

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m.
Temperature:
Maximum 65
Minimum 40
Precipitation .17
Forecast: Partly cloudy, showers, tonight and Wednesday.

ESTABLISHED 1896

La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
Union and Wallowa Counties

LA GRANDE, OREGON TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 15, 1945

Speed The Coming Victory...
SAVE
WASTE PAPER!

FIVE CENTS

Doughboys Batter Way Into Naha

County War Loan Campaign Is Concentrated on Sales Of E Bonds to Individuals

Concentrating on sales of E bonds to individuals at their places of employment, members of a Lions club war bond committee are engaged in a phase of the 7th war loan campaign that is expected to produce a large part of the county's \$741,000 quota of such sales.

Development of Aviation is Object Of Baker Meeting

An Eastern Oregon Aeronautics conference is scheduled for Thursday evening in Baker, opening with a 6:15 o'clock dinner in the Baker hotel. Invitations have been sent to incorporated cities and towns from Pendleton eastward.

The meeting was called by Leo Devaney, director of the state board of aeronautics, in co-operation with the civil aeronautics authority, to assemble data on the requirements for the construction of landing or airport facilities in cities and towns or important recreational areas as a step toward development of private and commercial flying.

The meeting is one of a series to be held during a tour of Oregon by two members of the CAA and the members of the state board.

Front Line Nurse To Visit City In Recruiting Drive

Lt. Carolyn Haltiwanger of the army nurse corps, who wears campaign ribbons for the African and Italian campaigns and service stripes for 24 months overseas, will be in La Grande tomorrow to interview registered nurses interested in serving with the armed forces.

Lieutenant Haltiwanger will be at the Red Cross headquarters during the day, to confer with nurses concerning overseas service.

She was mentioned by Ernie Pyle in his book "This Is Your War" during the time she carried on her duties at the first hospital in the African campaign in November, 1942. From Tunis where she spent several months, she followed the troops to Italy and helped set up the Salerno hospital on D-Day plus 4.

After working in behind the line hospitals from Naples to Cassino in the winter of 1944 she was promoted to first lieutenant in January of that year. Her last service overseas was spent in the tough Anzio campaign.

Forrestal Reveals Plans For Peacetime Navy of 500,000

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—Congress had before it today the framework of the navy's postwar plans, calling for two thirds of its present fleet and a standing force of 500,000 bluejackets.

Meanwhile, the senate passed and sent to the house for conference a \$23,000,000 navy department appropriation bill to finance the war against Japan during the next fiscal year.

Here are the details of that framework, as outlined by Navy Secretary James V. Forrestal before a congressional committee.

The nation's mighty battle fleet will be cut by "at least 30 per cent" when the war with Japan ends. Only those vessels that have "real combat value" will be retained—but there will be no "spectacle of sinking the navy" after this war.

Peacetime naval personnel will be about 500,000 men and 50,000 officers. The navy now numbers around 4,000,000 men and 300,000 officers.

Universal Training Sought
The navy feels "very strongly" that universal military service will be necessary to maintain the size of the navy we are going to need. If Congress enacts universal service, there may be a "training navy" as well as a regular navy.

The navy wants to retain bases in the Atlantic and Pacific and Sec NAVY... Page 5



LEOPOLD LIBERATED — King Leopold III of the Belgians, his wife, Princess Rethy, and four children have been freed by American Seventh army at Sirobi, Germany. The king had been prisoner since May, 1940.

Goebbels' Body Is Reported Found In Underground City

MOSCOW, May 15 (UP)—The Red army newspaper Red Star reported today the body of Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels has been found in a vast underground city beneath Berlin.

A Berlin dispatch said that Goebbels' corpse and those of his wife and children were found where they had committed suicide, before a microphone.

The story said the underground city, 20 meters below Berlin's surface and safe from the reach of allied bombs, contained factories, offices, and arsenals linked by electric railroads.

Leaders Built Shelters
Goebbels, Hermann Goering, and other prominent Nazis had luxurious apartments in the subterranean Berlin. Entrances and exits to the rooms matched any fortress. The huge walls were made from special reinforced concrete armor plate. Berlin residents said Goebbels and Goering had built their shelters there many years before the war.

In a house at No. 63 Charlottenstrasse, a Soviet correspondent rummaging in the debris found a narrow passageway below the surface of the ruins. It led to an enormous underground structure with massive doors and electric installations.

The luxurious furniture, clothes and linen littering the floors of the rooms indicated an influential family had lived there.

In other subterranean dwellings the correspondent found large families huddled in corners beneath dim kerosene lamps. They had lived there like moles since 1942.

Another miniature city lay under the ruins of the main gestapo building. Innocent-looking sewer covers concealed the entrance to an elaborate transportation system connecting more munitions factories and residential quarters.

Man's Leg Crushed In Mill Accident

Petrus Van D. Weile, an employee at Mt. Emily mill, incurred a crushed left leg below the knee and a fracture to the fibula while at work today. The injury was described by his physician as serious, but his condition is not considered critical.

As nearly as could be determined, he was caught between a lumber carrier and a plank railing. He was taken to Grand Ronde hospital for treatment.

Local Soldiers Gets "Point" Discharge

Believed to be the first Union county soldier to be discharged under the army's new point system, Sgt. Elmer W. Webb of 1107 Twelfth street, has received his discharge papers at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Webb was among 50 Washington and Oregon veterans who were given releases from the army.

Man Who Escaped Jail Here Nabbed Near Huntington

George W. Durham Taken 48 Hours After Flight

Liberty, obtained by digging his way through a brick wall of the Union county jail Saturday night, was short-lived for George W. Durham, once-escaped convict who faces a life term as a habitual criminal.

He was captured last night near Huntington by state police after being at liberty barely 48 hours, and now faces an additional charge of jail breaking.

The grand jury was called into session today and it was believed that one phase of its work will be the new case against Durham, with the possibility that an indictment will be returned on the jail-breaking charge. Durham was recently convicted of being a felon in possession of firearms, and he was awaiting trial next month on the habitual criminal charge, growing out of his arrest here after his escape from the state prison in Salem, where he was serving a five-year term on a Multnomah county charge of receiving stolen property.

The state police reported Durham's capture was the result of his apparent attempt to steal an automobile. They said the owner of the car, whose identity they did not learn, found Durham sitting in the vehicle with the motor running, and after ordering him to leave notified the town marshal. The marshal notified the police and they found Durham hiding in a ditch in the nearby hills.

He offered no resistance and made no effort to disclaim his identity which was readily established by his extreme height and other physical characteristics.

He was returned to the county jail here today to await court action.

No Tax Cut Until War Is Won, Says President Truman

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—President Truman today ruled out the possibility of tax reductions before the Japanese war is won.

The president voiced his ideas on taxes when he was asked in a news conference to comment on a five-year plan of gradual reductions suggested by Chairman Walter F. George, D., Ga., of the senate finance committee.

There can be no reduction of taxes until the war is over, and we still have a war to win in the Pacific, the president said. He went on to add that there are 85,000,000 individual holders of war bonds in the country. He said that the investments of these bondholders must be protected.

The only way to protect them, he said, is through taxes.

Yanks Advance in Luzon Campaign

MANILA, May 15 (UP)—Twenty-fifth division doughboys today smashed through the 75-yard wide Baletta pass leading to the relatively open ground of Cayan valley, gateway to northern Luzon.

The 32nd division also moved into open ground west of Santa Fe and only two miles separated the two columns, both closing in on Santa Fe.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced that Filipino guerrilla forces had captured the port of Cayan on Mindanao and won control of the entire northern coast of the island.

Five Jap Vessels Sunk By U. S. Subs

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—U. S. submarines have sunk nine more Japanese vessels, including five warships, the navy announced today.

The combatant vessels included one destroyer, two small escort vessels and two patrol vessels. The remainder of the list included one large tanker and three cargo vessels.

Today's sinkings, a smaller total than is usually reported, brings to 1,128 the number of enemy vessels sunk by American submarines. This figure includes 131 warships.



MISS V-E DAY—Her name was on everybody's lips. Throughout the world it flashed over the air thousands of times; it made the biggest, blackest, newspaper headlines in many a moon. Who is she? She's Virginia E. Day (V-E Day to you) of Los Angeles.

Latin-American Security Proves Knotty Problem

SAN FRANCISCO, May 15 (UP)—The United States delegation at the United Nations conference canvassed the ticklish problem of regional security arrangements for nearly three hours today, then arranged to discuss it further with Latin American countries.

Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., called a press conference for later in the day and scheduled a conference with delegation chiefs of the same nine Latin American countries with whom he met yesterday about the regional arrangements question.

High officials admitted that the biggest stakes of the entire conference are at issue in the current crisis over the future relationship of the inter-American regional system to the new world organization which is being drafted here.

The stakes included the future attitude of the Latin American nations toward the new organization; the relationship of the Latin American nations to both Soviet Russia and the United States; whether the American bloc of nations will be suspected of hemispheric isolationism; and whether the new organization will start life under the handicap of intra-organization quarrels over its jurisdiction and authority.

British Enter Seat Of Doenitz Regime

LONDON, May 15 (UP)—A British military commentator revealed today that British occupation troops have entered Flensburg, seat of the German government under Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz.

But the commentator said the fate or status of Doenitz, self-proclaimed successor to Adolf Hitler as fuhrer, is "unknown" here.

Neither had he any definite knowledge whether the occupation troops had seized gestapo chief Heinrich Himmler, who was last reported in Flensburg or its vicinity.

Other allied sources reported that American third army troops had captured Himmler's ace atrocity expert, Lt. Gen. of Police Ernest W. Kaltenbrunner, accused of responsibility for the ghastly German gas extermination program.

Delay Is Foreseen In Civilian Goods

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—There will not be enough materials for mass production of consumer items during the summer months but September should see substantial output of typewriters, washing machines, and many household items, Production Chief J. A. Krug said today.

He indicated that automobile production may be slower in getting started than had been believed, although production of consumer goods as a whole should reach the 1939 rate by the end of the year.

Death Summons Heber J. Grant, LDS Church Head

Veteran Leader Succumbs at Age of 88 Years

SALT LAKE CITY, May 15 (UP)—Heber J. Grant, first native of Utah to become president of the Latter Day Saints church, died last night. He was 88 years old.

Although he had long been in poor health, few of Grant's followers were aware of the seriousness of his illness until a few hours before his death when it was announced he had suffered a relapse.

Grant's widow, eight daughters and their husbands and two church conciliors, J. Reuben Clark, former U. S. ambassador to Mexico, and David Q. McKay, were at his bedside.

Death was attributed to old age.

Grant assumed the presidency Nov. 23, 1918 and in the following 26 years guided the church through the most crucial period of its development in this nation and abroad.

A pacifist, he died in the midst of the strife he hated and at a period when his church was combating nationwide prejudice in connection with the practice of polygamy.

In later life Grant became an uncompromising foe of polygamy, although he had embraced it in his youth. He supported the church in its manifesto of 1893 which demanded excommunication for members indulging in the practice.

Grant took an early interest in church affairs and at 24 became Sec DEATH... Page 5

Big Three Session Soon Is Hope Of Truman, Churchill

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—President Truman said today he hopes there will be a meeting of the allied big three soon.

The president told a news conference, however, that he cannot say that such a meeting actually will be held, nor when or where. But he left no doubt that he expects to meet with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Russian Premier Josef Stalin as soon as conditions will permit.

He said he hopes there will be opportunity for the three allied leaders to meet and discuss continuing peace plans.

Mr. Truman said that was one of the things which he discussed yesterday with British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden, when stopped at the White House en route from the San Francisco security conference to London.

Asked whether such a big three meeting might be held in San Francisco, the president said it definitely will not be.

He ruled out the possibility that French Gen. Charles De Gaulle will participate in a big three meeting.

(De Gaulle had given notice that he expects to be invited to any such meeting, and will see BIG THREE... Page 5

Pioneer Matron Of Imbler Dies

Bessie Frances Wagner, 68, of Cottage Grove, died today in a local hospital following a long illness.

She was born June 1, 1876, in Imbler, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Ed Imbler, for whom the town was named. Mrs. Wagner lived all her life in the county and state. She was a member of the Christian church.



BLASTS NAZIS — Following his capture at Traunstein, Germany, Gen. Nikolaus von Falkenhorst, former Wehrmacht commander in Norway, declared the allies have liberated Germany from a "system of gangsters" and that the German army knew all along it could not beat the United States.

Ban On German, Jap Rearmament Voiced By Truman

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—President Truman said today that considering the problem of reparations "absolute assurance against German or Japanese rearmament—ever again—comes first with us."

He added that he believes agreement among the allies will clear the way for a just and equitable schedule of German reparations—"reparations (in kind) which will provide the maximum rehabilitation and restoration of overrun territory."

Mr. Truman's statement was issued in connection with appointment of 21 experts to aid the U. S. members of the big three reparations commission which is to meet in Moscow soon.

He said a "fair and workable settlement" of German war reparations will be one of the most difficult postwar tasks of the allies.

V-Bomb Attack on New York Denied

PARIS, May 15 (UP)—Stars and Stripes staff writer Andrew Rooney claimed today that "according to sources considered reliable" a German V-bomb was launched against New York last Nov. 7, election day.

(In Washington, the navy department said there was no truth to the report.)

Rooney wrote that he was on duty in New York when the bomb, either jet or rocket propelled, was launched from the deck of a U-boat lying off the Atlantic coast. His story said that the bomb either fell short or was shot down by fighter planes patrolling against such attacks.

Worst Nazi Atrocity Stories Confirmed In Congress Report

WASHINGTON, May 15 (UP)—Congress heard at first hand today a part of the terrible story of Nazi methods of rule by extermination.

A 12-man committee of both houses, fresh from a tour of German concentration and slave labor camps, verified many of the worst atrocity stories.

They told a tragic tale of filth, disease, starvation and murder. Declaring the concentration camp practices to be "no less than organized crime against civilization," they demanded "swift, certain and adequate punishment" for those responsible.

But despite the cruelty and horror they saw they held forth hope of future justice.

Senate Democratic Leader Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky, spokesman for the committee, voiced it this way:

"Through the sickening spectacle which we have witnessed... we come ultimately to a firmer realization that men of all nations and tongues must resist encroachments of every theory and ideology that debases mankind."

Defense Of Japs Cracked

GUAM, Wednesday, May 15 (UP)—Tenth army infantrymen fought through the rubble streets and ruined buildings of Naha today in a fiercely-contested advance that carried to within 2,000 yards of the dock area and unhinged the Japanese defense line across southern Okinawa.

The rubble of Naha was alive with snipers and machine-gun nests, front dispatches said. There were indications that the city had a system of defenses connected by underground tunnels. House-to-house fighting was under way in some sectors.

Marines of the sixth division, braving a storm of Japanese mortar and machine gun fire, crossed the Asato river and battled house-to-house to within 1,000 yards of the heart of the capital city.

Strategic Hill Captured

On the opposite end of the six-mile battle front, troops of the 98th army division wheeled around captured Conical hill, consolidated their positions at Yonabaru air field, and laid siege to Yonabaru city and its east coast port.

Maj. Gen. Pedro de Valle's 1st marine division and Maj. Gen. Andrew Bruce's 77th army division were closing a pincers on Shuri village, the enemy's anchor point in the center of the triangular fortifications system.

Advance Is Slow
The center of the line proved as tough as either the Naha or Tanabaru flanks. Progress of both the army and marine divisions still was being measured in fractions of miles.

Marines invaded Naha at the Takamotaji district after spanning the Asato. During the crossing, Maj. Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr.'s leathernecks were under almost constant fire.

The Japanese garrison, estimated between 30,000 and 40,000 appeared determined to resist bitterly to the inevitable end, as they have in virtually every Pacific campaign.

The capture of Conical hill, announced yesterday by Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz split the Naha-Yonabaru line and opened the way for outflanking movements against Naha and Shuri.

Overrun in the advance was Yonabaru airfield, the fourth of Okinawa's five airfields to be captured by the 10th army.

Baseball Results

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Philadelphia at Detroit postponed, wet grounds.
New York at Chicago, postponed, wet grounds.

one of the most crucial periods of its history."

Visited Three Camps
The 12-man committee, invited by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to see the results of Nazi treatment of political prisoners and slave laborers, visited camps at Buchenwald, Nordhausen and Dachau.

Barkley, who read his report to the senate, charged that the camps constituted a "calculated and diabolical program of planned torture and extermination on the part of those who were in control of the German government."

He said the three camps visited were an "accurate cross-section" of the more than 100 such concentration and slave labor camps in Germany. Camps were largely conducted and controlled by Sec REPORT... Page 6