

ATTACK ON NIP SHIPS ROARS ON

Herald and News

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Weather News

January 13, 1945	
Max. (Jan. 12)	44
Min.	38
Precipitation last 24 hours	0.05
Stream year to date	4.50
Normal	5.38
Last year	2.90
Forecast: Clear and cold.	

38 JAPANESE SHIPS HIT BY YANK FLEET

Cruiser, Destroyers, Transports Sunk By U. S.

By LEIF ERICKSON
U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, Jan. 13 (AP)—A furious assault on four huge Japanese convoys massing along the French Indo-China coast still roared on, according to latest Navy reports, with third fleet planes pouring down more of the bombs, rockets and torpedoes which already have smashed 38 enemy ships.

A 5000-ton cruiser, several destroyers and 12 transports loaded with troops intended to be thrown against Gen. Douglas MacArthur on Luzon in the Philippines were among 25 ships sunk Thursday, first day of the attack. Thirteen other ships were damaged.

American Troops Push Toward Manila

EWING DEATH SURROUNDED BY MYSTERY

Bullet Wounds Found In Brain, Body Of Man

Mystery enveloped the circumstances surrounding the death of John Rathiel Ewing, 56, whose bullet-riddled form was found early Friday afternoon, dumped in gangland fashion at the side of the Weed highway, three miles southwest of Klamath Falls.

Before Ewing expired at Klamath Valley hospital at 4:04 p. m. yesterday, Klamath county law enforcement officers had gone to work on the case.

Bullet In Brain
One bullet was still lodged in the man's brain, Dr. George H. Adler, Klamath county coroner, reported, and it is understood that there were wounds elsewhere in Ewing's body.

Ewing's body, lying on blood-soaked earth half way down a 50-foot embankment on the east side of the fill approaching the Kalpine bridge on the Weed highway, was first noticed by a Great Northern crew, switching at the west end of the Kalpine plant about noon. State police were notified and Deputy Sheriff Jack Franey called.

Unconscious
The man's body was lying in a huddled position, face down. He (Continued on Page Seven)

There are persistent statements that the Japs were surprised. We'll be wise to accept these assertions with a certain degree of skepticism.

The little yellow men themselves landed in Lingayen gulf, almost the identical points where we came ashore. It is strange indeed if they did be strange that the same considerations led them to land where we would lead us to do likewise.

These considerations are pertinent ones — level, fairly good ground for tank fighting, roads clear to Manila, etc. It seems almost beyond belief that they could have overlooked the favorable spot. It is much more likely that they decided just trying to hold the beachheads against the terrific pressure we have proved ourselves capable of laying down in advance of a landing force.

There was a relatively little resistance when we landed on the beach, but plenty of hard fighting came after we had moved beyond the range of our landing naval fire.

It is highly probable that this situation will develop on Luzon.

Fourth Loot Group Sentenced

PARIS, Jan. 13 (AP)—Testimony of high stakes at G. I. poker games was introduced today as the fourth group of enlisted men accused of looting military trains in French black market deals went on trial before an army general court martial.

LI. Robert O'Reilly of the army criminal investigation division, who worked as a fireman in a railway battalion while investigating the looting outbreak, testified he watched the poker game at which soldiers paid as high as 8000 francs (\$160) to see the last card of a seven-card stud poker game.

Today's defendants were Sgt. Fran C. Pozzi, Chicago, Ill., and Sgt. Walter G. Thorsell, Portland, Ore. The men were convicted and sentenced to 25 years at hard labor and dishonorably discharged.

Theories Given Hooper Murder

LANSING, Mich., Jan. 13 (AP)—Police Capt. William Henderson, grouping for solution of the roadside killing of State Senator Warren G. Hooper, today explored a possibility that he may have been lured into his own automobile by two or more gunmen and executed in gangster fashion.

He said there was a possibility, too, that he may have fallen into a cold trap, carefully prepared by a group of men who had a common object in mind — to get rid of the senator.

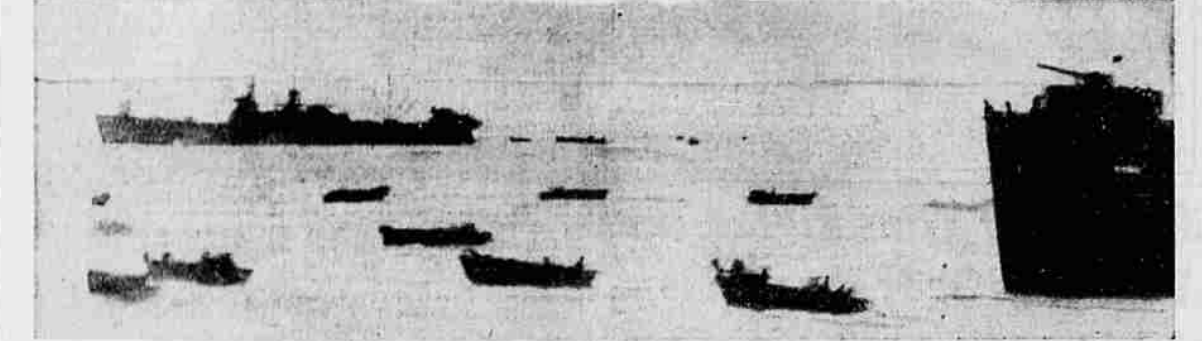
Hooper, a well-known legislator and lobbyist, was shot in the back of the head, with three bullet wounds in the head, was found in his burning car Thursday evening.

Indians Invade Ceylon Peninsula

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Ceylon, Jan. 13 (AP)—Supported by a naval and air bombardment, troops of the 15th Indian corps have landed on the 32-mile peninsula in Hunters Bay, Ceylon.

The landing forces encountered opposition by Japanese artillery and machineguns, but succeeded in establishing a beachhead, the communica-

First Photo! Invasion Armada Brings Yanks Back to Luzon



First photo of General MacArthur's invasion fleet heading toward Jap-held shores of Luzon island on Lingayen gulf. The 1000-ship armada—800 of them transports—brought ashore unending streams of American troops, artillery, tanks, transports and munitions as first wave assault troops secured beaches against feeble Japanese resistance. "Some loss and damage" was suffered by American ships but they were considered infinitesimal in comparison to size of fleet. Photo radioed from New Guinea.

REDS SLASH OUT ON POLISH FRONT

LONDON, Jan. 13 (AP)—Marshal Stalin announced tonight a red army offensive west of Baranov had advanced 25 miles in two days on a 40-mile front.

Stalin's announcement—which confirmed earlier Berlin reports of a great new soviet onslaught from the Vistula bridgehead in Poland—said Marshal Ivan S. Konev's first Ukrainian army "broke through heavily fortified defenses" with an assault launched yesterday.

Previously the Germans said the Russians had launched a gigantic winter offensive with three mighty attacks in Poland, East Prussia and northern Hungary.

Kielce Menaced
The advance apparently directly threatens German-held Kielce, a rail junction 93 miles southwest of Warsaw which links the Warsaw and Krakow fronts. Among the towns captured were Chmielnik, 18 miles southeast of Kielce, and Busk, 11 miles south of Chmielnik. Stalin's order of the day, (Continued on Page Seven)

Sgt. McFerrin Reported Missing

Word was received Saturday morning by Mrs. Carl Carlson of this city, that her brother, M/Sgt. W. B. McFerrin has been reported as missing in action since December 16, according to the war department message.

McFerrin was attached to the headquarters of the 9th army, and spent 10 months in England before being transferred after the invasion on D-Day.

He was formerly a resident of Klamath Falls, and has many friends here, although he moved to San Raphael, Calif., a few years ago.

Chiloquin Youth One of 23 Survivors Of Infamous Slaughter by Japanese

A 19-year-old Chiloquin youth, William B. Flury, was one of a handful of survivors of a merchant ship to live to tell the story of the infamous mid-ocean slaughter at the hands of a Japanese submarine crew in the Indian ocean last June 11. Young Flury is now in Portland working with his father, Chester Flury, in the Albina shipyards.

Relatives of the seaman, a graduate of Chiloquin high school, class of 1944, said William seemed little the worse for the horrifying experience in which 23 of a complement of 100 survived the ordeal.

Ship Torpedoed
Torpedoed in the Indian ocean 600 miles from Colombo, Ceylon, members of the Liberty ship, including seamen and soldiers, were taken from the Jap sub. There they were trussed and beaten, many thrown overboard into the shark infested waters.

Flury had a lucky break. He was at the end of a line being forced to run a gauntlet between two rows of armed Japanese who clubbed and bayoneted their prisoners when a whistle, warning the approach of a plane, caused the sub to dive. Several of the survivors were caught in the suction and drowned.

Cut Bonds
As the men struggled in the water, one of the seamen produced a small pocketknife which he had sewn into the sides of his shorts. He managed to cut bonds of five or six and then handed the knife to Flury who freed others. Later the man who owned the knife was lost, Flury offering the opinion that he was a victim of sharks.

After remaining afloat for 13

Convoy Ready to Travel Ledo Road

MYITKYINA, Burma, Jan. 13 (AP)—The first allied motor convoy destined for China in 2½ years, and the first ever to cross Burma from India, is ready to leave Ledo, India, with vital war supplies for American and Chinese troops.

The trucks will travel 1000 miles over the Ledo road, construction of which was begun more than 18 months ago.

Just 439 road miles south of Ledo, Chinese first army units under Lt. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan are in position for the final drive to capture Namkham and the 25-mile-long Shweli river valley—all that remains to be cleared before the main road to China opens.

General Assault Made on Belgian Bulge; Houffalize Menaced by 1st Army Men

PARIS, Jan. 13 (AP)—U. S. first army troops, striking southward in a general assault on a 30-mile front, hammered today to within 4½ miles of Houffalize, central stronghold of the dwindling Nazi bulge in Belgium, and within little more than a mile of the Houffalize-St. Vith escape road.

The third armored division, striking along the center, rammed into the outskirts of Mont-Le-Ban, only a mile from the highway, the last route for a German withdrawal.

Farther east the 30th infantry division, attacking between Stavelot and Malmédy, gained up to 1200 yards against light opposition, AP Correspondent Wes Gallagher reported tonight.

Push Ahead
Along the western flank of the attack, the second armored division pushed ahead nearly a mile on the highway leading southwest toward Houffalize.

The 83rd infantry division was attacking with the third armored along the center in the closest approach to Houffalize. The neck of the Belgian salient narrowed to 9½ miles. Third army troops had pushed to within five miles of Houffalize from the south.

Naxis Shoved
Divisions of the American first and third and British second armies meanwhile were rolling the Germans eastward from the surrendered tip of the corridor thrust into Belgium.

AP Correspondent Roger D. Greene declared that remnants of the German army were pulling back tonight at top speed, and said RAF pilots reported heavy movements of German transports fleeing east as far inside the salient as St. Vith.

Near Junction
At the western tip of the once-deep German bulge, main forces of the British second and American third armies were reported only three miles apart in the area near Chaplain. British troops had gained four miles across the Laroche-Champion road, and third army men in a night advance gained two miles in this rollback of Germans.

German rearguards, roadblocks and extensive minefields and demolitions slowed the pace of pursuit of the German retreat.

MANPOWER PLAN HIT BY UNIONS

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST
WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (AP)—A blast by organized labor against current congressional manpower moves brought a new prediction today from the house military committee chairman that work or fight legislation will become law.

Chairman May (D-Ky.) said he is more convinced than ever that "action by congress is needed to solve the nation's manpower problems." In recess after a week of hearings on a national service bill applicable to males between 18 and 45, his committee is waiting to hear the views of labor next week.

Ignores Suggestion
May brushed aside a suggestion made yesterday by Philip Murray, CIO president, that the problem be handled by voluntary methods and by taking out of "the congressional mess it is in" and returned "to the people where it belongs."

"Congress is going to act and act soon," May said in an interview. "It's a question of whether we follow the suggestions of (Continued on Page Seven)

Army Takes Over Cleveland Plant

CLEVELAND, Jan. 13 (AP)—Normal power pulsed through lines of the Cleveland Electric Illuminating company today a few hours after the army took over company facilities to end a walkout of 400 coal passers which threatened to paralyze all of Cleveland's industrial operations.

The war department's seizure occurred after the utility predicted collapse of manufacturing and transportation facilities if the strike continued.

Col. E. A. Lynn, chief of the Cleveland ordnance district who was placed in charge of the facilities, said "operations were normal" with virtually complete crews at company plants.

Earthquake Hits Jap Home Island

By The Associated Press
A "slight earthquake" struck the central area of Honshu, main Japanese home island today, the Japanese Domei agency reported in a broadcast.

The dispatch, recorded by the federal communications commission, said "a little damage to a small number of houses" had been caused, but declared "transportation facilities sustained no damage whatever." The quake was recorded at 3:55 a. m. (Tokyo time).

SUFFOCATION OF GIRL CONFIRMED

That Rosemary Jackson Merritt, 19-year-old Chiloquin girl had died of suffocation as determined in an autopsy conducted here by Dr. George H. Adler, Klamath county coroner, was upheld by Dr. Joseph Beaman, University of Oregon school of medicine, in a report received this week.

Government officers were assisting Special Indian Officer John Arkell in investigating the death of the girl which occurred December 20, at the home of a sister, Beulah Farris of Chiloquin.

Arkell had previously reported talking to Rosemary at 11 o'clock the night before her death. At that time, Arkell said, she was in "good health and spirits." The girl's husband, Knowlton Merritt, is serving with the U. S. army in the South Pacific. She was the daughter of the late Frank Jackson and a niece of Boyd Jackson. (Continued on Page Seven)

Wright Clarifies Tax Situation

Clarifying confusion over the January 15 income tax deadline, Deputy Tax Collector Paul Wright pointed out today that if estimated reports already filed are correct within 20 per cent, no additional returns need be filed until March 15.

If the estimate is incorrect by more than 20 per cent, however, it should be amended on January 15 and the difference paid, he stated. Amended estimates should have the word "amended" written at the top of the report, it was explained.

Taxpayers who in 1944 were paid almost altogether in wages subject to the withholding tax and whose wages were not more than \$2700 if single or \$3500 if married, may safely ignore the January 15 deadline. Also a person who estimated his income tax reasonably correctly last April and paid everything due at that time is safe, but persons who were not paid wages in 1944 or were paid wages not subject to the withholding tax are affected.

Persons are also affected who were paid wages subject to the withholding tax but who also received income of \$100 or more from other sources or were paid wages subject to the withholding tax totaling more than \$2700 if single, or \$3500 if married.

First Leyte Vets Come to Barracks

The first two marine veterans of the Philippines invasion at Leyte arrived last Friday at the Marine Barracks. Both were members of an artillery battalion which had seen action in the Gilbert Islands previously.

The men were PFC Valentine John Krzykalski, of Jersey City, N. J., and PFC Sherman Robert Donnelly, of Leroy, N. Y. Both left for furlough Saturday afternoon.

Although there were two battalions of marine artillery, 155mm howitzers, attached to the army for the Leyte invasion, these men were the first to come to the Klamath Falls barracks. They were in Hawaii just before the campaign started, and were scheduled to go into action in the Carolines, but their orders were changed while aboard transports at sea, so the leathernecks joined army forces going into the Philippines.

TWELVE MILE ADVANCE MADE TOWARD AGNO

Eastern Sector Units Meet Resistance By Nipponese

By C. YATES McDANIEL
GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, LUZON, Jan. 13 (AP)—Powerful spearheads of the sixth army invaders of Luzon pushed forward steadily today toward Manila during the fourth day of the invasion after advancing 12 miles to cover more than half the road distance to the Agno river, without meeting any enemy opposition.

The American troops moved cautiously despite advance reports of empty trenches and abandoned dugouts near the river, the most formidable natural barrier across the central Luzon plain.

Meet Resistance
Only in the eastern sector of their bulging beachhead have they met any considerable resistance. Japanese guns and mortars hidden on the slopes or ridges forming the southern spurs of the Benguet mountains fired intermittently into the flank.

Correspondent Spencer Davis of the Associated Press reported that the Japanese in those foothills pumped shells into American positions at the rate of 80 to 70 a minute before dawn Wednesday until they were silenced by warships. Air support was also called up to smash an enemy position in this area.

Ships Sunk

Japanese attempts to land supplies for the defenders resulted in a loss for them of a big freighter-transport and 45 luggers, which were sunk or badly damaged at San Fernando, about 45 miles north of the American Lingayen gulf beachhead.

So far the sixth army troops have encountered none of the (Continued on Page Seven)

WPB to Curtail Reconversion

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (AP)—The war production board proposes shortly to emasculate its reconversion order allowing advance production of machinery and plant equipment for peacetime manufacturing.

The action, expected within five or six days, would wipe out the authority now granted machinery builders to fill orders which lack military or other priority standing.

Responsible officials revealed today that the only equipment which could be produced for peacetime use would be printing trades machinery, if the order is signed as now written.

Grand Jury Faces Tough Assignment

The Klamath county grand jury which will convene January 25, on the call of Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg, faces one of the toughest assignments in lengthy investigations seen here in some time.

One of the principal cases to be investigated by the body, will be the charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor pending against former Chief of Police Earl Heuvel.

Grand jurors will also go into facts concerning the death of Karl Bold, Henley farmer, who died December 10 following an alleged beating at the hands of PFC Herbert Daniel Stevens. Young Stevens is being held in the Marine Barracks brig.

Dr. George H. Adler, Klamath county coroner, announced Saturday that he had received a report from Dr. Joseph Beaman, University of Oregon school of medicine, attributing Bold's death to pneumonia following exposure and shock.

A half dozen other major problems will face the grand jury made up of three women and four men. B. S. Grigsby is foreman.

Yanks Gain On Luzon



Pushing ahead without meeting any major resistance, Americans have reached half the road distance to the important Agno river. Further inland, troops reached Malasiqui, 12 miles from the coast and 130 road miles from Manila.