

L.J. - Sun. & Standard.

Fri. Jan. 14¹ 44.
Late Broadcast.

TULE LAKE

It was announced tonight that the Japanese internment center at Tule Lake is being returned to civilian administration. The camp is now under army control, and has been ever since riots and disturbances among the interned Japs some while ago. Tonight's announcement affirms the establishment of what it calls, "peaceful conditions within the center". And in consequence military control is now relinquished and the War Relocation Authority takes over once again.

Tonight we have the reply of the exiled government of Poland to Soviet Russia. It is a sort of Middle of the road affair, refusing to accept the Soviet terms ^{which} ~~rejecting the~~ demand ~~for~~ territory formerly Polish. ^{But they} ~~are not prepared to~~ ^{but} leaving ^e the way open for further negotiation.

The further negotiation part of it, however, may be just the sort of thing that will not appeal to Stalin. Because the Polish Government proposes that the question of the Russian-Polish frontier be mediated by the United States and Great Britain. The poles want the whole thing to be decided by a conference -- in which London and Washington would take part.

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This conference idea seems not too likely to be accepted by Moscow, because the Stalin regime all along has taken the position that the frontier question was one that concerned Russia and Poland alone, and was no business of any outside power, which would seem to rule out American and British participation

in the discussion. Moreover, Moscow refuses to recognize the exiled Polish government saying that it is -- anti-Soviet.

However, the poles in London have asked the British and American governments to join in the proposed plan, and we hear that the Polish Premier will soon journey to Washington -- presumably for discussions along that line.

RUSSIA

In the western part of White Russia there's an immense extent of historic swamp land, that desolate wilderness called the Pripet Marshes. Running through the middle of these marshes is a strip of normal country. And this is called:- the Pinsk Corridor, Because it extends through the swamp lands to the Polish city of Pinsk. At the White-Russia end of the corridor are two cities, one on each side of the Pripet River,-- the towns of Mozyr and Kalinkovich. These two places dominate the Pinsk corridor, and were fortified by the Germans as key strongholds along their line in White Russia.

Well, today, these two cities were captured by the Red Army. They fell in bitter fighting after having been virtually encircled by Soviet armor; -- ^{following} ~~after~~ which wild-riding Russian cavalry with slashing sabers, wiped out the defending Germans.

~~So now~~ the gateway to the corridor through the marshes is ^{now} ~~now~~ in the hands of the Russians, and disorganized and fleeing Nazis are being driven into the wilderness of the swamps ^{that are} ~~now~~ frozen.

hard in the bleak Russian winter.

~~All of which represents the dominating event in the
Russian war news of today, an event announced in an order of
the day issue by Stalin.~~

ITALY

In Italy American troops are increasing their pressure against the headline town of Cassino, and the stubbornness of the fighting along that line is indicated by a dispatch from United Press correspondent Reynolds Packard. "Pack" followed the assaulting troops right into that other bitterly defended stronghold -- Cervaro. And to illustrate the bitter battle at close quarters, he tells how the American artillery fired barrages immediately in front of the American soldiers.

"Our troops" he writes "came in so close behind each barrage, that they had to ^{crouch low} ~~stoop~~ so as not to be hit by our shells and mortars."

And he tells that in the fighting for Cervaro one outstanding ^{man} ~~hero~~ was a former Iowa bellhop - Sergeant William J. Owen who used to be a bell boy at Storm Lake, Iowa. No sooner had Cervaro been captured than the Germans made a savage counter attack and Sergeant Owen found himself in command of a company barricaded in a house -- after all the officers had been killed and wounded.

"We snapped to in the dark, just before dawn -- to find the enemy lobbing hand grenades into the house we were occupying. And enemy armor was firing point blank at us," relates the former Iowa bellhop - who certainly hopped to it, apparently. He wouldn't tell Packard just what his own exploits had been, but one of his men, Private William Young of New York, declares: "it was Owen's personality and his ability to keep on fighting that enabled us to stick it out through the counter-attack."

~~In addition to the American frontal attack on Cassino, the French are driving a flanking thrust through the mountains of Central Italy, and are approaching one anchor of the Nazi~~
~~line~~
~~sector~~ protecting Cassino. This line has a name, the "Gustav Line." I don't know who Gus is, but we hope he'll soon be in Dutch.

SUBSTITUTE FOR BOMBING

Eleven hundred war planes flew against the French invasion coast by daylight today with ponderous formations of Flying Fortresses and Liberators helping to batter the shore where the second front is expected to be launched. And air action continued on into the night, the R. A. F. raiding Germany in the hours of darkness. The Nazi radio announces that the British bombers flew to Berlin tonight *— again blasting the* ~~hitting the~~ devastated ~~devastated~~ German capital. *again.*

Echoes ^{of} to that greatest of air battles last Tuesday continue to flash across the wires -- like the story today of a hunt that is on in the American Air Forces in England. Flying Fortress crews want to find one particular Mustang fighter pilot, want to identify him. Who was he?

In the mad melee in the air above Germany, the crews of the Fortresses saw what might well have been the greatest deed of heroism of the air war. They were pressed hard, were ganged by a formation of German fighters. And then - one single American Mustang appeared, and took on all thirty of the Germans - single handed. Protecting the Fortresses, the Mustang ripped right into the enemy formation, and today Major Allison Brooks of Pasadena, California, leader of the fortress division, put it in these words: "it looked like one lone American against the entire Luftwaffe."

Others who saw the ~~dazzling~~ exploit believe that the Mustang shot down at least six of the Nazi fighters. And the ^{lone} ~~hero~~

plane was last seen diving through a cloud bank on the tail of a Nazi.

Who was the pilot? "We don't know," ~~who he was~~, answers Major Edwin Brown of Oakland, California, ^{who adds: -} "but there isn't ^a one of us who wouldn't like to shake his hand."

Was he finally shot down in that battle of odds of thirty to one? Or did he get back to Britain and just isn't saying anything about his exploit -- modest?

This latter may be the case, and the crews of the fortresses are looking for him. They're ~~expecting~~ spreading the word in the fighter command that he can have the keys to their base, the planes, the hangers, and the runways, the whole doggone base -- if he'll only show up and identify himself.

RAILROADS

The threat of a railroad strike was finally removed today with the White House announcing that firemen, conductors and switchmen have accepted the terms previously okayed by the other two operating brotherhoods. The three dissenting unions had refused to okay the President's ~~arbitration~~ terms for a wage raise, and this was the reason why the government took over the railroads. But now they've accepted and signed up with the companies -- and the way seems open for a return of the railroads to private ownership.

BUDGET

The president's hundred billion dollar budget is going to get the once over in congress - some careful scrutiny, it would appear. The Congressional economy bloc, which always has a sharp eye, for unnecessary spending, is gazing with an intense ^{se} stare at the President's request for one hundred billion dollars to win the war. ~~(Is every dollar of that gargantuan sum needed? Ask the legislators whose tastes incline to economy.)~~

~~(The most candid of the complaints are focused on the part of the budget marked -- non-war.)~~ The Presidential request is for ninety billion to be poured into the global conflict and ten billion for government-running-expenses apart from the war. And today Congressman Tabor of New York stated that the huge sums for civilian agencies and departments ~~have~~ have what he called "a tremendous amount of water in them, which must be squeezed out."

Thanks, Congressman, for finding water in ten billion dollars. I should call it the heavenly ambrosia or the nectar of the gods. But, anyway, it ought to be squeezed out.

And the Ninety billions for war are likewise getting a glance or two -- although legislators do not like to open their mouths ~~unpleasantly~~ complainingly when the war is mentioned.

However, it is pointed out that the Administration, while asking for ninety billions more, has in its possession right now eighty billions of dollars -- left over from the previous enormous war appropriations. ~~(In other words, eighty billions, which Congress handed over and which have not yet been spent or marked for expenditure -- just money left over.)~~

Today, Senator Truman ~~spoke of what he calls "these huge unexpended balances."~~ And he said that sums like eighty billions should not be carried over and that they ought to be, in his words:- "accounted for, one billion dollars at a time."

"All of which would indicate that Congress is going to ask for explanations of item after item in the hundred billion dollar budget. ~~(And some economy advocates insist there will have to be cuts/or, as Congressman Tabor said today -- "there will be ^a fight.")~~

In the question of taxes, Congress is going its own sweet way. Today the Senate made moves for a final approval of the new tax bill -- to which President Roosevelt is strongly opposed. He is against the smallness of the amount of taxation that Congress intends to impose on the country -- a mere two billion two hundred and seventy-five million and six hundred thousand dollars. The White House thinks that ten and a half billions would be more like it.

~~And the President is likewise opposed to another provision in the bill, which would freeze the Social Security levy -- ^{and} keep the Social Security payments the public must make from being increased.~~

It was disclosed today that President Roosevelt is living up to the twenty five thousand dollar ceiling on salaries that he ordered in Nineteen Forty Two. At that time Congress, threw out the salary ceiling, but the President is practicing what he preached, And today we are informed that he has turned back to the Treasury the amount of his nineteen forty three presidential pay in excess of twenty-five thousand dollars -- net. How much did he turn back?

The President, of course, gets Seventy Five Thousand dollars a year -- and the difference between that and the Twenty-five Thousand dollar ceiling is Fifty Thousand. However, it is a question of -- the net, which involves deductions. Deductions, for taxes for example. So we find that the net Presidential salary, after all deductions are made, comes to Twenty-six thousand, nine hundred and fifty dollars. And the amount handed back to the Treasury is Nineteen Hundred and fifty dollars.

DOGS

Here ~~are a couple of~~ ^{is a} dog stories -- telling of the
heroism of a dog of war. ~~The other, just a boy and a dog.~~

~~The hero is a German shepherd named Chips, who today was~~
^{- a Belgian Police if you prefer -}
the first dog ever to be awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.
And, Chips has likewise been decorated with the Silver Star and
Purple Heart -- having been wounded in action.

Chips was raised by Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Wren of
Pleasantville, New York, and was taken into the army in Nineteen
Forty-two. He was trained for combat duty, and assigned to a
unit of troops that took part in the invasion of Sicily last
summer.

After the landing was made Chips' outfit found itself
in a tough spot. Enemy machine gunners, in a camouflaged pillbox,
were raking them with streams of hot lead. It would have been
impossible for soldiers to get through that fire, but a dog
trained to the tactics of war might do it. So they released Chips
from his leash and said "sic 'em."

Whereupon Chips sneaked his way to the enemy machine gun nest, and then made a vicious charge. He leaped at the throat of one of the enemy gunners ^{and} bore him down. The savage canine attack so demoralized the gun crew that they surrendered -- four of them. Such is the account given by the official citation as military honors are heaped on Chips -- the dog of war.

Our other story, the one about the boy and the dog, tells how seven year old Bernie McClunis of Chicago gave his pooch a name. Somebody presented Bernie with a small pup, and somebody else told Bernie that he would have to have a license for the pooch. Then Bernie found that the license would cost two dollars, -- and his family was poor. So Bernie went out and earned the money himself. In zero weather he sold papers, and accumulated enough pennies to make up two bucks. Then, with the money in his pants pocket and the pup in a side pocket of his tattered overcoat, he went to the dog license bureau.

KANGAROO COURT

In a Los Angeles Court today Mrs. Jesse Koontz gave the following reason as cause for divorce. She said that her husband sentenced her to death by decapitation, then picked up the kitchen butcher knife to behead her. And that ^{does} ~~sounds~~ pretty grim.

Mrs. Koontz related that in their home her husband established a sort of domestic Kangaroo Court. Whenever she did anything he didn't like, he put her on trial.

"He would make me sit in the chair" she related today, "tell me I was on the witness stand and question me. Then," she continued, "he would cross examine me and at the end of the trial he would consult himself and pass sentence." "Usually she said, "he handed down a death sentence." She added, however, that he never bothered about the execution of the capital punishment -- not until that last time.

The crime she committed on that ultimate occasion was flagrant indeed. She was cooking dinner and used the wrong

I am broadcasting from Camp Hale tonight, in the high Rockies, down the line a piece from Independence Pass, and in the shadow of such towering Colorado peaks as Mt. Massive and the Mount of the Holy Cross.

These are tough men, these officers and soldiers who are in training right on the summit of the Continental Divide. And this is a tough region they are in.

Everywhere I turn I am meeting old friends, men with whom I have climbed and spent a lot of time in pre-war days.

One chap, ^(Sgt.) "Skipper" Finn from St. Johnsbury, Vermont, who ~~dropped in on me~~ worked out with me in the White Mts before the War, under Hannes Schneider, Benno Ragbala, and Toni Math, dropped around a moment ago, to tell me of a three day trip he and a group had just made into the top of the Mosquito Range. And he had some hair-raising adventures to relate of how they had watched one avalanche go hurtling down a precipice for over 2,000 feet - an avalanche that just missed them.

This is the kind of training our army lads have to have in case there is fighting to be done in the mountain ranges that cover so much of this earth. And they are getting a lot of that tough training here at Camp Hale.

From here, let's take a look across the world to another wintry region: —

POLAND

~~Note for Mr. Thomas~~

~~The following covers Poland, and should be used
because the official Polish reply to the Soviets will break at
7:30 New York Time.~~

The tension between the Russians and the Poles increases as the Polish Government in exile deliberates its reply to the Soviets. The answer to the Stalin proposal which would mean the Russian acquisition of so much of former Polish territory.

And this Polish question was injected into the proceedings of the Senate in Washington today, with Senator Bridges of New Hampshire declaring: "Americans want to know how Poland, which was the only full ally that England and France had at the beginning of the war and which has been so horribly ravaged, is to be rewarded for its loyalty and supreme sacrifices."

The Senator said that Americans likewise want to know whether the independence of the Baltic and Balkan peoples have^s been endangered.

He stated all this in a call upon President Roosevelt to tell, in the Senator's words: "what really happened at Teheran."

AIR WAR

Once again today fleets of planes crossed the English Channel - "American Flying Fortresses and Liberators battering that much battered invasion coast of France. ~~It was~~ The first American day light air assault since the great sky battle over Germany last Tuesday. And apparently it is being followed by night attacks, because London states that late in the day a great procession of bombers ~~xxx~~ escorted by fighters flew across the channel in the direction of the Nazis.