

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

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IN THE SHASTA-CASCADE WONDERLAND

NEA FEATURES

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Weather News

March 5—High 55, Low 27
Precipitation as of February 27, 1943
Stream year to date 13.32
Last year 9.92 Normal 8.10

AMERICANS PUNCH INTO PICHON

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

HERE is the final four-day score of the battle of the Bismarck Sea:

Ten Jap cruisers and destroyers sunk, 12 transports and cargo ships sunk, more than 80 planes destroyed or put out of commission, 15,000 Jap troops destined for Lae lost and the navy personnel of the Jap ships lost.

Our losses:
One bomber and three fighters.

OUR planes today finish off the job of mopping up the barges, lifeboats and rafts that were launched from the sinking Jap ships.

Today's dispatches add briefly: "There is scarcely a survivor, so far as is known."

THE war in the South Seas goes on.

Last night (Solomons time) a U. S. naval task force composed of light SURFACE units bombarded Jap air field installations at Vila and Munda. The Japs threw light surface forces into an effort to break up the bombardment.

Two large Jap destroyers were sunk in the fight. NONE of our ships were lost.

NOTE that in this fight (aimed at Jap air bases on islands) we turned against the enemy HIS OWN strategy of surface attack AT NIGHT (designed to avoid punishment by land-based planes) and CAME OUT AHEAD.

IN all the recent fighting in the South Seas the Japs have been outfought, outshot, outflown and outthought.

For that give ALL the credit to the courage and skill of our fighting men and the shrewd planning of our military leaders.

IF we here on the home front will give these men IN ABUNDANCE the tools they need, they'll take care of their part of the job.

BIG events are stirring in Russia again.

Striking south from just-captured Rzhev, following the railroad that leads to Vyazma, the red army is biting at the base of the German wedge that for a year and a half has been pointed as a continuing threat at Moscow (its point at Gzhatsk is only 100 miles from the Russian capital).

Watch this move. It's an important one.

KEEP your eye on Smolensk, which is not only a great German base but is also the center of a spider-web of radiating railroads and highways.

HERE'S something to remember:

The Russians built vast reserves of trained fighting men, leaving to their women, their children and their older men the home front job of producing the food and providing the weapons. That was policy is PAYING OFF now.

The Russian men on the fighting fronts have back of them the inestimable SECURITY of ample, well-trained reserves.

IN Washington they're talking now of CUTTING DOWN our armed forces in order to leave at home more younger men so that we older ones won't have to work so hard.

If you believe (as this writer does) that the security of your boy at the fighting front is INCREASED by ample reserves of trained fighting men, write your congressman and your senators. Tell them you're willing to work DAY AND NIGHT, if necessary, in the fields or in the factories (whichever are nearest to you) so that there may be ample trained reserves BACK OF YOUR BOY.

IN Tunisia, our side and the Germans trade blows today. In the far north (just west of (Continued on Page Two))

Reds Roll Over 144 Towns



'Teen Queen' Although she's been 18 years in show business, Betty Wells still has to have her film contracts approved in Los Angeles court. She's 18.

NAVY WARSHIPS SINK TWO JAP DESTROYERS

Jap Force Attempts To Halt Naval Bombardment

WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—United States warships sank two Japanese destroyers Friday night, the navy announced today, when a light Jap naval force tried to break up an American bombardment of enemy installations in the central Solomon Islands.

The fierce brief battle which resulted when the Japanese threw their warships into an attempt to disrupt the bombardment was the first surface action in that section of the Solomons. That was not, however, the first occasion on which Munda has been bombarded by surface guns. It was similarly attacked last January 5 and at that time our ships were counter-attacked by enemy planes but not by surface units.

The action Friday night, Solomons time, was the first naval engagement in the Solomons area since the night of February 1-2 when American motor torpedo boats mixed with Japanese destroyers removing troops from Guadalcanal Island. Not since November 30, however, had there been a fight involving the use of large warships on each side. It was in the November 30 action, the battle of Lunga Point, that the American cruiser Northampton was lost and several other ships damaged while the Japanese lost six destroyers, two transports and one cargo ship.

Munda and Vila are very close together and function in Japanese military plans as parts of the same strategic air base section.

Navy communique No. 301: "1. On March 5th: (A) United States aircraft bombed Japanese positions at Munda on the island of New (Continued on Page Two)

Navy Announces Total Casualties

WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—The navy announced yesterday 51 casualties in navy forces, including eight dead, 17 wounded and 26 missing.

This brings to 24,119 the total of navy, marine corps and coast guard casualties reported to next of kin since December 7, 1941. The grand total includes 6714 dead, 4594 wounded and 12,811 missing.

Wide Open Tax Battle May Develop at Salem Monday

By PAUL W. HARVEY, JR. SALEM, March 6 (AP)—A four-man senate-house conference committee failed to reach an agreement today on the income tax reduction proposals, indicating the battle between the two houses might be thrown wide open next Monday.

Sen. Dean H. Walker, Independence, chairman of the senate assessment and taxation committee, still insisted on a plan to give all income taxpayers, both corporation and personal, a 40 per cent cut on taxes payable next year. But the other conferees, Sen. Coe McKenna, Portland, and Reps. John Hall, Portland, and Burt K. Snyder, Lakeview, want the 40 per cent cut, but with most of the benefit going to small taxpayers.

Hall also insisted on a tax reduction applying to payments made this year, but the other three oppose it. However, Walker submitted a new idea whereby the state

Klamath Basin Residents on Prisoner List

Names of two former Klamath basin residents appeared in the list of soldiers held prisoners of war by the Japanese in the Philippine Islands, according to announcement from the war department, Washington, D. C.

Pvt. Bill Peart, 23, son of Mrs. Katie Peart of Coquille, and brother of Mrs. Chester Stonecypher of Tulelake was among those listed as was Pvt. Willis C. Vincent, nephew of Walter W. Vincent of Malin.

Peart worked in the Tulelake district prior to his enlistment April, 1941, in the US army as a tank mechanic. Last word was heard February 24, 1942, and the youth was still on Bataan at the time. He has since been reported missing. A cousin, Cecil Peart, whose father formerly resided in Tulelake, is still on the missing in action list, relatives said. He served with the army hospital corps on Bataan. No information was available on Pvt. Willis C. Vincent.

RANK, FILE MUST END BLACK MARKET

Wickard Says People Must See to Rule Observance

WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—The big task of breaking up the most black markets and justly dividing the available civilian supply was handed to the rank and file of American people today, along with a set of rules and regulations on how to do the job.

And they were told by Agriculture Secretary Wickard last night that "unless we straighten this situation out, it will seriously interfere with our war effort."

Details of the department's new strict controls over the slaughter of livestock and sale of meat—designed to stamp out black market operations—were (Continued on Page Two)

Brown Plans Policy Huddle With Congress

WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—As Price Administrator Prentiss Brown made plans to hold a policy huddle with key congressional committees, these developments were noted on the price and rationing front today:

Reports were heard that the government was ready to raise the ceiling price on corn; Ceilings were placed on retail sales of pork, effective April 1, with similar ones to be worked out on all meats;

Grocers were given authority for emergency purchases of canned, frozen and dried fruits and vegetables;

And southeastern pulpwood was placed under price control. Members of the senate banking and finance committees disclosed that Brown had invited them in for a thorough review of price control. Chairman George (D-Ga.) and Wagner (D-N.Y.) of the two groups named five men each to sit in on the session, which they said probably would air controversies over reported OPA attempts to control industrial profits and its various farm price orders.

By applying to the nearest state or district OPA office, wholesale or retail grocers with inadequate stocks of rationed goods may receive emergency allotments for additional purchases. OPA said, but warned that shortages in one or two items does not constitute an emergency.

NAZI RETREAT TO SMOLENSK TAKING SHAPE

Germans at Essen Battered Again by Bombers

LONDON, March 6 (AP)—The red army scored its third major victory in a week today by capturing Gzhatsk, 100 miles west of Moscow and the nearest point to the soviet capital in the Germans' crumbling hedgehog defense system on the central front.

"After storming the town twice," said a special Moscow communique recorded by the soviet radio monitor, "our troops captured the town of Gzhatsk. The captured war material is being counted."

By ROGER GREENE Associated Press War Editor Russia's snow-balling offensive was credited today with the recapture of more than 144 towns and villages in two days and a vast new German retreat appeared to be developing on the central front as the red armies struck down upon the old Napoleonic "escape corridor" from Moscow to Smolensk. Cutting southward from fallen Rzhev, the Russians were reported to have retaken the rail town of Osuga and driven within 45 miles of the German stronghold of Gzhatsk, 100 miles west of Moscow, on the highway to Smolensk.

It was along this route that Napoleon led his battered army in the retreat from czarist Russia in 1812.

Front-line dispatches said Russian troops sweeping down through the forest region southwest of Rzhev had captured 80 settlements within the last 24 hours.

Coupled with mounting disaster on the soviet front, the Germans suffered a violent new assault in their homeland as RAF bombers—perhaps 300 strong—delivered a "very heavy and concentrated" attack on the great war foundries city of Essen.

Heavy Blow It was the 10th consecutive night bombardment of Hitler's European fortress and the German radio indicated that several (Continued on Page Two)

Sabotage Reported Against Germans in Occupied Territory

LONDON, March 6 (AP)—Sabotage activities against German operations in France were reported today in the Russian mid-day communique recorded here by the soviet radio monitor. The communique did not say when the actions took place but reported that 18 Germans were killed when French patriots threw a bomb into the headquarters of a German unit in Brest and a German train carrying war supplies was derailed in the Cote D'Or department, smashing 22 trucks and the locomotive. A collision between two enemy trains was "organized," the war bulletin said, in the area of Greiz.

Jack Benny III With Pneumonia

CHICAGO, March 6 (AP)—Radio Comedian Jack Benny has a "mild case" of pneumonia but is responding well to treatment, his physician, Dr. L. B. Bernheimer, said today.

The cold with which Benny had been suffering for two weeks grew worse this week and he was put to bed in his hotel suite. His Sunday night radio show was cancelled, with George Burns and Gracie Allen to take his place.

Americans Drive Through Nazis



In today's fighting in the spotlighted Tunisian frontier, the British first army retreated from Sedjenane while the Americans drove in to Pichon in the magnified portion of the above map, thus tightening the pincer move on Rommel's African Korps.

'Lay Off' President's Sons, Say Republican Leaders

By ALEX H. SINGLETON WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—The house republican leadership was reported today to have told Rep. Lambertson (R-Kas.) to "lay off" his criticism of the service records of President Roosevelt's sons—even before Lieut. Col. Elliott Roosevelt wrote his congressman in defense of himself and his brothers. There was applause from both

democrats and republicans on Capitol Hill after a letter from the president's soldier son was made public on the house floor yesterday by Rep. Lanham (D-Tex.) who described Lambertson's criticism as "unfair and improper."

Behind the applause from the minority side, it was learned, lay the story of how republican leaders had sought to get Lambertson to drop the subject—both in the interests of the party and for the sake of national unity.

Possible German Attack on Allied Shipping Eyed

LONDON, March 6 (AP)—Wide speculation over the possibility that the Germans were planning a major attack on allied supply lines to Russia was stirred today by publication of dispatches to two London newspapers—which failed to state the source of their information—that a powerful concentration of German fighting ships was being assembled in the Trondheim area of Norway.

Stories in the Vening Standard and the Daily Telegraph said the 35,000-ton battleship Tirpitz, queen of Hitler's war fleet, the aircraft carrier Graf Zeppelin, the 26,000-ton Scharnhorst, at least two cruisers of the Hipper class and a number of fast destroyers were in the concentration.

The prospect that the Germans might attempt to break out of their fjord hideaways suggested the possibility of an even greater allied ship hunt than the one which ended the Bismarck's career in flaming ruin and a sea grave in 1941.

Brazilian Ship Torpedoed But All Crew Saved

RIO DE JANEIRO, March 6 (AP)—The government announced today the torpedoing of the Brazilian passenger ship Affonso Penna and the Brazilian freighter Brasiloide.

A naval ministry communique said the freighter was torpedoed off the Brazilian coast in the early morning of February 18, but all of the crew was saved. The 3540-ton Affonso Penna was torpedoed March 2, also off the Brazilian coast, the communique said.

BRITISH FALL BACK TO START PINGERS MOVE

Sedjenane Withdrawal Spreads Germans For Pinch

By WES GALLAGHER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 6 (AP)—In the face of weeks of strong German attacks, the British first army abandoned Sedjenane yesterday, falling back seven miles to higher ground at Tamers, it was announced today. But American forward elements moved eastward at the center and occupied Pichon in an advance which was regarded as the most important of the day.

The British withdrawal from hard-contested Sedjenane gave the Germans a total 20-mile advance along the Bizerte-Mateur-Tabarka coastal road in seven days of fighting. Sedjenane previously had changed hands twice, the Germans occupying the town Wednesday, but being driven out Thursday.

The allied communique did not touch upon the first army retreat in that sector, saying simply that in northern Tunisia "enemy activity was on a reduced scale."

Pichon, which allied forward elements entered yesterday, is 20 miles west of the Nazi base at Kairouan. Reuters quoted an Algiers radio broadcast as saying that these troops were Americans.

United States armored units occupied Pichon, which lies in the Ouesseltia valley at the front of the last ridge of mountains in eastern Tunisia, in an advance which military observers (Continued on Page Two)

Prohibitionists Eye 'Dry Rider' For Worker Bill

WASHINGTON, March 6 (AP)—Evidence developed on Capitol Hill today that prohibition advocates in congress will attempt to tack a duration-of-the-war "dry" rider to a measure designed to curb absenteeism among war workers.

Signs that they would adopt that strategy were apparent both in hearings before the house naval committee and cloakroom discussion, and were pointed up yesterday during a speech by Rep. Rees (R-Kas.).

The Kansan, one of the leaders in the fight, told the house that Monday morning hangovers have been a major factor in the loss of man hours of work in war industries, and suggested that congressional committees give consideration to (Continued on Page Two)

Government Blamed for Excessive Point Values

NEW YORK, March 6 (AP)—A report of the American Institute of Food Distribution, Inc., says that the federal government has made "excessive" purchases of processed foods and that this together with hoarding by millions of private families is responsible for the high ration point value of canned and dried foods.

Contained in the institute's weekly digest, the report was signed by Gordon C. Corbaley, the organization's president, and was mailed yesterday to its 3000 members.

Declaring that the government has purchased nearly 40 per cent of the canned vegetables and fruits packed in 1942, the report also asserts that the government bought larger quantities of canned tomatoes and probably of canned corn and string beans than its requisitioned 35 per cent. The report continues: "Not to exceed 15 per cent of these packs, possibly 12 per cent was needed actually to supply men in our fighting forces until the autumn of 1943."

The report states that the army and navy have satisfactorily fed their men to date. It asserts that the government has "accumulated millions of cases in public warehouses and abroad, with canners still holding 40 per cent to more than 75 per cent of government purchases from 1942."

This indicates the government took "probably 25 to 30 per cent" more than was needed from the 1942 packs, the report adds. The American Institute of Food Distribution, Inc., is a non-profit, co-operative clearing house of information about the food trades. Its membership includes canners, wholesalers, manufacturers, chain stores, brokers, banks and advertising agencies, for which the institute does research.