

B-29 ARMADA STRIKES TOKYO

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1944

Number 10321

Weather News		
Max. (Nov. 23)	November 24, 1944	Min.
Precipitation last 24 hours		
Stream year to date		
Normal	5.45	Last year 1.82
Forecast: Overcast		
Natural	Saturday	Shooting Hours
Oregon: Open	7:33	Close 5:14
Tulelake: Open	7:38	Close 5:16

Fires Left Burning in Jap Capital

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24 (AP)—Fires still were burning in the center of Tokyo hours after the attack by B-29's today, the 20th air force reported.

A communique reporting this said that all but two of a "large task force" of the Superfortresses making the strike against the enemy capital have returned.

Anti-aircraft fire was moderate and initial reports indicated only slight fighter opposition. The attacking planes, taking off from new bases on Saipan island, selected one of the principal units of the big Nakajima Aircraft company as a major target and also dropped explosive and fire bombs on other plants in the industrial area.

(A Japanese communique placed the size of the raiding force at about 70 Superfortresses and claimed that three were shot down. "Our damages have been slight," the imperial war bulletin contended.

(Radio Tokyo in an earlier broadcast said the B-29's unloosed explosive and incendiary bombs on the southern and northern outskirts of the capital but caused no fire. The propaganda version said "residential sections, including one hospital, were slightly damaged.")

The communique said that "substantial bomb tonnages were dropped upon the Musashina airplane plant located in the northwest section of the city, and on other selected targets in the industrial area."

Musashina is operated by the Nakajima company which, with Mitsubishi, is a principal supplier of Japanese military aircraft.

The first planes over the targets saw their bombs fall with the target area, causing an explosion and fires. The second group reported equally good bombing, as did later elements arriving over Tokyo.

The first reconnaissance photographs showed fires still burning in central Tokyo after the attack, and smoke rising to great heights in the industrial areas that were bombed.

The communique did not comment on the reason for the failure of the two B-29's to return to Saipan, leaving it uncertain whether they were down because of operational difficulties or because of enemy attack.

The raid on Tokyo today apparently took the Japanese by surprise, said Brig. Gen. Emmett "Rosie" O'Donnell tonight on returning to Saipan from the attack.

The general said the Japanese offered no fighter resistance and that anti-aircraft fire was meager and inaccurate.

The aerial task force was from the recently established 21st bomber command of the 20th army air force, operating from the Marianas, under the command of Brig. Gen. Hayward S. "Boss" Hansell Jr., of San Antonio, Tex.

The first use of these bases south and east of Tokyo creates a two-way aerial squeeze against Japan's vital industries, with other B-29's from China, to the westward.

First official announcements of today's raid merely said a "sizeable task force" of Superfortresses "attacked industrial targets in Tokyo." Another communique was promised when further details were available.

Quell Fires
Domei said Japanese civilian defenses functioned efficiently in quelling fires.

The broadcast claimed that the bombers still were in the sky over Tokyo when the San Francisco radio broadcast an announcement of the attack at 1:30 p. m. (Japanese time).

ECC said all Tokyo radios appeared to have been broadcasting as usual at the time of the air raid.

Klamath Planes
Crash Near Lake
Two planes from the Klamath naval air station collided in the air and crashed about three miles from Clear Lake reservoir and six miles from Steele Swamp ranch south of Klamath Falls early Friday morning.

Two men were observed to have parachuted to safety, it was learned here. They had not reported back to their base at a late hour this afternoon.

The planes were single motored bombers and were on routine training missions when the mid-air crash occurred. The report of the accident was received here at 9:43 a. m.

An ambulance and rescue party were dispatched from the naval air station and Camp Tulelake was contacted and an ambulance and medical officer sent to the scene. No word had been received as to their findings at press time.

Clear Lake and Steele Swamp are in a remote section of northern California.

Drafts Published
By Conferees
CHICAGO, Nov. 24 (AP)—The American and British delegations to the international civil aviation conference today published separate drafts of the disputed points in their joint proposal for world air transport regulation, thus bringing fully into the open the results of private negotiations.

The drafts supported information received more than a week ago that the two great powers were together on principle and had encountered difficulty primarily in working out the details of operating and economic questions.

Yanks Win Limon; Plunge to South

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Nov. 24 (AP)—Mud-slogging American infantrymen lunged southward from Limon today after capturing that bastion of the Japanese Yamashita line in the climax of the longest and bitterest fighting of the entire Leyte island campaign.

The Japanese first division has been practically destroyed, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in announcing that the Yankee 32nd had smashed into and through Limon yesterday after a typhoon-slowed battle that had remained fairly static for two weeks.

Easier country lies ahead, but it was emphasized that this does not mean the heavy fighting is over. The terrain is such that the Japanese will be able to make defensive stands and force the battle-worn American doughboys to dig them out of machinegun nests and pillboxes.

General MacArthur in his communique said the American victory at Limon may result in the rolling up of the entire Yamashita line upon which the enemy depends in his fight to hold Leyte island.

The communique said the Americans had advanced 1000 yards south of Limon and had reached the nearby Leyte river.

It fell to units under Col. John A. Hettinger, Colorado Springs, Colo., to break down the last Japanese resistance in the battle for the mountainous defile leading into the Ormoc corridor.

The fight started after the Japanese had landed heavy reinforcements at Ormoc Oct. 25. The opposing forces—great in number for this type of warfare—launched almost simultaneous attacks.

Thrown Off Balance
The weight of American arms threw the enemy off balance and forced him to take the defensive. In his communique announcing the victory Gen. MacArthur credited Yankee artillery and superior infantry fire power with inflicting "terrific losses" on the Nipponese.

It was the second Japanese division whose virtual annihilation has been announced by MacArthur. Earlier he had reported the destruction of the Japanese 16th, which had played a leading part in the defeat of American forces at Bataan.

Hit From Air
American warplanes raged the air and dealt other damaging blows to the Japanese. Heavy bombers blasted supply lines.

(Continued on Page Two)

Field Marshal Gen. Gerd von Rundstedt committed 10 or 12 divisions to the great battle of attrition on the soggy Cologne plain to the north and behind flame throwers and a drumfire artillery barrage drove the British second army from the village of Beek and Hoven, three miles northeast of Geilenkirchen.

Knocks Out Tank
The U. S. Ninth army, fighting for Julich on the brown and turbulent Roer river 25 miles from Cologne, knocked out its 110th German tank in a seven-day battle on the right flank of the British second army front. In Holland, the British inched to within a mile and a half of Venlo, the Dutch road center on the great bend of the Meuse (Meuse) river.

The U. S. first army edged back into the inde river village of Weiler, 28 1/2 miles from Cologne, fighting house by house. German trucks and horse vehicles were observed pulling out of the town to the northeast behind a strong rear guard screen.

(Continued on Page Two)

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Churchill Hails U. S. War Power
LONDON, Nov. 24 (AP)—The United States was hailed as the world's greatest military and naval power by Prime Minister Churchill in a surprise Thanksgiving address last night.

Speaking at Albert Hall before 8000 persons including American servicemen attending a concert, Churchill said the allies were moving irresistibly and "perhaps, with God's aid, swiftly towards victorious peace."

Never more than now have Americans had justification for thanksgiving, the prime minister said, "when we see that in three or four years the United States has, in sober fact, become the greatest military, naval and air power in the world."

Allied Bombers Swoop Over Reich
LONDON, Nov. 24 (AP)—The German radio said tonight allied bombers were over the reich again and were approaching the Brunswick-Hannover area and the province of Brandenburg, which includes Berlin.

Air fields in the Brunswick-Hannover area were raked with cannon fire and bombed at low level by RAF Mosquitos last night.

U. S. eighth air force planes were grounded during the day.

Named Surplus Disposers



Lieut. Col. Edward H. Heller (left), of California, and former Gov. Robert A. Hurley (right), of Connecticut, were nominated by President Roosevelt as members of the surplus property disposal board. (AP wirephoto).

Canadian Cabinet in Crisis Over Adoption of Draft for Overseas Reinforcements

OTTAWA, Nov. 24 (AP)—Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King struggled to hold his government together today in the most serious cabinet crisis in 20 years, sharpened by anti-conscription demonstrations in the French-speaking province of Quebec.

Disturbances reminiscent of rioting in the last war broke out in Quebec last night after the King government announced it had adopted partial conscription to meet an urgent need for reinforcements on the western front.

Youths in their late teens and early twenties paraded by the hundreds through the streets of Quebec City, shouting against conscription, smashing windows in the building of the English-language Chronicle-Telegraph and storming an army recruiting office and a Liberal party club. Police prevented entry in any of the buildings.

Not Serious
Brig. Edmond Blais, commanding the Quebec military district, said today that "there is no danger of any serious disorder." He termed the demonstrators "hot-heads" and declared he would see that "calm is maintained in Quebec."

Demonstrating English-speaking youths in the town of Oakville, Ontario, locked up a group of 16 call-up troops—men drafted for home service who had not volunteered to fight abroad—in a restaurant for two hours. Military police were called out to help local police restore order.

Party Crumbles
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LEND-LEASE TO END WITH WAR'S FINISH

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The statement appeared to be a pointed reply to suggestions that some sort of lend-lease assistance should be continued to Britain and possibly other allied nations even after both the European and Pacific wars have ended.

Mr. Roosevelt had previously called for continuation of lend-lease so long as Japan remains in the war.

Combined Supply
"Lend-lease and reverse lend-lease are a system of combined war supply," the chief executive said today. "They should end with the war. But the United Nations partnership must go on and must grow stronger."

This policy declaration wound up a letter by which the president transmitted to congress a detailed report of reverse lend-lease from Britain. The British put out a similar report a few hours earlier covering about the (Continued on Page Two)

Prison Break at Joliet Halted

JOLIET, Ill., Nov. 24 (AP)—A guard was killed and four convicts were wounded today as gun-tower guards halted with gunfire 10 prisoners, two of them survivors of the 1942 Roger Touhy break, who tried to scale the walls of Stateville penitentiary with a makeshift ladder.

E. Skaggs, a guard, was fatally wounded, apparently while the convicts were using him as a hostage or shield from other guards' fire. Two of the convicts wounded were reported in serious condition.

Skaggs died of a bullet wound above the heart about an hour after the attempted break was foiled.

Two of the 10 convicts were William Stewart and Matthew Nelson, who with Roger (The Terrible) Touhy and four other long-term criminals shot their way out of the huge prison on October 9, 1942. Touhy, leader of a liquor gang that was the scourge of Chicago's North Side during the prohibition era, and four of his accomplices were recaptured by the FBI.

Two were slain by federal agents when they tried to fight out of a trap on December 29, 1942.

Swedish Ship Lost in Baltic

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Disappearance of the ship in good weather recalled the recent German proclamation that shipping in the Baltic and the Gulf of Bothnia was liable to be sunk without warning.

Western Front



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By WILLIAM FRYE

LONDON, Nov. 24 (AP)—Allied advance units were reported today to have crossed the flooded Rhine east of Strasbourg, which French and American troops had captured save for a small but powerfully defended bridgehead at the western end of the main bridge.

Field Marshal Gen. Gerd von Rundstedt committed 10 or 12 divisions to the great battle of attrition on the soggy Cologne plain to the north and behind flame throwers and a drumfire artillery barrage drove the British second army from the village of Beek and Hoven, three miles northeast of Geilenkirchen.

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(Continued on Page Two)

REDS CLEAR NAZIS FROM SAARE ISLAND

LONDON, Nov. 24 (AP)—Russian forces have cleared the Germans from the island of Saare, north of the entrance to the Gulf of Riga, Marshal Stalin announced tonight in a broadcast order of the day.

Stalin said the clearing of the 1000-square-mile island completed the liberation of all Estonian territory. Moscow saluted the victory with 20 salvos from 224 guns.

The victory was achieved by Marshal Lavrenti Govorov's Leningrad army, supported by units of the Russian Baltic fleet.

To the south in Latvia a massive battle to annihilate the German northern army corps was reported flaming again, although Moscow remained silent concerning it.

Berlin said the red army had resumed the offensive in the Auce area, about 55 miles southwest of Riga, and was driving on the Baltic port of Liepaja, (Libau) 70 miles west of Auce. Heavy artillery barrages preceded the pushes in both sectors, the Germans said.

CIO Demands Wage Policy Relaxation

CHICAGO, Nov. 24 (AP)—The CIO convention today pressed a formal demand on the government to relax its wage policy immediately in the interest of the war effort.

The 600 delegates adopted two resolutions which expressed their displeasure with what they described as "the poor administration and unfortunate policies" of the war labor board. They urged that the wage lid be removed to permit cost of living pay adjustments.

Pact for Control of Reich Signed, Sent to Capitals

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24 (AP)—A three-power agreement for controlling Germany during military occupation has been signed and referred to Washington, London and Moscow for acceptance.

It is understood to call for a supreme allied council to rule the defeated Reich.

Undersecretary of State Stettinius confirmed today that the Anglo-Soviet-American advisory commission in London had forwarded its recommendations to the three governments. He declines to discuss its contents.

Acceptance Probable
Acceptance is considered highly probable because all points covered in the agreement were referred to the three allied capitals before the European advisory commission made its own decisions.

While details are still secret, the plan approved by the commission is understood to call for the long-discussed three-way split of Reich territory and even

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Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
THE big story (finally) breaks. We BOMB TOKYO. With our new B-29's! From the Marianas!

Now have the Japs between a cross fire—superior from our India-China bases from our NEW (built in the last 5 months) Saipan-Guam-Marianas bases. It's a guess, of course, but it stands to reason that our big planes from the Marianas will COME ON to the Marianas re-fuel and re-arm where gas bombs will be easier to get.

CHIEF GENERAL ARNOLD says today: "The battle FOR JAPAN has joined. No part of the Japanese empire is now out of our range, no war factory too remote to feel our bombs."

The systematic demolition of Japan's war production, begun months ago from China bases, will be carried out by the Japanese heart for the invasion by combined sea and air forces."

The program announced by General Arnold will follow a pattern made familiar in Germany. When Jap production was seriously crippled, we'll be in for the kill—as we're in for Europe now.

Don't expect it to happen ALL ONCE. It took a lot of time and lives to batter Germany's production down. It will take us to do the same to Japan. But the job has been STARTED.

This is written (shortly before noon) there has been an announcement from our side RESULTS and LOSSES. That promised soon.

The Jap radio is following the same little damage to military installations, MUCH damage to hospitals and residences. That's the standard, blown-in-bottle propaganda squawk.

There is one amusing (to us) sidelight: According to the Tokyo radio, the raid probably BROKE UP a cabinet meeting called by the Japs to consider what to do in the way of meeting Japan's immediate war problems.

Our B-29's provided the obvious answer: "Run like hell for the nearest air shelter."

On Leyte, MacArthur's men take Limon and slog on inland in the mud. Their job from here on is the one of prying Japs out of the mud. (We're just learning that Japs are proving extremely skillful in that bloody job, saving many American lives.)

In western Europe, the French are fighting in Strasbourg and presently have the remnants of the German 19th army surrounded on the west bank of the Rhine.

There are three bridges in Strasbourg—two highway, one for ONE of these bridges—indicating they haven't been destroyed.

These are the ONLY permanent bridges from Strasbourg to the Swiss border. Elsewhere the nazis are using pontoon bridges, which they FOLD UP and TAKE IN during the day, using them only at NIGHT, when planes can't see to destroy them.

There are fairly dependable reports as this is written that our advance patrols have CROSSED THE RHINE into Germany in a number of places. These are presumably reconnaissance units.

Still, the fact that they can't OVER indicates that the (Continued on Page Two)

Holiday Touch Added by Snow

A sudden snow storm added a holiday touch to Thanksgiving as families and friends gathered around festive boards where turkey and trimmings shared this third war-time Thanksgiving.

Men from military installations in the Klamath vicinity are much in demand by hostess families and few soldiers, sailors or marines but shared holiday spirit following a deluge of invitations.

There was, apparently, plenty of turkey to go around despite the early freeze, relinquished on November 5, after Uncle Sam supplied his fighting forces with the traditional holiday