

YANK TROOPS LAND ON MINDORO

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

Weather News

December 16, 1944	
Min.	21
Max.	(Dec. 15) 42
Precipitation last 24 hours	0.00
Stream year to date	0.00
Normal	0.73
Last year	2.50
Forecast: Clear and cold.	
Normal	1.73
Last year	2.50
Oregon: Open	7:54
Close	5:10
Tulelake: Open	7:08
Close	5:35

Planes Knock Out Over 300 Jap Aircraft

By The Associated Press
GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Dec. 16.—A huge, 20-mile-long American warship convoy, moving 600 miles among enemy islands of the central Philippines while carrier planes knocked out upwards of 300 Japanese aircraft, landed mechanized troops Friday on Mindoro within 155 miles of Manila, headquarters disclosed today.

This boldest amphibious stroke of the Pacific war, unlocking the sea approaches to embattled China by crossing to the western side of the archipelago from Leyte, was completed with stunning ease but preparations were made for violent Japanese reaction. (Tokyo radio reported today, without allied confirmation, that a violent sea and air battle already is raging off Mindoro).

Three strong beachheads on southern Mindoro were overrun at dawn Friday by sixth army troops of Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger who were greeted excitedly by Filipinos, the Japanese having fled inland under bombardment of destroyers and rocket ships.

Between that beachhead and the big American base on nearby conquered Leyte, Yank and Filipino guerrillas were disclosed today to have seized strategic air fields and ports on intervening Panay, Negros, Cebu and Bohol as well as a 125-mile stretch of coast on northern Mindanao.

The guerrillas, some of whom fought the losing battle of Bataan, did their work so well that the huge convoy moving south and west from Leyte was able to steam within sight of the rugged coastlines of those islands.

"The operation has driven a corridor from east to west through the Philippine archipelago, which is now definitely cut in two and will enable us to dominate the sea and air routes which reach to the China coast," (Continued on Page Three)

PEACE TERMS SENT BRITISH BY LEFTISTS

By STEPHEN BARBER

ATHENS, Dec. 16 (AP)—The left wing EAM (national liberation front) informed Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, today that it would cease fighting if a new government were formed to deal with the question of disarmament of guerrillas, and if suspected collaborationists were brought to trial.

(BBC Correspondent John Nixon said in a broadcast from Athens that Scobie rejected the EAM conditions for a temporary truce, CBS reported.)

Term Ignored

(The British reporter said Scobie pointed out that one of the British terms—that all EAM forces in Athens and Piraeus cease resistance and hand in their arms—had been ignored.)

Fighting slackened in Athens as the British were reported to be continuing negotiations with the EAM for a solution of the Greek crisis.

The reply of EAM and its armed force, the ELAS, to Gen. Scobie's terms was handed to the British commander at noon today.

Block Subway

British parachute troops blocked the subway between the suburbs and Omonia square by which ELAS, armed forces of the EAM, had been infiltrating at night.

The EAM's radio also was believed knocked out when RAF Spitfires strafed the Leossia station just outside the city. The British broadcast over the same wave length last night.

(The Cairo radio said the station had been recaptured by the British.)

Arguments Heard On Demurrer

Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg today heard arguments on a demurrer filed against the indictment in the negligent homicide case against Manson James Young, and took the matter under advisement.

Young is accused in connection with the automobile accident death of W. H. McPherrin, the indictment charging that he was driving negligently at the time of the accident.

J. C. O'Neill, Young's attorney, argued today that the facts stated in the indictment are not sufficient to constitute a crime, in that they fail to allege in what particulars Young was driving negligently. Clarence Humble, deputy district attorney, contended that the indictment was sufficient.

Judge Vandenberg did not indicate how soon he would render a decision. If the indictment stands, Young will go to trial. If it is quashed, the defendant will be re-indicted or will go free. Young is now at liberty on bond.

SENTENCING HELD UNTIL JURY MEETS

Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg declared in court Saturday morning that he will not pass sentence Monday, as scheduled, on J. C. Jones, town marshal of Merrill, accused of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, until after the grand jury can convene to consider certain other pending criminal matters.

The judge did not reveal the matters to which he referred, but it was indicated they are under investigation through the district attorney's office. He made the statement to Deputy District Attorney Clarence Humble.

The court indicated, in effect, that there are other cases of a similar nature which should be brought to a head before he passes judgment on Jones, a 22-year-old veteran of this war, and Merrill police officer.

Jones is held in the county jail. He has pleaded guilty to the contributing charge, and was slated for sentence Monday.

Judge Vandenberg and the district attorney's office both indicated that the county grand jury will be called in a short time, depending upon the court calendar. It is presumed the jury will be presented with information concerning the other matters to which the judge referred.

PRODUCTION FOR CIVILIAN USE FROZEN

Move to Discourage Movement of Labor From War Jobs

By STERLING F. GREEN (Copyright, 1944, By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP)—The WPB, in a drastic new move to meet vital war needs, has ordered that all civilian production be frozen indefinitely, at present levels.

The order, dated December 7 and circulated within the war production board but not announced, is designed to discourage the movement of labor from war plants into peacetime activity while heavy demand continues for some vital weapons and material.

"Hold That Line" In effect a "hold-the-line" order on production, the ruling instructs the WPB staff neither to increase civilian goods production above the level of this quarter nor to relax existing orders if increased output would result.

The move was based on the theory that the volume of civilian goods now programmed is sufficient to meet "essential requirements" and avoid hardship on the home front.

Some slight leeway for expansion was left, however, by two mechanisms provided in the order, which was signed by Samuel Anderson, WPB's program vice chairman.

First, the office of civilian requirements or other agency speaking for a segment of the domestic economy, may seek an increase in production by making a "positive demonstration" that a program is clearly below "essential requirements." (Continued on Page Three)

Police Patrol Ward Store

DETROIT, Dec. 16 (AP)—State and city police patrolled the area of the Montgomery Ward and company Royal Oak store today following reports of clashes yesterday between employees and CIO pickets. Three workers were treated for injuries.

A state police spokesman said there had been no incidents at the store since 15 state troopers were ordered there by Gov. Harry F. Kelly following a request from City Manager Edward M. Shafer of Royal Oak.

Americans Charged With Smuggling Contraband Into China Over 'Hump'

By FRANK L. MARTIN
NEW DELHI, Nov. 21 (Delayed) (AP)—An investigation by U. S. army authorities has resulted in court martial and arrest of scores of American servicemen and civilians in the past year on charges of smuggling contraband into China over the famous "Hump" airline, it was learned today.

With the cooperation of British, Chinese and Indian officials, army investigators now have largely smashed an international syndicate which for three years dealt in stolen lend-lease supplies, government property, gold currency and other goods flown into isolated and inflation-ridden China, it was said.

The army withheld all names. Mostly "Small Fry" The Americans were declared mostly "small fry" in the operations—go-between who transported the goods under plans financed by scores of wealthy Chinese and Indian citizens and Greeks with British citizenship.

The inquiry was begun, one headquarters officer said, when it was discovered that "much of our supplies that took valuable space on planes were getting to the black market. In some cases, bandits operating in the China hills had been known to rob American army supply trucks with American pistols."

Most of the Americans involved started in a small way, carrying into China only such things as cigarettes. Later the syndicate involved some U. S.

Reds Strike Into Slovakia To Open Roads, Trap Nazis

LONDON, Dec. 16 (AP)—Striking into western Slovakia for the first time, Russian troops today pressed a bold offensive from captured Ipolyasg (Sahy) junction, attempting to smash open the roads to Vienna, 115 miles to the west, and at the same time trap German divisions to the east.

Ipolyasg, on the Budapest-Bratislava-Vienna highway, was seized by red army spearheads which bridged the Ipoly river frontier from Hungary, 34 miles northwest of beleaguered Budapest, Danube-straddling capital already two-thirds encircled by the soviets.

Moscow announced that Ipolyasg fell Thursday after a bitter all-night fight in which 800 Germans were killed. It is a half-mile inside Slovakia. In taking it the Russians skirted the 2700-foot Borzsony mountains between the town and the big Danube river bend to the south.

German troops reeled back into Slovakia along a 125-mile front from Ipolyasg eastward to Satoralujhely in the face of the increased tempo of the Russian drive.

Attack Heavily Berlin reported the Russians also were attacking more heavily in the Debico-Tarnow area of southern Poland, and speculated these renewed thrusts may be the beginning of a northern envelopment movement against Slovakia as well as a winter offensive aimed at Krakow.

The stroke northward from Hungary by second Ukraine army troops appeared likely to aid a fighting force of 25,000 Free Czechoslovak troops.

Aggie Butler Victim of Hit, Run Driver

Aggie Butler, route 2, box 837, is in Klamath Valley hospital, victim of a hit-and-run driver, state police reported Saturday. Her condition is said to be fair. Mrs. Butler is a former Chilcoquit resident.

The woman was injured at Madison and S. 6th at about 12:30 a. m. as she was walking toward her home from the bus accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Willie David. She was moved by Ward's ambulance to the hospital where she was found to have a badly fractured leg and arm.

State police were called to the scene and continued their investigation Saturday. Officers have a broken door handle in their possession, apparently knocked from the car by the impact of the woman's body.

Last Resistance In Bhamo Crushed

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, Ceylon, Dec. 16 (AP)—The crushing of the last organized resistance in the North Burma town of Bhamo was expected today to release another powerful Chinese force for the push south toward the old Burma road.

Only a few snipers remained from a Japanese suicide force, originally estimated at 1200 men, which had held out for weeks in the by-passed town, 80 miles south of Myitkyina.

Bhamo fell yesterday to the Chinese 38th division which laid siege to the enemy's fortress of teakwood logs, described by an American liaison officer as "the best defense system yet encountered in North Burma."

Seventh Takes Lauterborg

FORCES BEAT AGAINST LINE IN BAVARIA

Fresh Nazi Division Trown Into Battle

By EDWARD KENNEDY

PARIS, Dec. 16 (AP)—The U. S. seventh army poured more troops into its four-pronged invasion of Germany today, seized the French border town of Lauterbourg only two miles from the Rhine, and beat against the first pillboxes of the Siegfried line in Bavaria.

German west wall artillery reacted violently and a fresh Nazi armored division was flung in as reinforcement in attempts to stem the seventh's thrust into the Bavarian Palatinate.

Clean Pockets Two hundred miles to the north, U. S. first army infantry and armor cleaned out more German pockets west of the Roer river and added to their holdings along a 27-mile stretch of the Roer's west bank.

The Germans demolished the remaining bridges over the Roer—a sign they have abandoned hopes of holding anywhere on the west shore.

Army Harassed Heavy German artillery fire harassed the first army front. Southward, the American third army scored fresh but slow gains.

The 90th division crawled another 300 yards into Dilligen, with fierce fighting in the southern part of the city. The 95th division advanced 250 yards inside Emsdorf east of Saarluern. Nine miles east of Sarrebourg, doughboys moved half a mile beyond Erching and reached the German border.

The 45th, 79th and 103rd divisions of the seventh army were battling into Germany at points along a 17-mile front, meeting heavy resistance. U. S. artillery thundered in a duel with Siegfried line cannon.

Marines Charged With Cab Theft

PFC James M. Garland, 21, Spruce Pine, N. C., and PFC Arliss C. Cook, 22, Houston, Miss., stationed at the Marine Barracks, are being held in the Clackamas county jail at Oregon City following their arrest early Saturday morning on a warrant issued by Klamath state police.

The two were alleged to have been driving a Hurry Cab which had been reported stolen from in front of the Klamath Falls police station at 12:30 a. m., Saturday, while the operator, Ray South, was in the station reporting an accident which he had witnessed on S. 6th a short time earlier.

Clackamas officials said Clackamas officials would turn Garland and Cook over to Barracks authorities this weekend.

Vandenberg Calls for Plain Speaking by U.S. on Policy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16 (AP)—Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.) called today for "plain speaking" by the United States in relations with Russia and Britain.

As Washington watched with obvious concern diplomatic developments abroad, and as it was confirmed that Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill will meet early in 1945, Vandenberg declared:

"The United States should not be the only silent partner in this command. I think it would be a shocking thing if so fundamental a question (as the Polish post-war problem) were to be determined to suit the self-interests of Moscow and London without either consultation or consent of Washington."

Commenting on Prime Minister Churchill's apparent abandonment of the London Polish government, Vandenberg said if the United States has been consulted "the matter is a state secret" and if it has not, it is a "state scandal."

No Threat to Unity It should be no threat to military unity, he asserted, "for us to be as plain spoken as our military allies."

Chairman Connally (D-Tex.) of the senate foreign relations committee said the prime minister's pronouncement means a big three meeting is necessary because the United States "must be consulted" on European boundaries.

Meeting Confirmed That the big three of the United Nations convene in late January or early February was confirmed yesterday by highly placed Washington officials.

This is the earliest date on which the three chiefs of state can gather despite Churchill's appeal to President Roosevelt and Premier Stalin to meet with him "at the earliest possible moment."



Old Timers Bite the Dust—They're Firewood Now Several old trees on the courthouse lawn yielded to the woodsman's axe and saw this week. Felled because their roots were injurious to the lawn, and to make way for other trees growing nearby, the old trees were cut into firewood for county use. In the picture above, taken Saturday morning, Marshall Dexter, Herbert Boettcher, Loren Blackmer and Elmer Christensen are helping to clear off what is left of the venerable old trees. County court members, a bit sensitive about public reaction to tree-cutting, said they delayed the action until all hands agreed that removal of the trees was absolutely necessary.

EUGENE REPORTER HELD FOR SHOOTING

EUGENE, Dec. 16 (AP)—Gladys Turley, 36, reporter for the Eugene Register-Guard, was turned over to the district attorney's office by city police here, following her arrest last night on charges of assault with a deadly weapon on a friend with whom she operated a small farm near town, police records indicated today.

Pauline Conrad, 32, interior decorator, was seriously injured when shot twice through the chest and once through the back with a .25 revolver, which police have in their possession. She and Miss Turley had been regarded as the best of friends.

Witnesses said Miss Turley called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Greenwood, with whom Miss Conrad was visiting, at about 7:30, and was shown upstairs.

Shortly afterward they heard loud voices and shots, and Greenwood told police he rushed upstairs and took the gun away from Miss Turley.

"I should have gotten rid of the damn thing," he quoted her as saying.

Mussolini Breaks Long Silence

By The Associated Press
The long silent fallen duce of fascism, Benito Mussolini, spoke out yesterday from puppet headquarters at Milan, asserting that his regime faced "unbelievable and ever-increasing difficulties" in the shifting fortunes of war.

Federal communications commission monitors said Mussolini appeared in good voice as he harangued his followers for 55 minutes in the Lyric theater on the anniversary of the assassination of Aldo Resega, fascist commissioner of Milan province.

Not Clear A treasury official said last night the letter seemed "on the surface" to lay down a "new policy" which isn't clear to the treasury, and will require further study.

Breaking of diplomatic relations (Continued on Page Three)

Pioneer Grants Pass Man Killed

GRANTS PASS, Dec. 16 (AP)—Harry Dimmick, 73, a member of the pioneer Dimmick family for which the Dimmick district is named, was killed some time Friday night by a fall down a 20-foot embankment on the road to Galice, Sheriff Lloyd Lewis said today.

His automobile, an open car, was found hanging over the edge of the road by the rear wheels at 1 a. m. by Loren Cooper, forest ranger at the Rand station, Dimmick's widow resides at Galice and he leaves two daughters at Portland, Mrs. Baepke and Mrs. Anna Moore.

SHOPPING DAYS Left

DON'T KEEP ME WAITING

BUY Christmas SEALS

