

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, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1942

Number 9680

Weather News

December 28—High 45, Low 34
Precipitation as of December 27, 1942
Stream year to date 5.49
Last year 5.58 Normal 4.04
Dec. 30—Sunrise 8:29 Sunset 5:16

REDS CAPTURE NAZI SUPPLY BASE

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FOR the moment, our global war has become almost a one-ring circus. The ring that holds our attention to the practical exclusion of the others is Russia.

The possibilities that are shaping up there are impressive indeed.

THE Russians' great winter offensive in the south that has been holding our breathless attention develops today another prong—making three in all. The point of this new prong is already thrusting at the gates of Kotelnikovsk, 100 miles southwest of Stalingrad on the railroad leading to Tikhoretsk, south of Rostov.

It is WIDER than a mere prong, for the Russians are reported today to be within 40 miles of Elista, 100 miles southwest of Kotelnikovsk.

One guesses from this that they are sweeping around to the south in a movement that has POWER behind it.

THIS impression of power behind the Russian drive is strengthened by dispatches reporting that in four days the Russian columns approaching Kotelnikovsk from THREE directions have advanced nearly 50 miles.

In yesterday's big surge that carried them to within two miles of the city's outskirts, they advanced nearly 15 miles.

The implication back of these gains is that German resistance is beginning to crumble.

BOLSTERING this implication, the soviet high command says today (referring to the Kotelnikovsk fighting):

"The enemy is sending in special detachments TO COVER UP THE RETREAT OF HIS TROOPS."

At the present critical stage of the fighting, any hint that the Germans are beginning to RETREAT is fascinatingly interesting.

THE crisis of the great battle of southern Russia will come if and when Hitler abandons his costly Stalingrad adventure and starts trying to get his armies out of the trap whose jaws the Russians are fighting to close on them.

MEANWHILE, there comes today from the Finns in the far north a report that the Russians, after a long lull, have taken the offensive between Lake Ladoga and Lake Onega, to the northeast of Leningrad. It is significant as indicating Russian power to strike at points separated by vast distances.

EVERYTHING depends on Russian striking power.

THERE is a general theory that the Germans were taken by surprise in Northern Africa. This writer is inclined to doubt that.

For weeks before we launched our African offensive, the German radio was telling nervously of allied operations in that quarter. It was the German radio that first announced the presence of American troops in Liberia. Days before the African blow fell, the German radio was telling of heavy allied naval concentrations at Gibraltar.

It is a fair guess that the Germans had an inkling of what was coming but were so deeply involved in Russia that they COULDN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT.

If that is true, it is much more significant than if they were taken completely by surprise.

KNOWING what was coming in Africa but LACKING the ability to do anything to meet it would mean that Hitler had his hands full to overflowing already and KNEW it.

THERE'S a little more news today from Burma.

The British are reported only miles from Akyab, having advanced apparently about 20 miles (Continued on Page Two)

U.S. Troops Abandon Hill

Knox Reveals Damage to Ship Early in War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 (AP) Secretary of the Navy Knox said today that very early in the war an American battleship had struck an uncharted reef but had long since been repaired.

The secretary was asked at a press conference regarding reports such as a mishap had occurred, and he replied, "I don't think there is any harm in saying that in the very early stages of the war one of the battleships did hit an uncharted reef and was repaired a long time ago."

He did not enlarge on the occurrence other than to say that it had occurred.

The reports about which the secretary was told were that the incident had occurred in the South Pacific.

(Continued on Page Two)

TRUCK MILEAGE RATIONING CLEARS

ODT Staff Members to Aid in Adjustment Of Claims

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP) The office of defense transportation is beginning to see daylight ahead on its farm truck mileage rationing program, after a period of confusion in which even ODT officials admit their hastily assembled machinery for getting rations to farmers "hadn't worked too well."

With OPA's local ration boards now handling issuance of temporary rations to farmers, government sources said the budget bureau has declined to permit ODT to expand its field operations beyond the 142 district offices already established.

No Extension Although ODT feels it should have more district offices in (Continued on Page Two)

SP Main Line Over Cascades Reopened Tuesday Morning

EUGENE, Dec. 29 (AP)—The Southern Pacific main line over the Cascade mountains was reopened this morning at 9:50 a. m. after crews which worked all night through a snow storm cut a path through the tons of mud and timber from a landslide which struck a southbound train Sunday evening, fatally injuring one man and hurting 13 others, had covered the track to a depth of 12 to 15 feet. The slide, coming from the peak of a timbered ridge which sloped up from the track near Wicopee station, high above McCreedy Springs, covered several hundred feet of track and derailed eight cars.

Court Meets Saturday to Choose Boivin Successor

Klamath county court was asked by Secretary of State Earl Snell Tuesday to meet at 10 a. m. Saturday to choose a successor to State Representative Harry D. Boivin, who resigned yesterday because of his duties as a federal attorney. The legislative vacancy provoked a flurry of political interest here at the close of a rather quiet political year, and a widening field of "mentioned possibilities" indicated the court may have a choice among several democrats who would be willing to take the job. The law requires that Boivin's successor be a democrat because that is Boivin's party affiliation. Among persons mentioned as legislative timber in connection with the vacancy are L. H. Cra-

BRITISH DRIVE AHEAD TOWARD BURMESE BASE

Allies Deepen Wedge Into Jap Lines In Buna

By The Associated Press

Gen. Sir Archibald P. Wavell's legions driving back into Japanese-conquered Burma from India were officially reported today to have reached the vicinity of Rathedaung, 25 miles northwest of the big enemy base at Akyab, after a 75-mile advance through treacherous coastal swamps from the Indian frontier.

A British communiqué said Gen. Wavell's patrols clashed briefly with Japanese troops near Rathedaung on the night of December 27, and the enemy retreated after an exchange of fire.

British Push The drive to Rathedaung, seven miles inland from the Bay of Bengal coast, represented an advance of approximately 20 miles from Aithangyow, which British troops captured a week ago.

At the same time, roundabout reports from Japanese-dominated Bangkok, Thailand, said other British troops had reached the Chindwin River valley in Burma in a push through the Chin hills to the north.

There was still no indication (Continued on Page Two)

Wallace Proposal Seen as Trial Balloon for FDR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 (AP)—Vice President Wallace's proposal for a world council after the war to direct the planned global economy was viewed in some congressional quarters today as possibly a "trial balloon" for President Roosevelt's address to congress on January 7.

Wallace, who is known to have consulted with the president while preparing his speech, said in a broadcast commemorating the birthday of Woodrow Wilson (Continued on Page Two)

Portland Draft Board Gets a Christmas Card

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 29 (AP) A Portland draft board received this P-mail Christmas greeting from V-P Anthony P. Sheridan, 29, Portland (drafted last spring) from one of the Pacific island theaters:

"Merry Christmas. Having a wonderful time. Wish you were here (instead of me)."

There was no confirmation of the report from allied sources. (A German report recorded in London said the convoy was American and that it had been followed until it was near the African (perhaps French North African) coast.)

War Bulletin

FRENCH ARMY ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS, Tunisia, Dec. 29 (AP)—French forces have cut an important road after a fierce dawn battle in a drive, backed by allied tanks and planes, through the central Tunisian hills south of Pont-Du-Fahs, it was announced tonight.

The French said the area had been cleared of the enemy and credited a picturesque detachment of Foreign Legionnaires with a prominent part in the fighting.



Leaving

Charles Stanfield, who came here in 1938 to become director of music in the high school, resigned Monday night and will go into business in Dyersville, Tenn.

STANFIELD RESIGNS MUSIC POST HERE

Resignation to Be Effective on January 3

Charles Stanfield submitted his resignation from the high school music department at Monday night's meeting of the school boards.

The resignation was made effective as of January 8, the board releasing him from his contract. Stanfield is going into the greenhouse and floral business at Dyersville, Tenn., and will direct a professional band and symphony orchestra there. He formerly lived in that district.

Works Reviewed

Stanfield came here in 1938 from Durango, Colo., to take over direction of the high school music department.

In submitting his resignation, Stanfield made a report on the work he has done here.

He said that when he came here the band department had 24 students, whereas 122 were (Continued on Page Two)

Berlin Reports Smashing of Allied Convoy Bound South

BERLIN (From German Broadcasts), Dec. 29 (AP)—The German high command declared in a special communiqué today that in a two-day running attack axis submarines had smashed a convoy bound south from Britain and sunk 15 cargo ships totaling 85,000 tons as well as a destroyer and a corvette among the escorting vessels.

Three other ships received torpedo hits, the broadcast said. The climatic sinkings were said to have occurred last night.

(There was no confirmation of the report from allied sources. (A German report recorded in London said the convoy was American and that it had been followed until it was near the African (perhaps French North African) coast.)

Log Shortage Probe Under Way

BATTLE FLARES ALONG FRONT IN TUNISIA

Allied Planes Strike At Nazi Supply Columns

LONDON, Dec. 29 (AP)—United States troops were reported today to have withdrawn from the hill position six miles northeast of Medjer-El-Bab which they won in fierce fighting Christmas day.

A communiqué from the United States war department said the withdrawal was made "after inflicting severe casualties on the enemy."

Fighters Strafe Nazis German broadcasts said nazis troops had captured the height, fighting along the front to the south.

One broadcast said an American attack in central Tunisia west of Kairouan had been repulsed, and another reported that United States troops had entered Gafsa, some 200 miles below Tunis, on the road to Sfax.

Allied fighter planes struck across the breadth of Tunisia in a strafing attack on German truck columns moving men, gasoline and equipment along the road between Tripoli and Medenine, 50 miles southeast of the Port of Gabes.

Allied headquarters in North Africa said they destroyed 21 German trucks.

Patrol Action

The war department communiqué reported at least 12 other enemy vehicles destroyed in attacks by the fighters. Only one of the fighters was lost.

U. S. bombers smashed anew at the docks and harbor of Sousse yesterday without loss.

The communiqué said that "our patrols in the northern area were in contact with the enemy during the night of December 27-28."

Rains Ease

Torrential rains which have held up any large-scale actions in Tunisia were reported yesterday to be easing, but the ground still was slippery and muddy.

To the east in the huge North African battlefield, meanwhile, the British eighth army was advancing well beyond Sirte in its chase of Field Marshal Rommel's Libyan army.

Coast Guard Headquarters Set For Ocean Park

SEATTLE, Dec. 29 (AP)—The coast guard today revealed a headquarters is being constructed at Ocean Park, between Willapa bay and the mouth of the Columbia, for the Pacific northwest's first mounted beach patrol. The guardsmen manning this station, have been recruited in the Pacific northwest, and 14 of them have been sent to Fort Robinson, Neb., for training with police dogs of various large breeds. Horses for the mounted patrol also will be furnished by the army. The beach now is patrolled afoot.

Log Shortage Probe Under Way

SEATTLE, Dec. 29 (AP)—F. H. Brundage, war production board western logging and lumber administrator, has started an investigation into the responsibility for the present northwest log shortage. Union representatives last week charged at a hearing that operators had failed to employ the 48-hour week or follow other war directives.

Corps Director



Ed Ostendorf will head a new branch of the civilian defense council here to be known as the U. S. Citizens Service Corps.

NEW CD BRANCH TO FUNCTION HERE

Ed Ostendorf Named Head 'U. S. Citizens Service Corps'

Beginning January 1, a new branch of the civilian defense council will function with Ed Ostendorf as its head, according to Earl C. Reynolds, civilian defense coordinator.

With the title of Director of the U. S. Citizens Service Corps, Ostendorf's new duties will include additional organization of the civilian defense set-up aside from the section already active and headed by Commander G. A. Krause.

Among the active local needs for this branch, the Citizens Service Corps will deal with salvage war savings, victory gardens, nutrition, neighborhood or block leader plan, providing a close-knit central organization to direct these activities. Assistants to the director will be announced later by Ostendorf, as well as plans for setting up the various sections and activities which will be handled by the group.

Ostendorf is a retired automobile dealer who is devoting much of his time to civic service. Reynolds pointed out. He is president-elect of the Kiwanis club, and has been helping in the rationing program.

French Somaliland Lines Up With Fighting French

LONDON, Dec. 29 (AP)—Gen. Charles de Gaulle's headquarters announced today that French Somaliland in East Africa has aligned itself officially with the Fighting French.

The Croix de Lorraine flag of the Fighting French has been flying at Djibouti since last night, headquarters said.

The number of French troops there was not disclosed, but a spokesman said that the majority previously had come across the border to join the allies.

FBI Smashes "Terrible Touhy" Gang; Two Gangsters Slain, Five Captured

By GILES FINLEY
CHICAGO, Dec. 29 (AP)—The "Terrible Touhy" gang, described by FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover as "the most vicious and most dangerous the country has ever had" was smashed by the FBI last night and early today, two members by killing and five by capture.

Announcement of the roundup, in which not a single FBI man was injured despite a gun battle with the two felons who were slain, was made by Hoover at offices of the FBI. He said he had been in Chicago, where the gang was rounded up, since Sunday and the seizure represented weeks of careful planning and timing.

The gang had been hunted since October 9, when Roger

Kotelnikovski, Key Rail City, Falls to Reds

MOSCOW, Wednesday, Dec. 30 (AP) — Russian troops have captured Kotelnikovski, key rail center 90 miles southwest of Stalingrad, it was announced officially early today.

A special communiqué said the town and railway station both were occupied and large amounts of equipment captured, including 17 German planes and a convoy of tanks.

The communiqué said other red army troops continued their offensive operations on the middle Don and central fronts.

65 Million Needed for War Effort, Report

By ROGER D. GREENE
Associated Press War Editor

On the soviet front, Adolf Hitler's cry for "living space" echoed with terrible urgency for 22 German divisions trapped before Stalingrad as the Russians stormed within three miles of Kotelnikovsk, 90 miles southwest of the Volga metropolis, and thrust within 45 miles of a junction with red army troops driving across the middle Don steppes toward Rostov.

Dispatches said Kotelnikovsk, which served as a main base for the nazis siege armies before Stalingrad, was now hemmed tightly on three sides, and the soviet command announced:

"The enemy is sending special detachments to cover up the retreat of his troops."

300-Mile Front

By closing the 45-mile gap between Kotelnikovsk and the middle Don, Col. Gen. Nikolai F. Valutin's legions would force a second ring of steel around the beleaguered nazis.

Latest advices said the red army was driving ahead on a 300-mile front spreading fanwise from the Ukraine to a point deep in the wind-swept Kalmyck steppelands of the Caucasus.

Soviet troops were reported to have recaptured Kichkino, 42 miles north of Elista, the Kalmyk capital.

Millerovo Imperiled

Other red army columns were pictured as having advanced within 100 miles of Rostov, gateway to the Caucasus, after having virtually surrounded the German rail hub at Millerovo, 120 miles north of Rostov.

Millerovo itself was sharply imperiled as soviet troops fought their way into Ternovoy, only two miles northwest of the town.

Nazi quarters asserted vaguely that a Russian force "encircled" for several days in the Don river bend had been "routed" with heavy losses.

A Finnish communiqué said red army troops, ending a protracted lull on the far north front, had launched heavy attacks against Finnish lines between Lakes Ladoga and Onega, east of long-besieged Leningrad, but declared they had been repulsed.

Restaurants in Portland Face Wholesale Shutdown

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 29 (AP) Portland restaurant operators today changed their cry from "help wanted" to simply "Help, Help!" and announced that wholesale closures were in sight.

L. C. Stoll, director of the Oregon office for war manpower said a complete breakdown of the city's restaurant service was ahead unless the employment situation improved. Already many restaurants—even important downtown ones—have closed one or more days a week because of shortage of help.

Representatives of Stoll's office and the army and navy will confer on the situation tomorrow and try to impress the remaining restaurant workers with the importance of their jobs in feeding thousands of service men and war workers.

British Subs Get Two More Ships

LONDON, Dec. 29 (AP)—British submarines have sunk at least two more axis supply ships in the Mediterranean and have probably destroyed two others, the admiralty announced today.

Three of the enemy ships were hit in the Gulf of Hammamet, on the east coast of Tunisia.

Nelson, whose correct name is Martillek Nelson, alias Harold Seeger, and William Stewart had been captured secretly by the FBI.

Touhy, Banghart and Darlak were captured early this morning in an apartment at 5118 Kenmore avenue without a shot being fired.

The FBI had erected floodlights about the building to guard against any slithering in the early morning darkness. Agents manned the roof of the building and others, heavily armed, were posted across the street.

A loudspeaker system was installed to call out orders to the hiding desperados.

At 5 a. m., the floodlights (Continued on Page Two)