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Battered Sevastopol Afire, Near Collapse

Crimean City Given Terrific Red Pounding

Germans Shifting Troops From West in Effort to Halt Soviet Juggernaut

(By the Associated Press)

Russian armies today intensified the siege of Sevastopol with shell-fire, bombs and naval guns.

The last city of the Crimea was reported afire and near collapse with dense clouds of smoke billowing from its battered docks.

All but around 150 square miles of the Crimea was in Russian hands and it appeared unlikely that the enemy stragglers who reached Sevastopol could hold out long. Of the 100,000 estimated Germans and Romanians in the Crimea when the whirlwind Russian offensive opened last week, 40,000 were reported in prison cages and 29,000 others were dead.

Yalta, summer residence of the czars, fell Sunday to the maritime army driving from Kerch. The Fourth Ukrainian army last was reported advancing through the Sevastopol suburbs two miles from the heart of the city. On the main land front, other Russians stormed across the lower Dniester river near Tiraspol, outflanking Chisinau and Tighina in Bessarabia. The German plight in the south was so serious that the official Russian news agency Tass reported:

"A large-scale transfer of German troops from west to east is under way. The German general staff has been able to convince leading nazi circles that from every point of view, it would be more correct to weaken the western side of the European fortress." That is the side on which Gen. Eisenhower's masses are poised for invasion.

Nazi Troops Deserted

When the Crimean tallies are completed, the Moscow-announced toll of axis troops killed or captured since March 4 is expected to exceed 500,000. It was raised to approximately 450,000 yesterday by a special communique announcing the death or capture of 145,793 men betweeen March 6 and April 15 in the offensive which carried the Second Ukraine army 50 miles inside Romania.

The communique quoted German prisoners as saying that the commander of the 98th infantry division and regimental commanders, routed on the Kerch peninsula, "fell sick with 'crim-

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

SPEAKING at the American Federation of Labor postwar forum in New York the other night, Breckinridge Long, U. S. assistant secreary of state, told his hearers that the American people may rest assured that their government will stick to its present war aims.

Amplifying these present war aims somewhat, he said: "The United States wishes only to help invaded countries back onto their feet and has no intention of meddling into their internal affairs after the war. We will not permit the armed forces of this country to be used for the support of any group, or any government, contrary to the will of the people."

AMPLIFYING somewhat further, he added:

"The American people need have no fear that the American point of view is not being vigorously and effectively preserved on every occasion where our immediate and long-range interests are involved."

UP to this point, Assistant Secretary Long had been expressing chiefly his own opinions in regard to American foreign

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Roseburg Soldier Wins Valor Medal

At a decoration review held at a forward base in the South Pacific March 19, 1944, Private Richard P. Barrett of Roseburg, above, was awarded the Silver Star medal for gallantry in action at New Georgia, Solomon Islands, July 31, 1943.

When his ammunition ran low, Private Barrett voluntarily left his position, crawled 50 yards through an area swept by enemy fire, replenished his supply, and returned to the firing line to assist in successfully repulsing enemy forces.

Tornado Kills 38, Injures 300 in Sweep Through Georgia, South Carolina Regions That Leaves Path of Heavy Destruction

ATLANTA, April 17—(AP)—Weary rescue workers, digging into the wreckage left by a tornado that roared over a 100-mile strip in northeastern Georgia and western South Carolina early Sunday, fixed the death toll today at 38, with more than 300 persons injured.

Twenty-one deaths were reported in Georgia—12 in the Royston area and nine in the Nuburg community of Hart county. Seventeen persons were killed in South Carolina.

Striking around midnight, Sunday, the storm was accompanied by heavy rain and electrical display.

The first area hit was in the vicinity of Gainesville, in Hall county, Ga., where in 1936 another tornado killed 183 persons and injured more than 200. The storm then rushed on across the Georgia line into South Carolina, striking at least seven places with resultant death and destruction of property.

Residents of Royston, town of 1,400 in Franklin county, Ga., where 12 were killed, said the storm dipped into a row of houses three blocks from the business section, levelling eight in line.

Doctors, hampered by power failure, used flashlight in treating the injured. Mrs. Alvin Dove, brought to a hospital shortly before the tornado struck, gave birth to a baby durin gthe storm.

Damage Tremendous

Principal damage at Greenwood, S. C., aside from houses levelled, was to the two-story brick hospital. This building was unroofed and so heavily damaged that all patients, except a few on the first floor, had to be evacuated.

The countryside today was covered with splintered timbers of frame farm homes. Large trees were uprooted by the storm, power lines torn down and heavy objects whipped through the air as is shot from cannon. Automobiles were tossed into freshly plowed fields. A small farm home was lifted from its foundation and carried across the Athens-Royston highway. It settled in a field and the roof caved in, killing its Negro occupant.

The Red Cross listed 147 homes and 87 other buildings destroyed in northeast Georgia and South Carolina. More than 100 homes were damaged.

The tornado ripped the roof and some walls from the farm home of Edward Hill. Hill said he grabbed his wife's hand and she held their small daughter. With his other hand he grasped the knob of the living room door but was swept from his feet by the force of the tornado. He said the three were hanging almost in a straight line from the doorway when the top hinge gave way, but the bottom hinge held and they escaped serious injury.

Forester Merle Lowden Transferred to Lakeview

Merle Lowden, formerly with the staff of the Umpqua National forest service, has been transferred from Portland to Lakeview, Ore., where he is to be employed as assistant forest supervisor. Mr. Lowden has been connected with the district office at Portland in recent months.

His wife, the former Gertrude Laird, who, with their two children, Barbara Ann and Linda, have been spending a week in Roseburg visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Binger H. Laird, left Sunday to join her husband in Portland to arrange for moving their home to Lakeview the first of the month. The two children are remaining in Roseburg with the grandparents.

Alleged Wife Slayer Hangs Himself in Jail

PORTLAND, Ore., April 17—(AP)—Theodore R. Smith, 57, accused by police of fatally shooting his estranged 51-year-old wife in a Portland shipyard two months ago, hanged himself in the Multnomah county jail yesterday, the coroner's office said today.

Allies Regain Positions in Imphal Area

Heavy Casualties Dealt Japs in Counter Blows; Warfare Turn Impends

KANDY, Ceylon, April 17.—(AP)—Very heavy casualties have been inflicted on the enemy and important positions captured north of Imphal in counter operations against the Japanese invasion of India, Admiral Mountbatten announced today in a communique issued from his new operational headquarters here.

The British also improved their positions in the hills northeast of Imphal, beyond the 10-mile rice paddy belt protecting the vital allied storehouse and supply base.

Meanwhile, official silence fell over the operations of the glider-borne Chindits whose new-found strategy of infiltration by air, as reported in yesterday's communique, appeared to have promised a new turn to the entire Burma-India campaign.

Commenting on the move of Mountbatten's headquarters to the central district of Ceylon, Admiral Layton, commander-in-chief of Ceylon, declared it marked a "further stage in the organization of a full scale offensive against Japan."

"Eventually we can expect the supreme allied commander (Mountbatten) to move his headquarters into reconquered territory," he said.

Mountbatten's transfer of headquarters placed him in direct contact with allied naval forces in this theater.

Road to Kohima Cleared.

The important positions captured north fo Imphal helped clear the road which runs 60 miles north from Imphal to Kohima, thence to Dimapur over the Naga hills on the Bengal-Assam railway, Mountbatten's communique said.

Establishment yesterday of positions at Shwebo, on the Myitkyina-Mandalay railway, and at Yeu, a nearby river port, would place allied troops 120 miles deeper in

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30 Face Trial on Sedition Charge

WASHINGTON, April 17.—(AP)—Lois de Lafayette Washburn of Seattle and Tacoma, one of 30 persons charged with conspiring with the nazis to overthrow democracy in the United States, created a brief flurry at the opening of the trial today by crying out: "LaFayette, we are here! To defend what you gave—freedom from tyranny."

Other defendants pulled the woman to her seat and the clerk proceeded with the roll call of those indicted.

Edward Jones Smythe of New York did not appear, and his $1,000 bond was forfeited by order of Justice Edward C. Eicher.

Several efforts by attorneys to obtain delay and to move the trial out of Washington were overruled as the proceedings moved slowly to the selection of a jury.

Defense motions, all overruled, included pleas for a judicial inquiry into an investigation by the justice department of propsective jurors; to call Attorney General Francis Biddle and J. Edgar Hoover, director of the F. B. I., for testimony on the nature of the jurors investigation, and to make available to defense attorneys all government documents relating to the defendants.

Conviction carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and a $10,000 fine.

Woman Aids 2 Men to Cross Street, Takes Cash

PORTLAND, April 17—(AP)—Two elderly men complained to police that a woman passerby had offered to help them across the street.

When they reached the curb, the woman was gone—and so were their billfolds.

Member of Board Drafts Himself

When the Cadiz, O., draft board considered re-classifying Charles Purdy, Jr., of Harrisville, one member of the board got tough and growled: "Put him in 1-A.' The board member was Purdy himself, pictured above, who now has the distinction of having drafted himself. Almost 38, Purdy has one child, has served on the draft board for nearly three years, while running a store and working in Martins Ferry.

Liquor Offer to Ace Inappropriate, MacArthur Says

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, April 17—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur doesn't consider "liquor or spirituous wines as appropriate recognition" for Maj. Richard I. Bong's record-breaking feat of shooting down 27 enemy planes, so the Poplar, Wis., ace will not get the Scotch whiskey promised by Capt. Eddie Rickenbacher to the first American pilot to exceed his World war I record of 26 planes shot down.

Instead, MacArthur indicated Bong's promotion from captain to major on the day his record was confirmed was a more proper recognition.

(Bong is not a drinking man but at an advanced allied air base he told Associated Press War Correspondent Olen Clements he had thanked Rickenbacker for the promised Scotch and hoped it could be rushed "out here for the boys." But that was before MacArthur's decision.)

In New York, representatives of eastern airlines said that Rickenbacker would have no statement on the situation.

Mutilated Bodies of 2 Women Found in Missouri

CAMDENTON, Mo., Ajril 17—(AP)—Highway Patrolmen today found the mutilated body of a woman in the Lake of the Ozarks today just 200 yards from the spot where another woman's hacked and headless body was found yesterday.

The patrol said the body recovered today appeared to be that of a woman about 26 years old. Its had and a breast had been hacked off and the body mutilated, the patrol said, much like that of the woman found yesterday.

It was found by patrolmen making a minute search of the lake's shoreline seeking the point where the first body was hurled into the lake.

George Pankey Home Is Destroyed by Fire

The home owned and occuped by Mr. and Mrs. George Pankey, located at 244 Clare St., Haskell addition, Roseburg, was totally destroyed by fire late Sunday night Origin of the blaze was unknown, as it started during the absence of the occupants. Neighbors succeeded in saving the major portion of the furnishings, but the fire spread so rapidly the structure was almost completely demolished. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

M'Arthur Not Seeking Job Of President

Disclaimer Not Barrier To "Draft," However, G. O. P. Leaders Opine

WASHINGTON, April 17—(AP)—Rep. Miller (R.-Neb.), whose political correspondence with General Douglas MacArthur formed the prelude to a flat disavowel by the general that he had sought or is seeking the presidency, said today the exchange left the Southwest Pacific commander still available for a republican draft.

"I still think the general is available and can be drafted," Miller said.

His interpretation of General MacArthur's words agreed with headed for a pre-convention meeting in Chicago.

Miller described MacArthur's remarks as "a very fine statement that clarifies the atmosphere."

"I never felt that General MacArthur was attacking the new deal, although he agreed with some of my thoughts," the Nebraska legislator said in connection with the general's repudiation of what he called the "sinister interpretation" that his earlier letter to Miller included criticism of the administration.

Miller said he believed MacArthur "is the one man who could provide experienced military leadership in the White House, shorten the war and bring the boys back home."

Presidency Not Sought

At allied headquarters in the South Pacific today, General MacArthur issued the statement that "I have not sought the office (of president of the United States) nor do I seek it." He added that his "sole ambition" is to help win the war." On the question of whether he would accept the nomination if it were offered, MacArthur was silent.

MacArthur declared that his letters to Congressman Miller, made public by the latter, "were

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Snell Urges County Defense Units To Continue Vigilance

SALEM, Ore., April 17—(AP)—Asserting there still is a danger of enemy attacks on Oregon, Governor Snell wrote Oregon's county defense coordinators today that "it is essential that an effective, reasonable civilian protection organization be maintained."

The governor, quoting from a survey of Oregon made by Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, commanding the western defense command, said there is danger of sabotage of vital industries, communications and utilities, submarine attacks on coastal installations limited air attacks by carrier-based planes on forest and congested areas, and comamndo raids.

The governor said the civilian defense organization also must deal with natural hazards which could cause even more damage than enemy attacks. In this category, he listed fire in congested areas, forest fires, earthquakes, floods, explosions, and domestic disturbances.

General Emmons advised Governor Snell that civilian defense must maintain the following standards:

A well-trained fire service.

Cooperation among fire, police, public works and medical officials.

Auxiliary police organization.

Emergency medical organization.

An efficient organization to prevent interruptions in public works and public utilities.

State organizations such as auxiliary highway patrols.

Maintenance of control centers.

A limited gas training program

A sufficient organization to effect blackouts.

Tojo's Money Pays His Taxes

When Marine Staff Sgt. Gerald A. Waindle, above, somewhere in the South Pacific, received a $19.85 personal property tax notice from the Cook county, Ill., assessor's office, he sent back a 50-sen note taken from the body of a Jap soldier he had just killed. Assessor said Jap money would be accepted in full payment. Sergeant Waindle suggested that "each tax notice be enclosed with a pin-up girl wrapped around a bottle of bourbon to prevent crushing."

Beard Quits School Post Here to Take Chair at Linfield

Clyde H. Beard, principal of Roseburg senior high school, tendered his resignation to the board of directors of the Roseburg school district No. 4 today and announced that he has accepted a postion as associate professor of education and director of student promotion at Linfield college. He will assume his duties at Linfield starting next September 15.

Mr. Beard came to Roseburg in the fall of 1927 as instructor in civics and debate coach at the Roseburg senior high school. He served in this capacity three years. In the fall of 1930 he became principal of the Roseburg junior high school where he served for one year. In the fall of 1931 he was elected principal of the Roseburg senior high.

During his time in Roseburg he has been active in educational, religious and civic affairs. He has been president of the Douglas County Principals association and the Douglas County division of the Oregon State Teachers association. In 1935 he was elected president of the Oregon State High School Principals association. Later he served five years as member of the Oregon State High School Contacts committee under the direction of the State Board of Higher Education. During this time he was elected to fill the unexpired term of the late Judge O. P. Coshow on the board of trustees of Linfield college. He served in this capacity for five years.

Mr. Beard holds a B. A. degree from Linfield college and M. A. degree from the University of Washington and is a member of Phi Delta Kappa and Pi Kappa Delta national honorary educational and forensic fraternities. He has been a member of the Oregon State Teachers Association and the National Education Association for seventeen years as well as being a member of the National Association of Secondary School Principals for several years. He is vice-president of the Roseburg Rotary club, a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and was made an honorary member of the local 162nd Infantry association.

Mrs. Beard, also a graduate of Linfield college and of Linfield college conservatory, has been active in musical circles in the field of piano teaching. Their children, Donald and Marilyn, attend Rose school. Mr. and Mrs. Beard are very active in music and Sunday school work in the First Baptist church of which they are members. Mr. Beard is a member of the Oregon State Baptist Convention board, representing the churches of southern Oregon.

Rail Cities in Romania Also Raid Targets

Heavy Damage Inflicted On Supply Lines, War Plants, Airplane Bases

NAPLES, April 17.—(AP)—U. S. bombers hit Sofia and Belgrade today.

Railroad yards in both Balkan capitals were the targets of the "strong forces" of Fortresses and Liberators, a headquarters announcement said. In addition, aircraft components factories near Belgrade were hit.

The attack on Belgrade was the first assault of the war by allied bombers on the Yugoslav capital itself, although nearby airdromes and an aircraft factory were attacked yesterday by Liberators and Fortresses.

First reports from returning fliers said some enemy planes were encountered and several destroyed in the blows against the two capitals.

A third Balkan capital, Budapest in Hungary, was attacked last night by Italy-based air forces, after daylight attacks Sunday against the Romanian rail centers of Brasov and Turnu-Sev Rin.

Brasov, an industrial city also known as Kronstadt, is 50 miles north of the Romanian oil center of Ploesti and only 100 miles from the red army front in Romania—the nearest American bombers have yet come to the Russian lines.

Photos Reveal Damage

Photographs taken during the attacks showed between 75 and 100 bomb bursts on the northern sidings in the yards. Lines to the west were cut in several places, it was said, and the rail station, the warehouse area, the locomotive depot, and oil refinery were hit. A nearby airdrome also was given a few bombs and a number of hits were observed on the Schiel metal works.

RAF Wellingtons hit the Budapest rail yards and crewmen said new fires were started in the target area, bombed only four days ago by Flying Fortresses and Liberators.

Making the first allied raid of the war on the Belgrade area Flying Fortresses and Liberators struck the Zemum and Pancevi airdromes to the west and also droped a few bombs on the Rogsarski aircraft factory. At the Zemum airfield, hits were scored on the runways, shops and barracks, it was announced.

Heavy damage was spread through the rail yards at Turnu-Sev Rin, bottleneck on the Ramanian side of the vital Danubian "iron gate," by the Sunday daylight attack. RAF Wellingtons had hit similar targets there only the night before.

In a fourth daylight foray into the Balkans, other bombers attacked the Yugoslav rail junction of His.

Seven bombers and three fighters were lost in the Balkan raids. Three additional aircraft failed to return from other operations by the Mediterranean allied air force during the day.

The American aircraft met about 75 enemy planes over the Balkans, but only a few came in to fight. A grand total of 14 was the day's bag.

In central Italy fighter-bombers scored hits on bridges and fighters attacked enemy shipping along the Dalmatian coast.

(The German radio described the Budapest raid as "a new Anglo-American terror attack" on the city's residential quarters.

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Status of Parish Given St. George's Church Here

PORTLAND, April 17—(AP)—Missions at Roseburg and Grants Pass were raised to the status of parishes, at the Oregon Episcopal diocese convention here today.

St. George's church at Roseburg, the Rev. William L. Blaker, and St. Luke's at Grants Pass, the Rev. Francis H. Ball, were given parish ratings.

Officers named were Judge J. H. Hendrickson, Portland, re-elected chancellor; W. C. Schuppel, Portland, re-elected secretary Rev. Claude Sayre, Portland, registrar.

Levity Feet Rant

By L. F. Reisenstein

Although Ireland isn't in the war, why not turn over to her the major postwar job?—that of maintaining international peace. What would life be in U. S. communities without the efficient police service of men who trace their ancestry back to the "ould sod?"