

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, MARCH 25, 1943

Number 9754

Weather News

March 24—High 80, Low 32
Precipitation as of March 19, 1943
Stream year to date ..... 13.81
Last year ..... 10.08 Normal ..... 8.84

U.S. GAINS HILLS AT MAKNASSY

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
THIS is today's most interesting news from Tunisia: Patton's Americans, pushing on BEYOND Maknassy, win control of the last MOUNTAIN RAMPARTS overlooking Rommel's escape corridor along the sea. In other words, it's DOWN-HILL from there on.

FROM their newly-won high ground, American guns, firing at a range of 11 miles, knock out five axis planes grounded on the Mezzouna airfield (between the Americans and the sea) and practically destroy the field itself.

This gives you an idea of what possession of dominating heights means.

AN interesting story comes from the Maknassy area today.

Forty Italians, coming forward to surrender to the Americans, are FIRED ON immediately by a German unit on their right. That tells us quite a lot about the feeling between the Germans and the Italians.

In this area, a front-line U. S. officer says, more than a thousand Italians have been taken prisoner in three days, but practically no Germans.

WE still speak of Italy as a member of the axis, but it is becoming increasingly apparent that the Italians no longer have any stomach for this war.

WE mustn't become too optimistic about the prospects in Tunisia. Rommel is an experienced and able general, commanding a battle-hardened army that is amply supplied with all the weapons necessary for modern war.

But neither must we become unduly pessimistic because of the setback suffered by Montgomery at the point where he undertook to breach the Mareth line. This Mareth line assault was only ONE PART of his plan.

At the same time, he sent a flanking column around the end of the Mareth fortifications and Patton's Americans struck from Gafsa (see map) toward the sea-coast in Rommel's rear with the idea of cutting off his retreat.

The direct frontal attack on the Mareth line apparently failed (at least of immediate success) but the other two phases of his battle plan appear to be working out so far.

That isn't a bad batting average.

A MILITARY commentator in London, today's dispatches tell us, thinks we have no occasion for gloom.

It took nine days, he says, to break through Rommel's line at El Alamein, where the present battle of Africa started. But Montgomery broke through. Rommel has been working for months to strengthen his Mareth positions. It stands to reason that it will take some time to crack them.

He says we don't need to weep over the Mareth setback.

AT El Alamein, Rommel had all of Africa to retreat through. If Patton can hold his position on the heights dominating (Continued on Page Seven)

Mme. Chiang Visits San Francisco's Chinatown Today

SAN FRANCISCO, March 25 (AP)—Madame Chiang Kai-shek arrived here tired but smiling today on her transcontinental tour and proceeded immediately to San Francisco's gaily-decorated Chinatown where thousands stood quiet in respect as she passed.

The American-educated wife of the Chinese generalissimo stepped ashore from a navy launch after crossing the bay from Oakland, and hundreds pressed forward eagerly on the flower-bedecked wharf as she stepped into an official car for a tour of Chinatown.

Yanks Dig in During Fight for Gafsa



This photo taken during the allied victory at Gafsa on the North African front has just been received over the newly established signal corps radio-telephoto circuit, directly linking the war department in Washington with headquarters of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower at Algiers for two-way radio transmission of pictures. Shown here, a gun crew has dug itself in and is on the alert during the battle for Gafsa, which fell to Patton's American force on March 18. Official signal corps radio-telephoto.

Ways, Means Opens Debate On Pay-as-You-Go Tax Plan

By FRANCIS M. Le MAY
WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—Lanky, 79-year-old Chairman Doughton (D-N.C.) of the ways and means committee opened debate on pay-as-you-go tax legislation today with a denunciation of the Ruml skip-a-year plan as a "tax heresy"—a proposition "immoral and unsound." "It is to sound tax policy that infidelity is to true Bible religion," he shouted. "It would bankrupt any business concern. No nation, state or other taxing jurisdiction has ever adopted such a system. . . . Our soldiers are not requesting forgiveness of a year's duty. In fact many of them are called upon to give an entire lifetime in one moment of duty. Is this any time to forgive a year's tax liability?" Rep. Knutson (R-Minn.), a leader of republican support behind the Ruml plan, prepared to answer Doughton, by declaring a modification of that plan, embodied in a bill by Rep. Carlson (R-Kas.), was "progressive and forward looking"; that it provided the only "fair and practical" means of putting the nation's 44,000,000 income taxpayers on a pay-as-you-go basis, and that "there is only one thing wrong with the Ruml plan—the treasury didn't think of it first."

Opposes Plan
Leading the democratic opposition to the Ruml plan, Doughton declared: "I feel that this is no time to experiment with will-o'-the-wisp or chimerical methods, which are conceived and brought forth for selfish or political reasons rather than patriotic motives. In my opinion, if the selfish and political considerations were eliminated from the Ruml plan, it would never get to bat, much less to first base. . . . Doughton declared the Ruml plan would: 1. Bestow the greatest benefit to those most able to (Continued on Page Seven)

Army Will Open New Replacement Center at Bend

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—Secretary of War Stimson said a new engineer replacement center—Camp Abbot—will be opened at Bend, Ore., May 1.

The training unit for the new center will consist of 1500 officers and men who will move to Camp Abbot from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and the camp's first commanding officer will be Col. Frank S. Besson, now at Fort Leonard Wood.

Stimson said the first group of trainees at Camp Abbot will be the 51st training battalion, who will start a 12-week basic training course May 31. Thereafter, he said, new training battalions will report at two-week intervals.

The new camp was named for Brig. Gen. Henry Lercom Abbot, a topographical engineer who helped survey the route of the Pacific railroad in the vicinity of Bend. He was the father of Brig. Gen. Frederick V. Abbot, former acting chief of the engineer corps who retired in 1920.

Investigation Ordered as Klamath Heating Company Makes Reply to City

SALEM, March 25 (AP)—Public Utilities Commissioner Ormond R. Bean ordered today an immediate investigation to determine if the Klamath Heating company's rates are sufficient to enable it to pay for its connections with the Klamath Falls sewer system.

Bean said he would decide whether to hold a hearing after his investigation is completed. The Klamath Heating company's answer to the city's complaint against the plant's alleged maintenance of hazards and "black snow," was filed Thursday with the public utilities commission, just two days after City Attorney Joe Carnahan's letter reached Commissioner Ormond R. Bean.

The heating plant's side of the story was told the commissioner

who has ordered an investigation. Following are excerpts from the answer as signed by John W. Kirby, president of the company: "First, we wish to say that the statement made in the city's letter, that the present management has never cooperated with the city, in endeavoring to overcome some of our difficulties is utterly false. "This letter further states that we refused to reconstruct or maintain the piping in our system. It is a matter of record which can be checked, that during 1939, 1940 and 1941, the company spent a total of \$14,253.76 on replacing both steam and return lines,—on repairs to our boilers to get better combustion for years 1941 and 1942, a total of \$13,681.87 was spent. We had

Roosevelt Creates Office to Oversee Food Production

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—President Roosevelt announced today the creation in the agriculture department of an administration of food production and distribution to be headed by Chester C. Davis, president of the federal reserve bank at St. Louis and former director of the agricultural adjustment administration.

A White House statement said that "the administrator will have charge of what may be called the food production and distribution activities of the department, including the agricultural adjustment administration, the food distribution activities that were transferred to the department of agriculture by the war production board last December, and the recruitment of farm labor recently transferred to the department by the war manpower commission."

Obtains Leave
Davis will obtain leave of absence from his bank, the president's statement said, and report for duty next Monday.

Last December 5, the secretary of agriculture was directed in a presidential executive order to assume "full responsibility for and control over the nation's food problem."

Mr. Roosevelt's statement did not say whether Wickard would retain or give up this responsibility, with Davis as a subordinate or as a full-fledged food boss.

Wickard Continues
The presidential announcement said Wickard would continue as a member of WPB, the (Continued on Page Seven)

Klamath Meat Outlook Views Pig Ear Dinners

Sunday dinner tables may feature those one-point pig ears by the looks of butcher shop cases as Klamath's meat supply was rapidly dwindling.

One of the large shops in the city reported average meat sales of \$1 had jumped from \$3 to \$3.50 and the housewife was buying from one to one and one-half week's supply before the weekend rush.

Varied pictures were painted by local butcher shops but all agreed on one thing, that any past meat shortages would look like child's play compared to the one slated for this Saturday if buying continued at its present pace.

One large concern reported 50 per cent of normal requirements would be met. Plenty of lamb (Continued on Page Seven)

White House Gets Senate Bill to Lift Debt Ceiling

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—The senate passed and sent to the White House today legislation lifting the ceiling on the national debt to \$210,000,000,000 and repealing President Roosevelt's executive order limiting salaries to \$25,000 after taxes.

Final legislative action came on adoption of a conference report accepting the senate's own version of the repealer, approved overwhelmingly yesterday by the house.

Flying Artillery Hits Nips in Mumbo

MacArthur's Men On Strafing Runs Over Lines

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, March 25 (AP)—General MacArthur's "flying artillery" made 44 bombing and strafing runs over Japanese lines at Mumbo yesterday, firing 30,000 rounds from cannons and machine-guns into enemy positions guarding the approaches to the Japanese New Guinea base at Salamaua, allied headquarters announced today.

Other allied planes carried out day and night attacks on farming and mining bases in the islands above Australia, scoring hits on shipping and airdrome areas, and one bomber on a reconnaissance mission shot two Japanese fighter planes out of the air in a duel over Wewak, New Guinea, a communique declared.

The enemy's planes also were in the sky before daylight yesterday, raising allied bases at Oro bay and Milne bay in New Guinea with little effect, it was said.

In the air duel over Wewak three Japanese fighter planes challenged a Flying Fortress which within five minutes shot the tail off one, causing it to crash into the side of a mountain; sent the second into a smoking dive, and forced the third to quit the combat, dispatches from the allies base said.

Labor Puts Bond Thermometer to \$130,000 Mark

The column of red paint on organized labor's war bond thermometer at Ninth and Main streets climbed up to the \$130,000 mark Thursday, with the city fire department sending a hook and ladder truck to elevate the painter during the job.

It took only a minute or two to add the paint that extended the column from the \$100,000 mark, with G. C. Tatman of the culinary alliance doing the supervising.

"Tat" was happy to see the thermometer change. When he ordered it painted, he gave the painter a sketch and, just for illustration, showed the red column on his sketch at \$100,000. The painter took him at his word and turned out the job with the "mercury" at \$100,000.

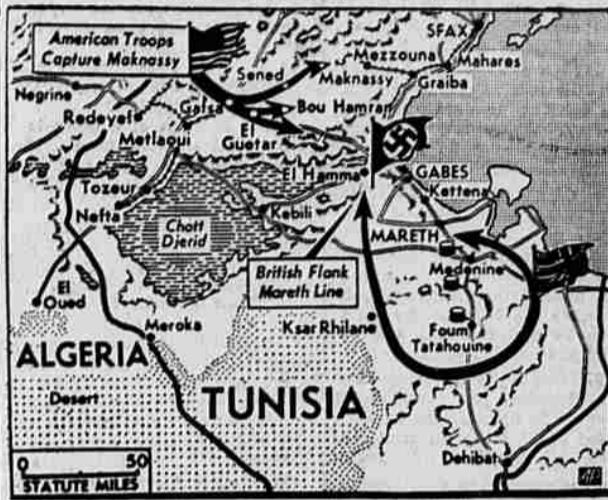
Hence, the thermometer couldn't change until bond sales passed \$100,000. It is expected to climb rapidly now. The quota for March and April, with organized labor in the driver's seat of the campaign, is set at \$500,000.

Stimson Notes Favorable Progress in Tunisian Fight

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—Secretary of War Stimson today predicted favorable progress in the Tunisian campaign, but said it would be paid for with heavy casualties.

He attributed successes in the Tunisian campaign in part to the series of heavy day and night bombing attacks on Germany and German occupied territory. These attacks, he told a press conference, make it necessary for Germany to keep large numbers of fighting planes home.

British Stalled in Tunisia



British General Montgomery's eighth army warded off fierce German counter attacks in the upper end of the Mareth line region today, shown on the map above by the small box "British Flank Mareth Line." At the same time the American guns shelled the Mezzouna airfield—near the top of the map—only 22 miles from the sea.

Reds Slog Through Slush At Smolensk; Nazis Slacken

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW, March 25 (AP)—The red army's dogged drive through slush, ice and mud toward Smolensk has made fresh headway in three directions and German attacks in an effort to control the northern Donets river valley are slackening after their setbacks at the hands of the soviet defenders, the Russians said today.

The midday communique announced that additional villages were taken on the Smolensk front as soviet troops broke through the outlying defenses of the city.

Sharp Thrust
The soviet's sharpest thrust appeared to be north of Duxhovschino, which is 32 miles northeast of the big German garrison city. The war bulletin said that in this sector the red army troops battled hand-to-hand with the Germans in an unidentified settlement which had been heavily fortified, after hurling grenades to clear their path.

South of this sector a Russian column was reported moving toward the district center of Dorogobuzh, 13 miles below the Moscow-Vyazma-Smolensk railway and 50 miles east of Smolensk. The battle to take the city, which lies in a swampy area cut by the Dnieper river and many small streams, was considered now only a part of a large-scale offensive to control the upper Dnieper.

Fierce counterattacks, with heavy concentrations of heavy artillery to back up their infantry, were being mounted by the Germans, a dispatch to Red Star, the army newspaper, said. (The German high command (Continued on Page Seven)

Folkes' Lawyer Charges State With Conspiracy

ALBANY, Ore., March 25 (AP)—Leroy Lomax, Portland, attorney for Robert E. Lee Folkes, today charged the state and the Southern Pacific railroad with "conspiring to deprive Folkes of a fair and impartial trial."

Folkes, Los Angeles negro cook on a dining car, is under indictment charged with the "lower 13" slaying of Mrs. Richard F. James, bride of a navy ensign, on January 23. She was slashed to death as she lay in berth lower 13 aboard a California-bound train.

Postponement Asked
Lomax asked Circuit Judge L. G. Lewelling for an indefinite (Continued on Page Seven)

CIO Charges Ship Workers Not in Union of Own Choice

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—The president of a CIO shipbuilders union charged before the senate war investigating committee today that 70,000 to 80,000 workers in Henry J. Kaiser's Oregon yards have been forced to join an AFL bargaining unit "which they had no hand in choosing."

Testifying on CIO-AFL jurisdictional disputes, John Green, president of the industrial union of marine and shipbuilding workers (CIO), told committee that the Kaiser company entered into a closed shop agreement with the AFL when only 66 men had been hired.

Force Joining
"This step forced every one of the 70,000 to 80,000 workers since hired in Kaiser's three Ore-

NAZI THRUSTS REPULSED IN GAFSA SECTOR

British Stymied But Holding Against Germans

By EDWARD KENNEDY
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 25 (AP)—United States troops repulsed heavy nazi armored attacks in the Gafsa sector and made local gains in the Maknassy area of the central Tunisian front while the battle of the Mareth line dwindled to artillery duelling after four days of bitter fighting, it was announced today.

Military quarters said strong resistance and vigorous counterattacks by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's forces prevented further major allied gains for the time being and, in some cases, wiped out advances achieved a few days earlier.

French Bomb Airport
A French high command communique announced that French aircraft bombed the Sfax airport despite vigorous anti-aircraft fire while ground forces continued operations against axis operations adjoining the Chott Djerid salt sink.

"There was patrol and artillery activity in the central sector," the communique said. Advances from the southern Tunisian front late last night were that German counter-assaults had largely wiped out the advances made by the British eighth army in driving a (Continued on Page Seven)

Basic Trouble In Steel Fake Laid to Banks

WASHINGTON, March 25 (AP)—James W. Gerard said in a telegram filed with the senate war investigating committee today that "the basic trouble" at the Irvin Works (Dravosburg, Pa.) of the Carnegie-Illinois Steel Corp., was control of the United States Steel Corp., "by Bankers J. P. Morgan & Co."

Recalling testimony this week by Carnegie-Illinois employees that "fake tests" were made on some steel plates ordered by the government, the former ambassador to Germany said:

"As a stockholder of U. S. Steel, which controls the Carnegie-Illinois Co., am shocked at disclosures of dirty work which endangers lives of American soldiers, sailors and crews of merchant ships."

The telegram, read into the formal record of a public hearing by Chairman Truman (D-Mo.) continued:

"The basic trouble is the control of U. S. Steel by bankers J. P. Morgan & Co., probably not by stock ownership, but by possession of stockholders' names and addresses and by usual apathy of American stockholders."

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Testifying on CIO-AFL jurisdictional disputes, John Green, president of the industrial union of marine and shipbuilding workers (CIO), told committee that the Kaiser company entered into a closed shop agreement with the AFL when only 66 men had been hired.

Force Joining
"This step forced every one of the 70,000 to 80,000 workers since hired in Kaiser's three Ore-

gon yards to join a bargaining unit which they had no hand in choosing," Green declared. His own union, he said, has filed charges with the national labor relations board in a number of cases where, he asserted, employers had entered into "collusive closed shop contracts" with the AFL when only a fraction of the full shipyard force had been hired.