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# La Grande Evening Observer



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FIVE CENTS



AIRCRAFT CARRIER FRANKLIN HIT BY JAP BOMBS—Listing badly, the aircraft carrier U. S. S. Franklin is shown shortly after she was hit twice by the 500-pound missiles of a Jap dive bomber as she stood 60 miles off the Japanese coast on March 19. Although she suffered 1,000 casualties and was rent by explosions and wracked by fire, the crew took her across the Pacific and to the Brooklyn navy yard where she will be put in condition to fight again. Additional pictures on Page 6.

## Red Ultimatum to Japan Rumored Artillery Duel Rages on Okinawa

### Small Nations Get More Power In Security Plans

#### Assembly Given Voice in World Relations Talks

SAN FRANCISCO, May 18 (UP)—A United Nations conference committee today unanimously approved, 42 to 0, the principle of giving the general assembly of the proposed world organization power "to discuss and make recommendations" on any matters affecting international relations, subject to certain specific exceptions.

The committee vote was another victory for the small nations which have been striving to make the general assembly—on which all nations will have an equal voice—something more than a debating society.

The specific exceptions will modify the broad principle. One of them probably will embody the proposal of the big five that the assembly should be precluded from making recommendations on a dispute in which the security council is exercising its functions.

"Big Five" Confer The committee action came as Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, jr., conferred for an hour with the chairmen of the four conference commissions—the major groups into which the conference is divided. It was understood that they discussed ways of expediting the work of the conference now that the commissions are ready to begin consideration of the decisions of their committees.

The commissions are ready to begin public sessions at which decisions of their subordinate technical committees will be debated and cleared for final conference action. The first such meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. See STETTINIUS . . . Page 5

### Dog Pack That Killed Woman Put to Death

MIAMI Fla., May 18 (UP)—A dog pack which attacked and killed Mrs. Doretta Micko Zinke was wined out by rifle fire today, as their owner was held for a preliminary hearing on manslaughter charges.

Acting at the request of Joe Munn, owner and breeder of the vicious pit bulldogs, sheriff's deputies shot eight of the dogs at the quarantine kennels, then went to Munn's shack where the rest of his more than 20 dogs were kept.

Officers said Munn called the dogs a "bad breed" and said they should all be killed. The pack attacked and mangled Mrs. Zinke Wednesday night.

### Durham Stages Protest Against "Solitary" Cell

Confined in "solitary" in the county jail upon being captured following his escape from the jail Saturday night, George W. Durham, escaped convict who faces a life term, staged a protest demonstration Thursday night and yesterday morning by destroying part of his bedding and clothing.

Sheriff Jesse Breshears said he ignored Durham's demonstration, and that the prisoner later threatened to commit suicide, but subsequently retracted that threat and said he was sorry he had talked and acted as he did, the officer said.

When Durham was returned to the jail after his arrest Monday near Huntington, Breshears put him into a single cell on the opposite side of the jail from that from which he escaped and left nothing in the cell from which the prisoner might fashion a weapon or tool that might be used in escaping.

The sheriff said Durham offered no explanation for destroying the bedding and his own shirt.

Durham is due to be arraigned soon on a grand jury indictment charging him with jail breaking, and his trial on an habitual criminal charge is scheduled to open June 4 before Circuit Judge R. J. Green.

### High School Band Officers Chosen

Election of James Bennett as president of the La Grande high school band was announced today following the balloting in which he defeated Robert Wagner and Don Jordahl.

Other officers chosen to guide the affairs of the band for the next school year are: Arlene Gaither, vice president; Phyllis McLaughlin, secretary; Jackie Duffington, treasurer; Joyce Schuro, librarian; Pat Hatmaker and Barbara Detrick, assistant librarians; Norman Punched and Fred Jarrard, council members; George Bohnenkamp, business manager; and Barbara Carroll, majorette leader.

### Two Are Held On Charge of Murder

McMINNVILLE, Ore., May 18 (UP)—Two men were held on murder charges today after an autopsy indicated that 56-year-old Henry W. Blair died from a severe head blow instead of natural causes in Grande Ronde.

The Yamhill sheriff's office announced that Phillip John Warren, 29, and Vern Martin, are in custody.

Blair died Sunday and Dr. Joseph Beaman, state criminologist, announced after an autopsy that his death was caused by a blow on the side of the head.

### Doughboys Close In On Bastion of Japs on Mindanao

#### Luzon Advances Are Slowed Down By Heavy Rains

MANILA, May 18 (UP)—American troops on Mindanao today closed in on Valencia and its important two-strip airfield after a surge of six miles along the Sayre highway.

A communique which gave the 31st division's position as of Wednesday put the leading elements in the outskirts of Valencia and only two miles from the airfield. The 31st had slashed ahead six miles Wednesday and five miles the day before, and there were no indications their advance had slowed.

### Meet Stiff Resistance

To the north, however, the 40th division met stiff resistance from Japanese artillery and mortar positions in the Mangina canyon. The 40th was working its way south through difficult, hilly country carpeted with 12-foot high grass.

The two divisions were 31 air-line miles, or 45 miles along the winding Sayre highway, from a junction which would split Mindanao lengthwise.

On Luzon, seasonal rains continued to hamper American advances but the battle for Ipo dam appeared nearing a close. The 43rd division continued closing in on a Japanese force trapped in the dam area, northeast of Manila, and only a matter of hundreds of yards separated its north and south forces.

### Army Authorities Deny Plot to Kill Gen. Eisenhower

PARIS, May 18 (UP)—This French capital was turned into an armed camp for 10 tense days last December when scores of German secret agents were reported prowling through the city under orders to murder Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, allied counter-intelligence headquarters revealed today.

Breaking their months-long silence on the reported assassination plot, which at one time was accepted as true, even by high-ranking allied staff officers, counter-intelligence spokesmen said the attack on Eisenhower never was actually attempted.

They disclosed that guards were posted all over Paris during the abortive German offensive in the Ardennes last December after a captured Nazi shoulder declared that an elaborate scheme was afoot to kill Eisenhower.

Drastic counter-measures were initiated and from 10 to 50 suspects were picked up nightly. By Dec. 30, the army announced it had rounded up more than 300 enemy agents, including several women.

The infiltration virtually ceased by that time and the murder plot, which allied officers then believed was under way, was described as "definitely under control."

Counter-intelligence officers emphasized today that Skorzeny "had no part in a plot to kill Gen. Eisenhower because there was no plot."

### Bandit To Face Murder Charge

VALE, Ore., May 18 (UP)—Kenneth Bailey, Klamath Falls, Ore., is scheduled to appear before Circuit Judge M. A. Biggs here tomorrow to plead to a charge of first degree murder in the gun battle death of two men near Weiser, Ida., April 29.

Oregon State Police Sgt. Ted Chamber of Ontario, and formerly of La Grande, and Bailey's operado partner, William R. Duffy, 22, were killed in the gun battle. Bailey is charged with Chamber's death.

A grand jury charged Bailey with first degree murder and assault with intent to kill.

## Soviet Threat to Join War On Nippon Reported As Alternative to Surrender

The often inaccurate Paris radio today broadcast a report attributed to Ankara, which said Russia had served an ultimatum on Japan, demanding surrender on allied terms.

The Paris broadcast, recorded by the United Press in New York, said: "The Ankara radio reports that according to diplomatic circles in San Francisco the Soviets handed an ultimatum to Japan, declaring that should Japan not surrender to the allies at the latter's conditions, the Soviets would be obligated to side with the allies."

GUAM, May 18 (UP)—A great artillery duel of unprecedented fury in the Pacific war flared along the Okinawa battle line today as tenth army forces slugged their way, yard by yard, into the three wrecked bastion towns of Naha, Shuri and Yonabaru.

Tokyo reported without supporting allied evidence that a powerful American fleet stamed out of the Marianas last Sunday or Monday, presumably for new forays against the Japanese empire.

Front dispatches indicated U. S. ground forces now were battling inside Shuri and Yonabaru, as well as in Naha, where marines of the sixth division expanded a hard-won bridgehead across the Asato river.

The enemy had reported earlier that American troops broke into Shuri, the inland anchor of the Japanese defense line lying midway between Naha on the west coast and Yonabaru on the east.

Advances Are Small Nowhere were the Americans making big advances. Fiercely resisting Japanese, supported by the heaviest concentrations of artillery ever assembled by the enemy in the Pacific war, limited Yank gains to yards and feet.

Front dispatches said marines deep inside Naha were cracking fanatic Japanese resistance there. But later reports said the leathernecks in Naha were "pinned to new positions," and that only small amounts of equipment had crossed the Asato river at the edge of the city.

Shells from big Japanese and See ARTILLERY . . . Page 5

### Japanese In Burma Face Annihilation

CACUTTA, May 18 (UP)—Troops of the Indian fifth division are making "good progress" in clearing last pockets of Japanese resistance from the west banks of the Sittang river in lower Burma a communique said today.

A general withdrawal south toward Moulmein on the east side of the river was indicated and Japanese troops in Fegu Yomas, mountain area to the southwest, were encircled completely.

In the Toungoo area farther north, other British forces made slight gains against stiff opposition on the road east to Mawohi.

### Union Soldier Is Missing in Europe

Capt. Raymond F. Reuter of Union is listed by the army as missing in action in the European area.

The casualty report lists his next of kin as his father, Eugene F. Reuter of Union, who was notified previously that Capt. Reuter had been wounded in action.

## U. S. Carrier Weathers War's Worst Blow, To Fight Again

WASHINGTON, May 18 (UP)—Big Ben has come back from the most terrible U. S. ship disaster in this war and will fight again—on borrowed time.

Behind her in the bloody Pacific, where for 15 hours she was a flaming funeral pyre for heroes, she counted more than 1,000 casualties as the price of her survival. It was the heaviest price thus far paid by an American fighting ship in World War II. It was twice the cost of the entire battle of the Coral Sea.

Big Ben is the U. S. S. Franklin, 27,000-ton Essex class carrier. An hour after dawn on March 19, as she stood 60 miles off Japan, she was a proud and trim a warship as ever rode the waves. She was a carrier division flagship poised to strike with other units of Vice Adm. Marc Mitscher's task force 58 at remnants of the Japanese fleet in the inland sea.

Bombs, Gas Explode A few minutes later, because one Japanese dive-bomber got through, she was a volcanic chaos of bursting bombs, flaming gasoline and exploding rockets and gun ammunition. Two of the enemy's 500-pound bombs scored direct hits.

By nightfall she counted her heroes high in the hundreds, her dead at 341, her missing at 431, and her wounded at more than 300.

Big Ben's story can be told now because she came back. After steaming 12,000 miles under her own unquenchable power, Big Ben, unrecognizably scarred and battered and mangled, is home in a berth at the Brooklyn (N. Y.) navy yard. There she will be made whole again.

The Japanese bomber, its approach undetected, caught the carrier at the moment of greatest vulnerability when its planes were being launched, its gasoline lines were full and flowing, and See CARRIER . . . Page 6

### Trieste Is Quiet Under Dual Guard

TRIESTE, May 18 (UP)—Both allied and Yugoslav troops in Trieste are trying to avoid incidents, pending final decision on who is to occupy the port.

An estimated 1,000 Yugoslav troops still patrolled the streets today, but more mature soldiers have replaced those who originally entered the city. Many of the young Yugoslavs blamed for irresponsible shootings which might have started serious incidents are gone.

There have not been any kickbacks yet from the seizure of loot from troops under Marshal Tito's command by American forces in the Forlizia area.

nor joy left in him as he languished in a 15th corps prisoner of war cage. He appeared to weigh no more than 150 pounds, and he was cold sober.

However he was a Nazi to the last. "You cannot kill off 80,000,000 Germans," he said. "Nazis will continue. You don't know who most of them are." He pointed through a window to Austrian flags flying in Salzburg's streets. "Many of those flying there are the most fanatical Nazis."

Quietly defiant, Ley said: "I myself shall always remain loyal to Hitler and the Nazi party program."

Ley once was a pot-bellied, bull-necked, hard-drinking, profane labor boss. Today there were neither strength

### 'Buddy Poppies' to Be Sold by VFW To Aid Veterans

Plans for observing May 25 and 26 as "Buddy Poppy" sales days by the auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars were announced today by Mrs. L. R. Edwards, in connection with opening of headquarters on Adams avenue in the building bearing the numerals "5001" on the window. Mrs. Frederick Gehring will be the headquarters assistant.

The "Buddy" poppy has been adopted by the VFW as the symbol of the organization's assistance to disabled veterans and the children in the VFW home.

The post and auxiliary have accepted a quota of 4,000 poppies to be sold locally during the two-day period.

The proceeds will go in their entirety to the various phases of the organization's work for and with veterans and their families including maintenance of the national home for children; hospitalization and entertainment, funeral expenses, individual relief for service men and numerous other purposes.

### Local Nurses to Join Army Corps

Four La Grande nurses have applied for entrance into the army nurse corps, it was reported by First Lt. Carolyn Hilt-wanger and Lt. William H. Braun, who were here to recruit nurses.

They are Lois Raemussen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Raemussen, 1914 First street, who is employed at Grande Ronde hospital; Dorothy Ferney of Durkee, who has currently been employed as Dr. F. L. Ralston's office nurse; Mildred Hebner of Elgin, employed at Grande Ronde hospital, and Carol Bernice Miller of 707 Fourth street who will take her state board examinations next week.

They plan to enter July 1. Additional applications will be accepted at the local Red Cross headquarters or may be made in writing to Army Recruiting Station, 614 S. W. 11th avenue, Portland.

### Last Rites Held For Church Leader

SALT LAKE CITY, May 18 (UP)—The body of Heber J. Grant, 88-year-old president of the Latter Day Saints church, was laid to rest today in the city cemetery in the rolling foothills of the Wasatch mountains.

Thousands of his followers crowded their way into the marble-walled lobby of the church administration building last night for a last look at the venerable leader who directed the church's activities for 26 years.

Grant, first native of Utah to assume the church presidency, died at his home here Monday night.

### Curb Sought On Surplus Disposal

WASHINGTON, May 18 (UP)—Legislation to require congressional review of the surplus property board's plans to dispose of large navy installations and equipment was approved unanimously today by the House naval affairs committee.

The bill offered by the committee would require congressional action before battleships and other major combat craft are disposed of. It also would require the surplus property board to give congress 60-day notice before getting rid of other large naval facilities.

### Sudden Changes In Meat Prices Out

WASHINGTON, May 18 (UP)—War Mobilization Director Fred M. Vinson, is expected shortly to assure the public that there will be no change in meat ceiling prices without six months advance notice, congressional sources said today.

Such a move, they declared, would be intended to inspire confidence all along the meat industry from the cattle range-man through to the housewife.

Vinson also is expected to announce a subsidy to cattle feeders of 50 cents per hundred-weight, paid on the basis of the catts' weight when sold by the feeder.

### Band School Will Start Monday

Opening of the La Grande high summer band school Monday for the third year was announced today by Leroy Darling, director and supervisor.

He announced the classes will be open for both beginners and advanced students of school age and will continue for six weeks. The beginners' class will be held at 1 p.m. and instruction for advanced students at 8 a.m.

### Local Prisoner of Germans Liberated

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Lockwood have received word from their son, Cpl. Robert Lockwood, who was in a German prison camp for 19 months, that he has been liberated and is now in the hands of the British and United States troops. He said he is well and expects to be home soon.

Corporal Lockwood, served through the African campaign and was taken prisoner in Italy.

### Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m. Temperature: Maximum 57 Minimum 35 Precipitation .12 Forecast: Cloudy with showers tonight and Saturday; possibility of frost tonight.

### Jap Plane, Fuel Plants Neutralized By Superforts

GUAM, May 18 (UP)—American planes have wrecked four of Japan's biggest oil supply plants and a hitherto unknown aircraft assembly works, it was disclosed today.

The 21st bomber command announced that 400 B-29's had "rendered inoperative" the oil centers in attacks on southern Japan May 10.

A "50 per cent knockout blow" against the new Kumamoto aircraft assembly plant in north-central Kyushu by carrier planes last Monday was revealed in a delayed dispatch from a task force off Japan.

Large Area Burns Detailed results of the second American B-29 raid in three days on Nagoya yesterday awaited reconnaissance photographs. Returning crewmen said all southern Nagoya, including the giant Mitsubishi aircraft works and the dock area, was in flames when they left.

The bomber command said that B-29s which hit Oshima, a small island off southwest Honshu, on May 10 destroyed all but five of the 65 oil storage tanks there.

Bomb damage at the Otake oil refinery on southern Honshu covered the entire target area. The plant was listed as "out of operation."

"Extensive damage" also was reported throughout the Tokuyama naval fuel station, Japan's main naval fueling station, and the adjoining Tokuyama synthetic fuel factory, principal source of fuel for Japanese army planes.

Only one area immediately west of the target areas at Tokuyama escaped damage, reconnaissance revealed.

A dispatch from the flagship of an American carrier task force off Japan said pilots who hit the Kumamoto assembly plant reported the factory no longer would be of use to the enemy.

were hundreds of discharged, war-weary soldiers hiking back home.

Maj. R. M. Sherick, corps staff officer, of Polson, Mont., said that so far no incidents or trouble had been reported.

Three pretty German girls, who said they had been bicycling three days from their home west of Dresden, admitted they were frightened of Russian occupation. They only shrugged their shoulders when Sgt. Felix Liebmann of Central Moriesh, N. Y., assured them the Russians would not mistreat them.

Three former wehrmacht soldiers called the Nazis "swine" when asked how they felt about the war. They cursed Hitler and spat when they spoke his name.