

RUSSIANS HURL BACK THIRD GERMAN BLITZ



Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

VOL. XLVIII NO. 74 OF ROSEBURG REVIEW

ROSEBURG, OREGON, TUESDAY, JULY 6, 1943.

VOL. XXXII NO. 55 OF THE EVENING NEWS

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

THE first phase of the new battle of the Solomons is over. It was apparently a complete success.

AS a result of it, we have Rendova Island, five (or seven; reports vary) miles from the big Jap airfield at Munda on New Georgia Island and our big guns, already planted on Rendova, are shelling the field.

We have beach heads on both sides of Munda from which the land attack can be pressed home when the time comes.

We have the Trobriand and Woodlark Island groups, roughly 150 miles off the southeastern tip of New Guinea, and although it hasn't been reported in the dispatches we are undoubtedly building airfields there.

(War in these South sea islands is largely a process of establishing stepping-stone air bases—as one might toss rocks ahead of him to make possible the dry-footed crossing of a shallow stream.)

WE landed successfully at Nassau bay, just south of Salamaua (across the relatively narrow Dampier passage between New Guinea of New Britain) and effected a junction with the Australians at Mubo, 8 miles inland from Nassau bay, thus further encircling the Jap base at Salamaua.

Reports of this landing operation are scanty, and there are suggestions in the dispatches that it may have been a diversionary maneuver designed to fool the Japs and lead them to think the play was coming there instead of somewhere else.

IT is apparent from these developments (as reported in censored dispatches) that we have got set for SOMETHING BIGGER. (Don't think of this new battle of the Solomons as won; it is really just beginning.) It is fairly safe to assume that the next objective will be Munda airfield.

At least a small unit of the Jap fleet finally comes into the picture. Three cruisers and four destroyers appear off Rendova and try to bombard our positions there, but are chased off by our warships.

The ensuing fight is reported as a "sharp engagement," and our navy communique says the Japs retired in "short order."

The SIZE of our naval force is not reported. Presumably it was too strong for the Japs to stand against.

WHAT will develop out of this battle of the Solomons can't be even guessed at by us out-

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Ceiling Prices for Canning Cherries, Berries, Asparagus, Greens are Fixed

WASHINGTON, July 6.—(AP)—Maximum prices which canners and other processors may pay for certain types of cherries and berries were announced yesterday by the OPA.

The new prices, limiting what processors may pay growers, are: Red sour pitted cherries, 81 cents a pound; black raspberries, 15 cents; youngberries, 13 cents; boysenberries, 12 cents; loganberries, 12 cents and gooseberries, 8 cents.

These prices are effective immediately. A later regulation is expected affecting prices of cherries and berries sold for table use in their natural form.

OPA officials said that a similar control method may be expected for other fresh fruits, berries and vegetables.

Primary purpose of the order,

42 Axis Planes Downed at Sicily, Sardinia

Bombs Hit Seven Bases, Industries

One U. S. Flier, on 7th Wedding Anniversary, Bags 7 Nazi Fighters

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, July 6.—(AP)—Allied air forces, spearheaded by U. S. Flying Fortresses which shot down 30 German fighters, struck paralyzing blows at axis resistance yesterday in battles for air supremacy over Sicily and Sardinia, it was announced today.

The smashing aerial offensive against the Italian outpost islands went through its third straight day with bombers roaring over Gerbini, Marsala, Licata, Sciacca and Catania in Sicily and Villacidro in Sardinia—all of them bases for the defending axis aerial fleets.

In 24 hours ending yesterday, 42 enemy planes were shot down against a loss of 12 allied planes, it was stated officially.

More than 60 Liberator bombers based in the middle east joined in the devastating raids, shaking Messina in Sicily with nearly 375,000 pounds of bombs, a communique of the U. S. Ninth air force declared.

Hits blanketing the ferry terminal installations in Messina "caused extensive damage," the communique said, and bombs were laid on railway tracks, a roundhouse, a warehouse, freight yards, oil tanks and barracks by the Liberators striking in three waves. One string of bombs "fell across the Lazzaretto mole."

The Liberators downed three enemy planes and returned without loss themselves.

Nazi Air Fleet Beaten

Flying Fortresses striking at Gerbini won what is considered one of the greatest single-mission victories of the entire Mediterranean campaign by knocking down 30 out of more than 100 German fighters attacking them. One of the greatest individual victories emerged, too, when Staff Sgt. Benjamin Warner of San Francisco destroyed seven fighters. It was his seventh wedding anniversary.

Despite the spectacular and seemingly suicidal tactics of the Germans, the Fortresses successfully reached and bombed Gerbini, where they showered explosives over the main airfield and nine satellite fields.

Less than 30 of the craft participated in the raid. Outnumbered about four to one, they shot down an average of one enemy plane apiece and destroyed an estimated 25 more parked on the ground.

Three Fortresses were lost.

Resistance Cut Down

They handed the Germans such a savage mauling that throughout the rest of the day only about 10 enemy fighters rose to meet succeeding bomber formations. P-38 Lightnings downed five of these.

Bombers of the RAF and South African air force along with others

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Active Duty In WAAC Given



Auxiliary Melba V. Aikins, above, of Riddle, a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, has been assigned to active duty at Fort Meade, South Dakota, and is now at that station. She recently was graduated from the basic training center at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

Mrs. W. C. Harding Dies In Roseburg

Ada Higgins (Grant) Harding, 80, wife of W. C. Harding, the latter for many years serving as secretary of the Roseburg chamber of commerce, died at her home early today following a long period of ill health.

Born at St. Louis, Mo., October 5, 1862, she was graduated from the public schools of Galva, Ill., and taught for several years in the elementary schools of that city prior to her marriage to Mr. Harding, in December, 1889. Mr. Harding at that time was serving as principal of the Galva high school.

Mr. and Mrs. Harding moved to Douglas county 35 years ago.

Mrs. Harding was a life-long member of the Presbyterian church and she and her husband have been active in the work of the local church for more than 30 years.

Surviving are the husband, a sister, Mrs. John Gowan, Santa Ana, Calif., and two nieces, Mrs. Jean Everett and Mrs. Lewis Terrell, both residing in Seattle.

Funeral services will be conducted by the Rev. M. H. Roach at the Roseburg Undertaking company chapel at 7:30 p. m. Thursday. The body will be taken to Portland for cremation.

Auto Jolt Hurls Woman To Death In River

GRANGEVILLE, Idaho, July 6.—(AP)—Sheriff's officers and state police were probing the Salmon river, 54 miles south of here today for the body of Mrs. Audrey Watson, whose overturned car was found yesterday beside U. S. highway No. 55.

Deputy Sheriff Harold Smith said Mrs. Watson was bound for Spokane to join her husband, an army officer stationed there.

Indications at the scene were, he said, that the car struck a bank and overturned, throwing Mrs. Watson into the river.

Trusty Escapes From Oregon Penitentiary

SALEM, Ore., July 6.—(AP)—Penitentiary guards and state police continued their search today for Jack Erwin, 42, trusty, who escaped from the state prison annex yesterday.

Erwin, who had served three years of a 10-year sentence for assault with intent to rob in Multnomah county, was working in the prison annex kitchen and was wearing a cook's white uniform when he escaped.

Margin of One Vote Saves Subsidy Plan

Senate Approves, 32-31, 6-Month Fund to Roll Back Prices of Food

WASHINGTON, July 6.—(AP)—By a one-vote margin, the senate today approved legislation limiting the administration's rollback-subsidy program to \$255,000,000 in the next six months to keep retail food prices down.

The vote was announced as 32 to 31.

The action apparently cleared the way for final action on a measure extending the life of the Commodity Credit corporation until Jan. 1, 1944.

The senate's version of a house bill, which would have removed all restrictions against subsidy payments, added an extra \$175,000,000 to the CCC for commitments on the 1944 food production program.

These funds, sponsors of the amendment said, could not be used in the rollback program.

The senate also adopted another amendment designed to prevent subsidy payments from having the producer.

The proposal would forbid either CCC or the Reconstruction Finance corporation, which would get \$350,000,000 of the subsidy authorization, from inaugurating any rollback "if in its opinion such program will result in reduction in the price paid to the producers."

Crop Insurance Revived

House conferees on a \$366,000,000 deficiency appropriations bill agreed today. Senator McKellar said that they would submit to the house for a vote a senate amendment designed to revoke yesterday's death sentence for the federal crop insurance corporation.

The senate agreed yesterday to a house provision in the farm appropriations bill allowing \$3,000,000 for the closing of the FC IC and its insurance program on cotton and wheat crops.

Subsequently, it sought to repeal this action, by adding funds for the insurance program to the deficiency bill.

McKellar said "complete agreement" was reached on other ap-

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Roseburg Given Priority to Buy New Fire Engine

Word of the fire which recently destroyed nine buildings in Roseburg's business district apparently reached the ears of official Washington. The city received a Fourth of July present in the form of priority approval on an application filed more than a year ago for purchase of a new fire engine.

The engine which the city proposes to buy is produced by the Howard-Cooper company at Portland. The Portland concern builds the truck bodies which are mounted on any type of chassis. The city has contracted with the Hansen Chevrolet company for the chassis.

The priority rating received Monday authorizes immediate purchase. A sinking fund has been provided in the last two city budgets for the purpose of paying for the equipment, and ample funds are on hand to pay cash for the engine, which is expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$4,500.

The machine will provide a pump capable of delivering 500 gallons of water per minute and will have a 100-gallon booster tank, which will make the engine suitable for fighting grass fires. It will be equipped with ladders, axes and other accessories.

Curvaceous Betty Again Bride



Betty Grable



Harry James

Betty Grable Becomes Bride of Trumpet Star

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., July 6.—(AP)—Radio and studio commitments called ace trumpet man Harry James and his bride, Screen Actress Betty Grable, back to work today.

The band leader and Miss Grable were married yesterday in Las Vegas, Nev.

James was greeted soon after his arrival with word that his draft board in Beaumont, Tex., will reclassify him. Chief Clerk H. A. McDonald of the Beaumont board announced there yesterday that James has lost his 3-A classification as a family man because he has "ceased to maintain a home under the same roof" for his former wife, Mrs. Louise James, and their two children.

McDonald said James will be given a new classification soon.

Mrs. Louise James divorced the band leader last week in Juarez, Mexico. Miss Grable is the former wife of Jackie Coogan, one-time juvenile screen star.

Bigger Fund to Fight Forest Fires Approved

WASHINGTON, July 6.—(AP)—The senate has passed and sent to the house a bill by Senator McNary, Oregon, authorizing an increase from \$2,500,000 to \$9,000,000 in federal expenditures to be matched by the states in combating fires in privately owned forest lands.

The agriculture committee in approving the bill reported that this fund, when matched by the states, would extend fire protection to 144,000,000 acres of forest which now have no such protection and would bolster existing protection over 282,000,000 acres.

Japs Appear Before Dies Probe



(NBA Telephoto)

Paul Abe, left, an agent of Japan in Washington before the war, is shown as he testified before the Dies committee on un-American activities. At right, Tokio Slocum earnestly gesticulates as he told committeemen that a death list of pro-American Japanese was read at the Manzanar, Calif., relocation on last Dec. 6. Slocum, of Japanese ancestry, fought under Sgt. Alvin York in the last war.

Panzer Units Smashed On 165-Mile Front

Heavy Toll Also Taken Of Planes; Foe Gains In Only Isolated Sectors

MOSCOW, July 6.—(AP)—Victorious German thrusts by armored divisions and infantry have been flung back with heavy losses all along the 165-mile central front from Orel to Belgorod, the Russians reported today as the long-expected nazi summer offensive moved into its second day.

Despite terrific destruction to their armored units, amounting in some cases to as high as 50 per cent of total attacking strength, the nazi army kept boring into the heavily defended positions. In only isolated sectors, however, have they managed to penetrate the defense lines. Red army leaders said.

The Russian midnight communique said that in the initial hours of the battle Red army units destroyed 586 tanks and 203 planes.

The Midday communique reported an additional 152 tanks were knocked out of the fight, including a number of the new 60-ton Tiger tanks. In one sector alone in the Orel-Kursk area, the Bulletin said, soviet troops destroyed 50 out of a German unit of 100 tanks. The communique also reported 4,000 Germans had been slain in this area and 2,000 more in one sector of the Belgorod front.

Hitler's Goal Uncertain.

Military experts said it was too early yet to speculate whether Hitler aims to try to capture Moscow to the north, the Caucasian oil fields to the south, or both.

Orel, at the northern end of the 165-mile central front, is about 200 miles south of Moscow. Kursk is halfway between Orel and Belgorod, the southern terminus which lies about 250 miles northwest of Rostov, Russian-held gateway to the Caucasus.

Only three miles from Kursk, important commercial city held by the Russians, the armies are fighting over the river system of the Don. The entire central front is a region of fields and forests, endowed with good black earth. Hundreds of lumbering tanks already have flattened many fields of ripening grain.

The Russian people feel that this is the last great test for the Red army. They are confident but soberly aware of the great effort involved.

Blitz Tactics Fail.

In the Orel-Kursk sector, the Russians said, 100 tanks broke through their defenses, but soviet infantry barred the way to oncoming nazi foot troops while Artillery in the rear shelled the tanks. The Germans are reported to have swung around on clank-link caterpillar treads and rolled into swift retreat after 38 of the 100 tanks were damaged.

The Russians admitted the Germans succeeded in occupying two settlements in one sector of the Belgorod front but said they were

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Death Blow Given Coal Control Act

WASHINGTON, July 6.—(AP)—A death certificate for government regulation of the soft coal industry, under the Guffey bituminous coal act drafted seven years ago in an administration effort to stabilize the industry, was signed in effect today by the house rules committee.

By majority vote, the committee tabled a stopgap resolution to extend the act's life beyond its present August 23 expiration date until Jan. 1.

Chairman Sabath said the rules committee's decision meant that the stopgap resolution could not be brought up before congress leaves, probably later this week, for a summer recess.

The lawmakers plan to return in September after the act has expired.

"Of course," he added, "the speaker could have someone bring it up in the house under suspension of the rules. But I doubt he will do that."

Suspension of the rules requires a two-thirds majority.

Levy Fact Rent

By L. F. Rosenfeld

About 300 tragic deaths occurred in the U. S. over the July 4th weekend but by an amazing miracle none were contributed by the terrific rush of Roseburg residents to farm districts to aid in crop harvesting.