

BREAK THROUGH PERILS COLOGNE

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

PRICE FIVE CENTS

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1945

Number 10401

Weather News

February 28, 1945
 Max. (Feb. 27) 44 Min. 24
 Precipitation last 24 hours Trace
 Stream year to date 6.91
 Normal 8.06 Last year 4.80
 Forecast: Fair and warmer.

BRIDGEHEADS THROWN OVER ERFT RIVER

Ninth Army Imperils Ruhr Bastion of Duesseldorf

PARIS, Feb. 28 (AP)—First army tanks and infantry battled within six and a half miles of Cologne tonight after throwing three bridgeheads across the Erft river. Only flat plains lay ahead to the great city on the Rhine.

Wide ninth army sweeps through disordered German resistance imperiled the Ruhr administrative center of Duesseldorf, already in artillery range. "Jig is Up"

German west of the Rhine "realize the jig is up and are withdrawing their artillery" a ninth army officer said at dusk. In the center, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's third army captured the military highway center of Bitburg—the "Bastogne of Germany." Third army tanks were curling about ancient Trier in an encircling threat.

The Germans retreated across the Rhine plain before the massed and growing might of the American first and ninth armies in the biggest breakthrough since Normandy—a retreat which was virtually a rout.

Swift Canadian advances in the north imperiled the smaller German Rhineland bastion of Xanten, only six miles across the Rhine from the Ruhr city of Wesel. Xanten is beyond the Hochwald where the third and last of the Siegfried chains protect the great industrial Ruhr.

A junction of the Canadian and ninth armies, less than 20 miles apart, might trap 15 of Germany's best divisions.

Duesseldorf was within 13 miles or less from the ninth army, which had outflanked and last of the westernmost Ruhr city of Muenchen Gladbach and entered its suburbs.

The first army crossed the Erft near Modrath, 81 miles southwest of Cologne, and encountered somewhat heavier resistance east of the river.

The ninth army also met some King Tiger tanks in the onslaught toward the Rhine. The rigid news blackout on the ninth army front still was being enforced tonight.

NEUSTETTIN TAKEN BY RUSSIAN UNITS

LONDON, Feb. 28 (AP)—The second White Russian army driving toward the Baltic has captured Neustettin, Marshal Stalin announced tonight.

Pollnow is 12 miles north of Bublitz and only 20 miles from the Baltic. It is 15 miles from the coastal railway connecting Danzig with Stettin.

A transoceanic broadcast from Berlin said the Russians had reached Pollnow and a military spokesman called the breakthrough in that area toward Koeslin "the most dramatic event of the last 24 hours."

The rushing Baltic-bound red army vanguards were constantly covered by the red fleet, the spokesman said.

FDR Returns Home From Yalta Conferences

He Cheated the Japs!



M/Sgt. Charles F. Hunt, former Weyerhaeuser employee, was one of that band of American heroes who fought the Japanese until the fall of the Philippines, endured long captivity under the Nips and finally escaped. He's back home in Klamath Falls on a 90-day furlough visiting his step-father, P. M. Kennedy of Weyerhaeuser, and other relatives. The sergeant, a regular army coast artilleryman, was a member of the garrison at Fort Drum in Manila bay. —U. S. Army Signal Corps photo.

Klamath Man Returns Here After Seeing Bataan Fall, Escaping From Jap Prison

Klamath Falls boy M/Sgt. Charles F. Hunt, is back in the United States and, incidentally, his home town of Klamath Falls, after a ringside seat at the fall of Bataan, long months of captivity as a prisoner of the Japanese, and finally an epic escape from a prisoner of war camp in the Philippines.

The sergeant is a step-son of P. M. Kennedy, well-known Weyerhaeuser employee, and was himself an employe of that company for nearly a year before his enlistment in the army in August, 1941. This is Hunt's first visit to Klamath in seven years.

In regard to the recent liberation of parts of the Philippines, Hunt said in an interview: "We knew the Americans would be back some day but we realized the road would be long and rough."

90-Day Furlough

Soon after arrival at the Fort Lewis, Wash., war department personnel reception station, the slight, blond, blue-eyed regular army sergeant was outfitted with new clothes, had his pay and records straightened out and was ready to start his 90-day furlough in Klamath Falls.

Here's his story: When Sgt. Hunt returned to the Philippines the second time in January, 1941, he was certain war with Japan wasn't far off. In May his wife, Eleanor, was sent back to the States when the government ordered all military families to return.

War did come to the Philippines December 8, when Nip planes first bombed Luzon. Sgt. Hunt was with the garrison of Fort Drum, popularly known as the "Concrete Battleship."

This concrete fortress, shaped like a man-of-war, was situated in Manila bay. From this fort Sgt. Hunt could see Corregidor, Bataan and Manila.

After the Japanese land invasion of the Philippines, shell-fire was added to the bombs which rained upon Fort Drum.

No Serious Casualties

"Except for concussion caused by Nip bombs and shells—they were 105 and 204 mms—we weren't bothered," Sgt. Hunt said. "We didn't have a serious casualty during the entire battle."

"They couldn't pierce the 16-foot reinforced concrete 'deck' of our 'battleship,'" he asserted. The Fort Drum garrison didn't fire at the guns which were ineffectually pouring shells on their bastion.

Instead they trained their 14- (Continued on Page Two)

No Traffic Toll Seen in Klamath

Klamath Falls has been cited as the largest city of its population group, 10,000 to 25,000, with no traffic deaths reported in January this year, according to a news dispatch from Chicago.

The nation's traffic death toll of 2070 in January was 7 per cent less than in January 1944, according to the dispatch. It was 10 per cent greater than in January, 1943, however, when public acceptance of wartime restrictions apparently was at its peak, the National Safety Council said today.

Marines Keep Japs Under Fire On Iwo

By LEIF ERICKSON
U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, GUAM, Feb. 28 (AP)—Marines along a line bisecting Iwo kept terrific pressure today on the Japanese in a supreme effort to crack a foe known to be short of water and believed to be hoarding ammunition.

After noticeably slackening artillery and mortar fire Monday, the Japanese loosed a heavy barrage Tuesday at leathernecks straightening out their line with slight advances north up high ground blanketed by pillboxes and blockhouses.

The marine line, manned by three divisions, cuts across the island's center at the north end of the fighter airfield where the Nipponese still hold a fingertip's grasp after a week of battling over that base.

As the fight for the island entered its 10th day, Japanese dug in on the higher northern half still showed a marked power to resist, although they have been shelled incessantly from the sea, bombed from the air and pounded by artillery.

They even have tanks left on the barren island where enemy positions have been raked by the 16-inch guns of battleships and blasted by divebombers which pinpoint their targets. Monday night marine artillery broke up a tank-led counterattack.

Maj. Gen. Graves B. Erskine's third division, which has counted 800 enemy pillboxes in its zone of action, inched northward and westward from the virtually captured fighter base Tuesday.

On the right flank, Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates' fourth division which captured the vital artillery observation position of Hill 382, Monday, straightened its line around that promontory.

There was no mention in Adm. Chester W. Nimitz' communique this morning of any gains on the left flank by Maj. Gen. Keller E. Rockey's fifth marine division, last reported assailing Hill 362 which is 700 yards east of the Hiraiva bay coastline.

Marine artillery, warship guns, land-based and carrier-based planes covered Tuesday's slow drive. An observer reported the Marianas score direct hits with 500-pound bombs on pillboxes and "a building which looked like a concrete communications" center.

Station Burned

Unseparated station and marshalling yard, one of the three most important transportation centers in Tokyo, was in the path of the flames. Photographs show the station, which is elevated and handled about 300 trains daily, was swept by fire.

Maj. Gen. Curtis (Iron Pants) Le May, commanding general of the sky mammoths, after studying the reconnaissance photographs said the results were "excellent." The photos show 29,074,000 square feet of important factory and trade areas burned out. This is 677 acres.

Comparison

In comparison, New York's famed Rockefeller City—radio center—covers a surface area of less than 12 acres, 1/55th of the destroyed area in Tokyo.

The ravaged area extends a short distance from Emperor Hirohito's moated palace eastward to the crowded waterfront.

There is a chance, however, that the bill may yet be passed, since nine members were absent and only two more votes are needed to send it to the senate.

Rep. Giles L. French, Moro, committee chairman, said the bill would allow all rural school districts in any one county to form a single rural district, so that taxes may be equalized.

The bill, which would not affect first class districts, would be referred to the people. Citing heavy demands for more money for education, French said the equalization bill would make it possible for schools to get along on less money, and that it would provide equal education for all children.

responsibility of Prime Minister Churchill's entire coalition cabinet.

"We have worked as a united war cabinet and, whether right or wrong, its decisions are those of the united war cabinet," he said.

The foreign secretary acknowledged that the once-warm relations between the British government and Polish group in London had cooled since the resignation of Stanislaw Mikolajczyk as Polish premier and the withdrawal of the peasant party representatives.

Eden asserted flatly that Britain "would not recognize the new government in Poland which was not truly representative"—referring to the present soviet-sponsored provisional government in Warsaw.

Eden emphasized that Britain's dealings with the Polish government in London were the

responsibility of Prime Minister Churchill's entire coalition cabinet.

"We have worked as a united war cabinet and, whether right or wrong, its decisions are those of the united war cabinet," he said.

The foreign secretary acknowledged that the once-warm relations between the British government and Polish group in London had cooled since the resignation of Stanislaw Mikolajczyk as Polish premier and the withdrawal of the peasant party representatives.

ROOSEVELT TO GIVE NATION REPORT SOON

Some Secrets Remain As Result of Confab

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL
WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AP)—President Roosevelt returned today from the Big Three meeting, buoyant with hopes for an enduring peace and ready to report to congress and the nation.

Not everything agreed upon at the already historic Yalta meeting will be disclosed immediately. Mr. Roosevelt made known that some secret understandings were reached and that they necessarily must remain secret for a while, although they probably will become apparent in time.

Spheres Not Known

Whether these understandings were in the military or political sphere, or both, was not indicated.

As an aftermath of the conference in the Crimea, the chief executive has high hopes for lasting peace and a world-wide reduction in armaments. In the weeks ahead, he has an active program of travel and engagements to further these hopes.

FDR Plans

Back from a five-week, 14,000-mile journey to Russia by cruiser and plane, Mr. Roosevelt planned a report in person to congress and the country, tomorrow at 9:30 p. m. (PWA), on the meetings at which he, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin blueprinted "final defeat" of a "doomed" Germany and strong machinery for perpetuating eventual peace.

An appearance at a United Nations conference opening in San Francisco April 25. As official host, Mr. Roosevelt probably will welcome and address the delegates.

Another of his periodic meetings with Churchill, after the San Francisco parley has finished its work. The British frequently have suggested that the president visit London.

Arrived Tuesday

Mr. Roosevelt came ashore at an east coast port last night and reached Washington this morning by special train. He left here (Continued on Page Two)

Roosevelt Signs George Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28 (AP)—President Roosevelt has cleared the way for a cabinet post for Henry A. Wallace by signing the George bill into law.

The White House disclosed today that the president signed the measure at sea last Saturday.

The legislation separates the huge federal lending agencies from the commerce department.

Klamaths Ask Distribution Of Funds in U. S. Treasury

Delegates of the Klamath Indians are asking the government to permit a per capita distribution of \$1,550,000 from funds already credited to the Indians in the U. S. treasury, the money to be used in stimulation of agriculture, industry and other constructive activities on the reservation.

Klamath chamber of commerce directors today discussed the proposal and voted to ask the Oregon congressional delegation to give sympathetic consideration to the request of the Indians. Delegates of the Klamath tribes will take up the matter in Washington in the near future, seeking congressional action.

Would Get \$1000

Under the proposal, the 1550 Klamath Indians would receive \$1000 each, a share-and-share-alike among the enrolled members of the tribe. The last general distribution of this nature, exclusive of the regular timber payments, was from the Yamsay judgment in the late 'thirties.

In their proposal, the Indians ask that the disbursements from the funds be made under such regulations as may be deemed desirable and necessary by the commission of Indian affairs, the secretary of the interior, and the Klamath general council.

Investment Purposes

Purposes for which it is proposed to invest the money include development of high grade breeding stock, both cattle and horses; new farm equipment; and improvements to ranch and farm buildings, well-drilling, fences, waterworks, sewer systems, home equipment, health improvement, etc.

Commons Defeats Protest Against Polish Agreement

LONDON, Feb. 28 (AP)—The house of commons by an overwhelming vote of 396 to 25 late today defeated a motion of protest against the Big Three's plan for the future of Poland.

The vote came after Foreign Secretary Eden declared the plan would make postwar Poland "as strong or stronger" than in 1939, and after he denied vigorously that Britain had ever guaranteed Poland's prewar frontiers.

Eden took the floor to fight off the challenge by a rebellious, outnumbered group from the conservative party against full-fledged support of the Big Three's Crimea charter decisions.

Eden emphasized that Britain's dealings with the Polish government in London were the

Gains In West



Map-makers are having a tough time in keeping up with advances of allied armies on the western front, and gains have been made into the shaded area indicating German holdings.

First army troops are now 6 1/2 miles from Cologne and ninth army troops imperil the Ruhr center of Duesseldorf.

ay's News

By FRANK JENKINS

IS is an unusually quiet, well-behaved trainload of people—which is just a trifle out of the ordinary in these niggard days on the home front.

They tell us, you know, we're more often good because we're more often bad because we're innately bad.

passenger list runs heavily with soldiers and sailors, just back from the Pacific, and campaign ribbons heavily studded with battle stars and medals.

They tell us, you know, we're more often good because we're more often bad because we're innately bad.

There aren't many characters aboard. But there is one. He's a marine top sergeant, with six hash marks on his chest and hardly room enough for his ribbons.

The "leatherneck" comes from the early marines. In his case it could come from his skin, processed and tanned by the wind and the sun of every zone.

He is reputed to have a store of gentleman's drink a full of it, taken straight. He is toward evening he gets in the mood to go places and do things.

He is strikingly modest company, about all he can find to do is to be devilish in a head for a copious meal, and later and come back to the later and order another, so on until the diner closes.

He is becoming reasonably apparent by this time that when war ends we won't be able to bring our boys home from all over the world and dust off our feet and say, "That's that," as did the last time.

We're beginning to realize that longer than we're willing to do about now American boys have to walk military posts over the earth. If this world is to be run right, or anything like it, we're going to have to take a hand in the running of the world of the future is to keep a LOT of American in uniform.

When the time comes for us to take a hand in the running of the world, he and his kind will be in there pitching—and he will be quite a lot of them in the 10 million people.

When train tops the Rockies and rolls gently down their east-slopes, through eastern Oregon and out onto the plains and western Nebraska. All around Indian names—most of them, these parts, Sioux Indian names. On all sides are Indian legends. The scene of the train's last stand isn't far from here.

So that we don't get TOO (Continued on Page Two)

ed F. Daniel

Part in Action

has been received by Mr. Mrs. Fred F. Daniel that son, S/Sgt. Fred F. Daniel, was seriously wounded in action February 16. According to telegram which was received on Tuesday night from war department, young Daniel was wounded in Luxembourg.

aniel was born in Klamath and graduated from grade school here.

CRASH KILLS 10 EN ROUTE HOME

ROME, Feb. 28 (AP)—Ten persons, including three officers of Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's staff, were killed February 19 while en route home on leave when their transport plane crashed upon taking off from an Italian field. The plane fell from a height of 400 feet.

Clark's Pilot

One of the three staff officers killed was Lt. Col. John T. Walker, 32, air liaison officer of the 15th army group, who frequently piloted Clark on inspection trips. Walker, from Washington, Ind., received the Legion of Merit only last week.

The other two were Lt. Col. John Howard Faust, 32, assistant artillery officer of the 15th (Continued on Page Two)

Marines Protest Editorial Saying Iwo Cost Too Heavy

FRANCISCO, Feb. 28 (AP)—A riot call last night sent a group of 60 to the San Francisco Examiner, where a group of 60 to 80 marines were protesting an editorial which said the marines are paying "perhaps too heavy" in casualties for Iwo.

witness said the group demanded a retraction or right to the Examiner's proposal. Douglas MacArthur be the supreme command in the war" because "he saves lives of his own men."

The navy and police officers reported there was no violence and no arrests. William managing editor of the San Francisco Herald newspaper termed the riot call as "unnecessary."

navy spokesman said two

of the leathernecks were closeted with Wren, but the editor said "no comment" when asked the nature of the talks.

"We had a very pleasant talk," he explained, "and everybody was satisfied. There was no violence of any kind whatsoever." The riot call was unnecessary, he said.