

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, FEBRUARY 16, 1943

Number 9722

Weather News

February 15—High 48, Low 20
Precipitation as of February 5, 1943
Stream year to date 15.08
Last year 8.58 Normal 7.13

YANKS SMASH BACK IN TUNISIA

Kharkov Falls to Red Army

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

NORTH Africa today, at least temporarily, takes the spotlight away from Russia.

THE news, as suggested here yesterday, isn't too good for our side.

Rommel and Von Arnim, apparently, have already joined their forces and are now boldly attempting to PREVENT us from effecting a junction between our Tunisian armies (which we have brought up from the west) and Montgomery's 8th army, which has been chasing Rommel toward Tunisia from the east.

THE maps available to most of us don't show all the details, but the lay of the land seems to be something like this:

Running southward from Tunis is a line of hills dominating the relatively narrow coastal plain, served by a railroad and a highway, through which Rommel had to pass in order to join Von Arnim. Back of these hills is a high plateau, where we have been assembling our forces.

It was our hope to strike down from this plateau, through the passes of the hills, and CUT Rommel's line of retreat before he could join Von Arnim, thus pocketing him.

ROMMEL was too fast for us. Leaving a rear guard at the French-fortified Mareth line to hold Montgomery back, he dashed on toward Tunis, joined Von Arnim, and the two of them then struck through the passes of the hills (chiefly through Faid pass, where there is a highway) and hit our forces on the plateau.

We weren't YET strong enough to hold him at the pass.

THE Germans (whether commanded by Rommel or Von Arnim) struck in considerable force and with typical blitz methods, using as many as 100 to 150 tanks paced by dive bombers. The tanks included some of Germany's latest 62-tonners.

They seem to have broken through and fanned out on the plateau, taking our advanced base at Gafsa, well to the south of the break-through.

THE reason for the Germans' (probably temporary) success is the ancient and fundamental one of supply.

Our railroad base is at Tebessa, which will probably be shown on your map. From Tebessa, we've had to use trucks and inadequate roads. We just haven't been able to get up enough men and supplies IN TIME.

It's the old military story of short interior lines as opposed to longer exterior lines. The Germans' communication and supply lines have been shorter.

KEEP this in mind: This battle of the plateau isn't a decisive battle. The decisive battle will come when one side or the other establishes SUPERIOR STRENGTH in northern Tunisia. That's still a problem of supply.

THE Russians are fighting today in the suburbs of Kharkov, and are reported to have cut the railroad between Rostov and Taganrog. Plenty more will be heard from them.

SLOWLY (very slowly) the picture of the naval battle in the Solomons clears as the censor releases additional detail.

This seems today to have been about what happened: The Japs pushed a big naval force down from their base at Truk, including both battleships and carriers. They paused in the New Britain and Shortland is-

15 JAP SHIPS REPORTED LOST IN BIG BATTLE

U. S. Cruiser Chicago, Destroyer Lost In Solomons

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP)—American dive bombers damaged two Japanese destroyers on February 7, the navy reported today, in an attack on an enemy surface force near Rendova island in the central Solomons.

These new blows in the Solomons raised to 17 the number of enemy ships reported by the navy today as having been sunk or damaged in action in the Solomons area early this month.

By The Associated Press

The navy announced today that American forces sank or damaged 15 Japanese ships, including 12 destroyers, against a loss of two U. S. warships sunk in a week of violent air-sea battles in the Solomons islands starting January 20.

One of the American ships lost was the 9050-ton heavy cruiser Chicago, sunk in a double-barreled attack by Japanese torpedo planes. Twelve of 13 enemy planes which struck at the Chicago in the final attack were shot down, the navy said.

New Air Blows

The other U. S. ship lost was a destroyer.

In the far Pacific, American and allied warplanes were officially credited today with dealing heavy new blows to the Japs.

(Continued on Page Two)

Chinese High Command Reports Heavy Jap Loss

CHUNGKING, Feb. 16 (AP)—Heavy fighting in five provinces of central and southern China in which severe losses were inflicted on attacking Japanese forces was reported today by the Chinese high command.

Its communique said the Japanese lost 500 men and large quantities of stores in a heavy engagement west of Nanchang, the enemy-occupied capital of Kiangsi province. Several hundred Japanese were reported killed in another battle around Luchang, in Hupeh province. In a third central China province, Hunan, heavy fighting was also reported.

Wallace Hopkins Feared Lost in Crash; Army Reports Charles Hitson Missing



Wallace W. Hopkins

Two Klamath men were revealed as missing today, Wallace Walton Hopkins, U. S. navy pilot, and Charles Alva Hitson of the U. S. army.

Hopkins, 23, chief aviation pilot, United States navy, has been reported missing by the navy according to word received here by the young flyer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Hopkins of 122 Hillside avenue.

Hopkins was one of a crew of six men who left the Seattle base early Monday morning, February 8. A patrol plane sighted the ship down in Puget Sound 14 miles from the base and dropped to pick up the men. One member of the crew was dead. The patrol ship had accommodations for four and young Hopkins, as pilot in command, ordered the four to return to the base. A second patrol boat was to return to him but upon ar-



Charles A. Hitson

(Continued on Page Two)

Bullets End Strange Triangle In Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Feb. 16 (AP)—A coroner's jury today sifted the evidence of a strange family triangle and decided that an elderly rancher had ended with a blazing rifle a relationship that found him living with his wife and her lover while posing as her father-in-law.

The jury's verdict said that Russell Cone, 37, met death yesterday from a bullet "presumably" fired by Walter Duncan, 66, former Oregon rancher. District Attorney V. Gray Gubler said formal charges would be filed later today.

The shooting occurred in an auto court which Duncan and his wife and Cone had occupied for several months while intending to file later today.

ARMED FORCES TO TAKE NO. 1 SPUDS

About 500 Carloads Left in Basin Reserved

All remaining No. 1 potatoes in the Klamath district will be taken by the armed forces.

That was announced to shippers and growers here Tuesday in letters sent out by Major Paul E. Haines of the quartermaster's department, San Francisco, and C. R. Tuley, U. S. department of agriculture, Portland.

Effective at Once

It was estimated by Federal State Inspector Ross Aubrey that there are about 500 carloads of No. 1 potatoes left in the basin.

The new order is effective immediately under priority rating No. 1-10, and states that all potatoes of No. 1 grade or better in the Klamath district of northern California and southern Oregon (Continued on Page Two)

Stop-and-Go Signals Resume Here Wednesday

Klamath Falls traffic lights which have been on "flash" since the advent of blizzard weather, will return to a stop-and-go status Wednesday at 11 a. m., according to Chief of Police Earl Heuvel.

Heuvel told the city council Monday night that the department had found it necessary to eliminate all but flashers during the storm season but that the system would return to normal this week. Hours will be from 11 a. m. to 6:30 p. m.

SOVIETS PUSH DEEPER INTO DONETS BASIN

Ukraine Prize Falls After Bitter Fighting

LONDON, Feb. 16 (AP)—A special Russian communique recorded by the Soviet monitor announced tonight that Kharkov had been captured.

The Germans had held the city, once the capital and still regarded as the most important industrial city of the Ukraine, since October 24, 1941.

The special text of the communique as recorded here said: "On February 16 our troops after a violent attack which passed into fierce street fighting occupied the city of Kharkov."

"In fighting for Kharkov our troops routed a German SS (elite guard) corps consisting of two tank divisions, the 'Adolf Hitler' and the 'Reich,' and the motorized division, 'Great Germany,' and also a number of German infantry divisions and special detachments.

By EDDY GILMORE

MOSCOW, Feb. 16 (AP)—The advancing red army has cracked Adolf Hitler's southern battle front along a 400-mile line from the regions of Orel province to Bolshie Sali, 36 miles northeast of Taganrog, and is closing the struggle about Kharkov and pushing three active spearheads (Continued on Page Two)

Some Jap Auto, Farm Machinery Found for Use

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 16 (AP)—There is some—but not much—Japanese-owned auto equipment and farm machinery lying around and not in productive use, the office of war information has found out.

The equipment still idle will be put to work just as rapidly as possible, the OWI announced.

Russell T. Robinson, chief of the evacuee property division in San Francisco, disclosed that a survey in California turned up 13 tractors, six trucks and a few other machines in the Sacramento valley, and five pieces of farm equipment in Salinas.

In Oregon and Washington, the searches found 43 tractors, 35 plows, 35 discs and harrows and 24 trucks.

When the Japanese were moved from the coastal areas, most of them leased or sold their farm machinery.

Men Make Surgical Dressings



Here are three of the 38 men who folded surgical dressings at Red Cross headquarters Monday night. Men around the table, left to right, are H. T. Bunch, Sergeant Carl Cook of the Marines, and Fred LaForge. Instructor is Mrs. Barbara Jackman. (Story on page 3).

U. S. Airmen Strike at Nazi Sub Base; Six Lost

By GLADWIN HILL

AN AMERICAN BOMBER STATION IN ENGLAND, Feb. 16 (AP)—United States four-motored Flying Fortresses and Liberators attacked the German submarine base at St. Nazaire in France today.

A daredevil German flying circus and a curtain of distracting anti-aircraft fire met the American bombers as they made their second attack against German occupied territory in Europe in two days and the third allied assault against battered St. Nazaire in four days.

"They attacked us right after we dumped our bombs, came in again and again, and kept after us for nearly an hour right until we got to the channel," said Capt. J. W. Carter of Lawton, Okla., pilot of a Fortress called "Carter and his little pills."

The crews came back feeling that they had done a hard day's work after dropping their bombs dead on the target. Their planes carry an assortment of holes in the noses, wings, fuselages and propellers as evidence of the heavy fighting, but individual casualties appeared to have been light.

Ration Books of 14-Year-Olds May Be Used for Coffee

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP)—Ration books of children who were 14 when the books were issued may be used to buy coffee, effective Saturday.

At present, ration books cannot be used for coffee unless the holder was 15 at the time the book was issued.

The office of price administration changed this regulation because nearly a year has passed since the books were issued. Hence many of the children who then were 14 are now 15.

Wilson Named to Head All WPB Program Plans

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP)—WPB Chairman Donald M. Nelson today asked Ferdinand E. Eberstadt, program vice chairman of the war production board, for his resignation, and named Charles E. Wilson as executive vice chairman "in charge of all WPB programs."

Nelson said he made the change to "end the jurisdictional questions which, if permitted to continue, could only hamper the war effort."

It was the first time that Nelson ever has asked publicly for resignation of an employee.

Fuel Oil Sign-Up Deadline Looms

Local fuel oil users were reminded today to take their registration blanks to Fremont, Roosevelt, Mills, or any county schools, either late Tuesday or Wednesday.

County school registration hours are 4 to 9 p. m., and city schools 2 to 8 p. m. Limited service will be given in other hours.

Heavy Drifts Hamper Effort to Reach Ray Plane

Heavy drifts and deep snow hampered efforts of a crew attempting to reach the scene where Lt. John T. "Jack" Ray's four-motored bomber crashed early Thursday 17 miles south of Walla Walla, Wash., at the edge of the Blue Mountain country, according to word from Mrs. Ruth Turner, Ray's mother, received late last night.

Officials at the Walla Walla army air base thought at first that they could reach the wreckage which held bodies of the nine men at a late date Monday afternoon. Several days may elapse before a trail can be broken in the snow area, relatives were advised.

Price Ceiling on Livestock Eyed

Price Administrator Prentiss Brown disclosed today that tentative plans are being studied to limit the amount of money which farmers can accept for their cows, pigs, and other meat animals.

Illicit slaughterers now are able to outbid legitimate dealers because the latter are compelled to operate under packing and retailing price controls.

Black Markets

Together with rationing, stricter enforcement of price and slaughter regulations, publicity about the health dangers of eating illicitly slaughtered meat, Brown said the plan ought to bring about more equitable distribution of available supplies.

Government and packing officials have estimated that be-

(Continued on Page Two)

Eisenhower at Fighting Front

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 16 (AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower, allied commander-in-chief in North Africa, has been at the fighting front in Tunisia the past three days as Marshal Rommel hurled his armored forces against American positions at Faid pass and was in turn counter-attacked.

He left headquarters for the front last Friday and returned today.

Titus Shows Improvement, No Legal Action Taken Yet

Justice of the Peace W. E. Titus of Bly, wounded in a shot-gun shooting affair at Bly Monday morning, showed improvement in condition Tuesday at a local hospital, where he is under a 24-hour guard by the sheriff's office.

Authorities said they were awaiting further indications of Titus' condition before deciding on legal action as an aftermath of the shooting in which Mrs. Titus, 58, was instantly killed at Bly Monday morning.

Establishment of a guard indicated the probability of a charge against Titus if he continues to improve.

Sheriff Lloyd Low said Titus had admitted he fired the charge that killed Mrs. Titus at 5:30 a. m. Monday, but claimed she had first shot and wounded him. Sheriff Low said it is his opin-

PRICE CEILING ON LIVESTOCK EYED

Plans Studied to Limit Money Received For Stock

By IRVING PERLMETER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16 (AP)—The government may clamp price ceilings on livestock in an effort to halt "black markets" in meat.

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ALLIED LINE BENT BACK TO SOUTH OF PASS

Nazis Take Six-Mile Loss in Central Tunisia

By WES GALLAGHER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 16 (AP)—American tank combat teams have smashed back at Marshal Erwin Rommel's veteran armored troops under an umbrella of American fighter planes and forced the Germans back six miles in the Faid area of central Tunisia in the first

LONDON, Feb. 16 (AP)—Reuters said tonight the German radio announced that the axis offensive in southern Tunisia had "temporarily ended."

The Berlin report said German troops were engaged in mopping up the extensive battlefields between Faid and Gafsa.

"Setbacks suffered by the second American tank corps, according to latest reports, are far heavier than had been assumed," the broadcast said.

The German report said total American losses, including killed, wounded and captured, "must be at least 3000 or 10,000." It claimed that 3000 Americans were killed in the engagement and that 781 prisoners had been counted.

(These claims of American casualties have not been substantiated by any other source.)

big armament battle of North Africa.

Some 60 miles southwest of Faid Pass, however, the allied line has been bent back, and American and French troops have had to abandon their forward base at Gafsa, 75 miles west of the Gulf of Gabes.

Raging Battle

An allied communique today said enemy forces had entered Gafsa yesterday evening, and dispatched direct from the front said the Americans and French evacuated the place Sunday night after Rommel began a big push Sunday morning which threatened to flank them.

The raging tank battle to the north where Rommel had achieved a 20-mile breakthrough was the more important, however, and if the Americans win the contest now in progress around Sidi Bouzid, 75 miles west of Sfax, the axis southern arm at Gafsa will be in a dangerous position.

Meanwhile the British eighth army, thrusting into southeastern Tunisia, captured Ben Gardane, 20 miles inside the border, and swept on to the west, a Cairo communique continued.

(Allied bombers continued their hammering of the axis supply routes across the Mediterranean. United States Liberators attacked Naples by daylight yesterday. Flying Fortresses battered Palermo, on Sicily last night. RAF Wellingtons blasted at Bizerte.)

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Sheriff Lloyd Low said Titus had admitted he fired the charge that killed Mrs. Titus at 5:30 a. m. Monday, but claimed she had first shot and wounded him. Sheriff Low said it is his opin-

ion, backed by ample physical evidence, that Titus' wounds were self-inflicted by three shot-gun blasts.

Titus was quoted by officers Monday as saying he did not want to live, but on Tuesday his spirits were reported much improved. He smoked several cigarettes.

The shooting allegedly followed several hours of quarreling by the Bly couple. Titus called Sheriff Low on the telephone at 5:30 a. m. Monday, telling him he would find the bodies of Titus and his wife in their place at Bly. Shortly thereafter, Titus crossed the street and called to Constable Willis Pankey, who found him wounded in the yard.

Pankey found Mrs. Titus' body, seated in a chair at a desk.