

GI'S DEAL SETBACK TO NAZIS

Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS
ABOUT the only good news from Belgium today is that the weather still permits air activity on a large scale. Our planes are working on German positions, and the number of enemy vehicles reported destroyed is impressively large. Pray for more good weather.

THE Germans have joined their two wedges into one, but by desperate fighting on the flanks we seem to be stopping them so far from effectively widening the base (thus preventing them from getting as much strength into the wedge as they'd like to).

Our surrounded troops at Bastogne (at the southern edge of the wedge's base) are still fighting stubbornly, with the nearest reinforcements four or five miles away. We are dropping supplies and ammunition to them from the air.

AP Correspondent Wes Gallagher, cabling from the front, says there are "growing indications that the German high command has decided to risk the heart of the German army in the western front battle."

"The next few days should tell the story, with strong prospects for the greatest battle of the second world war in the offing."

GALLAGHER thinks Von Rundstedt still has substantial reserves—MORE than we thought possible a few months ago.

He says: "If he commits them (his reserves) either in the breakthrough or in a new attempt farther north, the struggle on the western front will have a life or death aspect. It will strain every allied resource."

"But if Von Rundstedt fails, the German army will be in exactly the same crippled condition it was after the abortive Paris offensive of 1918."

THERE are hopeful statements that the Germans have been slowed down, but there is every indication that the peak of the battle is not yet here.

BE sure to read John M. Highower's Washington dispatch today. You will find it interesting.

Official Washington he indicates, is now in the stage of finding fault. There is much talk, he says, of OVEROPTIMISM in the allied command. There is particular criticism of allied intelligence (spy service, etc.) which is said to have thought (and reported) that the German armies in France were practically destroyed. Intelligence is accused of being badly wrong in its reports of the strength of German reserves.

The idea is that inaccurate information thus provided for our leaders threw them off in their calculations.

WELL, there must always be a scapegoat.
But EVERY intelligently realistic observer has been struck by the complacency and the routine optimism of our commanders and officials since the news from the BEGINNING, when the marines have landed and the situation is well in hand.

It is little wonder that the home fronters, who know only what they are PERMITTED to know, became complacent. The bad news has been uniformly (Continued on Page Three)

Gerald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland
Klamath Falls, Oregon, Wednesday, December 27, 1944
Number 10348

Weather News			
Max. (Dec. 26)	December 27, 1944	Min.	24
Precipitation last 24 hours		Trace	
Stream year to date		194	
Normal	4.34	Last year	3.65
Forecast: Snow flurries.			
Oregon: Open	Thursday	Shooting Hours	5:16
Tulelake: Open	5:04	Close	5:16

REDS BATTLE INTO CAPITAL OF HUNGARY

Nazis Burn Military Stores, Fight Grimly

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—German and Hungarian forces encircled in and around Budapest were split in two today by Russian troops that hurled the eastern branch of the Danube nine miles north of Budapest, captured Szentendrei island, and got in touch with other Russian forces on the west bank.

Announcing this smashing success, a communique broadcast from Moscow said one-half of the enemy garrison thus had been driven into the mountainous and forested terrain in the Danube bend north of Budapest while the other was caught in a constricting vise in the city itself.

By DANIEL de LUCE
MOSCOW, Dec. 27 (AP)—Red army shock troops charged upon flame-seared Budapest from snowy hills above the Danube river today. The German garrison burned military stores, dynamited public utilities and fought back grimly with field artillery scattered throughout the Hungarian capital.

Half a dozen soviet spearheads were reported closing in on the western half of the encircled city and all German roads of escape were cut off. Just how many nazi troops comprise the defending garrison is not known here, but the Russian command said their numbers were large.

Slash Into Buda
Soviet assault units of tanks, plus Tommy-guns, were believed to have slashed some distance into the city.

JAPS TRANSFERRED TO SANTA FE CAMP

Nazi Counterblow Causes Reverses In Italian Area

ROME, Dec. 27 (AP)—A strong German counterattack near Italy's west coast has forced fifth army forces to withdraw from advance positions in the Serchio river valley, allied headquarters announced today.

Chaplin Blood Test Admitted

Robert Anderson Hurt in Action

Sizeable B-29 Force Ranges Over Capital

By VERN HAUGLAND
21ST BOMBER COMMAND, SAIPAN, Dec. 27 (AP)—Tokyo, bombed in force four times previously by Superfortresses and many times hit by harassing planes alone or in small groups, was pounded again this afternoon (Wednesday Japan time) by a sizeable force of B-29s.

The first of the raiders struck during the noon rush—a couple of hours earlier than the Japanese capital has come to expect bombings—and reported good visibility for their targets in the great industrial area.

2000 BUTCHER SHOPS CLOSED IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 27 (AP)—More than 2000 butcher shops were closed today, third day of the meat holiday called by butchers dissatisfied with present OPA regulations, a police survey showed.

Receive Supplies
Most of the stores open were reported to have received some supplies. Results of the police survey were substantiated by the department of markets which made an independent tabulation.

Two Jima Pounded By Ships, Planes

COUNCIL GRANTS HEUVEL VACATION

War Bulletins

Strategists Add Three to Six Months to European Battle; Overoptimism Blamed for German Successes

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Military strategists are now tentatively adding three to six months to their estimate of a date for victory in Europe.

Chaplin Blood Test Admitted
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 27 (AP)—Joan Berry's lawyer failed today to block testimony of blood tests declared by doctors to have shown that Charlie Chaplin is not the father of her 14-month-old daughter.

PLANES BLAST NIP AIRFIELDS ON LUZON ISLE

Island Vulnerable to Reinvasion by Doughboys

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Dec. 27 (AP)—Land-based American bombers for the fourth consecutive day blasted Japan's airfields at Manila on Luzon island, now regarded as vulnerable to reinvasion by Yank forces mopping up in the central Philippines.

Rate Bureau Suggested to Settle Freight Problems

\$188,000 ALLOTTED FOR HOMOJA HUTS

YANK SUBS BAG NIP AIRCRAFT CARRIER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27 (AP)—Destruction of a large Japanese aircraft carrier, six additional enemy warships and 20 other Nipponese vessels by American submarines was reported by the navy today.

Las Terms Not Acceptable to Populist Party

New Chief Not Yet Selected

Summerville in Siskiyou Jail

Boys Go South On Bicycles

Yanks Killed In New Break-through



Two American soldiers lie dead on the ground somewhere in Belgium, killed in the new German break-through. Photo is one from a roll of film captured from a German soldier and shows equipment removed from Yanks, as well as shoes from man in foreground. (AP wirephoto from signal corps radiophoto).

Establishment of a rate bureau was suggested as necessary to the permanent solution of Klamath basin freight problems in a report to chamber of commerce directors Wednesday noon by George P. Davis, chairman of the rates and transportation committee of the chamber.

Public Subscription
He suggested that the rate question is of such vital financial interest to the entire community that probably a considerable sum could be raised by private subscription toward the establishment of a Klamath basin rate bureau. Part of the money, however, would probably have to come from some general source.

Elas Terms Not Acceptable to Populist Party
ATHENS, Dec. 27 (AP)—Greek populist party members declared today that peace proposals by representatives of the left-wing of the conference called by Prime Minister Churchill ended its second meeting without an agreement.

New Chief Not Yet Selected
Mayor-elect Ed Ostendorf has not yet selected his appointee as chief of police to succeed Chief Earl Heuvel, it was disclosed today.

Summerville in Siskiyou Jail
Lewis Summerville, 22-year-old veteran of World War 2, was turned over to Siskiyou county authorities and charged with assault with a deadly weapon in connection with the alleged beating of Fermon Clinton Evans, chief cook, Marine Barracks, the night of December 19.

Boys Go South On Bicycles
Two 14-year-old boys were evidently displeased with the weather in Klamath Falls, and decided to journey to California for the winter serve as a two-wheeled cart behind his bicycle. Probably he expected to be forewarned of a last minute sprig of patriotism or foresight, and decided to share his method of transportation.

YANKS REGAIN INITIATIVE IN FIGHTING

Berlin Admits Allied Counterblows More Methodical

By JAMES M. LONG
PARIS, Dec. 27 (AP)—U. S. troops and tanks, regaining the initiative, have driven a deep salient into German lines within the last 24 hours and dealt the German offensive its first serious setback, a front dispatch declared today.

LONDON, Dec. 27 (AP)—A Berlin broadcast tonight said the Nazi offensive into Belgium was becoming "more and more a battle of attrition," and that "allied counterattacks already are more methodical."

KLAMATH COUNTY TOPS LOAN QUOTA
Klamath county's 6th War Loan drive has passed its quota today in all departments.

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