

## 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 17, 1942

Number 9671

## Weather News

December 18—High 41, Low 24  
Precipitation as of December 10, 1942  
Stream year to date ..... 5.24  
Last year ..... 2.97 Normal ..... 0.32  
Dec. 18—Sunrise 8:25 Sunset 5:11

# ROMMEL'S REAR GUARD CUT OFF

## In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
TODAY'S most striking news: Rommel's retreating army (estimated at from 50,000 to 60,000 men and an unknown number of tanks) has been cut off 65 miles west of El Aghella by a British flying wedge that got in between his rear guard and his main force.

His trapped rear guard, trying to fight its way out, is said to have suffered heavy losses, including much armored equipment.

NOT only that, but the encircled rear guard is believed to include a large part of Rommel's famed Afrika Korps, which has been the backbone of his strength.

THE news is important, indicating that Rommel is really running for his life and not doing too well at it.

If he had been able to get to Tunisia in good order, adding his 50,000 to 60,000 battle-hardened veterans to the axis forces already in northern Tunisia, our job there would have been made MUCH harder.

As it is, there is reason to hope that whatever remnants of his army may get to Tunisia, or even to Tripoli, will be badly disorganized by the time it gets there.

DARLAN, the mystery man, breaks into the news again in a big way.

Talking to allied correspondents in French West Africa, he asserts that French fleet units in various North African ports will JOIN the British and U. S. fleets on the high seas to FIGHT THE AXIS.

These remaining units aren't altogether negligible. They include two battleships, seven cruisers, three destroyers, about a dozen submarines and a submarine tender—nearly all of them in potential fighting condition. In addition, various disabled or beached cruisers, destroyers and submarines can probably be repaired and put back into commission in time to be useful.

A squadron of that size, coming into action at the psychological moment, MIGHT turn the fortunes of sea war.

DARLAN adds: "French Africa, with the allies, must make a maximum military effort for the defeat of Germany and Italy."

Then, referring obviously to De Gaulle, he says: "I hope that all Frenchmen who are able to fight the axis will do it in close union."

Whatever his motives may be, Darlan is giving us a lot of help. Already, he has saved the lives of many American boys.

AS the situation now stands, we appear to be backing Darlan and the British are backing De Gaulle. Whatever happens, let's not get into a ruckus over who is going to save the remnants of France.

THE news from Russia today (what little there is of it) is more favorable. The red army reports that it has SMASHED the stubborn German counter-offensive southwest of Stalingrad and has captured five more strongholds on the central front west of Rzhev.

Keep your eye on this central Russian front. It has great possibilities.

THE Morocco radio (run by our side) says: "It can be said that the course of the battle in Tunisia is already changing under the heavy weight of allied superiority in the air."

Note that the word used is "superiority," rather than "supremacy." When we get SUPREMACY in the African skies, victory in Africa should follow shortly.

ONLY air fighting is reported from the South Pacific today. Our planes are still pounding (Continued on Page Two)

## NAVY BOMBERS SCORE HIT IN MUNDA FORAY

Japs Fight Fanatically to Hold Buna Area

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Navy dive bombers striking at Japanese ships and installations at Munda on New Georgia Island in the Solomons, hit and damaged one enemy destroyer or cruiser, the navy reported today, while Flying Fortresses engaged and destroyed 12 Japanese Zero fighters nearby.

The navy said the Flying Fortresses were attacked by the dozen Japanese fighters near New Georgia Island. The entire force of Zeros was shot down in a sharp engagement. One Fortress was lost, but its crew was rescued.

One of the dive bombers, a Douglas Dauntless, failed to return from the raid on Munda where the Japanese have been seeking to establish a new air base.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 17 (AP)—On land and in the air allied forces strove today to complete domination of the Buna area where Emperor Hirohito's men faithfully obeyed his mandate to hold the New Guinea beach head to the last man.

"Our pressure on the enemy is slowly increasing," the headquarters communique said succinctly.

Order Told But from the Papuan front came reports that United States and Australian soldiers still fought on both sides of their hold on Buna village and a headquarters spokesman said allied planes were bombing and strafing the enemy's positions.

A captured Japanese artilleryman told intelligence officers that his emperor's order was delivered to troops of General Tamate Hori last November 28 after Hirohito was given word of the pounding his men (Continued on Page Two)

## Former Chiloquin Youth Reported Missing in Action

Virgil Vernon Mathews, 25, former Chiloquin resident, has been reported missing in action according to word received by the youth's mother, Mrs. Roy E. Cameron of North Bend. Mathews held the rating of fireman, third class, U. S. navy. He was aboard a ship in the Pacific. It is understood.

Mathews was born in Prosper, near Bandon, and spent his early years in North Bend, Coos county. He later lived in Canby, and worked for the Chiloquin Lumber company for several years. He enlisted in the navy March 1. In addition to his mother, Mathews is survived by his father who lives in Chiloquin, two brothers, Lonnie and Veldon Mathews of Klamath Falls, and two sisters.

## Larry Weiss, Corvallis Youth, Buried at Sea

By JOHN MOROSO, III  
WITH THE ATLANTIC FLEET, Nov. 18 (Delayed) Dec. 10 (AP)—We buried stout hearted Larry Weiss at sea today with a lump in our throats for the cheerful lad who fought to get into a fight.

His passing seemed unfair after all that our cruiser had gone through in the sea and air battles off Casablanca. He had been bombed, shelled, machine gunned and we had dodged torpedoes without the loss of a single man. We were homeward bound to celebrate our victory when Larry died of septicemia.

## Cruiser San Francisco in Historic Solomon Battle



During the historic naval-air battle against the Japs off Guadalcanal November 12 and 13 when the United States cruiser bested a Nipponese battleship, smoke, center, rises from the spot on the ocean where an enemy plane crashed after sideswiping the U.S.S. San Francisco, which, too, is smoking at right. An American cargo ship, left, steams along under an umbrella of anti-aircraft fire. The Japs lost 32 out of 33 planes attacking the convoy. Official U. S. navy photo.

## Jap Invaders on Kiska Feel Pinch as U. S. Keeps Slugging at Supply Line

By WILLIAM L. WORDEN  
AN ARMY BASE IN THE ANDREANOF ISLANDS, Dec. 11 (Delayed)—(AP)—Activities of the U. S. navy and air force have brought the Japanese invaders face to face with the possibility of starvation through the complete cutting of supply lines to Kiska Island, it appears here.

Although army officers here are loath to definitely say that no supplies have reached Kiska in the last two months, the last ship seen there was October 8. Two attempts to reinforce the aircraft defense of the island likewise have failed—once when ships carrying crated planes on deck were destroyed and again when U. S. fighters pounced out of the clouds and destroyed a newly landed group of planes on the beach.

The army also disclosed today that the air force had destroyed a Japanese ship Thanksgiving day in the vicinity of Attu Island, western-most of the Aleutian chain.

American fighters and bombers swept out of the clouds to strafe and bomb the Collier-type vessel which was neither big enough or fast enough to be a good supply ship or to escape the attack.

United States officers considered its use an indication of a possible pinch in Japanese shipping resources.

The fighters, led by Capt. Arthur B. Husted of Los Angeles, went in first, silencing nearby land anti-aircraft batteries in Holtz bay where the ship was sighted, and raking deck gun positions. So well did they succeed in their mission the following bombers led by Capt. J. (Continued on Page Two)

## New York Gasoline Stocks Critically Low, Warns Ickes

NEW YORK, Dec. 17 (AP)—Petroleum Administrator Ickes declared today that stocks of gasoline in the New York area were critically low and advised the public that it would have to live on a "hand to mouth basis so far as gasoline is concerned."

Here to confer with eastern fuel rationing officials as reports of the acute shortage of gasoline spread, Ickes declared in a statement:

"The public is placed squarely on notice that all the gasoline that we are going to be able to deliver in this general area is that amount necessary to meet the absolutely essential."

## U. S. Court Affirms Pelley Conviction

CHICAGO, Dec. 17 (AP)—The United States court of appeals today affirmed the conviction of William Dudley Pelley, former leader of the Silver Shirts of America, on a charge of criminal sedition and his sentencing to 15 years' imprisonment.

Reliable sources said that unless some hitch developed, Henderson would resign shortly after the first of the year for a four months' rest and treatment for a back ailment, and Brown, defeated in the November elections, would be named as his successor.

## Henderson May Resign; Let-Up in Ration Seen

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—President Roosevelt accepted today the resignation of Price Administrator Leon Henderson without revealing who would succeed him.

By JACK BELL  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Reports that Leon Henderson would be succeeded as price administrator soon by Senator Prentiss Brown of Michigan brought predictions today that one of the immediate results would be a softening of rationing controls to release more supplies to civilians.

Reliable sources said that unless some hitch developed, Henderson would resign shortly after the first of the year for a four months' rest and treatment for a back ailment, and Brown, defeated in the November elections, would be named as his successor.

The appointment of Brown was said to have been agreed upon at a White House conference yesterday after the Michigan democrat previously had declined the post, preferring to return to his private law practice.

As a former member of both the house and senate, a personally well-liked member of congress, Brown would be expected to obtain needed appropriations (Continued on Page Two)

## Britain Protects Post-War Place in Air Transportation

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Great Britain and the United States have agreed that after the war "all bets will be off" on empire air routes which American planes now are permitted to fly for military purposes, Capt. Harold H. Balfour, under-secretary of state for air, told the house of commons today.

Balfour made the statement in giving commons assurance that the British government was considering "bold measures" to assure Britain's post-war place in the air transport systems of the world and prevent the wrecking of the nation's aircraft industry which employs over a million persons.

## Pierre Laval Escapes Accident

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—A Reuters dispatch datelined "At the German Frontier" said Pierre Laval was involved in a motor car skidding accident yesterday at the Loire river town of Pouilly while en route from Vichy to Paris, but escaped injury. His car was reported damaged.

## News Index

City Briefs ..... Page 7  
Comics and Story ..... Page 10  
Editorial ..... Page 4  
Farm News ..... Page 6  
Markets, Financial ..... Page 11  
Pattern ..... Page 2  
Sports ..... Page 8

## FRENCH FLEET TO FIGHT AXIS, SAYS DARLAN

Close Union Between All Frenchmen Urged

By WES GALLAGHER  
Copyright, 1942, by The Associated Press

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Dec. 17 (AP)—Admiral Jean Darlan flatly declared today that formidable French fleet units at Dakar, Alexandria and North African ports would join the British and United States fleet on the high seas to fight the axis.

In an exclusive statement to this correspondent, the former commander of all of Vichy's armed forces, now recognized by Lieut. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower as high commissioner of French Africa, gave reasons for his dealings with the Germans in Vichy for the past two years and, in answer to a question regarding General Charles de Gaulle, Fighting French leader, expressed the hope that "all Frenchmen who are able to fight the axis will do it in close union."

Maximum Effort The pipe-smoking admiral made a written reply to questions presented by this correspondent shortly after he held his first conference with the allied press since the fall of France.

In that conference he made the formal statement that "French Africa, with the allies, must make the maximum military effort for the defeat of Germany and Italy" and he disavowed personal ambitions as his motive for joining the allies.

Giving the first definite word of plans for the French naval units whose aid will give a great boost to allied naval power, Darlan (Continued on Page Two)

## Ohio River Men Look for a Kaiser To Fill Contract

CINCINNATI, Dec. 17 (AP)—Ohio river men looked today for a Henry Kaiser to help them out in a huge, new towboat and barge construction program designed to provide movement of an additional 100,000 barrels of heavy fuel oil daily for the oil-hungry east coast.

Capt. Slack Barrett, president of Barrett Lines, Inc., and the Ohio Valley Improvement association, said Ohio river shipyards were so busy on army-navy light ship orders they couldn't handle any major portion of the construction, and added that they would have to find someone like the west coast's fabulous builder, Henry Kaiser, to fill the bill.

## Britain Protects Post-War Place in Air Transportation

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Great Britain and the United States have agreed that after the war "all bets will be off" on empire air routes which American planes now are permitted to fly for military purposes, Capt. Harold H. Balfour, under-secretary of state for air, told the house of commons today.

## Norris Doty Decorated For Courageous Service

Norris Doty, somewhere in Australia and already a veteran of service on the New Guinea front, has been decorated with the Purple Heart, awarded for fearless service to his organization.

Word of the decoration came to young Doty's parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Doty of 1726 Menlo way, in a letter from their son's commanding officer.

Doty left Klamath Falls to enter the U. S. army air force in September, 1941; was sent overseas in November of the same year. He is with ordnance headquarters.

The letter telling of the award follows:

Headquarters Fifth Air Force APO November 30, 1942 Dear Mrs. Doty: Recently at an operational base of the United States army air forces in Australia, I decorated (Continued on Page Two)

## Good Part of Afrika Korps Held Trapped

By JAMES M. LONG  
Associated Press War Editor

The British eighth army has cut Marshal Rommel's retreating African corps column in two along the road to Tripoli, trapping armored formations which "already have suffered heavy casualties and continue to be severely mauled," the British announced today.

The columns of retreat were severed at Wadi Matruh, 65 miles west of El Aghella.

This blow was dealt to the eastern flank of the shrinking axis position in North Africa as reports from the western flank indicated that allied forces were on the move again there, too.

The Morocco radio said axis forces were retreating from Medjez-El-Bab and that "the course of the battle already is changing under weight of allied air superiority."

This account, which was without official confirmation, contradicted an earlier broadcast by the Nazi-controlled Vichy radio that the allies had withdrawn from Medjez-El-Bab, 35 miles southwest of Tunis.

## Judge Over-Rules Defense Motion In Pay Case Here

Circuit Judge L. G. Lewelling of Albany has over-ruled a defense motion in the case of the state versus County Clerk Mae K. Short which asked that the court reporter be required to provide the defense with a transcript of certain instructions given the grand jury prior to Mrs. Short's indictment on charges of receiving unauthorized payments of \$85.

Judge Lewelling made his ruling on the grounds that there is no requirement for the court reporter to make a record of the instructions of the court to the grand jury and also that the law provides that when presentment of facts is made to the court by a grand jury, the statement of facts in the presentment is destroyed.

Presumably in connection with this case, the grand jury made a presentment of facts during its recent deliberations, and Judge David R. Vandenberg gave instructions on the basis of the presentment. Mrs. Short's attorney, J. H. Carnahan, moved that the defense be supplied with copies of the instructions, and Judge Lewelling mailed copies of his rulings to the attorneys in the case here.

## British Women's Draft Age Upped

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Labor Minister Ernest Bevin advised the house of commons today that the maximum age limit for women subject to draft for service in certain distributive trades is being raised from 30 to 35 and in a few cases to 45.

The move is necessary, Bevin said, to release additional men for the armed forces and heavy industry.

## King George Awards DSC to Oregonian

LONDON, Dec. 17 (AP)—Lieut. (J. g.) Wiley Howell of the U. S. navy, was "certainly proud" today of a distinguished flying cross awarded him by King George. Lieut. Howell, whose home is in Prairie City, Ore., was the first U. S. naval officer to be decorated by the king. He said:

"The king asked me about my service with the RAF." (Before Howell transferred to the navy). I told him I was with the coastal command and got the DFC for attacks on submarines in the Bay of Biscay. I'm certainly proud of this cross."

## 6 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT!

AND WE NEED ORNAMENTS FOR THE TREE!

Buy Christmas Seals