

# Yanks Crack Last Okinawa Defense

## La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON  
Union and Wallowa Counties

LA GRANDE, OREGON FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 8, 1945

FIVE CENTS

### Plateau Bastion Flanked

GUAM, Saturday, June 8 (UP)—Okinawa front dispatches said today the American 10th army captured the fortified villages of Shindawaku and Gushikan, flanking the Japanese defenses on the southeast and breaking open the center of the last major pocket on the island.

Let Gen. Simon B. Buckner's troops advanced through Shindawaku, three miles northwest of Gushikan. They pushed 500 yards beyond the village, sealing the steep slopes of the Yaeju-Dake escarpment on which the Japanese were making their last stand.

Maj. Gen. Archibald V. Arnold's seventh division seized Gushikan, one of the four anchors of the Yaeju-Dake escarpment where an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 doomed Japanese are dug in for a final battle of annihilation.

Gushikan may prove to be a valuable "back door" to the plateau fortress, which now was besieged by four American divisions. Marines and doughboys moved relentlessly forward, herding the enemy slowly toward the sea under a furious assault with tanks, flame-throwers, rockets and artillery.

United Press war correspondent E. G. Valens reported army patrols captured Shindawaku, three miles northwest of Gushikan, and pushed ahead five hundred yards in an advance up the steep side of the escarpment.

Radio Tokyo gloomily conceded that the impending loss of Okinawa has plunged Japan into a "very difficult stage" of the war.

Reversing an earlier propaganda stand, however, Tokyo insisted the battle of Okinawa "never was intended to decide the fate of our nation."

The Okinawa campaign was nearing its end, but American commanders acknowledged there would be tough fighting ahead before the island can be called secure.

Japanese, falling back slowly in two shrinking pockets, converted every hillock and cave of the plateau into a defense position.

Yanks advancing uphill were swept by enemy machine gun fire from hill-top emplacements.

Advance units of Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley's 98th division slashed into the outskirts of Tomui, a second anchor town at the base of the plateau.

### Boys' Conclave at Corvallis Cancelled

Cancellation of the annual Beaver Boys' State, conducted annually by the Oregon department of the American Legion, was announced today by George T. Tis, commander of the La Grande post.

The event was to have been held in Corvallis July 1 to 7, with John Duffin, Donald Smith and Doug Talney as La Grande representatives, sponsored respectively by the Legion, Elks' lodge and Lions club.

Tis said the cancellation was due to the travel restrictions imposed by the office of defense transportation.

The event is held to bring together outstanding high school boys from all parts of the state in a conclave in which they set up a state government, filling the various state offices.

### Railroad Man Is Given Promotion

Appointment of H. W. Belden as road foreman of engines on the Union Pacific lines between Huntington and La Grande was announced today by officials of the road. His headquarters will be in La Grande.

Belden has been an engineer on the Oregon division of the railroad since August, 1941, and has been employed by the company since January, 1923, when he started as a fireman on the Oregon division.

### Baseball Results

By United Press

Cincinnati	3	7	0
Chicago	7	14	2
Lisenbee, Bosser (7), Fox (8) and Unser; Derringer and Livingston. Losing pitcher: Lisenbee; home run for Cincinnati—Unser, 7th, one on.			
Boston	6	8	1
New York	4	8	1
Hausmann, Barrett (6), Johnson (9) and Unser; Bonham, Gettel (6) and Garbark. Losing pitcher: Bonham; winning pitcher: Hausmann. Home runs for Boston—Metkovich, 7th, one on.			

# Carrier Planes Batter Jap Homeland

## Big Five Defend Right to Veto Council Proposals; Soviets Drop 'Gag' Demand

SAN FRANCISCO, June 8 (UP)—A reunited big five today defended their right to veto action by the proposed world security council but guaranteed freedom for the council to discuss any dispute before taking action.

The big five interpreted the Yalta voting formula presented to the United Nations conference and made public a few hours after Soviet Russia—on direction of Premier Josef Stalin—withdraw its demand for a big power veto even over discussion of disputes in the council.

## Voters Will Name Member of School Board June 18

La Grande school district voters will ballot to fill a one vacancy on the school board on Monday, June 18, it was announced today.

Last filing for candidates will be Monday, June 11. Declaration of candidacy must be filed with the clerk of the school board, R. O. Williams, before 5 o'clock Monday evening, when the office closes.

Claude Berry, real estate and insurance man, whose term expires, has announced his candidacy for reelection to the position. He has served two terms on the board, since 1937.

"I am very much interested in school affairs and associated work," he said, in announcing his candidacy. "I will continue to serve as diligently as in the past, if the public wishes me to do so."

Election will be held at the Greenwood and Central schools from 2 p. m. to 7 p. m. on June 18. The term is for five years.

## Japs Weaken On Luzon; Mindanao Defense Stiffens

MANILA, June 8 (UP)—The 37th division advanced almost all day today through broken Japanese lines in the Cagayan valley of northern Luzon.

The 37th had dashed 13 miles in two days from Artao to a point three miles beyond the captured town of Bambang. That put them within about five miles of Bayombong, capital of Nueva Vizcaya province.

Resistance in the past few days has been described as light or sporadic.

On Mindanao the situation was different with today's communication from Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reporting stiffening resistance in the Davao sector. Gains were limited. Dive bombers hammered the stubborn Japanese positions.

## Gen. Patton Back, Enroute Westward

BOSTON, June 8 (UP)—Gen. George S. Patton Jr., accompanied by his wife and 45 bedeviled officers and men of his third army, took off from the army airbase at Bedford today enroute to his native California.

Somewhat weary after a gala civic celebration here yesterday and last night, Patton was in the first of three C-54 transports that touched out over the Middlesex valley and headed west.

The general, still wearing his shiny battle helmet, carrying his riding crop and with his two black-handled pistols on his hip, posed for army photographers.

## Truman Rebuffed On Tariff Cuts

WASHINGTON, June 8 (UP)—The senate finance committee today voted 10 to 9 against the administration's request for authority to cut tariff rates 50 per cent below present levels.

The committee struck the tariff cutting authority out of a bill to extend the reciprocal trade agreements program for three years.



CABINET BOUND?—Washington observers predict that Judge Sherman Minton, above, of the U. S. court of appeals, Chicago, will be President Truman's next cabinet selection, either as secretary of war or secretary of the interior. Minton is a former New Deal senator from Indiana and has a military background.

## Salary Increases Are Proposed For Congress, Cabinet

WASHINGTON, June 8 (UP)—A bill was introduced in the senate today to boost the salaries of congressmen and the vice president by \$10,000 a year and the pay of cabinet officers by \$5,000.

The house voted its members a \$2,500-a-year expense allowance yesterday. President Truman said he thought congressmen ought to give themselves an out-and-out pay boost—to somewhere between \$15,000 and \$25,000 a year. The senate rejected a similar expense proposal.

The senate bill was sponsored by Sens. Styles Bridges, R., N. H., and John H. Overton, D., La., who said they were acting as a result of Mr. Truman's statement that congressmen are grossly underpaid.

Their bill would provide the following increases: Vice president and speaker of the house, from \$15,000 to \$25,000 a year.

Members of the senate, house, territorial delegates and resident commission of Puerto Rico, from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Cabinet officers, from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Overton said he and Bridges were acting in response not only to the president's statement but also to views expressed by many senators in recent debate on a proposed \$2,500-a-year tax-free expense allowance for members of congress.

## War Casualties Reach 1,012,049

WASHINGTON, June 8 (UP)—U. S. combat casualties announced here reached 1,012,049 today.

This was an increase of 9,162 over the total announced last Thursday.

The new total included 895,834 army and 116,215 navy, marine corps, and coast guard casualties as follows:

Army	Navy	Total
Killed 185,670	44,508	230,178
Wounded 556,844	56,767	613,611
Missing 40,117	10,705	57,452
Prisoner 106,573	4,240	110,813
Totals 895,834	116,215	1,012,049

Of the army wounded 317,626 have returned to duty.

## Pine Production, Shipments Decline

PORTLAND, June 8 (UP)—Orders for western pine lumber for the week ending June 2 total 56,435,000 feet, compared with 59,466,000 feet for the previous week and 60,478,000 feet for the corresponding week a year ago, the Western Pine association reported here today.

Similar comparisons of shipments were 69,076,000 feet, 63,806,000 feet and 77,304,000 feet. Similar comparisons of production were 64,612,000 feet, 70,506,000 feet and 77,242,000 feet.

## Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m., June 8:  
Temperature:  
Maximum 69  
Minimum 42  
Precipitation, trace.  
Forecast: Partly cloudy, probable showers tonight and Saturday.

## 200 Naval Raiders Blast Kyushu Bases

GUAM, June 8 (UP)—Two hundred or more American carrier planes raided Kanoya and other suicide-plane bases on Kyushu in southern Japan shortly after noon today, radio Tokyo reported.

Tokyo said the planes attacked in waves of 30 to 40. They presumably came from fast carrier task forces attached to Admiral William F. Halsey's famed third fleet, but there was no immediate confirmation from Pacific fleet headquarters.

Kanoya lies on the eastern shore of Kagoshima Bay on southern Kyushu.

It was the third straight day that American bombers or fighters have been reported over southern Kyushu.

Another Tokyo broadcast said eight B-29s mined waters off the southwest coast of Honshu and the northern coast of Kyushu shortly after last midnight.

A single Superfortress laid mines along the east and north-west coasts of Kyushu during the night, the broadcast said.

Radio Tokyo also said American Superfortresses were "minutely reconnoitering" even "medium and small cities in Japan preparatory to stepping up their aerial bombardment of the home islands."

The broadcast came while the 21st bomber command was awaiting reconnaissance photographs to assess the damage caused to airfields and other targets in Osaka, Japan's biggest war production center, in yesterday's 2,500-ton B-29 raid.

## Doughboys Will Exhibit Equipment On Adams Avenue

A street exhibition of the guns and other equipment used by American infantry will be a part of the "Infantry Day" demonstration to be staged in La Grande next Friday.

Foster Sims, chairman of the committee of the Elks' lodge, sponsors of the program, announced that Adams avenue will be closed between the postoffice and Liberty theater from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. for the exhibition.

Another added feature of the war program to be staged in the high school athletic field at 8:45 p. m. will be a concert by the 28-piece band which is a part of the group to come to the city next week.

Following a formal retreat ceremony on the campus of Eastern Oregon college at 7:30 p. m., in which the local posts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion will participate, the band and infantrymen will parade to the high school.

Sims also announced that spectators will be permitted to enter the high school grounds only through the Second street entrance, as the north end of the athletic field will be used for setting up the equipment used in the simulated warfare.

Sims announced that Eastern Oregon light and power company and Hart construction company, respectively, have volunteered to provide two truck loads of brush and a load of sand required by the infantrymen in the staging of their show.

## Jury Is Called For Bowman Trial

Union county residents who have been called for jury duty, have been notified the circuit court will be convened at 10 a. m. Monday by Judge R. J. Green.

The only criminal action to come before the court at this time is that of Albert Forrest Bowman, 28, who is under indictment on a charge of slaying his father, Albert F. Bowman, at their ranch near North Powder several weeks ago.



B-29 FIRE BOMBS RAIN ON OSAKA—Fire bombs rain on Osaka, Japan's second largest city and largest industrial center during early stage of June 1st devastating raid. Large fires can be seen at left as thousands of bombs descend to add to conflagration.—21st Bomber Command photo.

## Men Who Killed Woman by Fire Sought in Doukhor County

NELSON, B. C., June 8 (UP)—Provincial police were hunting through the turbulent Doukhor county near here today for two men who murdered a woman with fire.

The woman, Mrs. Mary Nazoroff, died in agony in a Nelson hospital several hours after the assailants hurled inflammable liquid over her as she stood in the doorway of her home at Crestova.

Crestova is a village near Nelson, in the heart of the Doukhor county. Mrs. Nazoroff heard a noise outside her home yesterday and went to investigate.

As she opened the door, she was drenched by a liquid that set her clothing and the house afire. Her husband, Kuzman, was also burned when he went to her aid, but other members of the family, three married daughters and two grandchildren, escaped.

Police said they had not yet been able to establish a motive for the crime.

## Chinese Predict Jap Abandonment Of Menaced Bases

CHUNGKING, June 8 (UP)—Chinese military sources predicted today Japanese troops will abandon both Lichow and Kwelin, former American air base towns in Kwangsi province, to escape threatened encirclement by Chinese ground troops.

It was disclosed the enemy already has withdrawn from areas north of embattled Lichow to Keilin, 100 miles distant. Chungking sources said the military value of both cities has been lost to the Japanese because of heavy daily bombings by the 14th air force and severance of the trans-China corridor.

Coastal Control Spreads—On the east coast, Chinese troops battled into the southern suburbs of Futing, extending their control of the east China coast opposite Okinawa to approximately 120 miles.

Chinese advancing of Lichow from three sides captured Tating, 35 miles southwest of Lichow, and Loehong and Yungchien, 50 miles to the north.

A Chinese communique reported savage battling raging in the northern suburbs of Lichow, but here it was believed the defense of the city was in its final stages. Earlier frontline dispatches reported the city's capture were premature.

## Guard Company to Shoot at Pendleton

Capt. G. L. Gregory of the local state guard unit, announced today that arrangements have been made for the company to use the rifle range at Pendleton on June 17, when the guardsmen will shoot the qualification course.

He urged that every member attend the company meeting at 8 p. m. next Monday to plan for the trip to Pendleton and to get equipment in shape for the occasion. He suggested that each man wear old clothing and take rags with which to clean the grease from his rifle.

## Seizure of Wards Is Held Lawful

CHICAGO, June 8 (UP)—The U. S. circuit court of appeals today reversed the decision of federal district judge Philip Sullivan who last January held the government was without authority to seize certain properties of Montgomery Ward and company.

The court's decision was 3 to 2. The higher court ordered that the "government be given the relief it sought." Judge Sullivan had denied a government petition for a restraining injunction against the company.

The court of appeals held that Judge Sullivan's ruling of Jan. 27, 1945, should be reversed.

The army has continued operating Wards pending the appeal to the higher court.

## Former Officer Nabbed

PORTLAND, Ore., June 8 (UP)—The FBI today announced the arrest at Kenett, Ark., of Thomas Lester Van Den Houvel, former Klamath Falls police chief, sought since February. He was sought by federal authorities on a charge of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution after being twice indicted on morals charges.

## Some Housewives May Receive No Canning Sugar

Prospect that some housewives served through the La Grande rationing board may receive no canning sugar this year was revealed today by Miss Nellie Grimmett, chief clerk of the board, because of a reduction in the allotment to 50 per cent of the amount granted last year.

After a survey of the situation at joint meeting of the community service and food panels of the board, a request was made that persons who have received coupons for more than 10 pounds per person return stamps for five pounds to make it possible for the board to distribute them to applicants who might otherwise get none.

It was explained that the allotment of sugar was originally set at 70 per cent of the amount granted last year. Later it was reduced to 50 per cent, but not until after a considerable number of applications had been granted on the original basis of 15 pounds per person.

At the rate applications were being received by the ration board, the total allotment of sugar for canning would have been exhausted in eight days, Miss Grimmett said.

As a result, the OPA asked those who received stamps for 15 pounds each to return the stamps for the additional five pounds, that the board may distribute them to applicants who otherwise would get none.

Miss Grimmett said anyone who returns the stamps will be credited on the board's books, and should more sugar be allotted they will receive additional ration stamps.

## Bowles Objects To OPA Changes

WASHINGTON, June 8 (UP)—Price Chief Chester Bowles said today that proposed congressional changes in the OPA law would "lead to a complete breakdown of price controls."

He referred specifically to the amendments by Sen. Robert Taft, R., O., and Sen. Elmer Thomas, D., Okla. Bowles said enactment of either would cause immediate and substantial increases in the cost of food, clothing and other necessities of life. This, he said, would "lead to a complete breakdown of price controls."

The Thomas amendment, Bowles said, would mean food processors could write their own price tickets.

## SLAYER TO BE HANGED

SEATTLE, June 8 (UP)—Convicted slayer of five-year-old Irene McGough, Joe Bill, 33-year-old Eskimo was back in King county jail today after hearing a jury which had deliberated less than four hours specify that he be hanged.