

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, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 1943

Number 9747

Weather News

March 16—High 81, Low 20
Precipitation as of March 10, 1943
Stream year to date 13.48
Last year 9.92 Normal 8.54

BRITISH SMACK MARETH LINE

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
IN the South Seas today, MacArthur's planes are still pounding away at the Jap transports, cargo ships, etc. that are building up reinforcements in the islands to the north of Darwin, our outpost at the far north-western tip of Australia.

Ambolna, on the island of Ceram, and Dobo, on the island of Aroe Eilanden, seem to be the chief Jap concentration points. These islands, along with Timor, which is often mentioned in the dispatches, lie around the Banda Sea. This area is roughly 500 to 600 miles north-west of Darwin.

Ambolna is a former Dutch naval base, which has now been converted into a Jap base.

(YOU should consult your map here. This new danger zone lies to the north-west of Australia, whereas the bulk of the recent fighting has been in the islands to the northeast. There is minor interest in the fact that there is oil in the island of Ceram, where the naval base at Ambolna is located.)

RECALL here that for weeks before the thrilling battle of the Bismarck sea, in which the Japs lost 22 ships and 15,000 to 20,000 men, we were hearing similar reports of Jap concentrations in their adjacent islands.

It seems likely that another Jap assault is impending—this time to the northwest of Australia.

THE fighting in Russia today is following the pattern of recent days.

The Russians are advancing toward Smolensk, along the WEST bank of the Dnieper river, which they have already crossed. They seem to be advancing in considerable force, and have not yet been seriously checked.

South of Kharkov, the Germans are today attempting to force a crossing of the Donets river, and some of the heaviest fighting of the year is reported. There are still strong intimations that the Germans have the defending Russians outnumbered, both in men and in tanks.

They're using dive bombers and tanks in the typical German blitz tactics. They're still taking the initiative in the fighting.

AGAIN you should consult your map.



On the central front (top map), massed Russian troops (shading), forged westward on a drive aimed at Smolensk; while on the southern front (bottom map), Nazi forces (shading), were reported to have recaptured Kharkov. Solid lines are approximate battlefronts.

BATTLE OF BURMA FLAMES BITTERLY

U. S. Warships Bomb Jap Positions At Vila
By The Associated Press
The new battle of Burma flamed with greater intensity today as British headquarters reported 30 hours of fighting along the Mayu river, 12 miles north of Rethadaung, while American fliers ranged far and wide over the Japanese-conquered territory to bomb railway bridges, highways and truck convoys.

In the Solomons, the navy reported, U. S. warships bombarded (Continued on Page Two)

Dissatisfaction With Pay Scales Cause Absentees

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP)—Harold J. Gibson, American Federation of Labor representative of Pacific coast aircraft workers, told the house labor committee today "dissatisfaction with pay scales is the principal cause of absenteeism."

Frozen Cabbage Poor Meal Say Two Runaway Youths

A steaming bowl of cereal looked mighty good to two teenage boys who had existed on frozen cabbage for three days following their escape from the Woodburn training school near Salem. The boys are now recovering from their experience in the Klamath county jail awaiting arrival of authorities.

Reds Bang New Wedge at Key Base of Nazi Attack

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW, March 17 (AP)—The red army has smashed another wedge westward toward the German key base at Smolensk, it was announced in the soviet noon communique today, with the capture of the railroad station of Igorievskaya and the district center of Vskhodi.

To the south, however, the Germans massed a great number of tanks and motorized infantry, supported by a strong force of dive bombers, in a major effort to cross the northern Donets south of fallen Kharkov.

Farm Bloc Willing To Sell Reserve Wheat for Feed

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP)—With serious feed shortages threatened in eastern seaboard and west coast deficit areas, the congressional farm bloc today appeared willing to authorize the government to sell 100,000,000 bushels of reserve wheat for livestock feed at price levels below those which the bloc has been insisting on.

Copco Employees Get \$4500 Back Wages Under Rule

Retrospective payments totaling approximately \$4500 will be distributed to about 65 union employees of the Klamath division of the California Oregon Power company as a result of a war labor board decision this week, it was estimated Wednesday.

Grange-Sponsored Public Power Bill Gets Green Light

OLYMPIA, March 17 (AP)—By a supreme court decision today, opponents of initiative 12, the grange-sponsored public power measure, have 90 days within which to obtain 30,000 signatures of legal voters to petitions, in which case the initiative will be referred to a vote of the people in 1944 by referendum.

Americans Strike Heavily At Japs On Kiska, Munda

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP)—The heaviest series of air attacks ever made on Japanese-held Kiska island in a single day was carried out Monday, the navy announced today, when American planes raided the Aleutians base six times between dawn and dusk.

In the South Pacific, meanwhile, light naval surface forces bombarded Japanese positions at Vila in the Munda airbase area of the central Solomon islands. This was the third time that American warships have penetrated into the enemy sector of the Solomons to bombard shore positions at or near Munda.

Japs Lie
While the navy was thus reporting on recent actions, Elmer Davis, director of war information, told a press conference that only five Japanese out of 15,000 escaped death or capture in the battle of the Bismarck sea March 2, when 22 Japanese warships and other vessels were destroyed by allied air might.

About 100 Japanese escaped drowning and reached shore, Davis said, but of this handful only five escaped.

Davis gave the lie to recent Japanese broadcasts that the United States had suffered serious naval losses in the South Pacific.

All Losses Announced
"Every one of our naval losses has been announced and by no stretch of the imagination can they be called serious."

Naval Communique No. 314 said:
"North Pacific:
"1. On March 15th, heavy and medium army bombers, with Lightning (Lockheed P-38) and Warhawk (Curtis P-40) support, carried out six heavy bombing attacks on Japanese installations (Continued on Page Two)

ALLIES STRIKE AT ENEMY TRANSPORTS

Japanese Reported to Be Concentrating Troops
The Tokyo newspaper Asahi said today that Japan expects the U. S. air force to bomb industrial districts of Japan this year or, at the latest, next year and appealed to the population to be prepared.

The account, broadcast by the Berlin radio quoting a Tokyo dispatch, was recorded by The Associated Press.

Service Men Get Extra Exemption in State Income Tax

SALEM, March 17 (AP)—Personal income tax returns filed with the state tax commission by any man or woman member of the nation's armed forces, including joint returns of husband and wife filed by either, will be allowed the additional \$3000 exemption voted by the recent legislature in house bill 146, signed during the session by Governor Snell, Earl L. Fisher, commissioner in charge of the income tax division, said today.

British Navy Sinks Two Supply Ships

LONDON, March 17 (AP)—British light naval forces manned by Norwegians sank two enemy supply ships in a daring raid into a Norwegian fjord at Flore harbor last Sunday, the admiralty announced today.

Wasteland Wanderer



Relatives in Utah believed he was killed in World War I, but Donald Matheson (above), 51, told Sheriff Ray Marty of Trinidad, Colo., he had been wandering Arizona and California deserts ever since he returned from overseas 24 years ago. A cousin, Scott Matheson of Salt Lake City, was trying to gain him admittance to a veterans' hospital.

EIGHTH ARMY HITS NAZIS IN TUNISIA

Beaverbrook Declares Bizerte Conquest Not Far Off

By ROGER GREENE
Associated Press War Editor
A Berlin broadcast reported today that Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British 8th army had launched an assault against the 60-mile-long Mareth line in Southern Tunisia, and Lord Beaverbrook declared in London that "I think the conquest of Tunis and Bizerte is not far off."

DNB, the German news agency, said the British struck against the old French-built Mareth ("Little Maginot") defense works last night.

"The scale of fighting cannot be judged by reports so far available, but Berlin quarters believe this is a major attack," DNB said.

Offense Intensified
An Algiers broadcast reported in London said preparations for an "imminent allied offensive" to drive approximately 250,000 German and Italian troops out of Tunisia were being intensified.

"The hour is approaching when axis forces will be driven out of North Africa," the broadcast said.

Other reports said the 8th (Continued on Page Two)

Betty Hagelstein Dies Tuesday in Fall From Horse

Betty Jean Hagelstein, 9-year-old daughter of George Hagelstein, well known Algoma dairyman, was killed Tuesday afternoon when she fell from her horse in a pasture near the family home. Betty Jean was rushed to Klamath Falls but died en route.

The child, youngest of three daughters, had ridden the horse many times and the animal was considered quite gentle. It is thought that the horse became frightened when other animals in the field started running.

Surviving Betty Jean are her parents, two older sisters, Dorothy May and Ruth Evelyn, and her grandfathers, Emile Schiesel, formerly of Klamath county and now residing in Medford, and John Hagelstein of Algoma. Funeral services have been tentatively set for Friday from the chapel of the Earl Whitlock Funeral home. Betty Jean was born July 13, 1933, in Klamath Falls, and had spent her entire life in the Algoma community.

Chamber Asks Investigation of Loggers' Food

REEDSPORT, March 17 (AP)—The Reedsport chamber of commerce today wired the Klamath Falls OPA office asking a field man to investigate reports that many Reedsport loggers plan to leave the woods because of curtailed food rations.

Wires also were sent Senator McNary and Rep. Harris Ellsworth.

Loggers complain that meat has become so scarce that woodsmen who carry lunches cannot get enough heavy food to sustain them during long shifts.

The chamber said cookhouses, logging camps and timber cruisers all voiced the same complaint.

AFL Chief Opposes Bill To Draft Civilian Labor

WASHINGTON, March 17 (AP)—Declaring the Austin-Wadsworth bill to draft civilian workers raises an issue of "free labor versus slave labor," William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, opposed the legislation today as imposing "involuntary servitude" on the nation's man and woman-power.

Appearing at a senate military committee hearing on the measure, the AFL chief said he assumed it "is predicated on the assumption that there is a dire necessity for compulsory labor in order effectively to prosecute the war."

Deny Assumption
"I categorically deny the truth of that assumption," he added. "It has not and cannot be established that the absence of compulsion of labor is a factor in retarding production."