

MEDY HIT BOMBS IN TRAGIC ERROR

London, Jan. 10 (AP)—Malmédy, a Belgian town of 5000 in the northern flank of the breakthrough, was nearly destroyed by two allied air attacks just before Christmas in the war's tragic errors, front dispatches disclosed.

German troops still were in the town and never lost touch with the enemy approach, though a kilometer (five-sixths of a mile), said Associated Press Correspondent Hal Deane in a dispatch dated Dec. 31.

German medium bombers dropped eight bombs on the town on December 27, he said. The bombs were not incendiary, but they did not appear to be incendiary.

Many killed. Members of civilians and soldiers were killed, he reported.

London News Chronicle reports that the Germans bombed their own troops in just south of Malmédy at the same time. The paper's correspondent called the attack "one of those incidents of air war in which the dangers and difficulties of close support are compounded by strategic air attacks."

Similar accidents occurred at St. Lo and Caen in Normandy.

Several reports to the effect that the Germans captured Malmédy, said Paris believed it had and that the army news service printed it to that effect.

Headed by Allies. The news headquarters, in its unique issued on the day of the first air attack, said Malmédy remained in allied hands.

It was not mentioned in the next two days, Dec. 24 and December 25, the newspaper repeated that it still held.

Though shelled by the German American combat engineers stubbornly stuck to the rocks they had built east of the town.

Wrote Boyle. The village for the first time until strong reinforcements of the confused battles.

On December 23 a force of American medium bombers dropped bombs on Malmédy. Fires were started in the city.

On the afternoon of December 24—the day before the larger formation of German tanks came over.

The main were broken and the engineers had to blow buildings in a ring around the burning area to check the German army trucks evacuated at least 1000 of the town's tanks, Boyle said.

TAL STATISTICS
Born at Klamath Valley hospital, Klamath Falls, Ore., January 10, 1944, a girl. Weight, 7 pounds 6 ounces.
Born at Klamath Valley hospital, Klamath Falls, Ore., January 10, 1944, a boy. Weight, 6 pounds 7 ounces.

OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE



CHRISTMAS IN FRANCE

Uncle Sam took time out to care for wounded veterans Christmas, according to S/Sgt. Alfred Carlson, one of the patients on a hospital train which



carried casualties from the front in Germany to France. Carlson was hit December 20, while in combat in Germany.

Madeline Carroll, movie star, spent Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on the train, according to a letter received by Carlson's sister, Mrs. Fred Goeller, Jr., 406 Riverside. Each car had a Christmas tree, a Santa Claus appeared and distributed gifts to the men.

Carlson advised his sister that he received a shrapnel wound in the thigh while he and his lieutenant were out scouting for a position. He is now in a hospital in France and recovering satisfactorily.

WATTS GETS SPY
Seaman Harold Watts, Iowa, Kansas, grandson of Mrs. S. E. Rupe, 1515 Etna, has captured a Jap spy in the South Pacific.

Watts and two others were walking near their post when they saw the spy. Watts had a tommy gun with him, and shot the Jap off the motorcycle he was riding.

The Iowa boy was given a special recognition for his quick action and also was permitted to keep the motorcycle. He has visited here twice with his grandmother and has a number of friends here.

VEATCH PROMOTED
Word has been received recently by Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Veatch, 1955 Earl, that their son, Robert E. Veatch, has been promoted from first lieutenant to captain. Captain Veatch is with the army transport command in France and has been overseas 10 months and he has received the Air Medal for his part in the Normandy invasion.

He enlisted in the army in 1942, and took his pre-flight training at Kelly field in San Antonio, Tex., and received his wings at Lubbock field, Tex. He is a graduate of Klamath Union high school and was employed by the Southern Pacific railroad before his enlistment in the service.

IMPROVE ON CHRISTMAS

15TH AAF IN ITALY—Even Christmas has been improved upon, by the army air force, in three years of war. M/Sgt. William C. Canton, 727 N. 9th, and Cpl. Harold E. Briggs, 1133 Kane, Klamath Falls, Ore., veteran ground men of one of the oldest AAF B-17 Flying Fortress groups in the European or Mediterranean theaters, will vouch for that.

Part of the organization, the air echelon, was at a place called Biskra, in Algeria, on December 25, back in 1942. The remainder, the ground crews, were stationed in the desert outside of Oran, at a spot they named "Mud hill" because of its topography and climate.

Although the famed "Garden of Allah" could be found at Biskra, the Christmas dinner of billy goat stew and tea served at the Hotel Transatlantique, was hardly what you would expect to find in "paradise."

At "Mud hill" there was also little outward indication that this was the day of all Christian days, even for those who could find the wine for a private celebration. If the billy goat stew lasted like shoeleather to the men at Biskra, then the monotonous "C" rations served as Christmas dinner to the boys at "Mud hill" were even more unsavory.

The added rations of one candy bar, one package of gum and one-half can of grapefruit juice per man, could hardly be called a Christmas feast.

That was the situation on December 25, 1942. This year, the unit, which has since moved to southern Italy, had another Christmas dinner. The menu undoubtedly rivaled anything that the point-restricted hotels and clubs back home were able to include on their bill of fare.

Or that "Mom," with her limited number of blue and red stamps, was able to cook up. In addition to more turkey than even a hungry GI Joe could eat in one sitting, the unit cooks filled the mess kits with dressing, corn, peas, potatoes, pie, cake, pudding, nuts and fruit. It goes without saying

OIL TREATY CALLED BACK BY PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10 (AP)—President Roosevelt asked the senate to send back to him an Anglo-American petroleum treaty so that revisions may be made to remove misunderstandings.

Mr. Roosevelt sent the oil agreement to the senate last August 24, requesting its ratification. But it ran into difficulties, not only in the senate but also in the domestic oil industry.

In the message asking its return, Mr. Roosevelt said he had not changed his view that "the agreement constituted an important step forward in removing possible causes of friction in international trade in petroleum and promoting cooperation among the nations in the development of that trade."

He said he was informed, however, of fears expressed as to its scope and effect as now worded. He said there was some concern lest it authorize acts by the petroleum industry inconsistent with existing law, as well as fears that it might "hold potentialities harmful to the industry."

The president regards these fears as unfounded, he said, and certainly no such possibilities were intended.

Since there is general agreement that an understanding on international petroleum trade between this country and Britain is desirable, Mr. Roosevelt went on, it would be unfortunate should it be delayed or even prevented through a misunderstanding as to the purpose and scope of a particular document.

that an ample supply of vino bottles decorated the tables.

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