

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, FEBRUARY 18, 1943

Number 9724

Weather News

February 17—High 51, Low 34
Precipitation as of February 11, 1943
Stream year to date 13.03
Last year 9.59 Normal 7.24

NAZI BLITZ HURLS YANKS BACK

Bomber Crashes in Plant

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
BECAUSE it concerns OUR boys, what happened in Tunisia has temporarily pushed everything else in the world into the background of our interest.

THIS seems to be what happened: Rommel, caught between Eisenhower on one side and Montgomery on the other, struck hard at Eisenhower with one hand while HOLDING MONTGOMERY BACK with the other. He followed the sound military principle of hitting his enemies ONE AT A TIME instead of waiting for them to hit him BOTH AT ONCE.

U. S. War Secretary Stimson (from whom the censors conceal nothing) says today: American forces in Central Tunisia have suffered a "serious LOCAL setback" which "should not be minimized but still less should it be exaggerated."

In other words, it's bad, but not disastrously bad.

STIMSON adds that Rommel's attack on the Americans came while the British 8th army was being reorganized and the British northern army was mud-bound.

In other words, at the psychological moment, the attack was intended to widen the Tunisian corridor (thus giving Rommel more elbow room to fight) and is not the beginning of any large-scale German offensive.

WES GALLAGHER, AP correspondent in Northern Africa (whose dispatches have been uniformly accurate), says the American tank formations were decisively defeated and lost a considerable part of their armored equipment, including new General Sherman medium tanks.

He says these losses of equipment have apparently been severe enough to make a successful American counter-attack in the near future unlikely.

THE dispatches mention again today that our forces suffered a decisive defeat at the hands of the BIG NEW GERMAN MARK VI TANKS.

We're making big new tanks as well as the Germans. But the Germans got theirs there in time and we didn't.

AMERICAN tanks have to be taken to Africa IN SHIPS. That lends interest to a house naval sub-committee report on American shipbuilding made public in Washington today. Among other findings, the report says:

"Man-hours lost (in U. S. shipyards) because of ABSENTEEISM (meaning failure to show up on the job) totaled 12,700,000 in December alone."

TWELVE million man-hours (in ONE month) is the equivalent of a million and a half men working one 8-hour day.

In the course of a year, that (Continued on Page Two)

Goebbels Tells "Unvarnished Truth"
NEW YORK, Feb. 18 (P)—Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels told the German people today that he had to tell them "the unvarnished truth" regarding Germany's situation on the eastern front, said a Berlin broadcast recorded by the Associated Press.

"It is not the moment for asking questions how it happened," Goebbels said in a speech described by the Berlin radio as important. "There is no time for useless discussions. We must act, and this immediately and thoroughly."

WEDGE WIDENS AS RUSS DRIVE DEEP IN WEST

Nazis Retreating From Rostov Menaced by Advance

By EDDIE GILMORE
MOSCOW, Feb. 18 (P)—The red army is smashing westward and widening its wedges in the Kharkov and Kursk regions at the northern end of the active Russian-German battlefield, and its columns have pierced deeper into Donets basin territory in drives threatening the Germans retreating from Rostov, the Russians announced today.

Some of the actions were described as cleaning out the remnants of German strongholds left in the rear of soviet troops which had swept around them for spectacular gains.

Nazis Admit It
(The Germans admitted today the fall of Kharkov, which the Russians announced two days ago.)

"The city of Kharkov was evacuated by our troops after systematic destruction of its important installations," the high command's communique said. (Continued on Page Two)

Algoma to Start Mill Operation On Friday

Algoma Lumber company will start its mill operation on Friday, running three shifts, it was announced by Freeman Schultz, manager.

The mill will begin cutting 15,000,000 feet of logs, most of which are now in the pond. It shut down on January 8 when the pond froze.

The box factory will not be operated because the equipment has been sold.

Algoma does not plan to run its logging operations this year, except for the removal of several million feet of logs decked in the Yawkey tract near Fort Klamath. The logging equipment is being overhauled.

Schultz made no announcement of plans for operation beyond the cutting of the 15,000,000 feet of logs now on hand. It will take about three months to cut these logs. The company is in its 32nd year at Algoma.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (P)—The once bountiful sardine became a thing unattainable today—along with all other canned fish and meats—and Fido the pup could lord it over his master.

Except for dog and other pet foods, public sale of these products was indefinitely halted by an office of price administration order. The pets got the break because their menu is mostly by-products and cereals, OPA officials said.

But otherwise, the canned meat and fish sales ban probably will stand until meat rationing is expected to begin late in March.

Residents of the nation's northern boundary looked to Canada for some border business, since a prices board spokesman said in Ottawa there was no likelihood of similar action there.

The order, which went into effect at midnight last night, came at the request of Agriculture Secretary and Food Administrator Wickard, OPA said, adding that recent heavy purchases threatened the nation's supply.

Products sold in frozen form and canned goods not sealed or

Assault With a Pair of Shoes Is Something New

Appearing without her shoes Etta May Chocktoot was arraigned in justice court Wednesday and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon.

The weapon in this case is a pair of high-heeled shoes. When city police found Mrs. Chocktoot kicking Pauline Riddle in a scuffle in the city jail, they removed her shoes and hose, and are holding them for evidence. Pauline Riddle has been released from the Agency hospital.

Mrs. Chocktoot's family reported her war ration stamp 17 missing, and was unable to get a pair of shoes. She has appeared in both city and justice courts sans footwear.

TITUS ACCUSED OF 1ST DEGREE MURDER

Officers Disbelieve Story That Wife Wounded J. P.

The Bly gunplay in which Mrs. Erma Titus, 50, was slain, was followed Thursday by the filing of a first degree murder charge against her husband, Justice of the Peace W. E. Titus of Bly.

Charges against the Bly justice are based on the state's contention that the three shotgun wounds from which he is suffering were inflicted by himself after he fired the charge that killed Mrs. Titus.

In Hospital
Titus told officers after the shooting that Mrs. Titus shot and wounded him, and that he got the gun away from her and fired the charge at her.

Titus is in the Klamath Valley hospital, where physicians said he is in a dangerous condition but may recover. The three shotgun wounds are in his left side.

The Bly justice has retained Attorney J. C. O'Neill, it was learned.

The Monday morning shooting followed a night of quarrels between the Bly justice and his wife, Sheriff Lloyd L. Low stated after an investigation.

At 5:20 a. m. Monday Titus called Low on the telephone and told him to get the coroner and come to Bly, indicating he would

(Continued on Page Two)

Fido the Pup Can Laugh--- He Gets the Canned Meat

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5 KNOWN DEAD; MANY WORKERS ARE TRAPPED

Big Plane Explodes; Fire Believed Under Control

SEATTLE, Feb. 18 (P)—At least 13 persons were reported killed, among them Edmund T. Allen, famed test pilot, when a heavy four-motored bomber crashed and exploded atop the Fry Packing company's plant in the city's south end at 12:30 p. m. today. The plane carried 11 occupants, the coroner's office said, and none escaped.

SEATTLE, Feb. 18 (P)—Five persons were known dead, including four men whose parachutes failed to open, when a heavy four-motored bomber crashed atop the Fry Packing company's plant in the city's south end at 12:30 p. m. today, setting the plant afire.

An undetermined number of plant employees were trapped in the flaming structure. The plane exploded when it hit the building.

No Estimate
Ten persons, critically burned, were admitted to one hospital within an hour after the crash. One was Emil Mutli, a casing maker.

Officials at the scene would not attempt to estimate the number of dead or dying in the plant.

20 Unaccounted For
Two of the planes victims were tentatively identified by the aid of names on their parachutes as Harry W. Ralston and a Mr. Wersebe (no initials).

An official of the company said at 2 p. m. that about 20 of the plant's employees were unaccounted for.

Leonard Krueger Wounded in Action in Africa

George H. Krueger, millwright at Ewauna Box company, received word this week from the war department advising him that his son, Leonard W. Krueger, 22, has been seriously wounded in action somewhere in Northwest Africa.

Details would be forwarded as soon as possible, the father was told.

Young Krueger, former Ashland and Klamath resident, was inducted April 4, 1942. He received his training in the 10th Engineers headquarters and service department at Fort Leonard Wood, S. D. He was sent overseas June 17, 1942, going first to Ireland and then to Africa.

A sister, Mrs. Fred Kelley, resides at 2567 Kane street. The youth's mother lives in Ashland, due to ill health. Three sisters and three brothers also reside in Ashland. An uncle of the boy is W. E. Krueger, manager of Emil's South Sixth street store.

AFL Lumber Workers Plan Wage Parley Soon in Seattle

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 18 (P)—The AFL northwestern council of lumber and sawmill workers plans a wage parley in Seattle, possibly next week, Secretary Kenneth M. Davis said today.

The union recently announced it would seek an hourly wage boost from 90 cents to \$1.05 and a \$1.00 a day bonus.

Demand of the CIO International Woodworkers of America will be announced following an industry-wide conference here Saturday and Sunday, Secretary E. E. Benedict said.

Germans' 52-Ton Tank



News of Tunisia tank battles has featured new 52-ton German monsters, one of which was knocked out by British guns. An idea of what these giant tanks look like may be gained from this picture of a big-gunned Nazi tank of unrevealed tonnage shown in the streets of Tunis.

Major Jap Effort to Knock China Out Indicated; Air Blows Hit Rising Scale

By The Associated Press
Indications that the new Japanese offensive in central China was the initial step in a major effort to knock the Chinese out of the war were raised today by a Tokyo broadcast which declared the aim of the Japanese military now was "to take all conceivable measures to crush Chungking resistance."

The Japanese for two days have been attacking heavily in the middle Yangtze valley and with less power in northern Hunan province and around Nanchang.

With allied warplanes blasting at the Mikado's invasion armies on a rising scale from Burma to the South Seas, imperial Tokyo headquarters asserted today—without confirmation elsewhere—that Japanese forces had shot down 73 planes in the Pacific battle theater during a 15-day period ending February 15.

The Japanese admitted the loss of only two planes. Official United States figures listed 63 Japanese planes destroyed in the Solomon Islands alone from January 29 through February 15, with a loss of only 22 American planes.

While the Japanese thus displayed their anxiety over mounting allied strength in the skies, American heavy bombers and Australian long-range fighters delivered violent new attacks on the enemy in New Guinea and New Britain.

U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators dropped quarter-ton bombs on Japanese bases at Gasmata and Ubili, New Britain.

Draft Deferment For Family Men Over First Hurdle

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (P)—By a 25 to 2 vote, the house military affairs committee approved today the Kilday bill to give men with children draft deferment priority and to put selective service draft quotas on a state wide instead of a local basis.

Representatives Andrews (R-N.Y.) and Sheridan (D-Pa.) were listed as having voted against the action.

The committee wrote into the bill an amendment by Representative Elston (R-Ohio) to make clear that men shall not be inducted by occupational groups. The purpose of the amendment, Elston said, was to prevent the carrying out of a war manpower commission proposal to draft men in non-essential work regardless of dependency.

"Crash" Boats Added to Portland Air Base Fleet

PORTLAND, Feb. 18 (P)—The Portland army air base's fleet of three rescue boats was augmented today by a new 42-foot "crash" boat, the P-180.

The new craft is powered by two 225-horsepower motors and is equipped with stretchers, first aid and salvage equipment for handling plane crashes in the Columbia river.

Severe Mauling Taken at Hands Of Rommel Men

By WES GALLAGHER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 18 (AP)—American armored formations withdrew today into the mountains below Tebessa, in Algeria, after receiving a severe mauling at the hands of Marshal Erwin Rommel's expert desert tankmen who occupied the towns of Sbeitla, Kasserine and Feriana in a 66-mile advance since Sunday from Faid Pass in central Tunisia.

Straggling United States units were fighting their way back from behind the German lines to American outposts established in the heights east of Tebessa. Their accounts indicated that first reports of allied losses might be scaled down.

(Gallagher's dispatches did not say specifically whether the American outposts were east or west of the Tunisia-Algeria frontier. The mountains there sprawl on both sides of the border. Tebessa itself is 12 miles within Algeria.)

The axis troops had wrested 4000 square miles of territory from U. S. armored forces in four days and sent their vanguards almost to the border of Algeria.

(Tebessa is about 12 miles inside Algeria from the Tunisian frontier, and is the next communications center after withdrawal from the three towns along the Tunisian frontier.)

British On Way
In their first all-out armored battle of this war against the Germans, forward field reports indicated, American tank formations have suffered a decisive defeat which observers here likened to that received by the British eighth army at Ain el Gazala, west of Tobruk, last summer when Rommel began his advance into Egypt.

The final result did not appear likely to be as serious as the Libyan battle last summer, however, because the British first army in the north and the advancing British eighth army in the south both menaced Rommel on his flank.

Equipment Taken
Field reports indicated that the Germans had captured a considerable portion of the American armored equipment, including new medium General Sherman tanks.

It was not known how much of this equipment Rommel would be able to repair and use or how great his own losses were, but it was strongly indicated that the German attack had succeeded in destroying American armored strength to the point where any advance by a successful counter-attack in the near future was unlikely.

The general feeling by observers at headquarters was that Rommel may have gone as far as he wants to at this stage, however.

But he appeared comparatively free to turn his attention southward where a Cairo communique announced today that the eighth army of Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery had reached the Mareth line at both Medenine and at Fom Tahouine after a 45-mile dash in two days.

The rapid movement of the German armored divisions which drove out of Faid Pass in central Tunisia Sunday had carried them to within 12 miles of the Algerian border at Feriana and to within 18 miles of Kasserine.

Wipe Japanese Out Now, Mme. Chiang Warns U. S.

Japanese are an intransigent people.

"Let us not forget that during the first four-and-a-half years of total aggression China has borne Japan's sadistic fury unaided and alone."

After addressing the house, she told the senate, clenching her small right hand, that the four freedoms proclaimed by President Roosevelt are "a gong of freedom to the United Nations and death-knell to their aggressors."

Among the spectators was Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, her black coat set off with a large silver fox fur.

Mme. Chiang declared the American and Chinese people have an identity of cause, and fundamentally are fighting for the same things.

"I believe our people are (Continued on Page Two)

BROWN FROWNS ON MINERS' DEMANDS

"No Strike, No Compromise," Says OPA Chief

NEW YORK, Feb. 18 (P)—Prentiss M. Brown said today that the office of price administration, which he heads, "cannot accede to the demands in the bituminous coal situation."

"There must be no strike and there must be no compromise," Brown said in one of his first public addresses since becoming head of the office of price administration. He spoke before the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry, at the Hotel Commodore.

Brown said he was satisfied "the American people will back the chief" in administration efforts to combat inflation.

Brown said also that the two bills now being considered by congress, which would change the method of calculating parity payments to farmers, "together would just about wreck the price control law."

Thousands More Made Eligible For "C" Books

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18 (P)—

The office of price administration today made thousands of additional motorists eligible for "C" book gasoline rations.

"C" books formerly could be issued only to drivers on a preferred list, such as physicians and essential war workers.

Today's order provided that, under certain circumstances, persons who could not get enough gas on a "B" book to drive to and from work could get "C" books, regardless of occupation. Applications, however, must be approved not only by local ration boards but also by district OPA offices.

The applicant must prove that his driving is in connection with his work, including driving to and from work, that he pools his car with others and that no reasonably adequate alternative means of transportation is available.

Halder, Described As "No Nazi," to Head German Army

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 18 (P)—Gen. Franz Halder has been restored to the position of chief of the German army general staff, displacing General Kurt Zeidler, who had succeeded him last fall, the newspaper Aftonbladet said today.

It said that the difference in operations of the general staff under the new command was "as big as if one had turned a switch."

Halder was described as no Nazi, but an officer who could forget personal prestige at a moment when the reich was threatened.

(The dispatch did not report the new assignment of Zeidler, a 47-year-old "political general" who is a personal friend of Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler.)