

Superforts Blast Jap War Centers

A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
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Marines Halted in Okinawa Drive

7th War Loan Bond Sales In Union County Amount To 15 Percent of Quota

Closing of the first week of general activity in the 7th war loan campaign found Union county with approximately 15 per cent of its over-all quota sold, and slightly less than 17 per cent of the \$741,000 allotment of E bonds accounted for, and three weeks remaining in which the remainder must be sold to reach the campaign objective.

Foochow Fall May Open Way For U. S. Invasion of China

CHUNGKING, May 19 (UP)—Chinese troops have liberated the east coast port of Foochow, which the Japanese fear may become an American invasion gateway to China.

It was announced today the city, opposite Formosa and Okinawa, fell at 5 a. m. yesterday after a bitter week-long battle during which positions changed hands repeatedly.

The final attack was launched Thursday morning, a communique said. Japanese remnants were said to be fleeing southeast toward the coastal town of Mami, pursued closely by the Chinese.

The American conquest of all but the southern tip of Okinawa, along with the neighboring Kerama islands, already has given the allies a passage through Japan's Rikyu island chain to the east China sea and Foochow.

Any attempt to force the east China sea at this time, however, would expose allied ships to attacks by Japanese planes based on Formosa and occupied China.

At a hearing late yesterday, Wilbur Henderson, representing the Oregon Business and Tax Research Inc., of Portland explained how a conference committee report was left out of the bill as it was finally signed by the governor.

The tax group claims that the omission makes the law invalid, as it was signed in a form not intended by the legislature.

Two Japanese, who had committed hara-kiri aboard the submarine reportedly had been buried at sea. The submarine surrendered 500 miles east of Newfoundland this week to U. S. naval forces.



MARINES BATTLE FOR NAHA CITY—On a ridge two miles north of Naha City, Okinawa, marines battle strong enemy forces before the position was captured. Here amid shellbursts and rifle fire, the leathernecks prepare for the drive on the town. Marine corps photo.

Borneo, Philippine Gains Chalked Up By Allied Forces

MANILA, May 19 (UP)—American troops today seized two important objectives in the Philippines — Ipo dam on Luzon and Valencia airfield on Mindanao — and Australian forces completed the conquest of oil-rich Tarakan island.

American planes already were operating from the two airstrips at Valencia, flying in supplies and making close air support missions, while 31st division troops had pushed on northward to within 14 miles of Malaybalay.

Malaybalay, capital of Bukidnon province, is an important agricultural center. Troops of the 40th and American divisions pushing from the north by-passed the stubborn enemy nests of resistance in the Mangina river canyon to occupy Dalirig, one mile to the east.

Yanks Occupy Big Area of Germany

PARIS, May 19 (UP)—Supreme headquarters disclosed today that Lt. Gen. Leonard T. Gerow's 15th U. S. army is occupying 14,000 square miles of Germany, including the Saar basin, the Rhine valley, and the western half of the Ruhr.

Baseball Results

AMERICAN LEAGUE			
	R	H	E
Philadelphia	0	4	0
Cleveland	4	9	0
Chicago	2	7	3
Boston	2	7	3
St. Louis	3	8	3
Washington	6	6	1
Detroit	2	8	3
WORLD AND GUERRA; Trout, Houtteman, Orrell and Swift, Rich-ards.			
BOSTON; Wilson, Woods, Ryba and Walters, Garbark; Hun, Pappish and Tresh.			
NATIONAL LEAGUE			
Pittsburgh at New York, both games postponed rain.			
St. Louis at Philadelphia, postponed, rain.			
Cincinnati at Boston postponed, rain.			

Hills Are Key Point Of Battle

GUAM, May 19 (UP)—Japanese troops on southern Okinawa battled four American divisions almost to a standstill today as the bloodiest campaign of the Pacific war went into its 49th day on a note of rising fury.

Marines and army troops were inside Naha, Shuri and Yonabaru, the three anchors of the Japanese line, but key hills dominating the cities were changing hands as many as four times in 24 hours in the swaying battle.

Break in Security Parley Stalemate Is In Prospect

SAN FRANCISCO, May 19 (UP)—The possibility of an early "break" in the United Nations conference impasse over the regional arrangements issue was seen today when a late afternoon session of the conference's big five was scheduled.

It will be the first time the big five has met since Wednesday. A meeting was scheduled for Thursday but was cancelled because the Russian delegation had not yet received instructions from Moscow on what stand it should take on the compromise regional arrangements formula reached by the United States and Latin American countries after 10 days of negotiations.

West Benefits in Freight Rate Cut Ordered By ICC

WASHINGTON, May 19 (UP)—The interstate commerce commission today held that the basic freight rate schedule between eastern, southern and western territories is "unreasonable."

The commission ordered temporary adjustments effective Aug. 30. The commission ordered a 10 per cent reduction in rates based on the present structure in and between southern and western territories and between these territories and the east.

Bandit Denies He Killed Officer

VALE, Ore., May 19 (UP)—Kenneth Bailey, Klamath Falls, Ore., today pleaded innocent to charges of first degree murder and assault with intent to kill filed against him as outcome of a gun battle near Weiser, Ida., April 29 in which his desperado companion and an Oregon state police sergeant were killed.

School Days End, 1850 Youngsters Start Vacations

School days were concluded yesterday for the summer vacation period and some 1,850 youngsters of La Grande laid aside their wrestling matches with the three-Rs and kindred subjects to put in their time for the most part in enjoying themselves.

Transport Strike in Los Angeles Averted

LOS ANGELES, May 19 (UP)—A threatened strike of 3500 bus and trolley operators that would have paralyzed Los Angeles' transportation system was averted today when union officials announced members had voted unanimously to accept the transportation company's proposals.

The plan accepted provides for a 5-cent increase in hourly rates plus retention of a special wartime bonus. The union had asked for a flat 8-cent increase.

Demolition Bombs Rain on Hamamatsu; Tokyo Also Attacked

GUAM, May 19 (UP)—More than 300 Superfortresses rocked the Japanese war production center of Hamamatsu, 60 miles south of devastated Nagoya, with at least 2,100 tons of bombs at the noon rush hour today.

(Meanwhile radio Tokyo reported that a large force of B-29s struck at Tokyo "and conducted blind, indiscriminate bombing from above the clouds." Approximately 90 Superfortresses took part in the raid, which caused "practically no damage," Tokyo said.)

The giant B-29s rained demolition bombs on the coastal city for a half hour through overcast that prevented observation of results. Two-based fighters escorted the bombers, which attacked from medium altitude.

The raid was the third within six days by 300 or more B-29s against prime industrial targets in Japan. The two previous raids on Monday and Thursday were against Nagoya, now one quarter destroyed.

The first of the B-29s attacked Hamamatsu at 12:30 p.m. Japanese time and for the next half hour bombs crashed on the city at the rate of 70 tons a minute. It was the biggest raid yet on the city.

Targets included plants turning out airplane propellers, important railway shops and four airfields, Hamamatsu's pre-war population totalled 166,000.

A Tokyo broadcast said 30 other B-29s sowed mines in Wakasa Bay, on the north coast of Honshu, and 10 more dropped mines in the Beppu channel on the inland sea.

Reconnaissance photographs revealed that 5.9 square miles of Nagoya had been burned out in the two raids this week. This brought the area destroyed since the start of B-29 raids on Nagoya to 11.3 square miles, 22 per cent of the whole city.

The famed Nagoya castle and 33 specific industrial and military targets, including the Mitsubishi aircraft factories, were destroyed or damaged in the last two days. Of the total area, 3.1 square miles were burned out Monday and 2.8 square miles Thursday.

This brought the total area destroyed or damaged by Superfortress fire raids on six Japanese cities to 59.58 square miles.

Navy search planes of fleet air wing No. 1 sank a small freighter south of Korea and damaged two freighter-transports and an oiler in the same area yesterday.

Renwick Clark Is Chosen President Of Farm Bureau

Renwick Clark was elected president of the La Grande local Farm Bureau at the final meeting of the spring session, held recently in the IOOF hall.

Frank Roole was elected vice-president and Mrs. O. A. Klinghammer, secretary-treasurer. Installation will be at the fall meeting September 20.

Ninety-five members and guests attended the potluck dinner which preceded the business meeting. Dr. Margaret Ingle arranged the program.

Dr. Henry Ehlers, of the music department of Eastern Oregon college, presented the college girls' choir in a group of vocal assistant professor of English spoke on light verse, reading appropriate quotations. Mrs. Roy Skeen presented two humorous readings.

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Stalin Stand On Arrested Poles Widens Ally Rift

LONDON, May 19 (UP)—Premier Stalin bluntly affirmed Russia's refusal to negotiate with 16 arrested Polish leaders today in a statement which London sources said widened the rift between the Soviets and the western allies on the Polish issue.

Stalin called for solution of the Polish problem and reconstruction of the Polish provisional government at Warsaw in strict accordance with the Crimean decisions.

He asserted the arrests of the 16 Polish leaders—among them men recommended by the United States and Britain for inclusion in the coalition regime—were in "no way connected with the reconstruction" of the government.

Neither, he said, had the Russians ever invited the arrested men to discuss formation of the new government.

The Poles, including Vice-Premier J. S. Hankowski of the Polish exile government in London, were arrested by the Red army on charges of diversionist activity behind the Russian lines.

Stalin's statement was received with anxiety bordering on astonishment in Whitehall and Polish exile government headquarters.

Tito Refuses To Give Up Hold On Occupied Areas

ROME, May 19 (UP)—Marshal Sir Arnold Alexander announced today that he had been unable to reach a friendly agreement with Marshal Tito on Yugoslav claims to slices of Italy and Austria, and the allies now are waiting to see whether he will back them up with force.

In a blunt statement baring for the first time the full gravity of the crisis brought on by Marshal Tito's territorial aspirations, the allied supreme commander in the Mediterranean said:

"It is Marshal Tito's apparent intention to establish his claims by force of arms and military occupation. Action of this kind would be all too reminiscent of Hitler, Mussolini, and Japan. It is to prevent such actions that we have been fighting this war."

The disputed Italian territory is that around Trieste and Gorizia and east of the Isonzo river, the part of Italy known as Venezia Giulia. The Austrian area is around Klagenfurt and Villach, the border strip abutting the northwestern corner of Yugoslavia.

First Sight of New Jap 'Human Bomb' Startles Destroyer Crew

GUAM, May 19 (UP)—(By Navy Radio)—"What is it?" cried crew members of an American destroyer when they saw a Japanese baka bomb hurtling toward them at an estimated speed of 488 miles an hour.

Barley 50 yards away the ship's five-inch batteries scored a lucky hit on the human bomb yes there was a Japanese suicide pilot in it—and shattered fuselage, wings, and pilot.

The first eyewitness description of a baka bomb attack was given by Lt. (jg) Andrew Chancellor, Pittsburgh, Pa., who was on the bridge at the time. He had seen German robot bombs when his ship was off Normandy, but he never saw anything like this before.

"Suddenly we saw a Jap betty (twin-engined bombers) approaching at 14,000 yards," said Chancellor. "Something fell away like a belly tank. Then our men seeing this thing coming at us started screaming, 'What the hell is it?'"