

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
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Weather News

March 23—High 57, Low 25
Precipitation as of March 17, 1943
Stream year to date 13.81
Last Year 10.08 Normal 8.91

NAZIS STIFFEN AFRICAN FIGHT

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

RESULTS of the fighting in Tunisia are not too clear today, but no doubt remains that the battle is a big one. With plenty more to come.

A German spokesman says: "Only the overture of the great British offensive is behind us."

MONTGOMERY hit the Mareth line hard at its strongest point and broke through. But Rommel promptly counter-attacked and regained most of his losses. As nearly as one can judge from the confused dispatches, the British here were driven back nearly to their starting point, but retain a toe-hold at the village of Mareth.

That's what Churchill tells the house of commons, and he's about the most reliable and realistic reporter we have.

BUT Montgomery had another string to his bow.

At the same time he bucked the German line at Mareth, he sent a flanking column 100 miles or more around the German right end, and this thrust seems to have had better luck. It is reported today to be only eight miles from the village of El Hamma, which is 20 miles due west of Gabes and therefore must be holding the point of a wedge driven deeply into the German positions. (Better see your map.)

The village of El Hamma is an important crossroad and also has several German airfields.

WHEN Montgomery struck to the south of the Mareth line, our own General Patton and his Americans headed toward the coast in Rommel's rear, hoping to close the mouth of the sack on him.

Patton reached Maknassy (see your map) yesterday, and SEEMS TO HAVE HELD HIS gains against hard German counter-attacks. He is even reported today to have PUSHED ON five miles beyond Maknassy, bringing him within about 28 miles of the beach.

THE Germans tried to stop Patton by hitting his right flank, and Harold Boyle, AP correspondent who was on the spot, says they threw everything they had into the attempt.

They attacked through a narrow pass, with armed forces, but the Americans held the hills on both sides and seem to have slaughtered the German tanks, including some of Rommel's big Mark VIs.

ON the whole, Rommel hasn't too much to feel good about. He stopped one drive, but two others made progress against him. And the Americans, stopping the best he could send against them, pulled the drawing of the bag a little tighter. (Remember, this battle of Tunisia won't be won or lost in a day.)

GOOD news comes from the South Seas.

Our air scouts discovered a concentration of 250 Jap planes ON THE GROUND at Rabaul and blasted them in a pre-dawn attack that lasted an hour. The Japs are reported to have LOST a substantial part of their plane park. Two hundred and fifty enemy planes "ain't hay."

Give the credit to the daring and ability of our air fighters.

THE Russians today are reported to have pushed up to within 40 miles of Smolensk. The Germans have got across the Donets east of Kharkov in force several times, but each time they have been thrown back. They are using their standard text-book tactics of throwing heavy tank forces against a narrow front, hoping to break through and fan out in the Russian rear.

Red Star (Russian army newspaper) says they have used as high as 200 tanks on a mile-wide (Continued on Page Four)

Record Acreage in Spuds Forecast by New Developments

An all-time high in potato acreage for the Klamath basin was indicated for the coming wartime production season today as a result of two developments—the assurance of an increase in fertilizer supply and the announcement that potato growing will be permitted on Tule lake leased lands under certain conditions.

The favorable news on fertilizer followed a meeting late yesterday at which an additional 1300 tons for the basin was assured from a government source. Meanwhile, the secretary of interior's office lifted the prohibition against growing of spuds on government-owned leased land in the basin. These incidents forecast a spud acreage in excess of 21,500—the previous all-time record for the basin set in 1937.

It was roughly estimated 1500 acres of leased land may be planted to potatoes. The reclamation bureau will permit sub-leasing of the leased land to qualified local farmers having available adequate machinery. Lessees will notify the bureau by March 29, the area they wish to crop to potatoes.

Willard Noble, member of the national fertilizer advisory committee, told potato growers of the Klamath basin that he had just received word from Washington that 500 additional tons of 18-20 ammonium phosphate and 800 additional tons of 10-16-8 fertilizer will be available to growers for this year's planting.

This statement was made at a meeting of representative potato growers and fertilizer dealers of the basin at a meeting Tuesday afternoon at the Klamath county chamber of commerce.

From Canada Noble said that the fertilizer to be provided is in addition to the 69 per cent of 1942 18-20 fertilizer supply already allocated to local growers. He pointed out that inasmuch as the additional fertilizer comes from Canada, there is always a degree of uncertainty about the amount and the time of delivery.

Growers had previously pointed (Continued on Page Two)

LONDON, March 24 (AP)—Trading punches with the Germans across the English channel, allied airmen struck again this morning at enemy targets in northern France as Nazi warplanes resumed hit-and-run raids on coastal districts of Britain.

Heavy explosions west of Boulogne rocked houses in the Folkestone area after formations of allied planes had streaked across the channel.

The burst of daylight activity provided a follow-up to night attacks by RAF fighters on railway communications in northwest Germany and occupied territory.

As the allied daylight raiders kept up a regular shuttle service across narrow Dover straits, high-flying Germans, using the mist as cover, crossed the British (Continued on Page Two)

Man Killed by Train Monday Near Crescent

William H. Delbrugge, about 50, thought to be a caretaker for one of the mountain resorts in the Crescent area, was killed sometime early Monday night. His body was found near Crescent on a railroad track. Dr. George H. Adler, county coroner, stated Wednesday that railroad officials were not able to learn circumstances surrounding Delbrugge's death.

The man's body, badly mangled and with a partly severed (Continued on page two)

Dan Ehrheart Receives Oak Leaf Cluster Award

For extraordinary achievement in the air in battle zones, Tech. Sgt. Dan E. Ehrheart of Klamath Falls received the Oak Leaf cluster today in lieu of an additional award of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Word of the award came from general headquarters in the Southwest Pacific area. Men who received the Oak Leaf were veterans of more than 200 hours each of dangerous operational flying and previously had received the DFC for 100 hours of operational missions and the air medal for 50 hours. The missions included bombing attacks against enemy bases, sea searches and long-range photographic and reconnaissance flights.

Young Ehrheart had previously received the Purple Heart, (Continued on Page Two)



Tech. Sgt. Dan Ehrheart



Four men of Uncle Sam's navy are honor guests in Klamath Falls this week, entertained by the Commandos while on leave from Mare Island hospital. Standing, left to right, Floyd Colglazier, 2nd Lt. Mary Truelove, Raymond Russell, 1st Sgt. Eleanor Karspeck and James Snipes. Seated, Tech. Sgt. Mary Beth Hammond, Mrs. Louis Serruys, Commando Mother, Supply Sgt. Gail Biver and Wayne Fogelstrom.

Blazing Action Stories Told by Commando Guests

Vivid stories of blazing action in the Pacific fighting were told here today by wounded sailors brought to Klamath Falls by the Commandos, young women's service organization.

Visiting here until Friday morning, these four young men wear service ribbons showing duty in the Mediterranean, China and at Guadalcanal. Two of the sailors are guests at the Clarence A. Humble home and two at the George C. Burger residence.

James (Jimmy) Snipes, machinist's mate 1/c, is 32 years old, and was in three major engagements in this war before being wounded. He has served in the United States navy for 14 years and his home is at Jacksonville, Fla. He served in the Nicaraguan campaign in 1927, and has had two years European duty in southern and northern Europe.

During World War II he served on the destroyer "World War I," which was recently reconditioned for marine raider service. He served under the command of Colonel Jimmie Roosevelt, son of the president of the United States, for the marine raiders, which was a suicide (Continued on Page Four)

Government Gets Flour Millers on Price Fixing

CHICAGO, March 24 (AP)—Sixteen flour milling corporations, eleven of their executives and their national trade association were indicted by the federal grand jury here today on charges of conspiracy to fix prices of packaged family flour sold throughout the United States.

The indictment set forth that approximately 45,000,000 barrels of family flour are sold annually in the United States and 81 per cent of this amount is milled by members of the Millers National Federation, the defendant trade association.

Packaged family flour is that sold ordinarily for use in homes, as distinct from bulk bakery flour. The indictment charged that in spite of variables among the defendants in their cost of producing packaged flour, the defendants met from time to time and agreed upon a uniform schedule of price differentials to be applied to the various sizes of packages in which family flour is sold.

Roseburg Boy to Represent Oregon in FFA Contest

PORTLAND, March 24 (AP)—Russell Cary, Roseburg, will represent Oregon in the regional Future Farmers of America oratorical contest here April 26. He won the state championship in finals before the Portland Rotary club yesterday. Milton Richardson, Junction City, was second, and Jim Rogers, Pendleton, third.

Meat Rationing—Turn to Page 6

An important meat rationing story, together with a table of points, will be found today on Page 6. The table is prepared for clipping for household reference.

Axis Counter Blow Confuses Situation About Mareth Line

By DANIEL DE LUCE
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 24 (AP)—Concerted countermoves by axis armor and infantry created a very confused situation today where units of the British eighth army were rammed into the Mareth line, but in the El Guetar sector had met with decided reverse against American tanks and troops threatening Marshal Erwin Rommel's lifeline to northern Tunisia.

(In London Prime Minister Churchill told the house of commons that Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's eighth army had lost most of the bridgehead it had driven through the Mareth line and that axis defense positions in that sector were largely restored.

Germans Repulsed (Churchill said he spoke from information later than that published in morning newspapers. Informed quarters surmised that Churchill's statement and today's allied headquarters communique from North Africa, which said German counterattacks in the area of Mareth village had been successfully repulsed, referred to different periods of time in a fluid and unsettled battle. These quarters said they did not know which information was the latest.)

Mareth village, in the Mareth line, is about 20 miles from Gabes. Early broadcasts from Algiers radio today reported advanced elements of Montgomery's forces were within 15 miles of Gabes, but these reports were not supported by any other source.)

In extremely hard-fighting the British who had driven a bridgehead through the Mareth line in a frontal assault near the coast succeeded in repulsing all efforts of the Germans to dislodge them from the area of Mareth village, an allied headquarters communique said today.

Americans Near Sea East of El Guetar where Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., and his Americans were within an hour's drive of the sea, dispatches from the front said the Americans from their positions (Continued on Page Two)

McNary Wire Hits Navy Base Rumor But Talk Persists

Hot naval base talk in Klamath Falls was doused with cold water Wednesday when the chamber of commerce received a telegram from Senator Charles L. McNary stating that the navy department informed him it contemplated no development on Upper Klamath lake at this time.

The wire came in response to a chamber inquiry, but rumor persisted that something was in the wind. Reports from labor circles that steps have been taken to assure a labor supply for the rumored base gave rise to new talk on Wednesday, and some observers insisted the base was on its way, regardless of McNary's wire.

A big convoy of trucks in the city Wednesday morning was made up of vehicles going to a distant destination, it was learned.

Operators Reject Miners Proposal To Extend Contract

NEW YORK, March 24 (AP)—Southern Appalachian coal operators rejected a United Mine Workers proposal today that negotiations for a new wage contract be extended for 30 days after April 1 on a retroactive basis.

NEW YORK, March 24 (AP)—Northern Appalachian soft coal mine operators and the United Mine Workers agreed today to continue the mines in operation for 30 days after April 1 on a retroactive basis. The present contract expires March 31.

Elks Provide Ambulance for Local Unit of Oregon Corps

The keys to Klamath's newest emergency equipment, a modern, completely equipped industrial ambulance, will be presented by the Elks club Thursday evening to the local platoon of the Oregon Women's Ambulance corps.

The presentation will be made by Frank Peyton, retiring exalted ruler, and will be accepted by Captain Kathleen Livingston of Company L, following a dinner at which members of the ambulance corps will be guests of the hotel.

Major Helen Rinaudo of Portland headquarters company and Marion George of Echo, major of Co. L, to which the local platoon is attached, will be here for the presentation ceremony and will also be honored guests of the Elks.

Since August, the ambulance corps has been handling all welfare cases in the county, numbering about 60 to date, giving the members practical experience in emergency work, but their efforts have been handicapped by lack of modern equipment.

Several months ago, the Elks lodge came to the rescue, making the Klamath platoon a gift of a \$3000 ambulance which arrived here about a week ago. It was purchased through J. W. Kerns and was shipped from Chicago. A siren was donated by Orle Kennerly, merchant policeman, completing the equipment. The ambulance will be parked in front of the Elks temple Thursday afternoon from 1 until 8 o'clock, with members of the corps in attendance, where it may be viewed by the public. Trustees of the Elks lodge, who were particularly helpful in securing the ambulance, were Bert Hall, Dr. Lloyd Goble and Dr. Cecil Adams.