

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, DECEMBER 18, 1942

Number 9672

Weather News

December 17—High 40, Low 28
Precipitation as of December 11, 1942
Stream year to date 5.24
Last year 2.97 Normal 3.38
Dec. 19—Sunrise 8:26 Sunset 5:11

REDS MENACE' NAZI STRONGHOLD

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

ROMMEL'S surrounded rear guard, including possibly 10,000 of his best men and half of his tanks, is still fighting it out with the British west of El Aghella.

The remainder of his army (some 40,000 to 50,000) is fleeing at top speed toward Tripoli, some 300 almost waterless miles away.

The gap between his trapped rear guard and the remainder of his army is reported today to be WIDENING, indicating that in his desperate haste to get where he is going Rommel is forced to leave his surrounded comrades behind to fend for themselves as best they can.

WHAT is Rommel's destination?

As to that, WE can only guess. Only Rommel and the German high command know. But you must have noted, if you follow the war on your map, that the axis forces in northern Tunisia have been fighting stubbornly, even at the cost of extending dangerously their thin lines, to hold the railroad around the Mediterranean coast to the Gulf of Gabes, more than 200 miles southeast of Tunis.

This leads one to guess that the plan is for Rommel to keep right on going when he reaches Tripoli, in the hope of effecting a junction with the axis forces in Tunisia.

OUR side, of course, will have something to say as to that. It is more than 400 miles from Tripoli to Tunis.

WE learn from today's dispatches that an American air force TROOP TRANSPORT squadron is shuttling back and forth between Cairo and Montgomery's 8th army, carrying bombs and other munitions, food and gasoline to the advancing British and bringing the wounded back to Cairo hospitals. The present distance is about 1000 miles.

Our side, you see, is using air transport also.

THREE more axis supply ships have been torpedoed in the Mediterranean by British submarines.

The fight to keep axis reinforcements from reaching Africa goes on. Apparently with considerable success.

TODAY'S dispatches report significantly:

"Over the whole vital Tunisian front, allied fighters and bombers range with RISING power and declining losses as axis attempts at interception grow perceptibly weaker."

The Russians hint broadly today that a red army force is moving southward from the Toropets area toward Smolensk. To understand that situation, you'll have to get out your map. It will tell you that Smolensk is a great German supply center, with railroads and highways running out from it like spokes from the hub of a wheel. Supplies assembled there are fed out to the whole vast German front in Russia.

If the Russians SHOULD take Smolensk, Hitler will have to (Continued on Page Two)

Japs Have Own Interpretation of "Praise the Lord"

MAGNA, Utah, Dec. 18 (AP)—Word about "praise the Lord and pass the ammunition" has filtered back to Japan.

"And when the Japs interpreted the words of the song and gained the impression that a chaplain had handled weapons," said the Rev. Hugh C. Craig, "closer restrictions were placed on all priests and other ministers held prisoners."

The Catholic priest was interned by the Japanese in Korea for seven months.

ALLIES CLOSE IN ON JAPS IN BUNA VILLAGE

Air Arm Aids in Bitter Battle for Guinea

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 18 (AP)—Japanese cornered in pockets about Buna village continued their last man, last ditch stand today and even offered attacks at two points in the New Guinea battle area, but a headquarters communique said "our lines are gradually closing in, in the face of strong enemy resistance." The air arm was aiding.

The Australian and American troops who had backed the Japanese to the sea were faced with the problem of driving them out of the Buna government station, from a coconut grove south of the station, and from a sand spit and mangrove island seven miles north of Buna.

Allied guns smashed a bridge leading to the government station. When the allied troops came up to the grove the Japanese laid down a barrage of mortar shells and then vainly tried to counter-attack, losing 20 dead and one taken prisoner.

Another Japanese force attempted to repeat infiltration tactics west of Gona. Australians there killed 15 and took one Japanese prisoner, dispatches from the front said.

Allied planes strafed another group of Japanese on the mangrove isle and the communique said that enemy refugees in the Kumusi delta were bombed.

British Subs Sink Three More Axis Supply Vessels

LONDON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The admiralty announced today that British submarines had damaged and probably sunk three more axis supply ships in the Mediterranean and had scored a torpedo hit on a large Japanese supply vessel in far eastern waters.

Of the vessels attacked in the Mediterranean, one was a medium-sized supply ship heavily laden with motor transport bound for Tunisia, the announcement said. The vessel was reported to have run aground in a sinking condition after being torpedoed in the Gulf of Hammamet.

18 RAF Bombers Missing After Raid on Germany

LONDON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The royal air force bombed targets in northwest Germany last night in a raid from which 18 bombers are missing, it was stated authoritatively today.

(The Germans reported they shot down 21 bombers.) Low clouds were encountered over the objectives, it was stated, and results of the bombings were not seen.

Committee Blames OPA for "Threatened Break-Down"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—A congressional committee blamed office of price administration policies today for a "threatened breakdown on the home front."

The committee, set up by the house last year to study the problems of small business, said in a preliminary report the nation's system of consumer goods distribution "has been seriously undermined and weakened as a result of OPA policies" and a collapse which might gravely imperil the entire war effort appears inevitable unless these policies are speedily corrected.

Part of the blame for existing conditions, the committee continued, must be shared by the war production board and the

Ringing in the Season



Mrs. Ethel McCollum, 2200 White avenue, is known to hundreds of Klamath shoppers as she presides over the traditional Salvation Army kettle at Eighth and Main streets. Adding his bit is young Buddy Davies, 11-year-old son of Jack Davies of Chilcoquin.

U. S. FLYING FORTS AGAIN BOMB MUNDA

Results Not Reported; Fighters Escort Bombers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The navy announced today that army Flying Fortresses with fighter escorts had made another attack on the Japanese base at Munda on New Georgia island in the Solomons, but said results were not reported.

Communique No. 223: "South Pacific: (All dates are East Longitude). "1. On December 17th a force of army 'Flying Fortresses' (Boeing B-17) escorted by 'Aircobra' fighters (Bell P-39) attacked the Munda area of New Georgia island. Results were not reported.

"2. Navy department communique No. 222 announced that 12 Japanese 'Zero' fighters had been shot down in the vicinity of New Georgia island on December 16th. A correction has been received from the South Pacific stating that the number shot down was three instead of 12."

Entire Force Downed

The correction in the number of Zeros destroyed in the December 16 raid made the total of Japanese planes reported destroyed in the Solomons campaign to date 640.

The use of Aircobra fighters as escorts for the Flying Fortresses apparently was the reason (Continued on Page Two)

Rickenbacker Is Back Home, But Refuses Comment

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18 (AP)—Eddie Rickenbacker, the man who always comes back, is back in America today—sun-tanned, grinning and a-rarin' to go again.

He arrived yesterday wearing a set of clothes picked up all across the Pacific—a marine sun helmet, an army shirt and a pair of navy trousers.

Some deep, new lines in his face and a noticeable loss of weight gave evidence of the ordeal Rickenbacker survived after his plane, on a special mission, was forced down in the Pacific. Rickenbacker was lost for 24 days. One member of the party of seven, died from the hardships.

An ambulance arrived at the airport to take the flying hero of two wars to his hotel, but Rickenbacker laughed at the idea and walked off the field under his own power.

He was under army orders to give out no statement until he made his official report first to Washington. He interpreted his instructions so literally he wouldn't even talk about the weather.

15-Year-Old Makes Most of Freedom From School

PORTLAND, Dec. 18 (AP)—John H. Hottman, 15, was back in custody today after only one day of freedom from the Woodburn training school but Detective H. J. McCormick observed that the youth made the most of it.

Young Hottman told the officer he took a bicycle at Hubbard, pedaled off in his pajamas to Donald where he took a car. He drove it to Portland, ran out of gasoline, took two other cars, abandoning each as the gas tanks became empty.

He finally showed up at his home here and his father returned him to custody. Somewhere along the way he obtained more adequate clothing.

FDR Laughs Off Churchill Visit

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Lisbon reports that Prime Minister Winston Churchill of Britain was on the way to the United States were dismissed by President Roosevelt today with a remark that that sounds like Lisbon.

He was asked at his press conference for comment.

British Race for Knockout

Portland Gets More Time to Eat Less Meat

PORTLAND, Dec. 18 (AP)—OPA announcements this week offer small relief to war-crowded Portland during the holidays although they make January-February-March quota meat available December 20, packers said today.

As one packer interpreted the orders: "They're like drawing on next week's paycheck when you've received a cut in salary."

The quota date was moved ahead 11 days, but other orders imposed limitations which will make meat scarcer, packers said. Another order reduced pork, lamb and mutton supplies by about 13 per cent so in effect the city gets more time to eat less meat.

Packers said the new quotas, based on consumption during the same period last year, cut beef from 80 to 70 per cent, pork 75 to 70, veal 100 to 70, mutton 95 to 75.

The regulations provide that only 10 per cent of the quota may be delivered during the early 11-day period.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The government honed its rationing knife today in preparation for a 13 per cent cut in civ- (Continued on Page Two)

EIGHT SOLDIERS PERISH IN CRASH

Son of Publisher Who Died in Liner Accident Killed

VICTORVILLE, Calif., Dec. 18 (AP)—Tragedy struck anew at a prominent southern California family when Sgt. W. C. Hart, 27, son of W. O. Hart, newspaper publisher killed in a Utah airliner wreck Tuesday night, died with seven other soldiers in the crash of an army transport and cargo glider near Blythe, Calif.

The crash of the army craft, which occurred late Wednesday, was announced last night by Lt. Edwin M. Kirtson, public relations officer at the Victorville flying school. The night before, the elder Hart, Orange county (Calif.) publisher, was killed with 16 others when a Western Airlines transport crashed near Fairfield, Utah.

Names Released

Lt. Kirtson said the wreck of the army ship apparently was due to engine failure during the takeoff. Both plane and glider crashed, and the plane burned.

Young Hart is survived by his widow and baby at Lubbock, Tex., where he had been stationed at an army flying school. Lt. Kirtson announced the names of the other victims as follows, with next of kin where available: Second Lt. J. H. Alabaster, stationed at Ft. Knox, Ky.; Staff Sgt. Leroy J. Hopkins Jr., 20, father, Hollis, Long Island, N. Y.; Staff Sgt. Nathan J. Toratsky, 22, mother, Mrs. Julia (Continued on Page Two)

Bulletin

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The navy announced today that American submarines have sunk six Japanese supply ships and a trawler in the central and western Pacific.

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AMERICAN AIR FORCES SMASH AT TUNISIA

Part of Trapped Axis Force May Have Escaped

By JAMES M. LONG

Associated Press War Editor
Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British eighth army struck swiftly on toward Tripoli today in a fighting pursuit, hot on the heels of the last of the German and Italian army of Libya south-west of Zaula en Nofilia, 100 miles beyond the broken El Aghella line.

There was no new official account of developments in the desert trap between Matruh Arch airfield and Matruh gulch where the rest of Rommel's African corps had been cut off and pummeled.

Corridor Widens

Sources in Cairo said part of this force, originally estimated to include 10,000 troops and half of the axis tanks, might have broken out.

Matruh is 65 miles west of El Aghella. Thus the corridor between the trap and the fleeing axis remnant west of Zaula en Nofilia has widened to more than 35 miles.

French Gain

Over the whole vital Tunisian front some 700 miles to the west, allied fighters and bombers ranged with rising power and declining losses as axis attempts at interception weakened perceptibly.

The Morocco radio broadcast what it said was a French North African communique reporting that French forces fighting on the side of the allies had occupied an important point in Tunisia. The scene of the action was (Continued on Page Two)

Four-Year-Old Escapes Serious Injury in Crash

Allen Conley, four-year-old son of Fred Conley who resides in the rear of the Buffalo Lunch on South Sixth street, narrowly escaped serious injury Thursday evening when he was struck by an automobile on the busy highway and came out with little more than a bump on the head.

The child, state police said, had permission to go to the restaurant to turn in two bottles for a candy bar. He became interested in a Christmas tree stand across the street and ran through the traffic to investigate. Returning to the Buffalo Lunch, Allen dashed in front of a car operated by Oral Freeman, Suburban Lumber company employee, the impact hurling the (Continued on Page Two)

Gas Sales in East Cut To One Coupon's Worth

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—Gasoline sales to ordinary motorists in the eastern states were limited at noon today by a temporary federal order to the amount obtainable on one coupon of their ration book.

The office of price administration put no limit on gasoline sales to commercial vehicles but banned them to holders of A, B or C ration books except for an "emergency" amount as represented by a single coupon.

The new regulation was issued, spokesmen of the OPA said, to stop a run on filling stations. It will be replaced shortly—possibly later today—by a less drastic order.

President Roosevelt told his press conference the prospective

U. S. Troop Transports Aid Eighth Army

CAIRO, Dec. 18 (AP)—A United States air force troop transport squadron is playing a big part in keeping Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British eighth army supplied as it continues its hot pursuit of the broken Africa corps in the western desert.

Daily the fleet of great weight-carrying planes leaves here loaded with hundreds of tons of bombs and other munitions, food and gasoline, for the trip of almost 1000 miles to the combat zone west of El Aghella, in Libya.

The huge planes land close behind the advancing British troops and deliver their vital supplies. Then, loaded with wounded that are in need of immediate hospitalization, they wheel and fly back.

The American crews carry their sleeping bags and bed down wherever darkness overtakes them. At daylight the flight is resumed. Since the American squadron began operations, its planes have been grounded only for necessary engine checks.

Crew Sergeant Glen W. Stanley of Tillamook, Ore., had only one regret:

"I would like to see Egypt," he said wistfully. "I've been in the air almost more than on the ground since we got here."

ELMER SHIRREL TO LEAVE PROJECT

WRA Director to Take New Duties After Christmas

Elmer L. Shirrel, manager of the Tulelake war relocation project since its inception early this year, disclosed Friday that he will leave on December 27 to take over new duties with the war relocation authority.

Shirrel said he will go in January to Washington, D. C., for a short period, and will then return to the middle west where he will probably engage in the work of establishing loyal Japanese-Americans in employment outside restricted areas.

300 Relocated

"This is the big problem confronting us now," said the Newell manager. "Recent developments, such as the Manzanar incident, have convinced us that we must get the loyal American citizens established in the unrestricted areas."

He said that in the last 30 days about 300 Japanese-Americans have been relocated, moving them out of the WRA colonies such as the one at Newell.

Before a colonist can move, he must be cleared by the FBI and army and navy intelligence, a definite "berth" must be obtained for him somewhere outside the restricted zones along (Continued on Page Two)

SOVIETS HINT DRIVE SOUTH ON SMOLENSK

Nazis Lose More Than One Company Near Rzhev

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW, Dec. 18 (AP)—Red army shock troops smashed into another village on the vital Rzhev-Vyazma railway line west of Moscow during last night's fighting, beating off German dive bomber attacks and destroying a battalion of German infantry, the Russian midday communique said today.

The engagement came in the wake of reports that counter-attacking Germans suffered another severe setback west of Rzhev, losing more than a company, and of a strong soviet denial of yesterday's Nazi claim that the Germans had trapped a Russian army at Toropets, a short distance northeast of Velikie Luki.

Near Toropets

In their denial the Russians hinted strongly that a red army force was moving southward toward Smolensk, which is one of the anchor points of the German line in Russia.

They placed the Russian columns at a point about 60 miles south of Toropets and about 40 miles west.

Toropets, the soviet information bureau said, "can be regarded with full justification as a town in the soviet rear where even the salvos of heavy guns cannot be heard."

The move gave promise of a new pincers action developing on the central front. The first by-passed Rzhev on the north and came down the railway toward Vyazma on the south-west.

7000 Killed

The Toropets column had reached the area of Bely and was even now conducting an offensive which already has "utterly routed" the 33rd German tank regiment, the 216th infantry regiment and the 13th Chasseurs battalion, the information bureau said.

"In these engagements the Germans lost more than 7000 officers and men killed, 110 tanks, about 57 guns and 100 (Continued on Page Two)

Nine-Minute "Cyclone" Cleans Out 100 Nylons

GRANTS PACS, Dec. 18 (AP)—A cyclone of nine minutes duration passed through the Golden Rule department store here this morning.

An ad carried in the local paper Thursday night said 100 pairs of nylon hose would be on sale at 9 o'clock Friday morning. The line outside the store started forming at 7:30 and by door-opening time had grown to a milling crowd of men and women that jammed the street in front of the store.

By 9:00, the last pair was gone.

"I hope we don't get any more nylon hose!" said F. L. Vannice, owner, with feeling.

5 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT...
NOSEY FOR THE TWIN...
Buy Christmas Seals