

YANKS BLUNT PRONG OF ATTACK

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Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

WE still have to guess at what is happening in Belgium—because there is so little news base them on guesses are highly unreliable.

ONE dispatch this morning (passed by the censor) gives us a faint and blurry picture of what is happening. It says: "The Germans appear unable to widen materially the BASES of their penetration triangles, but the POINTS of the triangles are PUSHING DEEPER."

That is technical military language. Let's see if we can reduce it to terms we can understand.

IN attacking an enemy and seeking to break his line, you first drive a WEDGE. Then you seek to WIDEN the WEDGE.

If you don't widen it enough, the enemy will pour in FROM THE SIDES and pinch it off.

IN modern warfare, the wedge is tipped with tanks and other armored vehicles. Its job follows along behind—and, if the tanks break a hole, to pour through and fan out in the enemy's rear.

THE dispatches add that German infantry is beginning to appear in the wedge, but so far hasn't been able to WIDEN IT ENOUGH—meaning that WE'RE smashing in from the sides ("flanks" is the technical term used in the dispatches.)

THE point is that if we're able to smash hard enough and to keep it up we may be able to pinch off the wedge and stop the German effort.

THE German purpose is rather clear. It is to break through our line, get into our rear and cut our communication and supply lines. Von Rundstedt's supply lines. He wants to get clear through to ANTWERP.

If our lines of communication and supply are cut, our offensive would be WRECKED and the Nazis would be given until next spring to get their second wind.

IT is a typical German effort. Rommel tried the same thing at the Kasserin pass, in northern Africa, and for days he had us scared within an inch of our lives. He came on dangerously near to getting away with it.

WHERE are all the Germans coming from? WE FORGET SO EASILY.

FOR months and months, German armies have been pouring BACK INTO GERMANY from all over Europe—from Finland, from the Baltic states, from Russia, from the Balkans, from Africa, from Holland, from Belgium, from France, from Italy.

Their losses, of course, have been heavy, but it has been perfectly obvious to everyone who has stopped to think that when THOSE LEFT GOT BACK there would be a lot of Germans in the German homeland.

MOST of us didn't stop to think. We just saw Germans RE-TREATING everywhere, and jumped to the conclusion that in war, it is always a mistake to jump to conclusions that are too rosy.

THE censorship that conceals from us what is happening at the moment is probably fully justified. Its purpose is to keep information from the enemy. Accurate information as to what (Continued on Page Four)

Jap Headquarters On Leyte Seized; Yanks Win Airfield

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Dec. 20 (AP)—Converging Yanks after seizing the Japanese headquarters town of Valencia, together with an airfield intact, drove forward north and south today in an effort to tighten a noose of flesh and steel about the largest organized enemy force still fighting on west Leyte island.

Seizure of Valencia, about eight miles north of the strategic American-held port of Ormoc, was disclosed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur today. As the 77th division smashed into the city, the first (dismounted) cavalry swung in a flanking drive from the direction of Carigara bay and captured Lonoy, six miles north of Valencia.

Troops Trapped
In so doing, they cut behind a strong Japanese force, already pinned down by the U. S. 32nd and thus the enemy troops, of unestimated number, were entrapped between the two American divisions.

The 77th already has placed the Valencia airfield in use, and it is providing another base for American planes which have been continually harassing Japanese shipping and supply columns in their campaign of attrition.

Press to North
After capturing Valencia the 77th pressed northward, and Gen. MacArthur said it was "rolling up" remnants of the once-powerful Yamashita line which has been cut to bits by the Americans in the last few days of sanguinary fighting.

Japanese casualties continue high, MacArthur reporting that an additional 1484 enemy dead were found abandoned Monday. Twenty-two Japanese were captured.

No Interference
American troops continued to operate without ground interference on Mindoro, northwest of Leyte, which they invaded last Friday, MacArthur reported that 13 Japanese planes attacking American positions on Mindoro were shot down, with the loss of one U. S. fighter.

Sister in Jail
It is understood Miss Collins returned to Klamath Falls in the custody of Juvenile Officer Harold Hendrickson. Her sister, the 16-year-old complaining witness in the Heuvel case, is in the county jail, under jurisdiction of Juvenile authorities.

Merrill Schools Go All-Out in War Loan Drive
The constant upward climb of the bond sales figures in the present 6th War Loan drive is proof that Merrill schools believe that "a thing worth doing, is worth doing well."

With their outstanding percentage of the original quota subscribed, the Merrill schools rank not only the highest of all schools in Klamath county, but one of the highest schools in the state of Oregon.

Many days before the actual opening of the 6th War Loan drive, Merrill students had exceeded their \$1200 quota, and by December 8, that amount had been more than doubled.

Today Merrill's total has reached the sum of \$8167.50 for the drive. Students and teachers are anticipating a \$10,000 sales total before the drive is ended, and if their future success is as they are, that goal should be easily reached.

Resigned to Return
The Hood River post's 800-word resolution came simultaneously with other indications that Oregon was resigning itself to return to the Japanese.

Police officials pledged protection to returning Japanese-Americans; and the Portland city council voted to issue business licenses to them just as in previous days.

C. G. Schneider, Gresham attorney and charter member of Oregon Anti-Japanese, Inc.—an organization formed to ban those from the west—announced that "they are American citizens and you can't do anything about them."

TOKYO BLACKS OUT FOR NEW B-29 ATTACKS

Three Superforts Hit Capital Before Dawn

By VERN HAUGLAND
21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, Dec. 20 (Via Navy Radio) (AP)—Three Saipan-based Superfortresses bombed Tokyo before dawn today.

They found all of Honshu, the main island of Japan, blacked-out in expectation of the return of B-29s on nightly flights to report the weather over Japan. Two B-29s bombed Nagoya early yesterday, some 12 hours after the second major Superfortress raid on that city.

The first of today's Tokyo attacks by Superfortresses was commanded by Lt. Wilfred N. Lind, Minneapolis, which struck at 2:06 a. m.

The crew saw 10 bomb blasts followed by fires covering a large square area.

No Fighters
Nine minutes later, Capt. Harold F. Schramm of Coral Gables, Fla., saw fires in the industrial area. He released his bombload and started 13 new blazes of medium size. He said he saw a few searchlights and six bursts of flack but no fighters.

The third B-29, commanded (Continued on Page Four)

Negroes Seek New Trials
SEATTLE, Dec. 20 (AP)—Negroes of the Pacific northwest will be asked to sign petitions seeking new trials for 50 negro sailors convicted after the Port Chicago blast and the 26 negro soldiers convicted of rioting charges in connection with the Fort Lawton disturbances against an Italian service unit, it was disclosed last night.

Edgar G. Brown, director of the National Negro council, said he had petitioned the president for a "searching investigation" into the "army and navy's continued and aggravated policy of discrimination, segregation and wholesale convictions of negroes in the uniform of this country."

Modernized Setup in State Department Revealed by Stettinius; Team Sworn In
WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP) Secretary Stettinius unveiled his modernized state department set-up today as his hard-work team of new assistants was sworn in.

In the reorganization, crossing lines of responsibility were cleared away and the undersecretary, Joseph C. Grew, was relieved of detail jobs. Stettinius and Grew will work together as a unit.

The secretary told reporters it was his aim to bring the best qualified men in America into the department and to make it the best possible arm of the government to cope with difficult tasks ahead. Further changes are in prospect, he indicated.

Teamwork Stressed
Throughout his explanation of how departmental machinery has been revamped the teamwork theme was constantly emphasized.

Undersecretary Grew and four assistant secretaries were sworn in by Associate Justice Stanley Reed of the supreme court after a wordy battle in the senate over their appointments. The fight ended last night after President Roosevelt insisted they were the men he wanted for the jobs.

One of the five new assistant secretaries was absent from today's ceremony because of illness (Continued on Page Two)

Lifts Jap Ban



Maj. Gen. H. C. Pratt, new commander of western defense command, photographed in San Francisco as he announced war department decision to allow nearly 80,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans to return to west coast.

COMMONS ATTACKS CHURCHILL, EDEN

LONDON, Dec. 20 (AP)—Under bitter attack, Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Secretary Eden stood pat in commons today on Britain's armed intervention in Greece, but Eden urged the quick reestablishment of face-to-face contact among the foreign ministers of Britain, Russia and the United States to deal with such problems.

Churchill, opening the debate, admitted that "whether there is complete agreement on every aspect of these matters is another question altogether" after declaring that there was complete harmony of "general aims" among Britain, Russia and the United States.

The commons chamber was thrown into confusion as shouts came from all sides attacking King George of Greece.

Not Worth Cost
Dr. Haden Guest, laborite, asserted "It is not worth spending the life or the wounding of one (Continued on Page Four)

KASSA CENTER OF CONVERGING RED COLUMNS

Nazi Defense Anchor Attacked by Soviets

By DANIEL DE LUCE
MOSCOW, Dec. 20 (AP)—Four red army columns were converging in heavy attacks today on the city of Kassa, anchor of the entire German defense system in the mountains of eastern Czechoslovakia.

Advanced forces already were reported within easy artillery range of the old highland provincial center, whose mixed Slovak-Hungarian population before the war totaled about 84,000.

Village Falls
A commune last night announced fall of the village of Senya, only nine miles to the south. Other soviet columns were boring in from the southwest, southeast and east. Field dispatches reported steady progress.

On the southwest, the main German highway-rail escape route was cut. Other routes leading through the mountains of middle Slovakia are reported continually harassed by patriot bands.

Team Effort
The drive for the coveted town was a coordinated effort of two powerful Russian forces Marshal Rodion V. Malinovsky's second Ukrainian and Gen. Ivan Petrov's fourth Ukrainian army.

The converging columns gained as much as eight miles yesterday, battering their way through strong German fortifications set up in the forested mountains.

The drive on Kassa was part of general advances on the front of more than 80 miles above the southern borders of Slovakia and in northern Hungary. The border was crossed at many new points.

MARINE CRITICALLY INJURED IN FIGHT

Fernon Clinton Evans, chief cook, Marine Barracks, is in a critical condition as the result of a beating which he is said to have received around midnight Tuesday while en route home from a tavern near Dorris.

In the county jail, held in connection with the alleged attack, is Lewis Summerville, 22, 1542 Martin, arrested just before noon Wednesday by Sheriff Lloyd L. Low.

On Way Home
According to Sheriff Low, Mr. and Mrs. Evans, a second marine, and Summerville, were at a local beer parlor when they decided to go to the tavern. On the way home an altercation ensued.

Franco, Minister Escape Killing
PARIS, Dec. 20 (AP)—The newspaper Aurore reported in a dispatch from the Spanish frontier today that Generalissimo Franco and his minister of justice, narrowly escaped an assassination attempt in Madrid Sunday.

The newspaper said two persons who had just left Spain reported that shots were fired at Franco's motor car and the chauffeur was wounded. The chauffeur said the generalissimo and his minister escaped harm and the assassins fled.

Congressmen Head Homeward
By FRANCIS J. KELLY
WASHINGTON, Dec. 20 (AP)—Members of the disbanded 76th Congress headed home today, their nerves ground thin by the demands of two years' wartime lawmaking plus a bitter political campaign.

Nazis Strike Back



The heaviest German counter-offensive of western campaign (white arrows) coordinated with a savage V-bomb barrage, continues to punch on U. S. first army front, rulling into Belgium and Luxembourg.

SCOBIE TO CARRY BATTLE TO ELAS

ATHENS, Dec. 20 (AP)—Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, announced his determination tonight to carry the fight to Elmas forces and warned civilians in Athens that leftist guns firing upon the city after 9 a. m. tomorrow would be attacked "with all arms at my disposal."

A BBC broadcast quoted Scobie as saying the Elmas would be attacked with aircraft, naval guns and rocket weapons as well as other forces.

Headquarters Falls
Scobie's proclamation followed the fall of British RAF headquarters after a gun-dynamite assault by Elmas forces.

The pro-Nazi expatriate, Jean Ballis, who fled Averoff prison two days ago after 12 hours of a heavy Elmas siege, remained at large in spite of a widespread search for him.

But the communist paper Rozpatis said two others of the escaped prisoners, Gen. George Bacos, former minister of national defense, and George Piproukakis, minister of supplies during the German occupation, had been captured and executed.

Capt. Carpenter Leaves Barracks
Capt. Donald N. Carpenter, who has been public relations officer at the Marine Barracks of the past four months, has gone on the corps' inactive reserve list and left here Tuesday night for his home in Chevy Chase, Washington D. C.

The captain came here in August from Camp Pendleton, Oceanside, Calif. Previously, he had spent 18 months in Alaska, where he was marine public relations officer for that territory.

He enlisted in 1923, and went into inactive status in 1925, after attending officers' school. Called back into the marine corps early in 1942, with the rank of first lieutenant, he served at various continental stations before going to Alaska.

In civilian life, Captain Carpenter was a columnist for the Washington D. C., Daily News, and an insurance broker. His father, Capt. Dudley N. Carpenter (MC) USN, has been in the navy for 50 years.

Eugene Loggers Walk Out; Closure Threatens Mills

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 20 (AP)—More than 200 log truckers in this area left their vehicles standing idle here late Tuesday night, and sawmills here were threatened with closure by Thursday morning when their small reserve supplies of raw timber will be exhausted.

GI'S RETAKE TOWN, CLING TO POSITIONS

Front Still Unstable As Battle Rages Through Area

By JAMES M. LONG
PARIS, Dec. 20 (AP)—U. S. first army troops have blunted one powerful German drive that lunged 20 miles into Belgium to Stavelot, and recaptured Monschau, a German town 17 miles to the northeast.

Other American units cling to points three miles from St. Vith, another key Belgian road hub, 11 miles southeast of Stavelot, and farther south doughboy forces were being mustered to halt still another penetration that struck across the north tip of Luxembourg, a front dispatch said.

Impetus Checked
The initial impetus of the armor-tipped Nazi counter-offensive had been checked, although the front still was unstabilized tonight.

The Nazi smash to the vicinity of Stavelot had carried to within 22 miles of Liege, and bore one of the sharpest dangers to the first army front.

Battles Rage
Heavy battles apparently still raged today around Stavelot, 20 miles inside Belgium, St. Vith, 11 miles to the southeast, and Malmey, five miles northeast of Stavelot. Three biggest road hubs in Belgium's eastern bulge.

A front dispatch said Monschau, 16 miles southeast of Aachen, was retaken after German units which entered the town were surrounded. Monschau (Continued on Page Four)

Inquest Slated Into Death of J. C. Fitzgerald

A coroner's inquest in connection with the death of James Forie Fitzgerald, 57, will be held Friday morning at Whitlock's. The inquest will be conducted by Dr. George H. Adler, county coroner.

Mr. Fitzgerald died at Hillside hospital late Tuesday morning from injuries received when he was struck by a car operated by Ensign G. B. Law, Klamath naval air station, at 6th and Market. Mr. Fitzgerald was an employee of the Ewauna Box company.

8th, Pine Corner Sold to Lowell

Sale of the northeast corner of 8th and Pine to Frank Lowell by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bureker was announced Wednesday morning by E. Gray Realty company.

Purchase price was given at \$23,000. The property involved has a Pine street frontage of 120 feet, and 60 feet on 8th. The Bradburn apartments occupies a portion of the Pine street frontage.

Lowell, who recently returned from duty with the Seabees, said Wednesday that priority request for a large office building to cover the entire property, was being forwarded to authorities today. It is Lowell's intention to construct a building to house insurance offices principally.

Sale of the Bureker property is the second large transaction in this part of Klamath Falls in the past six weeks. William H. and Margaret A. Fluhrer purchased the Hanks property at 8th and Pine across from the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company for investment purposes early in November. This gives Fluhrer the entire half block on Pine from 7th to 8th.

SHOPPING DAYS Left
CLOSE TO THE ZERO HOUR
BUY Christmas SEALS