

U. S. MARINES GAIN IN SOLOMONS BATTLE

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

FROM the battle of the Solomons little news is available. What there is appears to be favorable.

THE navy tells us: "Marines, firmly entrenched after six days of violent hand-to-hand fighting, are now CONSOLIDATING their positions."

That means they have won the first round, for in making a landing on a well-defended hostile shore getting the first toe-hold is the hardest job.

They are now digging themselves in and fighting off Jap counterattacks.

THE navy communique adds: "Our supporting naval forces are engaged in bitter fighting."

That is to say, the Japs are fighting hard to prevent the landing of more reinforcements to the U. S. marines already established on the islands. Other dispatches mention that the original marine landing parties have already been "strongly" reinforced.

Whether the Japs are using warships or land-based planes isn't specified. A good guess is that they are using BOTH.

Meanwhile U. S. bombers pound the Jap base at Rabaul, some 500 miles away, seeking to prevent the sending of reinforcements to the Japanese defenders of the Solomons.

It is a sketchy picture. About the only conclusion we can draw with any confidence is that it is a REAL battle, with both sides putting into it everything they have within reach.

MEANWHILE another naval battle of considerable importance is being waged in the western Mediterranean, where axis naval forces, including submarines and planes, are attacking a big allied convoy.

This battle has been going on for days, and the British have admitted the loss of a 24,000-ton carrier, the Eagle. The German high command asserts that the AMERICAN aircraft carrier Wasp has been set afire by six direct bomb hits and is trying to reach Malta.

That brings us into this Mediterranean battle picture (although we must be careful about paying too much attention to German claims).

THE British, presumably, are trying to force a passage of the Mediterranean short cut to

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Treasury Figures Asked in Plan of Senate for Post-War Tax Rebates, Debt Slash Credits for Individuals

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Chairman George (D., Ga.) said today the treasury had been asked to submit to the senate finance committee estimates of the effect on revenues of proposed post-war tax rebates for corporations as well as debt reduction credits for individuals.

Indicating that he would be guided largely by the net effect on the revenue of such proposals, George said it seemed imperative to soften the impact of high income levies written into the new tax bill before it passed the house.

"I am convinced by responsible and trustworthy testimony before the committee that the rates of the house bill require the establishment of some form of debt reduction and post-war credit for both individuals and corporations," George told reporters.

The house-approved bill would add \$6,271,000,000 to yearly federal revenues, a large portion of this amount being obtained through substantially increased income taxes on individuals and

PERIL TO STALINGRAD INCREASES

Nazis Also Knife Deeper In Caucasus

Astrakhan, Vital Port on Black Sea, Another Goal Of Surging Blitzkrieg

(By the Associated Press) Russia's armies battled desperately to stem grave new threats to Stalingrad and to the vital Port of Astrakhan on the Caspian sea, while in the Caucasus Nazi columns were reported to have captured the rail city of Georgievsk, 120 miles northwest of the rich Grozny oil fields, after a 20-mile advance.

Soviet dispatches said German troops were fanning out from one sector, 95 miles south of Stalingrad, in a menacing drive toward Astrakhan.

The Germans said earlier this week they had captured Elista, 100 miles below Kotelnikovsk and only 160 miles from Astrakhan. The Caspian sea port is a major point of entry for allied supplies to Russia.

Hitler Rushes Aid On the brighter side, Stockholm dispatches reported that Adolf Hitler had been obliged to rush reinforcements to meet Russian attacks in three key sectors on the long looping front before Moscow and before Voronezh, the northern anchor of the Don-Caucasus front.

The Russians were said to be striking furiously at Rzhev, 130 miles northwest of Moscow, at Byasma, 125 miles west of the Soviet capital; at Bryansk, 210 miles southwest of Moscow, and at Voronezh, which is 300 miles southeast of Moscow.

Whether there were diversionary attacks or a full-fledged Russian counter-offensive was not mentioned.

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Stooge Asks Frenchmen To Enter Nazi Employ

VICHY, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Jean Luchaire, president of the Paris Press Corporate association, which includes technical and mechanical employees, asked association members in Paris today to leave their newspapers in whole crews and go to work in Germany.

At the same time Luchaire acknowledged that "some industries lack personnel and work in the fields demands man power" in France. His appeal was part of pro-German Pierre Laval's campaign to recruit workers for Germany.

French workmen today were refused the usual Assumption day holiday as the result of a government request to prevent further production decreases.

Lack of Teamwork Cost U. S. Bombers Chance to Annihilate Jap Force Off Alaska, Congressman Magnuson Says

SEATTLE, Aug. 15.—(AP)—United States bombers lost a chance to annihilate a Japanese surface force, including an aircraft carrier, off Alaska last June because of the "unfortunate failure of army and navy coordination," Rep. Warren G. Magnuson (D., Wash.) said today.

Magnuson, a member of the house naval affairs committee, said on his return from an inspection tour of Alaska military bases that "failure on the part of one army command to interpret liberally standing naval orders regarding enemy contact resulted in a delay which gave the enemy an opportunity to remove itself."

"The army command responsible, he added, has since been relieved of duty, "and I am glad to say that there is no possibility of this happening again." The army high command in Alaska now, he predicted, would "welcome a Japanese task force at this stage of the game."

"The army command was located within operating distance of the Japanese task force," Magnuson said. "I have information that it was notified soon after the

Murder of Family Of Four Admitted By Negro Youth

SAVANNAH, Ga., Aug. 15.—(AP)—"I just don't know, boss. I don't know what possessed me," was the only reason a husky, 13-inch footed negro youth could offer, Detective Chief John C. McCarthy said today, for slaying an aged farm couple and two sons with a pistol.

The chief said Buster Shaw, 20, last night signed a written confession to shooting 65-year-old George Strickland as he hoed his garden, killing Riley, 13, and Wiley, 9, on a log cabin floor, and chasing Strickland's wife into the Piney woods, where he assaulted and killed her.

Shaw hid in a barn near the scene of his crime at Nahant, Ga., for a week while bloodhounds and posse scoured the south Georgia swamplands for a man with a 13-inch foot. But they didn't find him.

The negro rode a freight train into Savannah two days ago and hitched on automobile ride out that night. A Georgia state guard officer on patrol stopped the car, asked for draft registration cards. They weren't forthcoming, so he packed the two occupants off to the Savannah jail.

There the big negro insisted for hours that he was Harry Smith. But to Detective McCarthy and others he looked like Buster Shaw. Finally he admitted he was, slowly told of the crime.

McCarthy formally docketed him for four murders.

Mill Near Sisters Burns With Loss of \$40,000

BEND, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Insurance company representatives estimated today that fire that destroyed the M. G. Hitchcock pine mill near Sisters Thursday night caused damage of more than \$40,000.

The sawmill, the boiler house, and the main building were destroyed.

Officials said the plant would be rebuilt if equipment can be found.

Youthful Swimmer Drowns in Rogue River

MEDFORD, Aug. 15.—(AP)—An attempt to swim across a deep pool in the Rogue river below Gold Ray dam yesterday cost the life of Gene Allen, 16, McFarland, Calif. A companion, Billie L. Thomas, said Allen became exhausted, and his own strength failed before he could tow Allen to shore. Thomas barely reached safety himself.

Dutch harbor attack that navy PBY's (flying boats) had a Japanese carrier under continual observation, and that they were waiting for the arrival of land-based aircraft to make the kill.

"The army command, however, believed its orders were not sufficiently broad to warrant sending out a bombing force at this phase of the battle without definite instructions.

"As a result, army planes remained on the ground, and before naval authorities could straighten the matter out, the Japs had slipped away from observation.

"Later the army did succeed in making contact, but not under as favorable circumstances as they might have found if the response had been earlier."

Army and navy officials in Alaska are now working in closest cooperation, he said.

"The naval command itself has been greatly strengthened with new blood and experience. Communications are better, our bases are rounding rapidly into shape, and all the time I was there I never heard the word 'defense' mentioned once."

U. S. Gets Taxes From 238,000 Slot Machines

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Although pin-ball games and slot machines are illegal in a large part of the United States, the treasury disclosed today that more than 238,000 are in operation and paying federal taxes.

The count was made in totaling returns from new taxes imposed by congress last fall on pinball and other "coin-operated amusement devices" at the rate of \$10 a year and on slot machines and other "coin-operated gaming devices" at the rate of \$50 a year. As of June 30, the tax had been paid on 160,894 machines in the pin-ball class and 77,129 in the slot machine group.

The treasury is not required to know the local laws involved in operating these machines. The officials, however, have been getting numerous requests from religious and reform organizations for lists of persons paying the taxes in allegedly forbidden territories.

The treasury has replied in each case that the lists are open to the public in the offices of the various collectors of internal revenue "at the convenience of the collectors."

New Ceiling Prices Set For Asphalt, Road Oils

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—New ceiling prices for pavement asphalt, cut-back asphalt and road oils at ocean terminals in Washington and Oregon and at California refineries were established yesterday by the office of price administration.

OPA said the effect of the ceiling, which becomes operative Aug. 20, was to establish the posted prices between Oct. 1 and Oct. 15, 1941, as the maximums. Heretofore, the ceiling has been based on prices on deliveries between July 1 and Oct. 15, 1941. This basis, officials said, did not adequately reflect increased prices posted during the Oct. 1-15 period.

Asa Andrews Still in Critical Condition

The condition of Asa Andrews, Elkton resident, who was brought to the veterans administration facility here yesterday, suffering from a gunshot wound in the head, reported by officers to have apparently been self-inflicted, was said today to be unchanged. He was unconscious and in a very critical condition, it was reported.

Nine Men Die In Crash Of U. S. Bomber

Flame-Enveloped Units Of Craft Land on Farm, Cause Large Grass Fire

HASTINGS, Mich., Aug. 15.—(AP)—Nine officers and crew members were killed in the flaming crash last night of a multi-engine army air force bomber in a cornfield seven miles south of here.

Troops from Fort Custer today guarded the scene where the big plane, reported to be attached to a heavy bombardment group from the Willow Run bomber plant near Ypsilanti, fell.

Public relations officers at Fort Custer said the nine dead were: Lieut. L. H. Tally, Lieut. Maurice D. McCall, Lieut. Eugene G. King, Second Lieut. James J. Dailey, Staff Sergeant John Hazen, Corp. E. L. Prother, Steve Spantard, George F. Streng and R. W. Carillon.

Their home addresses were not immediately available.

Parts of the big plane, which came to earth within 100 feet of the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Proefrock and tossed flaming gasoline into the back dooryard, starting grass fires, were scattered for more than a half mile, witnesses said.

Many witnesses who saw the plane pass over Hastings said it appeared to be in difficulty even then. Undersheriff L. J. Doster said he heard its engines sputter and die as it passed over the city. Others said there was no sound from the motors—only an eerie whistling—as it swung low over crowds at the Barry county fairgrounds.

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2nd Front Urgency Draws Hint From Eisenhower

PENDLETON, Ore., Aug. 15.—(AP)—Four army airmen killed in a central Oregon crash Feb. 3 were identified yesterday by Pen-

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Salem Vacationer Dies In Automobile Plunge

SALEM, Ore., Aug. 15.—(AP)—Homeward bound from a vacation in the mountains, Lowell Ellsworth White, 38, Salem, was killed early today when his automobile rolled down an embankment on the North Santiam highway, five miles west of Detroit.

White is survived by his widow, a son, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. White, of Salem.

U. S. Sniper in Battle Regalia



American sniper suit, plus camouflage markings on hands and face, makes soldier blend perfectly with foliage and many types of terrain. Picture taken by photographer of Yank, army newspaper.

Progress in Consolidating Beachheads on Three Islands Satisfactory, Navy Reports

Japs Give Lie to Own Victory Tale by Admitting Continuing Effort to Repulse American Invasion; U. S. Bombers Again Blast Reinforcement Convoy

(By the Associated Press) Japanese dispatches acknowledged for the first time today that United States marines have landed "on one of the Solomon islands," 900 miles northeast of Australia, and that Japanese troops were engaged in fierce fighting to ward off the American sea-borne invasion.

In Washington, the navy announced that the marines were "progressing satisfactorily" in consolidating beachheads on three islands in the Solomons.

There were indications, too, that allied fliers had won vital superiority in the southwest Pacific skies.

English dispatches from Sydney, Australia, said the Americans "have or soon will have complete control over Tulagi island," site of one of the best harbors in the south seas war theater.

"The huge naval battle off the Solomon Islands which resulted in overwhelming victory for the Japanese navy has been concluded, according to latest reports," asserted a Tokyo dispatch to DNB, official German news agency.

"In its main phases, the battle lasted without interruption three whole days beginning August 7.

"Only a few enemy units succeeded in escaping, apparently in the direction of Australia.

"Fierce fighting is reported to be taking place between Japanese forces and United States marines who have landed on one of the Solomon islands."

Tokyo offered no explanation of how American leathernecks established beachheads, even on one island, in the face of its claims to have routed allied naval forces.

Fugitives Kidnap Policeman; One Slain, 2 Wounded

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug. 15.—(AP)—One federal fugitive was killed and two others were shot and captured today when Tennessee and Georgia officers freed a kidnaped Chattanooga policeman in an early morning gun fight.

City Patrolman Ray Evatt was wounded slightly when the posse closed in on the trio at a dairy farm just across the Georgia line about 12 miles south of here. Traffic Patrolman Logan Stroud, the abducted officer, was freed unharmed after he had brought fellow officers to his rescue by telephone.

Police Chief Homer Edmondson said the men who forced Stroud into their automobile at pistol point after he stopped them on a speeding charge were: Kenneth Jackson, 31, of Mississippi, killed instantly by multiple gunshot wounds.

George K. Mathews, 31, Paducah, Ky., wounded and captured. Marvin Franklin Hubbard, 29, from Alabama, also shot.

While fleeing into Georgia in the darkness, the escaped prisoners bound Stroud with ropes and dumped him into a dairy barn in rural Catoosa county. Working himself free from his bonds, he used a phone in the barn to call Chattanooga police and direct the posse to the farm.

His captors had gone meantime to the nearby home of Henry Christians, where they forced the family to give them food. Warned by sirens of the approaching squad cars, they attempted to flee in Christians' car but found the road blocked and soon fell under accurate crossfire.

Edmondson said the three escaped from federal custody at Jasper, Ala., Aug. 7, but he did not have details of their records.

Score Favors U. S. in Air Fights With Japs

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Lieut. General Henry H. Arnold reported today that 1,010 American planes had engaged 1,459 Japanese planes in seven months of warfare and had definitely shot down 190. In these battles 104 American planes were lost.

"This doesn't include enemy planes damaged, probably destroyed, or lost on the ground," the air forces' commander told a press conference.

The American volunteer group, fighting for China, shot down 218 planes while losing 84 before disbanding recently when the army air forces took up the air warfare burden in that area.

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5 Dutch Hostages Slain by Germans

LONDON, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Netherlands government sources reported today that five Dutch hostages had been shot by the Germans in reprisal for wrecking of a Nazi troop train a week ago.

Aneta, Netherlands news agency, said the information came from the Nazi-controlled Netherlands radio.

The Germans had threatened to start executions among 1,600 hostages unless persons who wrecked the train were surrendered by Friday midnight.

The report of the slayings was taken here as an indication that surrenders had not been made.

Aneta identified the executed hostages as Willem Ruys, director general of Rotterdam; the Count of Limbur Strum of Arnhem; a Mr. Walde of Rotterdam; Christopher Bennkers, former police inspector of Rotterdam; and Alexander Baro, former president of the Netherlands Olympic committee.

Alaskan Storekeeper Slain by Indian Thief

JUNEAU, Alaska, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Tony Simin, pioneer Douglas storekeeper, died last night of two bullet wounds suffered Thursday night during a hold-up.

An Indian who was identified by Simin as the robber was arrested and held on an open charge in the federal jail. Officers said more than \$200 was taken from the cash register.

Cycling Soldier Killed By Auto; Woman Injured

TACOMA, Aug. 15.—(AP)—Corp. Glen E. McGinsey, 25, of Vallejo, Calif., was killed and Mrs. Frances Miller, 28, of Tacoma, was seriously injured today when an automobile struck the bicyclist as they were riding.

Police arrested a hit-run driver suspect.

Corporal McGinsey was stationed at nearby McChord field.