

YANKEES TAKE PALERMO, SICILY'S CAPITAL

Roseburg News-Review

THE DOUGLAS COUNTY DAILY

VOL. XLVIII NO. 89 OF ROSEBURG REVIEW

ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1943.

VOL. XXXII NO. 70 OF THE EVENING NEWS

Russians Smash Through Defenses of Orel

Red Pincers Tightening on Nazi Bastion

56,000 Germans Killed Or Captured in 10-Day Drive, Moscow Claims

MOSCOW, July 23.—(AP)—Russian forces crashed through the last strongly-fortified link in Orel's northern defenses yesterday on the 10th day of an offensive that has cost the Germans 56,000 killed and 6,000 captured, and closed their pincers tighter about that city despite desperate Nazi counterattacks, a soviet announcement said today.

Bolkov, 35 miles above the city, which a red army column racing down from the north had bypassed while driving to within nine miles northeast of Orel, crumbled before the attackers and its fall "completed the liquidation of strongly fortified districts" in that direction, the Russians said.

Another Russian column pounding to within 11 miles of the key German defense city from the east, and a southern column moving up to complete the three-headed drive, beat back Nazi tanks and infantry to continue a steady advance, according to the soviet announcement.

Altogether, the Russians said gains of four to five miles were registered in the Orel sector yesterday while the Germans lost 2,500 killed and 39 tanks destroyed or captured. Prisoners and supplies also were taken, the Russians declared.

The Russian communique which disclosed the losses in manpower to Hitler's army during the 10-soviet offensive, placed German loss in material destroyed or captured during the same period at these figures:

Nine hundred planes, 1,148 tanks, 1,602 guns of various calibers, 800 mortars, and 1,400 machineguns.

The German radio countered with the assertion that the red army had lost more than 350,000.

(Continued on page 6)

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

It looks like Sicily's days as an axis defense bastion are numbered.

We've taken Enna, which is the center of the Sicilian spiderweb of railroads and highways. Immediately after Enna's fall, the dispatches report, axis forces begin a general withdrawal from western Sicily toward the Messina ferry, hoping to escape thence to the Italian mainland. From Enna, our forces are pushing on northward, hoping to cut the enemy off at the seacoast.

Axis resistance in the western part of the island is reported weakening hourly, almost to the point of collapse.

At Catania, the Germans are fighting a desperate delaying operation, sending wave after wave of infantry and tanks against Montgomery's 8th army, which is piling the plain with German bodies and the wrecks of German armored vehicles.

Reports hint strongly that Montgomery has opened another of his famous crusher assaults by massed artillery, tanks and troops preliminary to a final drive up the coast to Messina, 50 miles away.

The German purpose is to hold him back until axis forces from the rest of the island can escape across the two-mile Messina strait.

Our headquarters in Africa continues to report mutinies by Italian troops against their German officers, adding that Sicilian crowds have to be restrained from attacking German prisoners as they are marched through the streets of captured

(Continued on page 2)

Warships in Duel With Kiska Japs

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—Heavy guns of the United States Pacific fleet bombarded Japanese positions on Kiska island Thursday, the navy announced today, in the seventh surface attack this month against the enemy's Aleutians outpost.

The shelling apparently was intended to hasten the day when Kiska's defenses will be softened sufficiently for amphibious assault and a final campaign to throw the Japanese out of the western Aleutians.

Enemy shore guns returned the fire but none of the American ships was damaged.

The bombardment followed by 24 hours a raid of army heavy bombers on the Japanese runway and main camp area on Kiska. Numerous hits were scored and fires started in the air raid.

The attack coincided with an Associated Press dispatch from Alaskan headquarters today reporting that the Japanese had finally completed a 3,700-foot runway on Kiska. This indicates that the Japanese have no intention of abandoning Kiska without a vicious battle.

Coffee Ration To End; Sugar Holds

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—Removal of coffee from the ration list is imminent, government food officials said today.

No final date for lifting of rationing has been set, but these officials said an announcement is expected to be made by the OPA within the next few days.

Due to an improvement in the Atlantic shipping situation in recent months, the coffee trade reported that stocks early this month totalled about 450,000,000 pounds. Normally supplies total about 300,000,000 pounds at this time of the year. Imports have been running in excess of consumption.

The improved oceanic shipping situation also has made it possible to increase this country's import of sugar from the Caribbean area.

Officials said, however, there is little likelihood that sugar rationing will be dispensed with or that larger amounts will be allowed civilians in the near future. Great quantities of raw sugar go into industrial alcohol for war needs.

Price Levels for Dried Peaches, Pears Listed

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—The War Production Administration announced today levels at which it will support grower prices for natural condition dried peaches and pears grown on the west coast.

Those prices will average, roughly, per ton: peaches, free-stone, \$440; clingstone, \$330; pears, Lake county quality, \$360; others \$330.

The WPA said the support prices were designed to encourage the highest possible production of these dried fruits to meet war demands.

The entire pack of these fruits will be set aside by packers to meet government requirements.

The WPA said the OPA will establish ceiling prices for government purchases which will reflect the support prices.

Hearth Workers' Strike Threatens Steel Output

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 23.—(AP)—A strike of open hearth workers threatened today to shut down the Johnstown plant of the Bethlehem Steel corporation, which stretches seven miles long and employs many thousand workers in this Southwestern Pennsylvania industrial center.

General Manager Ralph E. Hough said the walkout of approximately 1,500 men in the division began last night when a workman accused of fomenting two previous "small" strikes within a fortnight, was discharged.

Java Base of Japs Bombed In Air Swoop

2400-Mile Flight Made By Allied Planes; Huge Fires Sweep Soerabaja

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, July 23.—(AP)—American airmen sprang a surprise on the Japanese yesterday with a destructive raid on the enemy's main Netherlands-East Indies at Soerabaja.

It was the first raid on the once great Dutch naval base on Java since the Japanese captured it in March, 1942, and the longest mission ever flown in the Southwest Pacific.

Lights were burning brightly in the city and the dock area was a scene of bustling activity as the first Liberator bombers raced in and began planting 500-pound bombs and incendiaries in the target area. Japanese ground batteries quickly came to life, however, and raised a heavy but ineffective barrage. All U. S. bombers returned.

Great Fires Observed

Gen. MacArthur's communique said today the incendiaries and high explosives hit an oil refinery, warehouses, railway installations and a dock. Towering fires, some of them visible 140 miles away, were started.

Hits probably were made on anti-aircraft batteries because the defensive fire had fallen off noticeably by the time the bombers made their run.

The warplanes flew nearly 2,400 miles in the operation, made before dawn Thursday. The previous record of 2,000 miles was made on raids against Makassar on Celebes island.

No Respite For Munda

The spectacular attack on Soerabaja captured immediate attention from the Solomons area but there was no easing of the daily battering given Munda on New Georgia. Bombers continued to rain bombs upon the beleaguered Japanese airbase there, dropping 135 tons of explosives.

Maintaining heavy pressure on the Japanese in the sector south of Salamaua, Australian and American ground forces took a heavy toll of the enemy in a series of clashes near Namling. Bombers concentrated 93 tons of bombs on Japanese positions near Komitum, seven miles inland from Salamaua.

In the northern Solomons, Flying Fortresses and Liberators bombed three Japanese warships but results were not observed.

The Japanese raided Rendova

(Continued on page 6)

Italian Prisoners in Sicily Register Pleasure



Passing through Syracuse, Sicily, as prisoners of the British, a huge throng of Italian prisoners evidence their satisfaction with smiles. The prisoner take on the island has passed a total of 40,000. Open hatred of the Germans is expressed by the Italians, who shot several of their Nazi leaders for attempting to prevent their surrender. (Radio-Telephoto.)

Victory Center Program Will Be Well Diversified

Persons attending the Victory Center show at Library Park, Roseburg, Saturday night, will be offered a widely diversified show, according to Frank Ward, who is to act as master of ceremonies. Ward and Bruce Elliott are serving as co-chairmen in arranging the program.

Starting with a parade by the Knights of Pythias drum corps at 7:30 p. m., and a band concert at the park, the program will include a number of novelty and surprise features, Ward stated.

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U. S. Pours Food, Printing Presses To Undermine Influence of Enemies

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—By air and by mysterious underground channels the enslaved peoples of Europe are getting regular reminders—in a form more substantial than leaflets—that the United States is rich and generous and aims to do something about their plight.

Sewing kits, seeds, soap and packets of tea, bullion and chocolate are being dropped by parachute or smuggled as Nazi barriers, each gift carrying a message of encouragement to the down-trodden for whom such things are scarce, costly or unobtainable.

Office of War Information officials today lifted some of the secrecy surrounding these deliveries into occupied lands and even enemy countries. They are sent to neutral lands as well, but are distributed openly there, as visual representations of a friendly United States.

Ingenuity of a high order went into the designing of printing and duplicating devices to help the underground movements of Europe in waging their own propaganda warfare against the axis overlords.

Printing Presses Included

These are built compact and light, for greater ease in slipping them to remote spots or new hideouts. They are quickly assembled and taken apart without tools—an advantage in places where the Gestapo may drop in unexpectedly. They are easy to operate, for the benefit of amateurs. They include:

An all-aluminum printing press, set up in four minutes. Hand operated, it can produce in an hour 1,200 copies of a clandestine news-leaflet. It weighs 231 pounds in its suitcase container.

A miniature typesetting outfit, also suitcase-size, to go with the press. Even the printing types are of aluminum, to save weight, and alphabets are in several languages. Weight 25 pounds.

A 12-ounce mimeograph machine which can turn out 700 copies an hour.

Even OWI officials don't know much about how they get into the right hands. That is a well-guarded secret, but it is known that governments-in-exile handle the distribution to their own people.

On each gift is the American flag, a brief, friendly greeting from this country, or a picture symbolizing American armed might.

Bandit Suspects Manhandle Salem Youths, Steal Car

SALEM, Ore., July 23.—(AP)—Two men, dressed in army sunshirts, threatened last night to kill Leonard Phillips, 18, and Joyce Wilder, 16, who had given them a ride last night, state police said.

Phillips, driving the car, picked the men up south of the city. The men tied the couple up, but they got loose, the men taking the car.

The officers said the men answered the description of two men who held up a Milwaukee tavern early yesterday and shot a customer.

PORTLAND, July 23.—(AP)—A. C. Wherry, proprietor of the tavern in which Ralph Dahlen, 27, Milwaukie, was shot by a young gunman yesterday, has posted \$500 reward for information leading to conviction of the assailant, state police Capt. Wayne Gurdine said today.

Two men entered the tavern through different doors early Thursday. The taller immediately shot Dahlen, who was eating. Other customers and employees were ordered to place their wallets on the counter. The thieves obtained about \$200.

St. Vincent's hospital this morning said Dahlen's condition was better but that he was not yet out of danger.

Ormond R. Bean Gets Defense Post in Hawaii

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—Ormond R. Bean, Portland, Ore., has been appointed regional director of the Office of Defense Transportation for Hawaii. Director Joseph E. Eastman announced today.

Bean will leave for Honolulu early next month. His duties will include arranging for the maximum utilization of civilian transportation facilities in Hawaii and recommending to Eastman the islands' needs for materials, equipment and operating supplies.

He was public utilities commissioner of Oregon from June, 1939, to June, of this year.

Plane Crashes in Sea Off Oregon; Pilot Lost

PORTLAND, Ore., July 23.—(AP)—Army officials investigated today the crash in the ocean off Tillamook, Ore., late yesterday of a fighter plane piloted by Lt. Ray Basham, Los Angeles.

Salvage operations also were underway. Coast guard witnesses said the pilot was not seen to leave the plane, which was based at the Salem, Ore., army air field.

One Los Angeles Strike Ended, 2nd Called for Sunday

LOS ANGELES, July 23.—(AP)—Normal service with full crews was resumed today over street car and bus lines of the Los Angeles railway, company officials reported, after a 24-hour walkout by conductors and motormen.

With the end of the work stoppage, called in protest over refusal of the War Labor board to approve a wage increase of 10 cents an hour already granted by the company, another walkout was called for Sunday by employees of the Pacific Electric railway, operating rail and bus inter-urban lines to 55 communities in Southern California.

The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen last night instructed 2,500 conductors, motormen and bus drivers of the Pacific Electric railway to strike Sunday at 2 a. m., unless a wage dispute is settled in the meanwhile.

This order, based on a strike vote of 1,723 to 49, came only a few hours after 3,000 employees of the Los Angeles Railway company were summoned back to the cars and buses they left at 3 a. m. yesterday in a 24-hour protest against War Labor board refusal of wage increases.

The brotherhood indicated the Pacific Electric strike would not be confined to a one-day service suspension, however. Its grievance committee stated:

"For self-preservation, we are leaving our jobs not for 24 hours but for 13 cents an hour."

Price Control Program Forming, Roosevelt Says

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—President Roosevelt said today the administration is considering new plans for price control and general economic stabilization, but that no ideas have yet been agreed on.

The chief executive made his disclosure when asked to comment on organized labor's demand that prices be rolled back if labor was to go along with the stabilization program.

The president said the report put it badly, that labor had not delivered an ultimatum. He said that labor as well as other groups are in a predicament because food prices generally have not been rolled to levels of last September 15, as called for by Congress.

The president then disclosed the administration is working on new plans and that whatever plan is agreed on would have to be put up to congress because it will cost money.

Axis Escape Avenue Blocked; British, Nazis Still Engaged In Bloody Battle at Catania

(By the Associated Press)

Allied headquarters announced today that swift-striking American troops have captured the Sicilian capital of Palermo, biggest prize of the 24-day-old campaign, thereby sealing off the avenue of escape for any axis forces trapped in the west.

Latest advices said thousands of Italian soldiers were trapped as U. S. armored columns reached the coast at Palermo.

Capture of the city, Italy's sixth largest, gave the allies control of all western Sicily as well as dominance of the Tyrrhenian sea, the water approach to the west coast of Italy.

Battered enemy forces were now jammed into a tight corner of northeast Sicily little bigger than Cap Bon peninsula in Tunisia where the axis lost upwards of 350,000 troops last May.

A large section of the Italian garrison at Palermo surrendered, it was announced.

Paddock, Ex-Sprint King, Gen. Upshur Killed in Crash

PASADENA, Calif., July 23.—(AP)—Death in a fiery plane crash has closed the action-cramped career of Capt. Charlie Paddock of the U. S. marines, fabulous figure of the fabulously golden age of sports—the era between 1920 and 1930.

Paddock was killed in line of duty Wednesday near Sitka, Alaska, with Maj. Gen. William P. Upshur, veteran marine hero, whom he served as aide, and four others.

Paddock was the first "world's fastest human." During his active career he set no less than 95 sprint records.

When he joined the marines last year he was business manager of the Long Beach Press-Telegram and Sun and the Pasadena Star-News and Post.

Paddock's wife and two children survive. He was a lieutenant in the field artillery in World War I.

General Upshur, 61, held the congressional medal of honor, awarded for heroic service in Haiti in 1915.

Elmer McKean Sells to Partner, Henry Carstens

Henry T. Carstens, of the furniture firm of McKean and Carstens, today announced purchase of the interests of Elmer McKean in the company and is assuming full ownership and management. Mr. McKean is to devote his time to his farm and to income property in and near Roseburg.

The retiring partner has been with the firm since 1907, when he went to work for the firm of Rice and Rice, who established the business in its present location in 1894. McKean recalls that he was required to agree to continue employment with the company for one year, and after four months decided he would return to the carpenter trade at the end of that period, but changed his plans and has had continuous connection with the store for 36 years.

The business was purchased in 1913 by A. J. Liburn, who sold his interests in 1921 to H. C. Darby, May Baldwin and Elmer McKean.

Mr. Carstens, for many years the coast representative of the Hurley Machine company of Chicago, came from Portland in 1941 and bought out the interests of May Baldwin, who with Mr. McKean had previously purchased the interest of Mr. Darby.

The firm will be known in the future as the Carstens Furniture company, Mr. Carstens reports.

War Relief Campaign in Oregon Organized

PORTLAND, July 23.—(AP)—Organization of Oregon War Chest, created to raise funds for 16 war relief agencies, was complete today after a meeting here of the 50 directors, including one from each county and 14 from the state at large.

Former Governor Charles A. Sprague, Salem publisher, previously appointed chairman for Oregon of the national war fund, was elected president of Oregon War Chest.

The directors established quotas for each county to raise, but the quotas were not made public.

The directors recommended that the fund raising campaign begin October 18 and end November 30.

On the east flank, a Berlin broadcast heard by Reuters said Gen. Montgomery's British army "temporarily succeeded in breaking through German main defenses" at the edge of mountains west of the Catania plain.

In a successful counterattack, the enemy suffered considerable losses," the broadcast asserted, but did not claim that the breach had been closed.

This indicated that Gen. Montgomery was exploiting a flanking maneuver such as he used in collapsing Marshal Rommel's Maroth line defenses in Tunisia, sending a column wide around Catania toward the western slopes of Mt. Etna.

Fresh waves of allied parachute

"Peace" Cry, Sabotage, Strikes Occur in Italy

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, July 23.—(AP)—Repercussions of the lightning seizure of Palermo by U. S. forces were reported today from all over Italy and the Balkans.

Madrid dispatches said Italians demonstrated in the streets of Rome, Venice, Milan, Turin, Florence and Trieste, shouting "Peace!" these reports also said that a wave of strikes and sabotage swept the country.

troops were reported attacking the Germans north of Catania; Nazis in Last Ditch Stand

As the axis debacle raced toward a climax, far surpassing in swiftness the final stages of the Tunisian campaign, reinforced German troops still battled desperately against the British army's assault at Catania, 50 miles below Messina, and were reported digging in among the foothills of Mt. Etna for a last-ditch stand.

An Algiers broadcast relayed "unconfirmed reports at allied headquarters" that allied parachute troops had landed north of Catania, in the Mt. Etna region, while the Germans rushed up airborne reinforcements.

Allied forces in Sicily have captured an Italian admiral, Priato Leonard, commander of the Augusta naval base, it was announced today.

The American Seventh army up to last midnight had captured 27,000 prisoners, 250 guns, 500 vehicles and 10,000,000 rounds of ammunition and destroyed 84 tanks.

Rome Area Again Bombed

Allied warplanes struck at the Rome vicinity again, causing "considerable damage" in small villages of Lazio, a compartment of Italy near Rome, and slight damage in Campagna Romana, the Italian communique said today.

Meanwhile, President Roosevelt said in Washington the allies still hope the enemy will declare Rome, hit by a 500-plane all-American raid on Monday, an open city—that is, a city without military activity of any description and thus not subject to attack.

Mr. Roosevelt said the allies had tried for a year or more to have the Italian capital declared an open city, but that all efforts had failed.

The president would not comment on the letter of Pope Pius XII to his vicar general in Rome deploring the bombing. He said he had had no communication from the pope.

He did say, however, that the Germans had destroyed about 4,000 churches, hospitals and 11-

(Continued on page 6)

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

Complacency and indifference are war dangers on the home front. Don't let the Air Warning service become a warning service. Volunteers now may save a volume of tears later.