

# U. S. BOMBERS SINK THREE JAP WARSHIPS

## Attempt to Aid Blockaded Munda Fails

Cruiser, Two Destroyers Bagged; Remainder of Convoy Put to Flight

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, July 21—(AP)—American bombers were credited today with sinking a cruiser and two destroyers of a Japanese convoy attempting vainly to run the allied sea and air blockade around the big Munda airbase in the Solomons. A force of three light cruisers, six destroyers and two transports, undoubtedly seeking to aid the hard-pressed garrison at Munda, was spotted by Catalina flying boats shortly after midnight yesterday in Vella Gulf just west of Kolombangara Island.

The Catalinas followed the convoy until strong formations of bombers arrived with bombs which blasted at least three warships to the bottom and sent the remainder fleeing or limping northward.

A third destroyer was listed as probably sunk, and a transport and yet another destroyer were damaged.

Four bombers were lost. The action, described in today's communiqué from the headquarters of General MacArthur, served to maintain steady pressure on Munda, big airbase on New Guinea island, which has been hit by land, sea and air attack since the southwest Pacific offensive started on July 1.

This fourth attempt to crack the Munda blockade brought to 17 the number of Japanese warships listed officially as having been sunk in the fast-spreading allied offensive in the Solomons. Five more are considered probably lost.

**Jap Bases Bombed**  
Allied ground forces moving slowly in on Munda were aided yesterday by dive bombers which dropped 13 tons of bombs on Japanese gun positions along a perimeter about two miles east of the airbase.

An enemy destroyer at anchor in the harbor of Sarong, Dutch New Guinea, and a medium sized cargo ship off the coast there were bombed with unobserved results.

U. S. bombers also hit the Kahlia airbase on Bougainville Island, starting numerous fires and explosions with 42 tons of bombs.

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## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

IN Sicily, we're slowly but surely getting set for what is to come.

One of these days, what will seem to be the island's axis defenders to be all the furies of hell will be let loose.

When it is over, the Catanian plain, with its great airfields (there are NINE around Gerbini alone) will be in our possession.

WHEN you remember that what we've done from the air so far to Sicily and southern Italy has been accomplished by our bombers operating from bases IN AFRICA, you'll get an idea of what CAN BE DONE when we begin to operate from the ample air bases of Sicily.

THE day's most interesting story describes a new-type bombing attack carried out by us against ROME. It is referred to as precision bombing with PIN-POINT accuracy.

Its purpose was to hit Rome's numerous and important military installations while missing the city's art, historic and CHURCH shrines. The bombing was done in daylight by picked (chiefly American) crews who had been long and carefully trained for this specific job.

The ticklishly careful nature of their task may be guessed from the fact that the Vatican (the pope's residence) is less than five miles from Rome's great railroad freight yards through which pour reinforcements and supplies for the Sicilian campaign.

Transportation, as you must know by this time, is a war weapon that is almost as important as guns and planes.

If a stray bomb had hit the Vatican, you can imagine the propaganda howl that would have been raised by the axis for effect on Catholic countries. Many of Rome's historic and art shrines

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# Roseburg News-Review

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## Enna, Sicily Hub, Taken by Americans, Canadians

### Farm Issue Truce Urged On Congress

Settled Policy on Food Asked; AAA Boosting With U. S. Funds Taboo

WASHINGTON, July 21.—(AP)—The executive branch and legislative leaders appeared to be headed toward a truce on some of their major farm and food policy differences today as:

1—Senator Russell (D. Ga.) called on his farm state contemporaries to meet the administration half way on any move it might make toward reconciliation of those differences, and,

2—The Agricultural Adjustment agency forbade its 200,000 field employees and committee-men to distribute information about AAA farm programs through news channels.

Russell told reporters he was pleased that War Food Administrator Marvin Jones planned to consult with congressmen before making final decisions affecting future farm problems.

"It would do well for the administration and members of congress to approach such conferences in a spirit of mutual helpfulness, and without chips on their shoulders," the senator added.

He said congressional sentiment still favored better farm prices rather than government subsidies but he believed a "spirit of give and take" would iron out differences of opinion on the subsidy question, as well as other issues.

**Promotion Banned.**  
His assertions followed an Agriculture department interpretation of a provision in its new appropriation act which prohibited the use of federal funds in paying salaries and expenses of any AAA information employee. The announcement told the employees, as well as the state, county and local farmer committees, that they must not carry on any promotional activity for the AAA as an institution or for its policies, or attempt to build public presence.

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### Reds Closing In On Orel; Ten Nazi Attacks Repulsed

MOSCOW, July 21—(AP)—Fighting along the Russian front spread to the southern Donets and Mius river sectors yesterday as red army troops recaptured town to town in their drive to encircle the Germans at Orel on the central front, the Russians reported today.

Russian armies thus were on the move on a front extending some 400 miles south from Orel to a point southwest of Voroshilovgrad, where the soviet communiqué said Russian forces had crossed the Mius river, improving their positions.

Heaviest fighting still raged, however, in the vicinity of Orel, where the soviet army was closing in around the German supply base. Advances of from four to six miles were reported during the day's fighting which saw the Germans hurl ten futile counterattacks in an effort to halt the Russian advance.

Russians reported the desperate Nazi thrusts were accompanied by the same heavy loss of life and armored equipment which has marked the battle on the central front since its beginning 16 days ago.

The Russians also reported action at the southern end of the Kursk salient in the vicinity of Belgorod. Here the red army has been busily engaged erasing the gains which the German army made in the opening days of the battle.

The Germans were hurling armored forces at the Russians and the communiqué said that in one engagement soviet troops killed 400 Germans and disabled 17 tanks and three self-propelling guns.

### Douglas County Army Officers Win Promotions



(News-Review engraving)

Two Douglas county army officers, pictured above, have received advancements, according to word received here. Newell C. Wood, at top, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. N. Wood, Days Creek, recently was promoted from second to first lieutenant, and has been assigned as battalion motor officer at Camp Chaffee, Ark. He is a graduate of Days Creek high school and Oregon State college, and was called from the officers reserve in June, 1942, as a field artillery officer. His present assignment followed a course of special instruction at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Lieutenant Donald A. Matson, lower photo, recently completed a special course in the operation, maintenance and repair of automatic aircraft and anti-aircraft cannon at the aircraft armament training school conducted by Oldsmobile division of General Motors at Lansing, Mich. Prior to entering military service, he was employed with the Pacific Fruit and produce company.

### Army to Release 4,500 Men to Work in Mines

WASHINGTON, July 21.—(AP)—Miners of vital metals are needed so badly that 4,500 soldiers who know something about the trade will be mustered out for jobs in the larger-producing mines.

The disclosure was made yesterday by Robert P. Patterson, acting secretary of war, who said the military program was being jeopardized by manpower shortages in copper, zinc and molybdenum mines.

Soldiers will be released through the ninth service command at Fort Douglas, Utah. Where possible those in the service less than three months will be selected. Any men slated to go overseas soon will not be eligible for release.

The shift from uniform to miner esp will be voluntary; none of the men have to do it unless they want to, Patterson emphasized. Once they are back in the mines, they will be civilians, not under army jurisdiction, but subject to recall if conditions change.

### Fire Erases Astoria Block Of Dwellings

Finnish District's Loss \$100,000; Lumber Mill At Ridgefield Burned

ASTORIA, Ore., July 21—(AP)—Fire that raced through a congested Finnish colony district, leveling an entire block of frame dwellings, left more than 200 homeless here today.

The fire, of undetermined origin, broke out in a group of wooden buildings late yesterday and spread so swiftly residents were unable to save personal belongings.

There were no serious injuries, although several were overcome by smoke.

A five-story frame hotel, a large rooming house, and a number of flats and apartments were destroyed.

Fire departments of Seaside, 20 miles south, and Ilwaco, Wash., across the Columbia river to the north, were called, but the flames threatened to engulf the rest of the large Finnish district until coastguard and navy men from nearby bases jumped into the fight.

Damage widespread. City Manager Brewer Billie estimated damage at more than \$100,000.

Homes in a four-block radius were sprinkled by embers, and residents fought numerous minor roof fires.

Though fire-fighters kept the flames to the single block, surrounding buildings were damaged by heat and smoke.

The buildings destroyed included the Hamula hotel, a landmark (Continued on page 6)

### Said Adolf to Benito or About That; At Any Rate, Commentator 'Quotes' Convincingly From Imagination

By DEWITT MACKENZIE (Associated Press Commentator)  
The meeting in northern Italy between Messrs. Hitler and Mussolini could have brought little solace to the harassed pair, and indeed may well have savored of a not too fond farewell to partnership in brigandage.

DNB, the official German news agency, has indicated that this parley concerned the invasion of Sicily and the "desperate onslaught" of the Russians on the eastern front. That would seem to be a certainty, and the issues involved are so clear that one can almost hear the conversation.

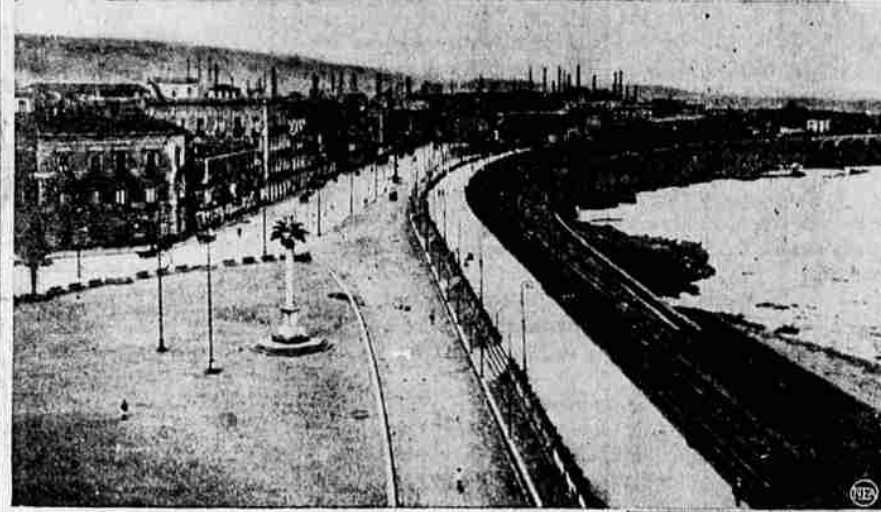
"I need more help, and need it quick," says Mussolini, trying to square his wobbly jaw and play the strong man. "The alternative is a separate peace."

"I'm much afraid, Benito," replies the Fuehrer, "that I can't provide any additional aid. The damnable bolsheviks have precipitated a crisis by their drive on Orel. As a matter of fact they're on the offensive from the arctic to the Black sea. You'll have to fight your own battle with what you have."

"But Adolf," quavers the soft underbelly of Europe, "the only thing that keeps my people from revolting against me now and making peace with the enemy is making peace with the enemy. My fear of reprisals by you. My troops are in mutiny in Sicily. Without your help I can't stand off disaster. Surely the might of Germany hasn't lost control of the Russian front. You can spare me something more."

"If we lost Orel!"  
"I can spare you nothing, my friend," replies the ace. "Strictly off the record my armies in the East are in a nasty hole. When we started our belated drive against Kursk on July 5, I thought we could smash the red lines, envelop their great body of reserves and annihilate them. With luck I could knock the bolsheviks out. That would give me a chance to help you and face the stupid pigs of Yankees and British who are destroying my resources by bombing."  
"But the unspeakable communists stopped us. Then they coun-

### Major Prize of Decisive Battle for Sicily



Waterfront view of the Sicilian city of Catania, where German armored units are putting up a desperate defense against the British army under Gen. Montgomery. Capture of the city will complete the conquest of the island. Pictured at right is Lieut. Gen. G. L. McNaughton, commander of the Canadian forces, attached to the American land units under Lieut. Gen. Patton.

### Murder, Suicide Seen In Portland Tragedy

PORTLAND, July 21—(AP)—Police wrote off today as murder and suicide the deaths of Mrs. Paulina Pavlovic, 62, and John Schmidt, 75.

They found Mrs. Pavlovic's body in her home late last night, her head crushed by a hatchet. Neighbors said they had heard violent quarrelling, followed by a scream.

A search for Schmidt, who had roomed at the Pavlovic home for two months, ended with recovery of his body from the Willamette river. He was seen to jump from a downtown bridge.

### Aid Recipients Dodging War Duty Target of League

Resolution Would Abolish Benefits; Timber Sales On Competitive Bids Favored

Recipients of old-age or other assistance from the county would lose their benefits, if they failed to assist in civilian defense, aircraft warning service or other war activities for which they were physically qualified, if a proposal of the Douglas County Taxpayers league is adopted. The resolution was offered this morning at the annual public hearing on the county budget for the forthcoming fiscal year.

The tax league directors also urged (1) sale of county-owned timber on competitive bids, (2) steps to prohibit dumping of rubbish along county roads, and (3) action to prevent damage to roads caused by dragging and loading logs on rights of way.

Proposing that persons receiving financial assistance from the county be required to give aid in the war effort, C. E. Moyer of the tax league declared that many persons capable of serving as observers on aircraft warning station posts, are refusing to give assistance, despite the great need for additional workers. He presented the resolution urging that financial assistance be denied such persons, providing they are found physically able to assume the responsibilities.

The league recommended that future timber sales be made on a competitive bid basis, contending that competition for timber will increase and that increased profits to the county would result.

Few objections were offered to the tentative budget, which eliminates all tax levy except for road purposes.

Sheriff Bud Carter requested an increase of pay for the county jail matron, who has been paid at the rate of \$100 per year. The work, he stated, requires a great deal of time, and he asked a salary of \$40 per month. No objection was raised.

Attendance at the budget hearing was very light, many tax league members reporting they were unable to be present because of farm work.

Officers elected by the league were C. E. Moyer, president; A. S. Compton, second vice-president; Eugene Fisher, third vice-president. Directors chosen, in addition to the officers, were John Standley, Camas Valley; W. B. Garrett, Glendale; H. P. Rice, Myrtle Creek; Joe Ledgerwood, Roseburg; V. H. Cornutt, Myrtle Creek; Jack Eppinger, Myrtle Creek; Hugh Ritchie, Wilbur; Arthur Ryehard, Yoncalla; Graham Evingham, Wilbur; Leo Sparks, Oakland, and O. C. Sether, Glendale.

Today we hear that the Russians have extended their offensive southward clear to the Black sea. Hitler's whole right flank is in danger—a position of the utmost anxiety to him, in view of the allied threat of invasion up through the Balkans against the area behind this right flank.



### Alleged Attacker Of State Officer In Custody Here

Leslie Ellis, Former Convict Suspected of Shooting in Myrtle Creek Area May 18

Suspected of being the person who engaged in a gun battle last May 18 with State Policeman William Bettis, Leslie Ellis, 43, of Myrtle Creek, an ex-convict, was in custody here today, charged with assault with intent to kill and carrying concealed weapons.

A bullet tore the heel off the state policeman's boot on the date of May 18 while he was serving as a guard at the highway bridge at Myrtle Creek. The officer and the sniper, the latter hidden by brush across the river, exchanged shots, after Bettis, an ex-marine, dove for cover following the first shot. State policemen last Sunday recovered a rifle from the South Umpqua river at the scene of the shooting.

State Police Sergeant Paul Morgan reports, and the weapon was identified as the property of Ellis, who had been unreported since the date of the gun duel. He was located yesterday at one of two of his remote farms and was placed under arrest.

Ellis was allegedly carrying a pair of brass knuckles at the time of his arrest, District Attorney J. V. Long reported. The prisoner denies the attack on the officer, claiming that his rifle had been stolen from his cabin, the district attorney said.

Sergeant Morgan reported the state police had previously notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation of reports made by neighbors of pro-German statements attributed to Ellis, who the officers were told is of German descent.

Ellis served six months in the penitentiary in 1939 on a charge of armed assault on a neighbor. He also served a previous term in the county jail for game law violation. Sheriff O. T. Carter reported.

Playing Child Drowns In Tumble From Log

SALEM, Ore., July 21—(AP)—Lester Fitch, 5, drowned yesterday when he fell from a log raft on which he was playing.

He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Fitch, itinerant farm laborers.

### Prisoner Take Continues In Big Numbers

German Forces Still Battling Montgomery At Gates of Catania

(By the Associated Press)  
Victorious American and Canadian troops have captured Enna, the hub of Sicily's inland defenses and are now rapidly driving northward to cut the island in two, dispatches from allied headquarters announced today.

Seizure of the key town forced a general withdrawal of axis troops from the central and western areas of the island, it was said.

Italian headquarters had previously acknowledged the evacuation of Enna under crushing pressure by Lieut. Gen. Patton's U. S. 7th army and Canadian forces.

Reports reaching allied headquarters said the British 8th army had smashed still another desperate German counterattack at the gates of Catania and squeezed tighter around that vital east coast seaport.

Allied reconnaissance pilots said they observed an eastward movement of all axis troops, and it appeared that a general retreat to the northeast tip of Sicily had begun.

Quick collapse of axis resistance in the west and central areas was expected.

**More Italians Quit**  
Field reports said Italian troops were surrendering in huge numbers, raising the bag of more than 35,000 axis prisoners already reported taken.

Italians complained against their own government as well as the Germans. The nazis, they declared, were repeating their African tactics of abandoning them every time the situation became hopeless, fleeing in all available transport.

They asserted their own fascist government had given them too few guns and food, and issued obsolete transports, armor and equipment.

Capture of Enna, throwing the whole axis communication system into jeopardy, put approximately half the island in allied hands and virtually severed contact between German defenders (Continued on page 6)

### Snell Heads States' Forestry Committee

ANNAPOLIS, Md., July 21—(AP)—Gov. Herbert R. O'Connor of Maryland today announced appointment of a forestry committee of the council of state governments, naming Gov. Snell of Oregon chairman.

"The function of the committee will be to study the timber land problem and to make recommendations at the next conference on the council of state governments as to the most effective course to be pursued to promote the highest utilization of the country's timber resources," O'Connor, council president, explained.

### Kiska Japanese Fail to Return American Fire

WASHINGTON, July 21—(AP)—The navy reported today that two small American warships bombarded the Japanese defenses on Kiska Island in the Aleutians Tuesday and the enemy failed to return the fire.

In the South Pacific, meanwhile, the Japanese bombed the American base on Funafuti, Ellice Islands, in the latest of a series of light attacks. Against advanced outposts guarding the supply lines to Australia. The enemy caused no damage or injuries at Funafuti so far as reports here showed.

### Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

To save what's left of the Italian boot, the nation should get rid of its "heel"—also its "hell."