

Expansion of Authority Is Sought by Truman

A Community
Newspaper
For Every
Member of the
Family

La Grande Evening Observer

LA GRANDE, OREGON THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 24, 1945

FIVE CENTS

ESTABLISHED 1896

Yanks Turn Japanese Lines

Isolation Of Shuri Imminent

GUAM, Friday, May 25 (UP) — The Japanese reported today a fleet of American transports and a "new" carrier task force have arrived off Okinawa to reinforce tenth army troops locked in a blazing battle for the fortress city of Shuri.

Tokyo said without allied confirmation that a total of "more than 400" vessels have been amassed off the west-central coast of Okinawa under protection of a "new" task force built around six aircraft carriers.

GUAM, Friday, May 25 (UP) — Tenth army troops, in furious fighting, assaulted the fortifications of besieged Shuri today and advanced southward along the east and west coastlines of Okinawa in powerful drives that turned both flanks of the Japanese line.

The enemy's Naha-to-Yonabaru defense system which has held off American forces 55 days showed signs of crumbling except at Shuri, core of desperate Japanese resistance.

Encirclement Threatened
Shuri was threatened with imminent encirclement. Front reports indicated sixth division marines have massed for a full-scale drive into shattered Naha to exploit a bridgehead deep inside the city.

Dispatches said marines of the first division and infantrymen of the 77th and 96th divisions moved forward with raw courage in a frontal attack against the inter-

See YANKS... Page 7

Go Ahead Signal Given to Build New Automobiles

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — War Production Chief J. A. Krug today authorized the automobile industry to start turning out passenger cars as soon after July 1 as individual manufacturers can get their assembly lines going.

Krug said indications are that the industry should be able to produce about 2,000,000 new cars by July, 1946.

He gave the industry specific authorization to make about 200,000 civilian vehicles during the last six months of 1945 if it can obtain the necessary materials.

This will enable auto manufacturers to order their production materials immediately, with deliveries of these materials to start after July 1.

The office of price administration intends to ration these new cars until essential motorists' needs can be met.

WPB will assign individual production quotas to each manufacturer.

Gas Ration To Be Boosted 50 Percent for "A" Card Holders

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — That extra gasoline motorists were promised after V-E day will come to them in June. But it will not be enough to do much extra joyriding.

"A" gasoline rations will be increased only about a gallon a week. "B" rations will be increased, but only if card holders can demonstrate increased need to their local ration boards.

Announcement of the increase was made jointly by Petroleum Administrator Harold L. Ickes and the office of price administration. Ickes said he took "great satisfaction" in giving civilians more gasoline for the first time since rationing began in July, 1941.

Throughout the United States, "A" rations will be increased 50 per cent on June 22 when A16 coupons become



MORMON HEAD—George Albert Smith, 75-year-old president of the Latter Day Saints (Mormon) church council of 12 apostles, has been named eighth president of the church, succeeding the late Heber J. Grant.

"No Appeasement" Plank Ruled Out Of Security Pact

SAN FRANCISCO, May 24 (UP) — Norway's attempt to write into the new world charter an "anti-appeasement" amendment has been defeated, it was revealed today.

The United States, Great Britain, Mexico and the Ukraine were the leading spokesmen against it, contending that the sense of the Norwegian amendment was implicit in the purpose and principles of the organization. Czechoslovakia, herself a victim of appeasement in 1938, supported the Norwegians.

The amendment would have written into the charter a specific statement that the organization should not impose any solution of a dispute on a state that would impair that state's "confidence in its future security or welfare."

The Norwegians argued that it was necessary to outline rules of future conduct because it would be impossible to tell who would be the aggressors of the future. Sir Alexander Cadogan, the British delegate, said potential lawbreakers could not be handled by such an amendment.

Meanwhile, the United States delegation decided to abandon its efforts to eliminate the reference to "full employment" among the objectives of the social and economic council.

Meanwhile, the big five edged toward agreement on the delicate trusteeship question while the little nations waited for the big ones to define when and where they will use their veto.

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m.
Maximum 62
Minimum 40
Precipitation .17
Forecast: Cloudy with showers tonight and Friday.

Himmler Commits Suicide

PARIS, May 24 (UP) — Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler, stripped naked by his captors and defiant to the last, killed himself with a lethal dose of cyanide in a British military prison at Lüneburg last night.

The once-dreaded Nazi hangman fell into British hands Monday during a routine examination of German civilians at Bremervorde, 30 miles west of Hamburg.

Hides Under Disguise
Disguised as a discharged member of the German field security police and accompanied by two Gestapo aides, Himmler at first tried to conceal his identity.

He was taken almost immediately to an internment camp. There Himmler threw off the mask.

"I am Heinrich Himmler," he told his captors. British guards stripped the protesting Gestapo chief and searched him thoroughly from head to foot, and it was not until his dramatic suicide Wednesday night that they discovered he had been concealing a tiny phial of cyanide of potassium in his mouth.

Offered a choice of remaining stripped, wearing British battle dress or wrapping himself in blankets, Himmler angrily chose the blankets. He wore that makeshift covering through the next 48 hours until he was taken before a medical officer at second army headquarters in Lüneburg last night.

The army doctors stripped off his blankets and re-examined him. See HANGMAN... Page 8.

Navy Planes Hit Jap Suicide Bases In Home Islands

GUAM, May 24 (UP) — Some 180 American carrier planes attacked suicide-plane bases in southern Japan today, enemy broadcast said, while miles of Tokyo's industrial water front still blazed from a record pre-dawn Superfortress raid.

Radio Tokyo said the carrier planes began their attacks on bases on Kyushu, southernmost of the Japanese home islands, at 3 p. m. Japanese time. They caused "relatively light" damage, Tokyo said.

Carrier planes and Superfortresses have struck repeatedly in the past month at the Kyushu airfields, from which suicide planes take off to attack American shipping off Okinawa.

Tokyo Fire Rages
More than 550 Superfortresses kindled fires in southern Tokyo visible 200 miles away early today. Approximately 4,500 tons of fire bombs were dropped in the greatest incendiary attack ever made.

A Japanese communiqué said some fires still were burning at 7 a. m. Japanese time, more than five and a half hours after the start of the raid.

It said an arbor in the Imperial palace garden was attacked and an "establishment" within the grounds of the Akasaka detached palace, used to house visiting royalty, had been destroyed.

Other Tokyo broadcasts said the Singaku temple of the Rons, "symbol of Japanese chivalry," was destroyed. Some bombs fell in Yokohama and Kawasaki as well as in Tokyo, the broadcasts said.

La Grande Marine Is War Casualty

A casualty list issued today by the office of war information includes the name of Pfc. Forrest L. Dyal, jr., of La Grande among the members of the marine corps wounded. No details are given. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest L. Dyal of La Grande, who were notified previously.



PRESIDENTIAL AIDES RESIGN—President Truman yesterday announced the resignations of three members of his cabinet and the war bond administrator. Pictured above they are, left to right: upper, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins and Attorney General Francis Biddle; lower, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard and War Food Administrator Marvin Jones. Wickard is slated to become rural electrification administrator and Jones is expected to return to the U. S. court of claims.

Coronation Ball Is Initial Event of College Festivity

Commencement week events at Eastern Oregon college will start Saturday and continue through the following Friday, with outstanding features being Evensong, graduation exercises and baccalaureate services.

Included among the festivities planned for the week are the coronation ball at the college Saturday night; senior breakfast Sunday morning in the IOOF hall; and the reception for the seniors, alumni, parents and friends, held by Dr. Robert J. Maaske, president of the college and the college faculty.

Baccalaureate services will be at 3 p. m. Sunday in the college. Mendelssohn's "Festival March" will be the professional. Rev. Irvin S. Motz will give invocation. The scripture will be read by Rev. O. A. Croft and benediction will be said by Rev. Floyd E. White. The college women's chorus will sing "Alleluia" by Mozart, "Rain" by Russell and "O Divine Redeemer" by Gounod.

The address will be delivered by Rev. Oliver J. Gill, pastor of the First Methodist church of Pendleton, on "A Recipe for Victorious Living."

Graduation Set for June 1
At the graduation exercises at 2:30 p. m. June 1, in the auditorium, Winlow S. Anderson, Sc.D., LL.D., president of Whitman college at Walla Walla, will present the commencement address on "The Obligation of Opportunity."

Dr. Maaske will preside. Invocation will be said by Rev. Stanley Hunt, and the benediction by the Rev. M. J. McMahon.

An acknowledgement of gifts to the college will be made by Phil McIntosh, member of the Oregon state board of higher education. Lyle H. Johnson will present the graduates who will then receive their degrees, certificates and diplomas.

"Hymn of Youth," Sequence, "I Hear Your Voice," Evans, "Vanity," Ehlers, and "Your Land and My Land," Remberg, will be sung by the college women's chorus, interspersing the program.

The student body at Eastern Oregon college conferred its highest honor to a graduate and a faculty member. See COLLEGE... Page 5.



President to Pay Visit to Northwest

OLYMPIA, Wash., May 24 (UP) — Gov. Mon C. Wallgren announced today that President Harry S. Truman has agreed to spend a "day or two" in the Pacific northwest following his address before the final plenary session of the San Francisco conference.

Wallgren confirmed a statement made earlier by presidential press secretary Charles G. Ross that Mr. Truman would come to the northwest for a "rest."

Wallgren and Truman are close personal friends and were associated on the Truman committee investigating the war effort.

Unable to witness the inauguration of his former colleague as governor of Washington, Truman had agreed to visit the state about April 27.

However, the passing of the late President Roosevelt and subsequent developments placing Truman in the nation's top administrative job forced cancellation of the April visit.

Admirer of Northwest
Truman often has expressed his admiration for the scenery and grandeur of the west, and visited the west coast particularly during his chairmanship of the senate investigating committee.

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — White House press secretary Charles G. Ross announced today that President Truman will fly to the west coast for his appearance at the final plenary session of the United Nations conference at San Francisco.

Ross said Mr. Truman will arrive in San Francisco only a few hours before the speech which he will deliver in the San Francisco opera house witnessing the signing of the world security charter.

Ross said Mr. Truman's address will take about 15 minutes. Tentative plans call for the president to attend a reception for the delegates immediately after the plenary session and then leave San Francisco within a few hours.

Plan to Expand Social Security Is Given Congress

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — A bill to extend social security benefits to an additional 15,000,000 persons and provide federal grants for health insurance, unemployment compensation and public assistance benefits was introduced today by Sen. Robert F. Wagner, D., N. Y.

Health Aides Provided
The bill provides for grants to states of \$500,000,000 over a 10-year period for hospital construction; grants for public health services; grants for maternal and child health and welfare services; establishment of a permanent service system; prepaid personal health insurance; unemployment compensation; and temporary disability insurance up to \$30 a week for 26 weeks; and retirement, survivors and total disability insurance benefits up to \$120 a month.

The bill also provides for grants to states of \$500,000,000 over a 10-year period for hospital construction; grants for public health services; grants for maternal and child health and welfare services; establishment of a permanent service system; prepaid personal health insurance; unemployment compensation; and temporary disability insurance up to \$30 a week for 26 weeks; and retirement, survivors and total disability insurance benefits up to \$120 a month.

Bonds will be sold to those who wish to purchase them during the event.

Baseball Results

AMERICAN LEAGUE

St. Louis 6 9 2
Boston 3 14 1
*Kramer, Miller, West and Hayworth, Mancuso; Woods, Ryba and Garbark.

Chicago 3 12 4
New York 6 11 0
*Grove, Johnson, Papish, and Treab; Donald and Crompton.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Philadelphia 6 8 1
Chicago 3 5 1
*Barret and Mancuso; Derringer, Stewart (5), Erickson (6) and Rice.

Meeting of 'Big Three' is Planned

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — The White House said today that a big three meeting is "definitely in the works."

Presidential Press Secretary Charles G. Ross emphasized that the London and Moscow diplomatic missions of Joseph E. Davies and Harry L. Hopkins, announced by Mr. Truman yesterday, do not in any way take the place of the projected big three meeting.

Permanent Power to Reorganize Federal Agencies Proposed

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — President Truman, moving vigorously to remake the administration he inherited on April 12, asked congress today for permanent authority to make the executive branch "more business-like and efficient."

He asked for legislation so flexible that it would permit the chief executive to undertake "any form of organizational adjustment, large or small, for which necessity may arise."

The president's request, couched in a special message to congress, followed by less than 12 hours announcement of new cabinet changes which some observers believed were the prelude to a general shakeup.

Mr. Truman's message was general in nature, but it recalled reports heard here this week that he is well disposed toward the idea of setting up a "general business manager" for the government.

The legislation he is requesting would make it possible for him to do so. It also would give him broad powers to make virtually any other innovations in the interests of efficiency.

The proposed business manager would not be primarily a policy-making officer; instead he would guard against duplication of effort and expense, making recommendations to the president.

Technically what the president asked was legislation generally similar to the reorganization act of 1939 and a section of the first war powers act of 1941 which empowers the president to make necessary adjustments in the executive organization.

The 1939 reorganization act provides that the president shall notify congress of the changes. See PRESIDENT... Page 7.

Enemy Landing On Morotai Claimed By Tokyo Radio

By United Press
Tokyo radio claimed Thursday that Japanese storm troops have landed on Morotai island, American base off the north coast of Halmahera and 400 miles south-east of Davao in the Philippines.

The enemy broadcast heard by United Press in San Francisco, said "surprise raiders" came ashore at night on landing barges, penetrating the American coastal cordon.

Tokyo admitted that American torpedos boats engaged the landing party, and said only "a number of our storm units were landed."

Morotai is an important base for operations in Mindanao and on Tarakan in the Dutch East Indies.

MANILA, May 24 (UP) — Converging American troops in north central Mindanao swept almost unopposed today into the last eight miles separating them from a junction that would split the island lengthwise.

Troops of the 31st division, striking north, brushed aside resistance at Kalsangay, a mile and a half north of recently captured Malaybalay, in a 10 mile advance to capture Dalwanggan.

Spearheads of the 40th and American divisions pushed south several miles beyond Maluko toward the junction with the 31st.

The Japanese made no serious effort to halt the closing pincers. Apparently realizing the hopelessness of their position, the defenders were reported retiring to the hills for a last stand.

If the central Mindanao gap is closed, the Japs will have lost everything worth holding in that area," a spokesman at Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters said.

State Has Surplus Funds to Cover Building Program Costs

PORTLAND, Ore., May 24 (UP) — A lot of people are confused by the June 22 ballot proposal to provide money for postwar building construction. Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., seeking to clarify the legislative situation, today pointed out:

1. Oregon has the money it needs to finance the \$10,000,000 program.

2. All the voters are asked to do is approve a "mechanical device" so the money can be spent.

3. The state tax commission will have a surplus of \$15,625,221.51 on June 30, more than enough to "completely offset the five-mill, two-year property tax provided in the proposed measure."

4. It will not cost the taxpayers a nickel.

Farrell added the state des-

Ousting of FDR Intimates Seen in Cabinet Shake-up

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP) — President Truman has released four of the 10 cabinet members he inherited from Franklin D. Roosevelt, and insiders said today that several more are slated to go.

The postoffice, justice, agriculture and labor departments, have been affected so far. Changes also are taking place among the even more intimate advisers of the late President Roosevelt.

The net effect appears to be a potentially more conservative administration.

Has Other Resignations

In announcing the cabinet changes yesterday Mr. Truman said he has resignations on file from every official who can resign. He remarked that he could accept them at will.

With the cabinet shake-up came announcement that Harry L. Hopkins had been sent to Moscow on a "special diplomatic mission." The language of the announcement permitted the assumption that Hopkins might not return to his job as "special assistant to the president."

The White House shakeup has just begun. Most of the Roosevelt intimates will go, it is understood.

Judge Samuel I. Rosenman of New York, special counsel to the late President Roosevelt, will abandon his White House desk by June 15. He plans to open law offices in New York.

David K. Niles of Massachusetts, one of the political manipulators among Roosevelt's White House associates, also is understood to be on the way out.

Davies Goes to London

The White House also announced that Joseph E. Davies, one of the wealthiest democrats, has been sent on a special temporary diplomatic mission to London. Davies long has been eager for the permanent ambassadorial post there.

Congress uniformly applauded the cabinet changes announced. There were cheers for the announcement that responsibilities of the secretary of agriculture and the war food administrator hereafter would be given one individual.

Friday and Saturday Are Poppy Days

Poppies will bloom in the laps of all La Grande Friday, officially proclaimed Poppy Day, when the auxiliaries of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars will offer for sale the little red flower commemorating the dead and wounded heroes of our wars.

No set price will be asked. Purchasers will give what they please, but every cent that is obtained through the sales goes toward the rehabilitation of disabled fighting men and to the aid of the children of the dead and disabled.

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