

# WORLD SCALE WAR OUTPUT TO CONTINUE

NEW YORK, March 1 (AP)—William L. Batt said today war production must continue full speed for "big military landings in the Pacific and land fighting in Europe." He said the army and air forces will be "pretty completely equipped" to fight Japan, the production board vice chairman said in an address prepared for a Rotary club luncheon.

Batt announced staggering gains on America's production equal to that of "all our enemies" combined. He forecast that Germany's full conversion to peacetime would permit less than a 20 per cent reconversion to peacetime.

"I can tell you that our military equipment may not use much of it in Europe against the enemy," Batt said, since other tasks of material are needed and the task of assembling and re-equipping across the world is simply not practicable.

The WPB officials thus incorporated an Associated Press report of January 31 with which Secretary of War Stimson took issue last week. The story stated that American troops so transferred would leave the bulk of their equipment behind and would be armed anew.

Stimson told Rep. Engel (R-Ill.) by letter that army policy is "maximum transfer" of the Pacific of everything that could be effectively used there.

Engel, who had been alarmed by possible duplication of production, entered the AP story and issued a letter in the Congressional record, along with the comment of another war department representative. The latter, he asked where the AP reporter could have got the story, he said, answered: "He must have picked it up in some barber shop."

Engel disclosed in his address to this country has sent 28,471 heavy bombers—Liberators, B-24s and the huge new Superfortresses—into the air. These are among munitions totals announced for the first time, covering the period from the start of the defense program in July, 1940, to the end of 1944.

Engel said, "The production of planes numbered 6,845, of which 79,776 were fighters and 19,547 were transporters."

## The War At a Glance

**The Western Front:** U. S. first army, five miles from Cologne, laid siege to Rhine city; ninth army drove closer to Rhine under security blackout; Canadians trained big guns on a German Rhine crossing; third army swung to within 24 miles southwest of Trier.

**The Russian Front:** Berlin said last German escape route from eastern Pomerania, Danzig and Polish corridor was in danger of being cut off.

**The Italian Front:** Germans sent raiders over Senio river, held some eight army positions but lost a number of captured.

**The Pacific Front:** Americans held all but northern third of Iwo Jima, reached third airfield; Tokyo reported American invasion of Palawan island in Philippines; enemy virtually wiped out on Corregidor, cargo ship entered Manila bay; Americans drove ahead on Luzon east of Manila.

## Navy Man Stationed Here Given Medal at Ceremony

The Air Medal was presented to Chief Aviation Ordnanceman Richard J. Ball, USN, by Cmdr. R. R. Darron, captain of the Klamath naval air station in a ceremony at the ordnance building in February.



The citation from Admiral W. F. Halsey, presented to Chief Ball with the Air Medal, set forth that he was receiving it:

"For meritorious acts while participating in aerial combat as a member of the crew of a navy bomber in action against an enemy patrol bomber in the Western Pacific while covering a crippled submarine returning to its base. He displayed outstanding courage during combat, the result of which caused the destruction of a four-engine enemy patrol bomber. His courage and steadfast devotion to duty were responsible for the success of the assigned mission and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States naval service."

Chief Ball, then an aviation ordnance man first class, was the bombardier and bow gunner on a PB4Y operating from the navy base at Tinian. Last November, his plane, piloted by Lt. Cmdr. G. N. Thompson, was assigned to protect a wounded American submarine. The sub had its conning tower shot away during an engagement with four Japanese DE's and was unable to submerge. The sub had managed to sink all four enemy vessels with its deck gun.

The American patrol bomber picked up signals of two enemy planes which were soon discovered to be four-engine Japanese Emilys. One turned and ran in flight while the PB4Y pursued the other. After a 12-minute battle, the American bomber dove on top of the Jap plane. Chief Ball, in the bow, was the only one firing when bullets knocked out two of the three engines left and the enemy ship fell in flames.

After the American submarine reached Saipan safely, its skipper radioed thanks to the captain of the air base at Tinian and disclosed the sub had rescued nine American fighter pilots from the Philippines.

The ordnance chief enlisted in the navy in January, 1941, at the age of 17. He attended torpedo school at Newport, R. I., and has been stationed at both Alameda and San Diego in the States. Prior to participating in the battle of Midway, he was on Ford Island. He has also seen service in the New Hebrides. He left Tinian last Christmas and after a short leave he reported to NAS from Seattle in January.

Although originally from White Bear Lake, Minn., his present home address is Turlock, Calif.

## Oregon Sets Record For Birth Survivors

PORTLAND, March 1 (AP)—Oregon set a new record in 1944 with 879 survivors out of every 1,000 live births, a state board of health report showed today.

A pronounced decline in the precise death rate was shown—30.1 to every thousand births. The board said the maternal death rate increased slightly.

Veneral disease cases gained 82 per cent last week over the same week a year ago, and diphtheria was up 42 per cent. However, veneral disease cases in the first eight weeks of 1945 declined seven per cent from the same 1944 period.

There were 115 cases of mumps reported over the state last week, 65 from Klamath county.

Drift of aircraft in a crosswind is equal to the wind velocity.

## WAR CASUALTY LIST BOOSTED 11 THOUSAND

WASHINGTON, March 1 (AP)—Army and navy casualties since Pearl Harbor have mounted to 813,032.

Secretary of War Stimson reported today that army losses now total 722,895 while the navy placed its casualties at 90,337. The aggregate represents an increase of 11,870 from the last week's report, of which the army accounted for all except 672.

Stimson also disclosed at his news conference that army losses in Italy, from the invasion on September 9, 1943, to February 25, 1945, amounted to 100,780, including 19,889 killed, 70,402 wounded, and 10,499 missing.

A breakdown of army casualties, based on compilation of individual names through February 21 and corresponding tallies for the previous week follows:

Killed 140,366 and 138,723; wounded 430,757 and 420,465;

prisoners 60,535 and 60,086; missing 91,037 and 92,223. Of the wounded, Stimson said, 213,948 have returned to duty.

Similar figures for the navy are: Killed 34,283 and 33,862; wounded 40,904 and 40,783; prisoners 4476 and 4474; missing 10,874 and 10,548.

Infectious skin diseases in Norway have increased to ten times the number there were in 1940.

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## Legislature May Win Long Session Honors

SALEM, March 1 (AP)—The present legislature has an excellent chance of winning the dubious honors for holding the longest session in history.

Today is the 53rd day of the session, and legislative leaders believe it will take at least two weeks to finish. That would make a 67-day session. The record so far is 66 days in 1939. The 1941 session was 63 days, and two years ago it lasted 59 days.

## RIACH PICTURED IN STARS AND STRIPES

Two pictures of Floyd M. Riach, Klamath Falls railroad man, are shown in a layout in the American Stars and Stripes, depicting activities in French railroad yards where Yanks and French work side by side.

One view shows Riach looking from the cab of an American freight engine in a French yard near Paris. "Though young, Riach is a veteran railroad worker on Pacific coast railroads," the caption reads.

More than 15,000 Yanks, commanded by Brigadier General C. L. Burpee, have worked with French railroad men to restore thousands of miles of track, bridges and essential installations destroyed or damaged in war operations.

Riach served his apprenticeship here with the Great Northern and was a machinist when he joined the service. He is the son of Mrs. Florence Riach, 954 Addison.

## School Newscast Set For Tonight On Air

A school newscast will begin the new weekly series of Peilcana tonight, Thursday, at 8:30 on KFJL.

Members of the second semester staff are Colleen Bellows, Mercedes Collins, Sue Gobble, Bob Hall, John Heilbrunner, Barbara Homer, Bill Irving, Helen Knowles, Rosemary Lawton, Marian Matthews, Beverly Melhase, Wanda Nelson, Fred Reeves, Ted Reeves, Karen Stefan, Grayce Van Cleave and Dave Williams.

Students of the junior high and elementary schools will appear on future programs.

## Postwar Expansion Promise Extended

PORTLAND, March 1 (AP)—Another promise of postwar expansion for Oregon came today from the steamship industry.

William L. Williams, Portland manager of the American mail line, said his firm plans increased service between Oregon and the Orient, and intends to concentrate here all repair work on vessels assigned to the Columbia river trade routes.

## Senate Completes Appropriation Bill

SALEM, March 1 (AP)—The senate completed legislative action yesterday on a memorial appropriation of \$50,000 for Pacific northwest experiment stations to study new uses for wood.

It was introduced by Rep. Stanley J. Wilson, St. Helens.

## "HOARSE" SENSE!

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- SLACKS**—Cut and tailored with deft precision of fabrics that hold their slim, clean lines. **5<sup>95</sup>**
- JUMPERS**—A big array of them, as tailored or frilly as you please, in high colors or pastels. **4<sup>98</sup>**
- SKIRTS**—Smart new pleated styles in Spring colors, pastel plaids and sparkling checks. **4<sup>98</sup>**
- BLOUSES**—New tailored and dressy styles in rayon crepe and novelty weaves. White or pastels. **2<sup>98</sup>**

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