

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

KLAM

S, OREGON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1942

Number 9677

Weather News

December 23—High 39, Low 32
Precipitation as of December 17, 1942
Stream year to date 5.24
Last year 4.65 Normal 3.74
Dec. 25—Sunrise 8:28 Sunset 5:14

REDS CLOSE IN ON RAIL CITADEL

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THIS question is in every mind: Have the Russians enough strength in reserve to KEEP IT UP?

IT is partly answered today. They have WIDENED their Don front and their vanguards are reported to be within 150 miles of Karkhov. (See map.)

It seems improbable that they would widen their front if they were short of driving power. THEIR drive toward Rostov has lapped around Millerovo on both sides and now threatens to cut the railroad from Voroshilovgrad. Remember that transportation in Russia is precious. Every German-held railroad that is cut makes easier the Russian task by reducing the vital flow of German supplies.

Since their big drive started, the Russians have recaptured nearly 1000 miles of railroad.

PRAVDA (Russian newspaper) says the Germans in at least one sector have been thrown into wild disorder, leaving behind 17 undamaged Messerschmidt fighter planes on an airfield that was suddenly scooped in by the red army.

All reports of German disorder are interesting at this stage of the big battle, but we mustn't draw unduly rosy conclusions from isolated incidents.

The big thing to watch for will be the beginning of a German retreat through the narrowing Rostov gate. If that starts and is accompanied by disorder, we will be justified in building some rosy hopes.

BRINGING a million men back through the Rostov gate, in winter, with victorious Russian armies leaping at their flank (if it happens), will be a bigger task than the British retreat from Dunkerque—with the burden of disaster resting THIS TIME on the German neck.

THE spotlight is practically monopolized by Russia today. There is little news of importance from the other fronts.

Rommel continues his flight toward Tripoli, with the British pursuing as rapidly as the minefields he spreads behind him will permit. The thing to watch is what Rommel will do when he reaches Tripoli.

In northern France, Belgium and western Germany, allied fighters and bombers smash at trains and other railroad targets.

Everywhere, you see, the war on communications goes on.

AMERICANS move into Dakar today and JOIN THE FRENCH.

A special U. S. army and navy mission is already busy determining how airports, harbor facilities and French ships there can best be fitted into the allied plans.

Dakar isn't so important at the moment. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN terribly important if we'd had to take it by storm at the (Continued on Page Two)

ALLIES BREACH JAP POSITIONS IN BUNA BATTLE

Enemy Now in Desperate Straits, Says Communique

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 24 (AP)—Japanese forces in the Buna area of New Guinea, their fortifications breached in many places and their ranks decimated by the determined allied offensive, are now in desperate straits, a communique from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters said today.

Deprived of sufficient sea-borne supplies and reinforcements by allied aerial action against their convoys, the Japanese have been battered by United States and Australian troops for weeks and subjected to a terrific pounding from the air.

Location Not Given "Our attack has breached enemy fortifications in many places," the noon communique said. "Many hundreds of his dead are being buried by our troops. His situation must now be regarded as desperate."

The location of the Japanese fortifications newly breached was not given, but it was assumed they were in the area between Buna village and Cape Endiade, both of which are in allied hands, and in the Cape Sananda sector, northwest of Buna.

Planes Active The communique reported that allied planes were active in both these areas.

Another headquarters announcement (Continued on Page Two)

Here's Proof There Is a Santa Claus!

There is a Santa Claus! A Klamath Falls woman had a \$20 bill. She also had three children. The rent was due, but so was Christmas morning. The stockings were bare and the problem facing the mother was to choose between presents or the rent!

The presents won out and the mother bought all the things that children expect to find on Christmas morning. The specter of rent still loomed darkly in the background.

Thursday morning the mother heard a knock at the door. She responded. There stood a man with an envelope in his hand. In the envelope—yes, you've guessed it. There was a \$20 bill!

Believe in Santa Claus now?

Nazis Celebrate in Munich Cellar

LONDON, Dec. 24 (AP)—The German radio broadcast today that a "fuehrer" Christmas celebration in the Munich "Beer Cellar," one of nazidom's early rallying places, was attended by Hitler's "old guard." It was not stated whether Hitler himself was present.

dancing party. There will be packages and mail from home. But playing Santa Claus for boys and girls in Ireland, England, Africa and in a multitude of other posts is the favorite role for American soldiers.

The army in Northern Ireland will entertain 40,000 youngsters tonight. Hundreds will find toys among their gifts tomorrow that were made by patients in army hospitals.

In Great Britain there are 50 invitations to Christmas dinner for every soldier who can be spared from his war work for the day.

The story was the same in Australia and New Zealand, with private families and public agencies sharing the pleasure of (Continued on Page Two)

Christmas Greetings

And a Salute to Our Men In Service

Once again the management and staff of The Herald and News extend holiday greetings to our great family of readers. May your Christmas be merry.

We sincerely appreciate the support, the praise and the helpful criticism our readers have given to this newspaper over the years. Our constant objective is to produce a newspaper worthy of the great community it serves.

At Christmas time we at The Herald and News feel particularly keenly the absence of members of our staff who are in the service. To our men and our women who are far away, a salute and an affectionate greeting. May their Christmas, wherever they are, be a cheerful, happy occasion, and may God speed them to victory and back to our firesides.

The Herald and News will not publish Christmas Day

Rooms, Meals All Set for Soldiers Here

Rooms and meals for visiting service men in Klamath Falls over the holiday season were obtained by Commandos in a gratifying response which flooded the center up to a late hour Wednesday night. Mrs. Louis Serreys, Commando mother, said that accommodations were satisfactory and expressed appreciation to the public for the excellent work in giving the men a home-folks holiday.

Mrs. Serreys stated that trucks from Camp White would arrive at noon and the men will be taken to the Commando Center. Those persons who wanted to take men for Christmas dinner and rooms, are asked to come to the center at 10 o'clock to call for their tickets. The commanding officer will keep the men at the center until that hour. People are asked to come promptly for their men and to get them before they are dismissed. The center will be open Christmas day starting at 9 a. m.

Identification cards have been made out for each soldier.

Among the many men here for the holidays are some who arrived unexpectedly from Australia where they have been in the service for more than one year. They are with their families over the holidays.

Commandos expressed appreciation to all who have assisted them and said that the list of donors was too long but that (Continued on Page Two)

U. S. Bombers Dump Loads Over Munda

Yanks and RAF Blaze Way in Battle for Burma

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP)—Carrying on a series of bombing attacks on the Japanese airfield at Munda, United States dive bombers have dumped new loads of bombs on the enemy, the navy reported today.

The day-to-day series of attacks on this Solomons island point has been underway since December 9.

Operating from Henderson field on Guadalcanal, the dive bombers on their thirteenth day of assault, the navy said, also struck the enemy airfield located at New Georgia island. Results, however, were not reported.

NEW DELHI, India, Dec. 24 (AP)—Fighter aircraft of the United States tenth air force in India set fires among Japanese installations at Maingkan in northern Burma while on offensive patrol yesterday, a United States communique said today.

Fragmentation and incendiary (Continued on Page Two)

FEATURES POSTPONED The regular farm and church pages will appear on Saturday this week.

U. S. TROOPS JOIN FRENCH AT PORT OF DAKAR

"Nothing to Report" From Libyan Front

By The Associated Press LONDON, Dec. 24—American forces were disclosed today to have arrived in the French West African port of Dakar, welding the last big link in the allies' chain of bases and supply ports, as the campaign to drive the enemy from North Africa moved steadily closer to its climax.

The Italian high command said allied forces had launched an armor-supported thrust to recapture lost positions in Tunisia, presumably in the Medjer-El-Bab gateway sector before Tunis and Bizerte. This apparently was only part of increasing patrol activity on the Tunisian front, however, although the Italians said 300 prisoners, mostly British, were captured. There was no allied report of any major new operation.

In Libya, the British communique said, there was "nothing to report" from the ground forces but the Morocco radio broadcast a statement that Marshal Rommel's retreat was continuing with unslackened speed and his forces apparently were rushing to bolster the axis' Tunisian defense.

Another axis merchant ship was hit by British bombers on the closely-policed Mediterranean supply route, the British (Continued on Page Two)

Taking of Fifth Tire Not Intended, Clarifies Jeffers

OMAHA, Dec. 24 (AP)—Rubber Administrator William Jeffers said in a statement today "there is no likelihood in my opinion that the fifth tire of automobiles will be taken by the government."

He issued the statement to clarify remarks attributed to him yesterday that owners may have to give up their spare tires. No such plan is contemplated, he explained.

FDR Broadcasts Message of Christmas Cheer

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24 (AP)—President Roosevelt broadcast a message of Christmas cheer today to Americans everywhere and said it was a happier Christmas than last because "the forces of darkness stand against us with less confidence in the success of their evil ways."

The chief executive spoke from the south portico of the White House to people gathered to decorate a national community Christmas tree. He addressed the tree to all American citizens, to those in the armed forces, wherever they might be, and to those wearing other United Nations uniforms.

The text of his message: "This year I am speaking on Christmas eve not to this gathering at the White House only but to all the citizens of our nation, to the men and women serving in our American armed forces and also to those who wear the uniforms of the other United Nations."

"I give you a message of cheer. I cannot say 'Merry Christmas' for I think constantly of those thousands of soldiers and sailors who are in actual combat throughout the world—but I can express to you my thought that this is a happier Christmas than last year in the (Continued on Page Two)

German Aliens On Coast Freed From Restrictions

SAF. FRANCISCO, Dec. 24 (AP)—Starting tonight, the 20,000 German aliens on the west coast may move and go as they please, without regard to destination or time of day.

The strict controls over the movements of these enemy nationals, in force since last March 27, were put at an end through two proclamations issued by Lieut. Gen. J. L. DeWitt, chief of the western defense command and fourth army.

In announcing his intention to relax the curfew and travel orders, General DeWitt said the need for them no longer exists "as other security measures have been provided."

"Among these measures is the individual exclusion procedure under which persons who are found, after hearing, to be dangerous or potentially dangerous (Continued on Page Two)

Mighty Middle Don Campaign Sweeps Ahead

By ROGER D. GREENE Associated Press War Editor

Russia's armies hemmed the key German rail citadel of Millerovo on three sides today, captured at least eight more towns and listed 44,000 nazis killed and 37,600 taken prisoner since the great soviet drive across the middle Don steppes began nine days ago.

Millerovo lies only 130 miles north of Rostov, gateway to the Caucasus, whose capture would seal the land escape route of approximately 1,000,000 axis troops fighting in southern Russia.

German field headquarters gave this terse summary of the vast and critical struggle: "In the Don area, the defense battle continues. Between the Volga and the Don, bolshevist counter-attacks collapsed."

Front-line dispatches to the soviet newspaper Pravda said the Germans were retreating in wild disorder in at least one sector. As they fled, the nazis left 17 undamaged Messerschmidt fighting planes on an airfield.

In a series of war bulletins, the red army command declared that Col. Gen. N. F. Vatutin's forces, hitting a pace of 12 to 18 miles daily, had seized three towns in an arc threatening Millerovo with encirclement. These were Bolshinsk, 37 miles southeast of the rail hub; Voloshina, 25 miles west, and Olkhovoi Rog, 14 miles northeast.

The spearhead at Bolshinsk was only 37 miles northeast of Kamensk, another big town just below Millerovo on the Moscow-to-Rostov railway.

At the same time, the hard-driving red armies widened their sweep back into the Ukraine and soviet vanguards were pictured as having advanced within 150 miles of Kharkov, the "Ukraine Pittsburgh," in a lunge which has carried them 200 miles west of Stalingrad.

Adolf Hitler's frantic attempts to stem the Russian tide by throwing masses of reserves into the struggle were declared by Russian headquarters to have failed.

Pope Asks Peace A thousand nazi troops threw up their hands in surrender at one point, the soviet command reported.

While Hitler's invasion armies huddled miserably in the snows, facing a bleak and more perilous winter even than a year ago, Pope Pius XII in broadcasting a Yuletide message again voiced a desire for peace, based on "unity and love" within each nation.

"First, whoever wants peace must give back to humanity the dignity given to it by the creator," he said.

Combs Appointed Lakeview Judge

SALEM, Dec. 24 (AP)—Governor Charles A. Sprague today announced the appointment of Charles H. Combs, Lakeview, as circuit judge for Lake county, succeeding Judge Arthur D. Hay, whom Sprague appointed as supreme court justice.

Kiska Japs Eliminated as Threat to Coast, Report

SEATTLE, Dec. 24 (AP)—The establishment of the United States army garrison and air field on the Andreanof islands has eliminated the Japanese on Kiska island in the Aleutians as a threat to the west coast of the United States, Col. E. D. Post, chief of staff of the Alaska defense command, said here last night.

The move into the Andreanofs was so perfectly timed and unexpected that the Japs on Kiska didn't find it out for two weeks, Colonel Post said in an interview.

Since then only one attempt has been made to attack the base.

"One Japanese plane came over in late September," he said, "and dropped a couple of bombs through the fog at a point about a mile from the military installations."

He added the invaders apparently had been unable to build an airfield on Kiska and had to rely entirely on pontoon planes.

Second Twin Missing



Staff Sergeant Darwin Wissenback, 22, of Shady Pine, was reported missing today after a bombing flight over western Europe. His twin brother, Erwin, has been missing since a similar flight on October 13.

DARWIN WISSENBACK MISSING IN ACTION

Twins Separated; Both Missing in Hitler-Held Europe

Darwin Wissenback, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Wissenback, is missing in action over western Europe, where his twin brother, Erwin, was a reported missing last October.

Both men went down in American bombings of Hitler-held objectives, and their fate, other than that they are missing, is not known to their family here. The twins had been inseparable companions, even in service, until Erwin's plane (Continued on Page Two)

Here's a Present, Soldier!



Packages galore lie under the gaily decorated tree at Commando headquarters, where hundreds of servicemen will have a holiday treat away from home on Christmas day. Right, Tech. Sgt. Mary Trulove of the Commandos, hands a package to Pvt. R. M. McIntyre of Camp White. Left, Lt. Mabel Soderstrom holds gifts for another soldier, Pvt. Charles F. Cobb of Merince, Ariz.

Yank Troops Abroad Will Have Christmas Anyway

By JAMES KING LONDON, Dec. 24 (AP)—It will be Christmas—American style—in strange lands tomorrow.

There may be no snow, and Christmas trees just don't grow in many places where American soldiers are fighting. Turkey are scarce.

But the real holiday spirit hasn't been dulled and American troops are more than meeting the test of making Christmas as homelike as possible.

There will be enough to eat everywhere, although the menu won't match the yule season in all cases.

There will be parties in camps and some of the boys lucky enough to be in cities may get a whirl at a holiday