OKINAWA CONQUEST ENTERS FINAL STAGE

Roseburg News-Review

Established 187[illegible] ROSEBURG, OREGON, MONDAY, MAY 21, 1945 45-118

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ICC Orders Freight Rate Equality

U. S. Prepares To Strike Japs Mighty Blow

Truman Gives Warning While Awarding Medal To Outstanding Fighter

WASHINGTON, May 21—(AP) President Truman told congress today that American forces were preparing to strike the Japanese with "overwhelming" power.

Speaking at ceremonies at which he awarded the congressional medal of honor to Tech. Sgt. Jake M. Lindsey of Lucedale, Miss., the president asserted:

"This is a proud and moving occasion for every American. It follows the complete victory of the allied forces over a powerful enemy in Europe. It finds us striking devastating blows in the Pacific. We are preparing to strike them later in overwhelming force.

"Before the battle against Japar is won, we shall have other men to honor—men whose deeds, like those we celebrate today, will have brought closer our inevitable victory."

Yankee Valor Praised

Lindsey is the 100th infantryman to receive the nation's highest award for valor in battle and the president, in making the presentation personally before a joint session of congress set a precedent for such ceremonies.

"Through him (Lindsey) we pay a grateful nation's tribute to the courage of all our fighting men," the president said.

"The history of this war is filled with countless acts of valor by our soldiers and sailors and marines under fire."

The president pointed out that no officer ordered Lindsey, when

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

TUNNELED Sugar Loaf Hill (150 feet high) which shares with moated Shuri castle the guardianship of the Shuri line, is the Mt. Surabachi of Okinawa.

Nine times in seven days the marines of the 6th division scaled it. Eight times they were thrown back. But on the ninth try their casualty-thinned lines HELD FIRM, and as these words are written they are in possession of the SUMMIT and the north slope.

The Japs are still dug in on the south slope.

THERE are signs that the end may be nearing.

Nimitz confines his communique to descriptions of small actions, such as one American company (army) that stood off an hour-long, close quarter, grenade-throwing enemy counter attack led by a Jap officer dressed to the last formal detail, even to white gloves and polished dress boots. The veteran marine 1st division reports killing several Jap officers in ceremonial white uniforms, which seem to be official MOURNING dress.

(Apparently the little yellow men have a yen to go to the happy hunting grounds in full spit and polish.)

MEANWHILE our B-29s, fighting the war our way, roam the Jap islands by the hundreds. General Lemay, heading our 21st bomber command, says that so far 11.3 square miles (about a fifth) of Nagoya have been de-

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Uniform Bill Demanded for Entire Nation

Eastern Rail Charges to Be on Par With Those in Effect in South, West

By J. FRANK TRAGLE

WASHINGTON, May 21—(AP)—The nation's railroad freight bill is being refigured.

In a move widely significant to the south and west, the inter-state commerce commission:

1. Ordered basic freight rates of those sections—except for the far west—equalized with eastern rail charges.

2. Directed that the nation's carriers simplify rate-making by setting up a uniform system of freight classification for the entire nation.

The long-awaited order, universally conceded to be the most important in the commission's 58-year history, was released late Saturday without an advance hint. As a result it caught railroad representatives completely by surprise. They withheld comment pending a thorough study.

The ruling covered these general categories.

1. A nationwide uniform classification of rates. At present an article such as a radio might be shipped under one classification in the south and under a different, lower-rate classification in the east. Henceforth, said ICC, a particular article must move na-

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Mortgage Burning Scheduled by Elks

The Roseburg Elks lodge will hold a mortgage burning ceremonial at the lodge hall Saturday, May 26, celebrating freedom from debt for the first time in its history. The lodge incurred indebtedness in construction of its building, but in recent months has enjoyed record growth in membership and has not only retired its bonds but has accumulated a substantial cash reserve.

Saturday's celebration will start with a banquet at 6:30 p. m., with a program starting at 8:30 o'clock.

Visitors from lodges throughout the state are expected to be present and special guests will include Governor Earl Snell, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell and Frank Lonergan, Portland, immediate past grand exalted ruler.

The banquet and program will be open to members only.

Portland Tavern Bandit Draws Eight-Year Rap

PORTLAND, May 21—(AP)—James Arthur Spence, 39, was sentenced to eight years in the state penitentiary after pleading guilty to a $4000 holdup of Kelly's Olympian tavern March 2.

The self-tagged "Domino kid" was sentenced Saturday in circuit court. He was extradited from Great Falls, Mont.

Eisenhower Double Used in Alleged Assassination Plot, Faked to Boost Nazis' Morale

PARIS, May 21.—(AP)—A Chicago lieutenant colonel was used as a double for Gen. Eisenhower last December after the Germans voiced threats against the supreme commander's life, it was announced today.

Supreme headquarters said, however, that the plot was a hoax—a story the Germans spread to heighten their armies' morale.

The double, Lt. Col. Baldwin B. Smith of Chicago, was placed in Eisenhower's four-star automobile on journeys between St. Germains and Versailles.

Smith volunteered for the role of decoy when the army clamped an iron-tight curfew on the Paris area and set up the most elaborate machinery of the war to prevent possible destruction of supreme headquarters and assassination of the commanding general.

The similarity in appearances of Eisenhower and Smith is so striking that they frequently are mistaken for each other.

Lt. Col. Otto Skorzeny, aide to Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler and reported to be leader of the picked assassins directed to kill Eisenhower, was captured by the U. S. Seventh army last Thursday.

The story went that Skorzeny organized a party of highly trained saboteurs to infiltrate allied lines in the early stages of Marshal von Rundstedt's breakthrough and they were told that the kidnaper of Mussolini would lead them in the assassination of Eisenhower and other high ranking allied officers.

Plot Faked to Fool Germans

Col. H. G. Sheen, chief of counter-intelligence at SHAEF declared of the story today:

"But we know how this was only a story and never at any time did Skorzeny or any of his people plan to carry out such an operation."

Sheen said Skorzeny himself did not accompany his party when it dropped behind allied lines to commit sabotage. He asserted that evidence had been

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North Umpqua Timber Traded In 3-Way Deal

The Douglas county court today officially authorized exchange of a county-owned timber tract near Gardiner, for a tract of equal value bordering the North Umpqua river between Idleyld park and the boundary of the Umpqua National forest.

The court's action followed a formal hearing after publication of its notice to make the transfer. No remonstrance was raised at the hearing, but a delegation was present to commend the court for its action. Included in the delegation were Harold Hickerson, Roseburg chamber of commerce; Leroy Sullivan, president of the Roseburg Rod and Gun club; Kenneth Ford, member of the Roseburg Park and Recreation commission; Charles V. Stanton, member of the Douglas County Recreational committee, and Vernon M. Orr, director in the Oregon Wildlife federation.

The transfer is the outcome of a three-way deal in which the E. K. Wood company, which operates plants at Reedsport and Roseburg, purchased the North Umpqua timber from The California Oregon Power company, and, in turn, traded the tract to Douglas county for timber near Gardiner.

The North Umpqua lands will be dedicated to public use, thus permitting public access at all times to the river.

Suicide Attempt Of Elderly Man Balked by Sheriff

Sheriff O. T. (Bud) Carter proved today that an officer, at least on one occasion, could be on hand when needed.

The sheriff was informed early this morning that an elderly man had attempted suicide by slashing his wrists, but failing to cut deep enough to inflict a serious wound, had told neighbors he was going after a revolver to complete the job. The neighbor who informed the sheriff had refused the loan of his gun, and stated that the man had taken a taxi to town to buy a weapon.

The sheriff immediately hurried to the cabin where the man lived alone and was waiting when he returned in the taxicab. Seeing the officer, the man, who was not identified, ran into the cabin and attempted to shut the door, and, failing to lock the sheriff out, hurriedly tried to slip a clip of shells into the automatic pistol. When Carter seized the gun, the elderly man put up a strenuous fight but after being subduel agreed to go to a hospital for treatment.

He told the officer that he had been quite ill and suffered much pain.

Humphrey Bogart, Film Star, Takes Fourth Bride

MANSFIELD, O., May 21(AP)—In the hallway of novelist Louis Bromfield's 20-room home at nearby Malabar farm, filmland's Lauren Betty (The look) Bacall and Humphrey (The leer) Bogart were married shortly after noon today.

The fourth wedding for the 45-year-old "Hard guy" of the screen, and the first for his 20-year-old bride, was a simple one. The ceremony lasted only three minutes.

Only the immediate families and a few friends were present.

Nevada 6-Week Divorce Invalid, High Court Says

WASHINGTON, May 21—(AP)—The supreme court today upheld a North Carolina supreme court finding that a Nevada six-week divorce was invalid because a bona-fide residence was not established there.

Justice Frankfurter delivered the court's 6-3 opinion. Justice Black wrote a dissent in which justices Douglas and Rutledge concurred.

The court in a 1942 decision held that Nevada's six-week divorces are valid and must be recognized by other states.

Bills Would Reimburse Store Hit by Navy Plane

WASHINGTON, May 21—(AP)—Congress has been asked to pay for a grocery store at Coquille, Ore., Destroyed by a naval airplane.

Senator Morse and Rep. Ellsworth have introduced identical bills to authorize reimbursement of Edward P. Stanley, store owner.

Age for Army Discharge Cut To Forty Years

WASHINGTON, May 21—(AP)—The army today fixed at 40 years the age at which enlisted men may apply for discharge.

The army only last month had lowered the discharge age to 42 years. An estimated 30,000 enlisted men in the army are in the 40 and 41 year age groups.

At the same time, the War department announced that Wacs 40 years of age or over who have served the required period on active duty will be eligible for discharge. It estimated that 8,000 enlisted Wacs will be eligible under this provision.

The new order provided that in the case of men 40 or 41 years of age, commanders will be permitted to retain for not more than 90 days any man for whom a replacement is not available at the time he requests discharge.

The War department said that "when the military situation permits" a further reduction in the age limit will be made.

Parenthood Has Advantage

The department contended that further reduction could not be made at present "without jeopardizing military operations or slowing down the release of combat veterans who have earned the right to discharge under the point system on the basis of long and arduous service."

Through the use of a heavily weighted factor for parenthood, the point system provides indirect consideration for age, the department said, adding that the average age of fathers is several years above the average for soldiers without children.

No Pay Cut Involved

Release of men from the army under the point system probably won't cause any reduction in total payments to soldiers during 1945, the Treasury said today.

The reason: "The last payday is the biggest." Each man gets a $300 mustering out payment in

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Court Dismisses Suit to Invalidate Local Budget Law

SALEM, Ore., May 21—(AP)—The suit by Oregon Business and Tax Research, Inc., to invalidate the 1945 legislature's local budget law was dismissed today by Circuit Judge Duncan.

The firm, which has headquarters in Portland, is expected to appeal to the state supreme court. It had asked for an injunction against Secretary of State Farrell to restrain him from including the measure, known as house bill 043, in the published session laws.

The firm charged that the bill, as finally signed by the governor, did not include amendments which had been passed by the legislature.

But Judge Duncan, citing a well-established rule of law to the effect that the official legislative journals are the only records on which courts may rely, said the official journals show the bill was properly enacted.

The bill would permit tax levying bodies to set up a cash working account for use between the time taxes are authorized and until they are collected.

The suit was filed only last Thursday, and argued in court the following day.

Conscience-Hit Thief Returns Relief Duds

Grants Pass police authorities report receipt of a bundle of clothing from Roseburg with an accompanying "consicence" note.

The clothing, the note stated, had been taken from a downtown box, but the thief decided it had been meant for the United Nations clothing drive and had become troubled by his conscience while travelling from Grants Pass to Roseburg and, upon reaching Roseburg, mailed the bundle back to the Grants Pass police.

Executive Dies in Auto On Return From Outing

PORTLAND, Ore., May 21.—(AP)—Charles Dant, 67, president of Dant and Russell, Inc., lumber exporters, and the States Steamship company, Vancouver, Wash., died suddenly here today.

He had just returned from a fishing trip in central Oregon and was in the car with his chauffeur when he collapsed.

YANKS BATTLE JAPS' "LITTLE SIEGFRIED LINE"—Marines train their rifles on an entrance to an Okinawa cave as they await the result of an explosive charge to pick off any Japs who attempt escape. These bitterly contested cave positions formed the Japs' "Little Siegfried line" defending the capital city of Naha. Marine corps photo.

Vexing Issues Presage Early Meet of Big Three

Tito's Yugoslavs Refuse to Yield Port of Trieste, Russians Grumble Over Delay in Punishing Top Nazis

(By the Associated Press)

Europe's vexing problems of frontiers and war criminals spurred new demands today for an early meeting of the Big Three.

The British press warned that some of the issues already were beginning to assume proportions of "international crises" as tension heightened in the dispute over the Adriatic port of Trieste.

Moscow commentators increased their demands for swift trial of captured nazi big shots held by the Americans and British and asked why other Hitlerite leaders had not been captured.

Apparently no nearer settlement was the Polish government question and there were signs of Russian disagreement with Anglo-American methods of treating the Doenitz administration.

Hunger began to make itself felt in Trieste. Associated Press Correspondent Lynn Heinzerling said Yugoslav military authorities were reported to have made overtures to allied authorities for shipment of food from Italy but the Italians were confronted with the problem of feeding thousands of displaced persons of their own.

The allied military government, which apparently would be in position to alleviate the food shortages, remained outside Trieste and there was little prospect it would act as long as Marshal Tito's troops continued to control the port. The Yugoslavs gave no sign of evacuating the city.

Slavs Quitting Austria

Publishing the text of Marshal Alexander's warning to his allied Mediterranean command about the gravity of the Trieste situation, the Yugoslav-controlled Trieste newspaper, Il Nostro Avvenire, adopted a conciliatory tone. It asserted Yugoslavia was willing to leave ultimate dispostion of the port and surraunding territory to a peace conference.

Tito's troops which also had moved into the Austrian provinces of Carinthia and Styria began withdrawing in force today in trucks provided by the British Eighth army and were expected to be back inside Yugoslavia by nightfall.

Hold-Out Nazi Captured

While the discussion of how to proceed against war criminals continud, occupation troops rounded up another German leader, Marshal Ferdinand Schoer-

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Writer of Note on Sea Tragedy Kin of W. Virginia Woman

CHARLESTON, W. Va., May 21—(AP)—A note in an old medicine bottle picked up in the sands near Reedsport, Ore., may have provided Mrs. Elbert S. Cox of Logan W. Va., with her first clue of the disappearance of her long-missing half-brother.

The message, in an old fashioned oval bottle, was found in the drift last week by Stanford S. Sparks of Roseburg, Oregon, a deputy state weighmaster. It read:

"November Seventh, 1907, on a raft at sea, all most dead and dying for water. If not picked up before night I will die before morning. If anybody finds this, please put in the paper so my people can see what has become of me."

The signature was that of T. B. Snow, Louisa, Ky., and on the reverse side of the paper was written: "Spokane, Washington lodge BRT — 307, 233½ Howard street.

Mrs. Cox read the story as it appeared in the Charlston Daily Mail last Saturday and today wrote to the editor, saying:

"I had a half brother to disappear about that time, or a little later, as well as I can remember. His full name was Temple Brown Snow. All his people lived at Louisa, Ky., at that time."

Mrs. Cox's letter ended with a request for further information.

Night Club Spots Face Ration Juggling Counts

PORTLAND, Ore., May 21.—(AP)—Night spots here will have to explain charges of errors in food accounts, OPA Enforcement Attorney Franz E. Wagner said today.

Wagne said four clubs, Clover club, Club New Yorker, Gold Room and the Village, would appear for hearings today before Marvin E. Lewis, regional hearings commissioner, San Francisco.

Wagner said the clubs and other businesses accused of food and shoe rationing violations may be deprived of rationed commodities.

4 Sailors Arrested in Assaults on Woman

SEATTLE, May 21.—(AP)—Four navy sailores, implicated in the brutal beating and criminal assaults upon a 24-year-old woman in the Denny Regrade district early today, were held by police. The victim, unconscious from a head injury, also suffered multiple facial bruises and severe lacerations. Her condition was serious.

One of the sailors was captured while assaulting the young woman. A second was overtaken half a block away, his uniform disarrayed and covered with mud. Their stories resulted in the arrests of two more. Police found the identification bracelet of a fifth at the assault scene.

Draft of Ship Job Workers Deferred

WASHINGTON, May 21—(AP)—Selective service headquarters today authorized state directors of California, Oregon and Washington to postpone the induction of skilled workers in Pacific coast ship repair yards.

Selective service described the repair of damaged naval vessels of the west coast as of "utmost urgency."

The local boards in the three states also will be instructed to consider the urgency in ruling on all requests of skilled workers in other industries for permission to leave their present employment for ship repair work.

Skilled workers affected are electricians, machinists, instrument repairmen, sheet metal workers, coppersmiths, pipefitters, boilermakers, ordnancemen and riggers.

Selective service said all possible efforts are being made to recruit skilled workers over 30 years of age or those who are not qualified for military service.

Snell Names Personnel Of Civil Service Board

SALEM, Ore., May 21—(AP)—Governor Snell today appointed the three-member state civil service commission, which will set up the civil service system for state employes.

The committee must choose a director by July 1. The recent legislature provided for civil service for state employes.

Members of the commission are A. C. Cammack, Portland; Mrs. Effie Turneaure, Hood River, legal secretary of the League of Women voters, and J. N. Chambers, Salem.

Hitler's "Mugger" Voices Double Peeve in Captivity

ROSENHEIM, Germany, May 21—(AP)—Heinrich Hoffman, Hitler's personal photographer, was captured by the Seventh army a week ago. He registered a double complaint from his prison cell today (1) he had had no champagne for a week, and (2) all his negatives were destroyed in the bombings of Berlin.

Death Blow To Jap Empire Will Follow

Tokyo Reports U. S. Naval Force Headed For Japan; Lone Plane Sinks Convoy

(By The Associated Press)

Two significant new China offensives reclaimed three cities as signs indicated today the invasion of Japan is not far off.

Four yank divisions closed in on key Shuri fortress to speed the end of the campaign for Okinawa, from which the U. S. 10th army commander said "the death blow can be dealt the Japanese empire."

The navy urged shipbuilders to speed completion of 12 aircraft carriers because they were needed "soon" to "insure success of future operations in the Pacific." Simultaneously the Office of War Information called for 1,600 war dogs before August to be used against the Nipponese.

Jap Students Mobilized.

Twenty million Japanese students were mobilized to "actively participate in defense of their homeland" under an imperial order signed by Emperor Hirohito as Tokyo radio reported an allied naval force steaming toward Japan.

Nipponese broadcasts reported 20 superforts laid mines today in Kanmon strait, most common entrance to the inland sea for surviving Japanese shipping. Fifteen enemy vessels were sunk and 15 damaged by U. S. planes. Five of these, including a loaded transport, were sunk by a solitary navy patrol plane in a 75-minute attack off Formosa in one of the most remarkable exploits of the sea-air war.

China Scores Successes.

A surprise South China offensive carried generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces into Hochih, advance enemy bastion. Hochih is a rail and highway junction 95 miles from Liuchow. Former U. S. air base and key transportation center from which Chinese troops could wheel southward toward Indo-China or north toward

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Seven Held Here On Various Counts

Two 16-year-old youths, Andrew Leland Denny, Seattle, and Delbert L. Downing, Reno, Nev., are being held at Roseburg today for Lane county authorities after admitting house burglaries at Oakridge and Creswell, Sergeant Paul Morgan of the state police reported.

Police also were holding Jackson McClure Helton, 25, arrested at the request of Salem, Ore., police, who advised local officers, Morgan said, that Helton is wanted for alleged service station theft of gasoline coupons and money. Four soldier hitchhikers riding with Helton were released following investigation.

Held for Alameda, Calif., are Irma Grace Montgomery, 22, Kennedy, Texas; Maxine Helen McMullen, 22, San Antonio, Texas; Ciel Stanley Rucker, 18, and Noble Leslie Ray, 17, both of Alameda Calif., arrested in an automobile reportedly stolen out of Alameda, Morgan said. California authorities have wired a hold warrant for the group.

Fire Protection District Tax Voted by Gardiner

REEDSPORT. — The citizens of Gardiner, "The White City", recently held an election at which they voted a 10-mill tax for fire protection under the new fire district recently established by the county court in that unincorporated town. It is the intention of the directors of the present rural fire protection district to proceed with plans to improve their fire fighting equipment by the purchase of a motorized combination fire fighting truck and the installation of fire hydrants and other necessary equipment.

At present they have a contract with the city of Reedsport for use of the fire department equipment under call from here.

Bridge Replacement Closes Road Stretch

Closing of the North Umpqua road between Big Camas ranger station and Diamond lake until Thursday of this week, was announced from headquarters of the Umpqua National forest today. The temporary closing, it was reported, is necessitated during the replacement of a bridge.

The east approach to Diamond lake is now open to travel, but the Union creek road has not yet been cleared of snow.

Bodies of Drowned Men Taken From Deschutes

BEND, Ore., May 21—(AP)—Waters roughened by sudden wind were blamed today for death of two fishermen in Wickiup reservoir on upper Deschutes river—first loss of life in the huge man-made lake.

Bodies of George M. Erickson, 75, and Albin Peterson, 68, drowned when their boat upset, were recovered Saturday after workers noticed the overturned boat.

Donald Thorp, Yoncalla GI, Killed on Luzon

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Thorp of Yoncalla have received word from the War department that their son, Donald, was killed in action in Luzon, April 21. Donald had been overseas since December.

Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reinenstein

Current allied disputes over territory in Italy and Austria, the future government of Poland, trial of war criminals, etc., paraphrase an ages-old principle to read thus:

"To the victors belong the broils."