taken here earlier in the week showed 4260 census-age children, more than at any time in the history of district No. 1.

NAZIS REPORT HEAVY ASSAULT ON LIBYAN LINE

Axis Thrown Back in Tunisia; Mud Slows Campaign

By ROGER D. GREEN

Associated Press War Editor
The eastern arm of the allied squeeze appeared to be pressing forward again late today on the basis of enemy reports that the British eighth army had opened its anticipated heavy assault on the remnants of Marshal Erwin Rommel's African corps along the short El Aghella line in Libya.

The Berlin radio broadcast a DNB report that British General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's forces had pushed ahead east of El Aghella yesterday with two tank divisions and two infantry divisions, supported by aircraft.

Repeat Performance
Though the report had no confirmation from London or Cairo, only last Thursday the British hinted an offensive was in the offing when they announced their heavy artillery was giving the enemy no rest.

Montgomery's drive to El Aghella began with just such heavy artillery preparation at El Alamein, some 75 miles west of Alexandria, late in October.

Muddy Going
The Berlin report—substantiated by a Rome broadcast that Montgomery and General Sir Kenneth Anderson, commander of the British first army in Tunisia, had met and planned a coordinated offensive from the east and west—said the British had attacked at Mersa El Brega, on the Gulf of Sirte, and further inland toward the heavily defended El Aghella line that runs to the salt marshes about 35 miles from the coast.

On the western flank the allies, bogged down in Flanders (Continued on Page Four)

Klamath Holiday Buying Promises To Outstrip 1941

Klamath residents tucked shopping bags under their arms and embarked on Christmas buying Saturday morning which promised to exceed last year's volume, local merchants said.

One of the larger stores reported an 18 per cent increase over last year's buying and said customers number "about the same but they were buying more and better merchandise." One of the chain "dime stores" reported a similar customer count with a decided increase in sales.

Several of the larger department stores said volume was up to last year but that shopping had just started. The post office reported a heavy rush in mailing Saturday morning and expected to be "swamped" Monday.

No "Change" Allowed on Gas Coupons, OPA Warns

There is no "change" involved in the use of gasoline ration coupons, OPA warns.

It therefore behooves motorists to be sure their gas tanks will take all the gasoline they order, because if a driver orders eight gallons and finds that his tank will hold only seven, he has simply lost a gallon of his precious petrol from his ration allowance.

10 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

"TO GET PERFUME FOR \$15"

Buy Christmas Seals