

199 MILES FROM BERLIN

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 1945

Number 10426

Weather News

March 29, 1945

Max. (March 28)	44	Min.	23
Precipitation last 24 hours	0.00		
Stream year to date	7.91		
Normal	9.16	Last year	5.99

Forecast: Scattered clouds. Warmer.

Today's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THIS is the story in Germany today—as nearly as it can be pieced together from fragmentary news reports:

The nazis are still holding the Russians at or near the Oder, east of Berlin. BUT—

Montgomery has cut cleanly through the crust of German defenses north of the Ruhr and is speeding eastward so rapidly that news of his advance has been completely blacked out. So taken are the German will and ability to resist that his men have crossed several defensible rivers with little or no opposition. (When a fleeing enemy fails to take advantage of easily defensible positions, it is a pretty sure sign of demoralization.)

U. S. FORCES MASS POWER NEAR RYUKYUS

Tokyo Says Okinawa Major Objective Of Invasion

By LEONARD MILLIMAN
Associated Press War Editor

Japanese reported American transports were moving into the central Ryukyu chain today where unprecedented large U. S. naval forces, rounding out a week of air and ship bombardments, left no doubt they were preparing for another major invasion.

Tokyo radio said Okinawa, 325 miles south of Japan, was the major objective; that "20 to 30" transports were trying to reinforce U. S. troops already on the Kerama islands 15 miles to the west, and that American movements indicated landing attempts also against Okino Daito, nearly 250 miles southeast of Okinawa.

American commanders said nothing about any of this but did announce their carrier and land-based planes hit 43 Japanese ships and destroyed 38 planes. An enemy communication claimed 30 American warships were sunk and 14 damaged in the Ryukyu islands, which link Japan and Formosa.

Formosa Bombed

Radio Tokyo reported American seaborne aircraft attacked Kure naval base on Honshu and ground installations on Kyushu island today in the third consecutive day of air raids on southern Japan.

Other broadcasts said 80 planes, presumably from the Philippines, bombed military facilities on Formosa and 20 Indian-based Superforts attacked Singapore.

American infantrymen captured semi-destroyed Cebu, second largest city in the Philippines, and 11 other nearby towns. British forces reportedly broke Japanese resistance in central Burma. Nipponese commanders sent a column driving to within 25 miles of the major (Continued on Page Two)

Seventh Army Smashes Across Rhine



American seventh army infantrymen swiftly scramble up enemy held east bank of the Rhine near Karlsruhe, Germany, after crossing in assault boats. Smoke screen was used to hide crossing operations but high winds dissipated smoke, enabling enemy to hinder operations by shelling troops as they crossed. Signal Corps Radio-Telephoto.

Germans Have Devastating Secret Weapon That May Be Launched Against America

PORTLAND, March 29 (AP)—A member of the Dutch underground declared today that the nazis do have a secret—and deadly effective—weapon.

Jacob Van Berkel, here under auspices of The Netherlands information bureau, told an interviewer that the European front is now a race between victory for the allies and Germany's resort to the ultimate weapon—"so powerfully destructive it is almost incalculable."

"The new weapon, a tiny gadget which could be placed in a rocket bomb, may be launched with complete effectiveness against the continental United States," Van Berkel said.

He declared that the Germans are saving it for a last stand, probably in the Bavarian Alps. "They are confident that their secret weapon will wipe out civilization and save them at the very end."

Van Berkel—a fictitious name to hide his identity from the enemy—gave no details, except to say that the weapon does not involve poison gas. He said that, while allied officials know of the weapon, they do not know in what form it might be launched.

The 27-year-old economist, who has made 60 secret trips through Germany in the last four years, said the weapon was discovered by espionage agents there.

HIGH MILITARY OFFICIALS HERE

Klamath Falls continued in the limelight today as visiting point for high officials of the navy and marine corps.

Major General A. H. Turnage, director of personnel of the U. S. Marine Corps, with headquarters in Washington, arrived at the Marine Barracks for a two-day stay. His visit follows that of Major General Julian Smith, head of the Pacific department, who left with Mrs. Smith for San Francisco.

General Turnage, hero of such Pacific battles as the Bougainville operation, will be guest of the chamber of commerce at a special luncheon Friday. He will leave after the luncheon.

Admiral R. M. Montgomery, United States navy, commander fleet air, west coast, arrived at the Klamath naval air station by plane early this afternoon, as did Admiral J. J. Ballentine, USN, commander fleet air, Seattle.

The two were luncheon guests of Cmdr. R. R. Darron, at BOQ, and proceeded on to Seattle for a fleet air conference. Admiral Montgomery's headquarters are San Diego. Admiral Ballentine was en route north to his headquarters in Seattle. Station sources said the visit of the two was unofficial.

General Smith and Mrs. Smith were honor guests at a large reception held in the officers' club at the Marine Barracks Wednesday evening.

There are unofficial reports this morning that Montgomery's advance units are threatening Hannover.

Hannover is halfway from the Rhine crossing to Berlin!

South of the Ruhr, Bradley's 1st and 3rd armies have scored a CLEAN AND WIDE breakthrough of the center of the German front and are fanning out in several directions.

At the moment this is written, Patch's 7th army, operating somewhere on the right flank of the 1st and 3rd, is the MYSTERY army. Little is disclosed as to its whereabouts.

There seems little doubt that Montgomery, to the north, and Bradley, to the south, will be able to effect a junction south east of the Ruhr, thus surrounding this most important of the German industrial areas.

Eisenhower now has seven armies fighting east of the Rhine—with maybe a million and a half men COMMITTED to the battle. He has two other armies in reserve.

What the Germans have to oppose this mighty force hasn't been disclosed in detail to us outsiders, even if our high command knows, but it can't be more than a fraction of Eisenhower's total strength.

The Russians, stopped temporarily at least at the Oder by defenses as intricate and complete as German military engineering skill can devise, have shifted their thunderous attack from Berlin to Vienna.

One red army group moving up the south bank of the Danube has smashed Gyor and Komorn, key defenses of the Bratislava gap, where the great river breaks through the northern spur of the Alps in a relatively wide and level valley. This force has reached the Austrian border, less than 40 miles from Vienna itself.

Another Russian army, moving westward through Slovakia, crossing north and south rivers against the best opposition the Germans can put up, is now roughly 70 miles from Vienna. A third Russian force is moving down from the north, through the Moravian gap that for centuries has been a favorite path for conquering armies.

Don't discount this drive for Vienna.

Conquered Czechoslovakia has always been one of Europe's outstanding industrial centers. Austria's Skoda arms plant has long rivaled the Krupp of Essen in importance. Austria, Czechoslovakia and western Hungary have been turned by the Germans into a beehive of military industry. So far as we outsiders can know, this area has been far less battered by our bombers than the German industrial districts.

This Russian drive into Austria (Continued on Page Thirteen)

Peter Rabbit Coming Soon!

Flower-laden bonnets filled the shop windows along Main street today and spring fever filled the persons who gazed in the windows as Klamath Falls experienced a real, honest-to-god spring day.

Not only did the mercury hover around an unofficial 50 degrees shortly before 2 o'clock, but a breeze as balmy as May, drifted over the basin area.

Stores were filled with Easter shoppers, buying everything from egg dye to finery and it looked like a big day for the merchants.

Kids were playing baseball and knocking down in the dirt around marble rings, as spring affected youngsters and oldsters alike.

Forsythia was evident in several sheltered places around town, and daffodils, hyacinths and tulips were shooting green through the garden plots.

As Easter approached, every church in town planned a celebration of the holy day and the Easter lily, symbolic of the season, will deck altars and pulpits next Sunday morning.

Allies Race To Cut Off Nazi Lines

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS, March 29 (AP)—The U. S. first army wheeled north in a 40-mile spurt which came within 68 miles of cutting off the Ruhr today and the third army raced to within 199 miles of Berlin.

The first army, unmasking a maneuver which threatened to block out a rich Ruhr and east-Rhine area 65 miles long and 50 miles wide, reached the area of Langwiesse, only 48 miles southwest of Hamm, eastern exit of the Ruhr. It also reached Frankenberg, southwest of Berlin.

The illustrious fourth armored division, pacing the rush of the third army, roared eastward for 20 miles on the first army's right flank and entered Lauterbach, 199 miles southwest of Berlin on a sideroad to Leipzig.

On the north fringe of the Ruhr, the U. S. ninth army captured Hatern, 68 miles northwest of Langwiesse.

Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges, in swinging around the Ruhr, already had reached a point 65 miles directly east of Cologne.

The third army was the deepest in Germany—155 miles—and only 125 miles from the western tip of Czechoslovakia. It had advanced to within 240 miles of the Russian lines along the Nieme southwest of Berlin.

All over the front British and American troops raced through wide breaks in German lines. North of the Ruhr they were reported menacing Hannover, 142 miles west of Berlin.

The first army's surge placed it within 78 miles of Muenster, also menaced by the forces north of the Ruhr.

The third army also was advancing along the southeastern flank of the first army, but most of the front was under a news blackout which prevented full disclosure of whereabouts of the probing columns of armor and tank-riding infantry.

MANPOWER BILL FACES OPPOSITION

WASHINGTON, March 29 (AP) Administration leaders decided informally today to postpone the final senate vote on the manpower bill until next week.

Privately less optimistic about the prospect for senate acceptance, the administration forces sparred for time in an effort to persuade some of their absent senators to return to the capital.

The administration appeared to have encountered "back row trouble." Some of the junior senators, whose seats are in the rear of the chamber, balked at accepting the stringent terms of the bill, which provides jail penalties and fines for workers and employers who violate job directives.

Majority Leader Barkley and Senator Thomas (D-Utah), floor manager for the bill, were called to the White House today for a discussion of the situation with President Roosevelt.

FDR Begins Series Of Conferences

WASHINGTON, March 29 (AP) President Roosevelt returned to the White House today from a four-day visit to his home at Hyde Park, N. Y., and began a series of important conferences.

On his crowded schedule were:

An engagement with Secretary of State Stettinius, presumably to talk over the forthcoming World Security conference at San Francisco and the general military committee on manpower legislation.

A conference with the British ambassador, Lord Halifax, and Oliver Lyttelton and Col. J. J. Lewellyn, who are in the United States to study the food supply situation.

Another with Senate Majority Leader Barkley (D-Ky.), and Chairman Thomas (D-Utah) of the senate military committee on manpower legislation.

In addition, Mr. Roosevelt was conferring upon Jonathan Daniels a formal commission as presidential secretary in charge of press relations.

Klamath Man Decapitated

Shasta county officials at Redding, Calif., were investigating the death of Percy Alonzo Haskins, 45, whose decapitated body was found at the Shasta street crossing of the Southern Pacific railroad in the city limits of Redding shortly after midnight Monday.

Haskins worked in this area as a farm laborer and had made his home in the county for a number of years. His mother, Mrs. Maude Smith, resides at 3713 Altamont drive, and Haskins' wife, Frances, lives in Sprague River. There are no children.

Remains of the Klamath man were sent from Redding to the Ward Funeral home today. Services will be held Thursday. In addition to his wife and mother, Haskins is survived by five brothers, Verne, Fred, Claude and Floyd, all of Klamath Falls, Cpl. Milo Haskins of the United States army, South Pacific, and one sister, Gladys Stone, Klamath Falls.

Man Has Too Many Watches

PORTLAND, March 29 (AP)—Edward W. Allen, convicted of stealing electrical equipment from a shipyard, made certain today he'd finish serving his nine-month sentence on time.

He asked a deputy marshal to pick up his watches—seven of them.

Cabanatuan Prisoner Home After 3 Years Internment

Cpl. Willis C. Vincent was home in Klamath Falls today.

Just two months ago, Cpl. Vincent was still a prisoner of the Japanese, held in ill-famed Cabanatuan prison where 2600 of his fellow Americans died.

Liberated by American troops in January, Cpl. Vincent made for home as fast as he could. He is spending his well-earned furlough with two uncles, Walter F. Vincent, employe of the DiGiorgio Fruit corporation, and Fred L. Vincent, farmer, route 3, box 393. Vincent arrived at 9 o'clock yesterday morning.

Vincent was at Bataan when it fell April 9, 1942, and tramped the historic death march to Camp O'Donnell. Vincent said three weeks after reaching the camp, where around 1800 died, he was sent with a detail of 160 men to build a bridge. Men died of dysentery and malaria until the detail finished with 60 men. He was one of the lucky ones to live and see the Pacific coast line of America.

"A lot more would have died if it hadn't been for the Red Cross boxes," Vincent said, referring to the huge toll at Cabanatuan. "By the time the first boxes came, Christmas of 1942, my gums were in such shape it seemed that all my teeth were going to come out."

Three boxes came to each man that Christmas, Vincent said. They came from the American, South Africa, and Canadian Red Cross.

COUNT REDUCED IN CONVICTION OF KF MARINE

Stevens Held Guilty Of Theft From Person

PFC Herbert Daniel Stevens, 21, Marine Barracks, was found guilty of stealing from a person by a jury which deliberated more than four hours Wednesday.

The circuit court jury reduced the charge from robbery with an armed and dangerous weapon as returned by the Klamath county grand jury on an indictment last February. It recommended leniency to the court.

The Bainesville, Ohio, marine heard the verdict at 4:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon as E. M. Bubb, foreman, handed the jury's decision to Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg. The court announced that sentence would be pronounced at 10 a. m. Saturday.

1 to 5 Years

Penalty on conviction of stealing from the person carries not less than one year, and not more than five years imprisonment, according to the court.

Stevens was accused in connection with incidents preceding the death of Karl Bold, 41-year-old Henley farmer. Bold was found unconscious the morning of December 6, 1944, suffering from head injuries which the state claimed resulted from an attack by Stevens. He died four days later at Klamath Valley hospital without regaining consciousness.

Arrested at Barracks

The marine was arrested the evening of December 6, at the Barracks as he entered Bold's car. At no time did Stevens deny he either hit Bold or took (Continued on Page Two)

PERKINS PROPOSES COAL SETTLEMENT

WASHINGTON, March 28 (AP) Secretary of Labor Perkins said today that John L. Lewis had agreed to accept a contract settlement she proposed but that bituminous operators had asked for more time to study it.

Miss Perkins described her proposal as taking "a great deal out of the miners' cherished demands," but declined to discuss the details.

Whether this meant her offer by-passed the 10-cent-a-ton royalty demanded for the union by Lewis could not be learned immediately.

This was one of the most controversial features of Lewis' 18 demands.

The secretary disclosed the unions' swift acceptance of her proposal shortly after a second conference of the day with the negotiating committees for both sides.

She said the operators' request for further study was based on a desire to clear up some "technical matters."

Should both sides agree to the offer before the present contract expires Saturday at midnight, no further extension, as proposed by Interior Secretary Ickes, would be required, Miss Perkins said.

She said she thought this (Continued on Page Two)

Music Soothes Soul of Judge

PORTLAND, March 29 (AP)—A negro defendant told the judge today that he wouldn't have been drunk except that a tavern's clients kept playing him with free beers so that he'd play the piano.

Judge John B. Seabrook took the prisoner across the street to find out if he really did play. They sat down and played duets. Eventually they went back to court. "You play too well," the judge told William Young. "I ought to give you six months. But I won't. Sentence suspended on condition you leave town."

Luther Thornton Killed on Iwo

Enemy action took the life of another Klamath Falls boy, Platoon Sgt. Luther L. Thornton, killed March 7 on Iwo Jima, according to word received by the youth's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Foster D. Thornton, 1801 Worden.

A telegram from General A. Vandegrift of the United States marine corps, reached Mr. and Mrs. Thornton this morning. The wire carried the message that Sgt. Thornton "was killed in performance of duty—and the service of his country."

Luther enlisted in the marine corps in the fall of 1941, prior to Pearl Harbor. He had been overseas for the past 26 months, took part in battle for Bougainville and the invasion of Guam. On November 1, 1943, young Thornton was awarded the Silver Star for meritorious action on Bougainville.

Prior to his entering the marine corps, Luther served as carrier for the Herald and News. His twin brothers, Jim and Tommy, are present carriers. Another brother, Foster D. Thornton, is overseas with the marine corps.

Vandegrift Made 4-Star General

WASHINGTON, March 29 (AP) President Roosevelt today nominated Lt. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, commanding general of the marine corps, to be a full general.

At the same time he nominated Vice Admiral Russell R. Waesche, coast guard commandant, to be an admiral.

Senate confirmation will place four-star officers at the head of the two services for the first time in history.

Clifford Russell Killed in Action

Word was received from the war department by Mrs. Katy Russell of 541 Mt. Pitt, that her son, 2nd Lt. Clifford Bradford Russell of the army air corps, was killed in action on August 14. The 25-year-old flyer was originally reported as missing, according to word received by Mrs. Russell in September, and no further information was given until the official telegram.

Russell was born in Boscama, Mont., on August 7, 1919, later moving to Fort Klamath with his parents where he attended both grade and high school. Before enlisting in the air corps in 1940, he was employed by the Pelican Bay Lumber company.

Young Russell received his silver wings of a fighter pilot at the Tallahassee, Florida air field, and received his overseas orders in March of 1944. He was first stationed in England with the 9th air force, as the pilot of a Thunderbolt fighter, later flying his missions from France after the Normandy invasion.

Besides his mother, Russell is survived by one brother, Billy, and seven sisters, Belle, Rosemary, Betty, Bertha, Myrtle and Mrs. R. J. Caldwell of Klamath Falls, and Mrs. Bernard Johnson of Turlock, Calif. He is the son of the late Harry Lee Russell.

RUSSIANS REACH AUSTRIAN BORDER

By RICHARD KASISCHKE

LONDON, March 29 (AP)—The red army, breaking through the German's fortified zone of northwestern Hungary in a surge up the Danube valley, has reached the Austrian border, Marshal Stalin announced tonight the border was reached at Koszeg, 42 miles south of Vienna and 20 miles west of Sarvar, captured yesterday.

Kapuvár and Szombathely, strongholds in the extreme western part of Hungary, were captured in the sweep, Stalin announced.

Kapuvár, 39 miles from Vienna, was captured in a 10-mile advance from Csorna, part of the Bratislava gap defenses overrun yesterday. Kapuvár is 20 miles east of Sopron, which lies at the southern end of Lake Neusiedler.

Szombathely, 10 miles south of Koszeg, is 55 miles from Graz, one of the most important German communications hubs linking with northern Yugoslavia and Italy.

The big Stalin tanks and armored cars of Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's third Ukrainian army, smashing ahead from captured Csorna, hammered at the defenses of Pamhagen, 39 miles southeast of Vienna, St. Johann on the frontier to the northeast and Moson (Wieselburg), near the Danube 21 miles (Continued on Page Two)

Should Have Been "Sinking of the Rising Sun!"

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29 (AP)—After announcing the merger of four of Japan's leading motion picture companies, radio Tokyo said that the Japanese film "Rip Down the Stars and Stripes" was judged one of the "masterpieces" of 1944 and its makers received a government award of 5000 yen—about \$1200 at the prewar rate of exchange.

Tanks Smash Ahead

The big Stalin tanks and armored cars of Marshal Feodor Tolbukhin's third Ukrainian army, smashing ahead from captured Csorna, hammered at the defenses of Pamhagen, 39 miles southeast of Vienna, St. Johann on the frontier to the northeast and Moson (Wieselburg), near the Danube 21 miles (Continued on Page Two)

Killed



2nd Lt. Clifford B. Russell

Killed in Action



Sgt. Luther Thornton