

YANKEES DRIVE INTO HEART OF CHERBOURG

Roseburg News-Review

VOL. L NO. 59 OF ROSEBURG REVIEW ROSEBURG, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1944. VOL. XXXIII NO. 70 OF THE EVENING NEWS

SEA BATTLE OFF MARIANAS BELIEVED ON

American, Japanese Fleets In Combat, Tokyo Radio Says; Island of Saipan Major Stake

(By the Associated Press) Japan's wary battle fleet, lured out of hiding by the American invasion of Saipan, today moved into position seemingly intent on engaging U. S. naval forces in what may develop into history's greatest sea action. The preliminaries may have started.

The elements for such a struggle were present: The Fifth U. S. fleet, "with enough muscle * * * to take care of anything" the enemy has; a strong Japanese force, possibly its whole fleet, and over a million square miles of empty ocean to maneuver in. Adm. Nimitz announced the enemy fleet was operating between the Marianas islands and the Philippines, 1,500 miles apart. Axis broadcasters, declaring most of the U. S. Pacific fleet was concentrated off Saipan in the Marianas, said the antagonists would fight bitterly for possession of the island, which is too close to Tokyo for Japanese comfort. B-29's could hit Japan easily from Saipan.

(London picked up a Tokyo broadcast saying a fierce naval engagement was raging today off the Marianas. There was no confirmation from Pearl Harbor and no indication when Adm. Nimitz might have more to say about the operations.)

The Saipan invasion went well. Nimitz announced "our troops now hold the entire southern portion of the island" including the western shore of Magicienne bay and Aslito airbase, fast being put in operating shape.

"Vast stores of oil, munitions and stores were uncovered on the island, proving Saipan was the main stronghold of the enemy in the Marianas."

(Continued on page 6)

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS OVER the weekend, our Americans cut off the tip of the Cherbourg peninsula, isolating some 25,000 to 30,000 Germans in the city and its near vicinity. Our job now is to "liquidate" these nazis and take over the port.

WE need it—very much. Hitler seems to be in league with the weather. Fickle and unfriendly from the start, it worsened seriously Monday. Rising in mid-morning, a 60-mile gale began to blow in the channel—coming from the northeast, which is the worst possible direction, as it piles big waves directly onto our beachhead, with all the force of the wind behind them.

You can imagine what unloading men and heavy equipment in such a sea is like.

WE need a port, where we can unload men and supplies in all kinds of weather. The Germans know our need, and know what obtaining it will mean to us—and TO THEM. We can look for Cherbourg to be defended to the last German, for TIME is important and every hour the enemy can delay us there is helpful to him.

IT speaks volumes for the excellence of our command, the practical functioning of our landing equipment and the grim courage of our men that in the face of weather that has steadily favored our enemy we have been able to get ashore and establish what seems to be a secure beachhead and in addition slice off and isolate an important port.

WE can expect the Germans to hold Cherbourg to the last possible hour, meanwhile destroying its facilities as nearly as possible—as they did at Naples.

At Cherbourg, however, nature seems to favor us a little. The naval docks there are hewn out of SOLID ROCK, which is hard to destroy.

Once we get possession of the city, our engineers ought to be able to make even better speed

(Continued on page 2)

Naval Chief King Confident of U. S. Victory Over Japs

WASHINGTON, June 21.—(AP)—Admiral Ernest J. King, navy commander-in-chief, expressing appreciation for the "long expected cooperation" of the Japanese navy in apparently moving into battle position, expressed confidence today in the outcome of a prospective naval engagement in the western Pacific.

"The sooner the Japanese fleet fights, the better we'll be satisfied," King said.

He made his statement after Navy Secretary Forrestal had reported that despite strict radio silence from the Pacific there have been some indications that American forces "may have succeeded in catching up with all or a part of the Japanese fleet yesterday."

Forrestal added that there is, however, "no definite information" as to the prospective engagement.

Forrestal reported that the Japanese fleet has been sighted at "various times during the past few days, milling around from 500 to 800 miles to the westward of Saipan island" in the Marianas east of the Philippines.

King said that in any major operation, losses must be expected, in fact, are allowed for in preparation and plans for the action. But, King continued, the losses to date in the Marianas "have been less than allowed for." He said he referred to all types of action in the air, on the sea and among troops fighting on land.

King also disclosed that plans long under consideration had been reviewed again for close cooperation of the British with American forces in the war against Japan when it is possible to swing strength to the Pacific and away from Europe.

Pro-Fascist Singer Barred From Allied Bill

ROME, June 21.—(AP)—Beniamino Gigli, former Metropolitan opera tenor, has been forbidden to sing at a concert for allied soldiers.

Maj. Gen. Henry H. Johnson, military governor of Rome, issued the order.

Gigli was scheduled to appear with other artists in a musical program at the Rome opera house tomorrow night.

He was removed from the concert, it was reported, because he was closely associated with both the nazis and nazis and sang in Germany under nazi auspices earlier in the war.

Reds Take Viipuri, Head For Helsinki

Berlin Area Hammered in Shuttle Raid

Hannover, Brunswick Also Bombed on Flight From Britain to Russia

STOCKHOLM, June 21.—(AP)—"I'm reeling," the newspaper Aftonbladets Berlin correspondent telephoned today after the raid by 1,000 American bombers on the German capital.

Great masses of high explosives and incendiaries hurled on the battered city caused "severe damage" and started many fires, he said.

LONDON, June 21.—(AP)—More than 1,000 American Flying Fortresses and Liberators blasted Berlin and the capital's outskirts today and the German radio indicated that at least some of the planes flew on eastward—possibly in the first shuttle raid from Britain to new American bases in Russia.

The bomber fleet had an escort of around 1,000 fighters, making a total force of some 2,000 planes which carried the aerial war once more to the heart of the German homeland.

Bombing on Berlin's outskirts, also was blasted.

German broadcasts admitted damage and casualties and threatened to retaliate with "bigger and more powerful explosives" than those used in the current rocket bomb offensive.

First Liberator fliers back at

(Continued on page 6)

Caskey Elected Commander of Legion Post Here

At a meeting last night by Umpqua post of the American Legion, George Caskey was elected to serve as commander for the ensuing year. Caskey, who operates a garage on Winchester street with his brother, is a charter member of Umpqua post, and has long been active in Legion work. Other officers elected last night included Herbert Sullivan, 1st vice-commander, C. B. Calkins, 2nd vice-commander; Tommy Atkins, adjutant; Ted Post, finance officer. Named as members of the executive committee were Sig Fett, Jimmie Osborne, Jr., and Jack Weaver. Delegates to the Department of Oregon convention were Fred Wenger, George Caskey, Erwin Short, Sig Fett and George Trapols, while Rudy Ritzman, Art Midland, Clint Gorthy, Jack Crafon and Herbert Sullivan were named as alternates.

In a report by departmental commander, V. G. Micelli, it was pointed out that the Legion membership in the state of Oregon this year has reached an all-time high, having surpassed the membership figures of the year 1919. Micelli reported also that the program of the Legion for rehabilitation for members of the various branches of service being returned to civilian life is steadily going forward. Very definite plans for the enlargement of this part of the Legion program have been formulated, and will be put into play with the advent of the new Legion year.

Guests introduced included Coleman O'Laughlin of Klamath Falls, district American Legion commander; LeRoy Girard, commander of the Oakland-Sutherland post, and E. D. Lewis of Reedsport.

Herbert H. Smith and Raymond S. Divers were admitted to membership.

Industrial Opportunity Must Pay Debt To Disabled War Vets, State Convention in Roseburg Reminded by Dow V. Walker

Responsibility for absorbing disabled veterans of the present war into normal peacetime life will fall principally upon big industry, Dow V. Walker, Newport, Ore., told delegates to the Oregon State Department of the Disabled American Veterans at the opening session of the state meeting in Roseburg today. Mr. Walker, chairman of the National Finance committee of the D. A. V., appeared as a representative of National Commander James L. Monahan, Minneapolis, who had been scheduled to appear before the convention today, but who was unable to secure travel accommodations to permit his attendance at the state meeting.

"The evidence is clear that many of our fighting men dream of returning to the homes and lives they left behind them, but most of them, whether or not they realize it, can never make a complete readjustment back into their old lives," Walker said. They will be different men, unable, even where they choose to do so, to completely fit back exactly into the grooves of living they once occupied.

Radical Changes Loom

"But I warn you," the speaker said, "that these returning men are not the only ones to be readjusted to the postwar living conditions. We also have the problem of changing our views and our ways of living to be able to weld these returning men into our civilian life. We, as individuals and as families, will play a major part in determining whether these men, maimed or whole, make the readjustment that will get their feet straight on the path to a full life.

"The readjustment problem of these men will be complicated by needs for training, for new homes and new environment. Pensions, bonuses and other financial aid are not the answer to full lives for these veterans. We, as a nation and as individuals, must do everything we can to remove the disabilities of these veterans, but we must be careful not to make assets of their disabilities. The debt of disability

Fifth Continues Advance in Italy

ROME, June 21.—(AP)—Eighth army veterans have hurled the last stubborn nazi defenders out of ancient Perugia, communications hubs 85 miles north of Rome, and advanced some four miles north of the city, allied headquarters said today.

The allied drive still was in steady motion although the Germans had thrown the elements of seven divisions against the right flank of the Fifth army's front in an effort to slow its pace. But the Fifth fought through four more villages, making what headquarters termed "minor tactical gains."

It was disclosed that the Fifth army has taken prisoners from the 19th luftwaffe division, which left Belgium June 10, four days after the invasion of France began.

This was the second German division to be diverted from the western front since the allies' spectacular advance in Italy began, the 20th luftwaffe division having arrived here previously from Denmark. Prisoners also have been taken in the same general area from the 16th SS division which was brought here from the Balkans.

Mediterranean air force headquarters announced thunderbolts of the first tactical air force severely damaged an enemy aircraft carrier in Genoa harbor believed to be an Italian ship being refitted.

Finns' Desire To Quit Faces Nazi Barrier

Germans Threaten to Seize Control of Ports If Ally Sues for Peace

LONDON, June 21.—(AP)—Victorious Russian troops who occupied Finland's fortress seaport of Viipuri yesterday drove on today toward the capital city of Helsinki, where the Germans were reported exerting pressure to keep their small ally from suing for peace with Premier Stalin.

The Finnish radio, which told of the Russian advance, urged all persons whose presence was not essential to evacuate Helsinki, which lies approximately 135 air-line miles west of Viipuri.

Twenty salvos from 224 guns boomed in Moscow last night following Stalin's order of the day announcing the fall of that city to Marshal Govorov's Leningrad army after a smashing 11-day offensive.

The Stockholm newspaper Dagens Nyheter said that the Germans were endeavoring to block formation of a Finnish "peace cabinet" which Finns asserted would be formed "very soon" as a result of the Russian successes.

Forts Fail to Stop Reds

A Finnish informant in Stockholm said loss of the key Karelian fortifications "left us helpless because our whole scheme of defense was built on the expectation we would be able to hold there."

"Our over-extended armies in eastern Karelia are now endangered," he added. "To carry on would mean falling back into the lake and forest region and fighting guerrilla warfare."

The Moscow radio said Finland was on "the brink of defeat."

What Steps the Germans would take to try to keep Finland in the war were uncertain. A Stockholm report said the Germans were threatening occupation of three Finnish ports along a 70-mile stretch at the head of the gulf of Bothnia and the Aland islands in

(Continued on page 6)

Labor Unions Put In Elections Quiz

WASHINGTON, June 21.—(AP)—The house today set up machinery for investigating any suspected election fraud this presidential campaign year and for the first time wrote labor unions into the scope of the investigation.

Heretofore biennial investigation of congressional campaigns has been confined to contributions that may have been made illegally by corporations or other business associations.

The house rewrote the resolution to make susceptible to investigation the contributions of individuals, partnerships, corporations, committees or labor unions.

In addition, attention is to be paid to "the amounts raised, contributed and expended by any labor organization, trade or business association and any other agency."

Speaker Rayburn will appoint a committee of seven house members to conduct the investigation.

12 More Yankee Bombers Land on Swedish Soil

STOCKHOLM, June 21.—(AP)—Twelve American bombers came down in Sweden today, boosting to 33 the number reaching Sweden in two days. Two bombers crashed in landing today and it was not known immediately whether the crews were saved.

Trapped Germans Attempt To Demolish Installations As Capture of Port Impends

By WES GALLAGHER

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, June 21.—(AP)—American troops smashed within 1,500 yards—less than mile—of Cherbourg's waterfront today, driving between two fortress bastions under cover of air and artillery bombardment.

The fall of the great supply port seemed only a matter of hours tonight.

The piledriver offensive crashed through the suburbs along the inland road between Fort Du Roule and Fort Octeville, nazi strong-points, shuddering under bombs as well as leaflets calling on the trapped nazis, estimated at 50,000, to surrender.

Nazi demolition squads worked feverishly to cripple the port—through which the allies could pour a flood of men and supplies into Normandy.

Another force rolling the trapped Germans back on the left flank seized Acqueville, at the base of Cape De La Hague, the land finger jutting northwest of Cherbourg and possibly offering a chance of escape by sea.

Heavy fighting was reported in the Tilly-Sur-Seulles area near the center of the front, and an American spearhead to the west had pushed within two miles of St. Lo, communications hub of Normandy.

Prison Sentences Meted Two Here

Leonard Eugene Browning, 43, Yoncalla resident, was sentenced in circuit court today to ten years in the state penitentiary following his plea of guilty to a charge of rape.

William A. Bitzer, Roseburg, recently returned from California to answer to a charge of burglary in a dwelling, was sentenced by Circuit Judge Carl E. Wimberly to a term of three years in the penitentiary. He was alleged to have stolen money and personal property from a hotel room.

Thomas W. Bright, recently arrested at Medford on a charge of stealing a jacket, was sentenced to three months in the penitentiary but was granted a parole, after pleading guilty to a formal charge of larceny in a dwelling.

James N. Perdue, who pleaded guilty to a charge of lewd cohabitation, was granted a parole from a term of six months in the county jail.

Marines Excluded From War Duty Pay Boost

WASHINGTON, June 21.—(AP)—Extra pay for infantrymen and glider-borne troops was voted today by the house military committee.

The committee approved legislation to give "expert infantrymen" engaged in combat duty a pay boost of \$10 monthly, those not in combat an additional \$5 and members of glider units the same fifty per cent pay increase now given paratroopers.

Col. J. W. Knighton, representing the marine corps, said in a statement filed with the committee that the bill singles out one arm of the service, the infantry, to the detriment of other arms engaged in equally hazardous jobs.

To apply it to the leathernecks, he added, would "tend to destroy a sense of unity which is a valuable military asset to the corps."

Municipal Swim Pool Postwar Project Here

Tentative plans for construction of a municipal swimming pool as a postwar project featured the regular meeting of the Roseburg chamber of commerce board of directors last night. The directors are unanimous in their desire to secure construction of the pool at the earliest possible date.

A plan is under consideration for the creation of a non-profit corporation, to handle all contributions to the swimming pool project. This corporation, if formed, will be empowered to accept cash donations to be held until such time as construction is arranged.

Canadian Prisoners Executed by Germans

LONDON, June 21.—(AP)—The London Daily Mirror's war correspondent said in a dispatch from France today that 13 Canadian prisoners had been lined up and shot by the Germans in a French village now in allied hands.

The correspondent, George McCarthy, said the men had died with the photographs of "their loved ones—their wives, sweethearts or children"—clutched in their hands and that it was clear the Canadians had "been lined up to die."

German defenses have stiffened and there are indications the nazi high command has ordered a house-to-house fight by some 25,000 to 50,000 Germans now left with virtually no chance of escape. Allied broadcasts last night urged the trapped garrison to surrender.

Although the three main roads to Cherbourg from the south run into one main highway bottleneck just outside the city, the American troops apparently were closing in from three sides—south, west, and east.

The suburban and city area which now has become a battlefield has an estimated population of 60,000.

Despite German reports, the supreme allied command said it has no knowledge that allied warships were shelling Cherbourg from the sea and declared such an attack was unlikely.

The port is protected by seven coastal forts which should be much simpler to take by land assault than from the sea.

Fighting Elsewhere Lags

Only patrol activity was reported elsewhere on the Normandy beachhead except in the Tilly-Sur-Seulles area.

The British announced capture of Onchy, three and a half miles southwest of Tilly. At the same time the Germans launched three heavy counter-attacks on the newly taken British stronghold of Hottot, two miles south of Tilly. The attacks were reported held, but the situation in the village itself was obscure.

The Caen area even farther to the east was quiet.

A gale continued to blow in the channel. Six-foot waves whipped over the invasion beaches, making unloading of supplies impossible for the time being.

Bad weather hampered aircraft over the battle area, but fighter-bombers blasted Cherbourg guns and forts.

Nazi Panzer Power Slashed.

A glaring shortage of infantry

(Continued on page 6)

Bigger Collection Of Paper Sought

Roderick Finney, executive secretary of the state salvage committee, is in Roseburg for a few days attempting to organize a salvage committee to increase collection of wastepaper from Douglas county. Douglas county's per capita turn-in of wastepaper is exceedingly low in comparison with other counties of the state, Finney reports, and is due, he states, to lack of organized collections and lack of transportation facilities. He is working with the committee in the eagles lodge in preparation for the curb collection to be made in Roseburg July 7 and 8 and is endeavoring to organize a committee to assure continued collections on a county-wide scale.

The paper shortage is steadily growing more acute, Finney states, and the cooperation of all residents in the matter of saving waste paper and turning it in for salvage is of the greatest importance.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

Prime Minister Churchill predicts the allies may knock Germany out of the war this summer. From an Oregon standpoint, that seems like an awfully long time to wait.