

Mac Arthur Leads Borneo Invasion

Light Resistance Is Met by Aussies in Four-Point Assault

See Invasion Map on Page 5

MANILA, June 11 (UP)—Allied headquarters announced today that Australian forces had invaded Borneo, seized control of strategic Brunei Bay on the northwest coast, and thrust more than two miles inland toward Brunei, capital of the sultanate of the same name.

Led by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, troops of the Australian ninth division landed against scattered opposition on Labuan island at the entrance to Brunei Bay, on Muara island along its eastern shore, and at nearby Brooketon on the mainland.

With "negligible" casualties in the first phase of the invasion, the Australians captured Labuan town and air field, and on the mainland moved 4,000 yards from Brooketon toward Brunei town.

The Australian ninth division put three assault forces ashore almost simultaneously — on Labuan island at the entrance to the bay, at Muara island on the eastern shore, and nearby Brooketon on the mainland.

Gen. MacArthur, accompanied by Gen. George C. Kenney, commander of the far eastern air forces, and Australian officers, went ashore with the assault waves on Labuan island.

The landings were preceded by shattering naval and aerial bombardments by joint Australian and American air and naval forces.

The allied fleet lobbed shells into the beach in a preliminary barrage, while planes plastered the enemy defenses inland.

Late Sunday afternoon a fourth landing was made on the east side of Labuan island, opposite the original beachhead. Labuan island is in the mouth of Brunei Bay, and commands the entrance to the sweep of water leading to the port and city of Brunei, where the Japanese had a naval base.

Brunei is a small sultanate, between British north Borneo and Sarawak. It was seized by the Japanese in January, 1942. The city of Brunei had a pre-war population of 30,135, of whom only 80 were Europeans.

A. B. Olson Elected President of Lions Club for 1945-46

Members of the La Grande Lions club today elected A. B. Olson as president for the next year. The election was held during the weekly meeting in the Stein cafe banquet room, and resulted in the selection of other officers as follows:

Marcus Roesch, first vice-president; Jesse Rosenbaum, second vice-president; D. W. Hall, secretary; Millard Smith, treasurer; Lores M. Ghan, Gene Detrick, Horace J. Nelson, S. H. Weimer and R. E. Jones, directors; Gordon L. Capts, talltaster, and Ray R. Ragsdale, lion tamer.

They will be installed at the meeting next Monday noon, with Lyle Johnson officiating.

The club voted to give \$12 as a scholarship to send a local youth to the Oregon State college. See A. B. OLSON . . . Page 7

High Court Frees Bund Leaders By Divided Decision

WASHINGTON, June 11 (UP)—The supreme court today directed the acquittal of 24 former leaders of the German-American Bund, including its one-time national president, Gerhard Wilhelm Kunze. They were convicted of advising bundists how to evade the draft laws.

The ex-bundists, sentenced to prison terms of five years each by the southern New York federal district court, appealed after the second circuit court of appeals affirmed their convictions in March, 1943.

They claimed they were denied a fair trial because of war hysteria and "prejudicial" newspaper comment.

The decision was 5 to 4. Justice Owen J. Roberts wrote the majority opinion.

Chief Justice Harlan F. Stone wrote a long dissent, asserting that the bund leaders had not acted "innocently." Justice Stanley Reed, William O. Douglas and Robert H. Jackson shared his views.

Increase in Winter Wheat, Decline in Barley Predicted

WASHINGTON, June 11 (UP)—The department of agriculture today estimated that the winter wheat crop will be 797,255,000 bushels.

This would substantially exceed last year's crop of 784,073,000 bushels.

The department said, however, that one of the coldest May's on record had held back general crop development after an auspicious start earlier this season.

The department said the winter wheat crop is expected to be the second largest on record. Above-average yields were anticipated on a fairly large acreage of spring wheat bringing the prospective total wheat production to 1,085,000,000 bushels, the biggest crop ever produced.

The department said oats and hay promise above average production.

The indicated oat yield is 1,334,376,000 bushels compared with 1,166,392,000 last year. The barley crop was estimated at 257,768,000 bushels compared with 75,963,000 bushels last year. Peas were estimated at 31,519,000 bushel, compared with 31,956,000 last year.

Missing Canadian Bomber Located

VANCOUVER, B. C., June 11 (UP)—The wreckage of a plane, believed to be a Liberator missing for two weeks with eleven men aboard, has been sighted in the Slesse Creek area near the American border and paratroopers are speeding to the rescue, the western air command announced today.

The command said that definite signs of life were seen around the wreckage.

The bomber carried a crew of eleven Royal Air Force men when it vanished in the mountainous country on a routine flight on June 1.

Governor Moves to Get Big Tourist Trade For Oregon

SALEM, Ore., June 11 (UP)—Oregon's \$50,000,000 tourist industry can easily be doubled and perhaps trebled, Gov. Earl Snell said today in announcing a meeting of those interested in the tourist trade.

The meeting, an all day affair, will be held at the statehouse on June 15. The governor said that many organizations and agencies such as chambers of commerce, automobile organizations, the highway department and others, including individuals, have shown interest and concern in the possibilities of increased tourist trade. They will all be represented at the meeting.

"We must get our house in order," the governor said. "We still have a war to win . . . but the time to lay the groundwork is now."

"To get the best results and do the best possible job it is necessary to coordinate our efforts. There should be close cooperation. That is the main purpose of the meeting on June 15," the governor added.

"It is my opinion that we should develop a well-coordinated statewide program of tourist promotion," Gov. Snell concluded.

Few Jap "Suicide" Flights Succeed

SAN DIEGO, June 11 (UP)—Only about one per cent of Japanese suicide planes aimed at American warships ever get through, Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher, commander of famed carrier task force 58, said today.

Mitscher, who said suicide attacks have cost the lives of three officers and 18 enlisted men on his own staff, arrived here to start a 30-day leave before returning to the Pacific.

Ship Repair Men Threaten To Strike

LOS ANGELES, June 11 (UP)—Shipyards in the Los Angeles harbor area, working on damaged war ships, face the threat of repairsmen's strike today over a wage dispute.

Members of 16 AFL unions voted 2,858 to 106 to walk out. After the war labor board shipbuilding commission denied the union's petition for 11.6 per cent higher wages for the men repairing damaged ships than for those working on new ships.

Nazi Plot to Blow Up Canal Revealed

DUBLIN, June 11 (UP)—An Irishman who served in the British army and was captured said today that the nazis had plotted to blow up the Panama canal.

The soldier, John Cushing, said he was detailed to lead a sabotage squad to blow up the Gatun locks of the canal after he pretended to fall in with the Germans.

Cushing, who was captured at Lille in 1940, said that in March, 1941, many Irishmen were taken from other camps and put in a special Irish camp near Berlin. The Germans told them they would get special treatment if they did special work.

Ban On Export of Sugar is Proposed

WASHINGTON, June 11 (UP)—The house republican food committee today urged that non-military sugar shipments overseas be stopped for six months.

This would make available approximately 179,000 tons of sugar a month for home canning and industrial use that otherwise would be exported, the committee reported.

Stilwell Says War May Last Two Years

TENTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Okinawa, June 7 (Delayed) (UP)—Gen. Joseph W. (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell, chief of army ground forces, said today that the war in the Pacific may last another two years.

Even after Tokyo and the main home island of Honshu fall, he said, "it is quite possible that we will have to fight the Japanese in Manchuria."

Decision in Bridges Case is Deferred

WASHINGTON, June 11 (UP)—The supreme court again deferred action today on a number of important pending cases including the five-year legal tangle involving government attempts to deport Harry Bridges, west coast labor leader, as an alien communist.

The court already has delayed by two weeks its customary summer adjournment and an additional one-week extension was ordered today. This means another decision day will be held next Monday.

When the tribunal rules in the case of the Australian-born Bridges, it will be deciding not only whether he actually is a communist but also whether communists are just members of another political organization or whether they advocate rebellion against the United States.

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m.	Temperature:
Maximum	74
Minimum	45
Forecast:	Partly cloudy with probable showers tonight and Tuesday.

Small Fry Satisfied Although Ice Cream Cone Costs \$4,243

TACOMA, Wash., June 11 (UP)—A head of unruly blond hair and a grimy fist clutching three checks appeared unexpectedly across the drug counter.

"I want some money," piped a small voice.

The clerk leaned across the counter and peered down into the blue eyes of barefooted 7-year-old Billy Brooker, attired in tattered lungerees and a Superman sweatshirt.

"I want some money," the tot repeated impatiently.

The clerk glanced at the checks and his eyes flew open. The largest was for \$4,080. The two accompanying checks were for \$157 and \$10 respectively.

"Sorry, there isn't that much money in the store," the clerk explained patiently as he dialed police headquarters. "Will you settle for an ice cream cone?"

Billy would.

At police headquarters, Billy related his story in a matter of fact tone to detective B. C. Sagen. He had picked the checks up from the floor of the central post office after seeing a man drop them while emptying a postal box.

Officers hurried to the post office and confirmed Billy's account. The Washington Co-operative Egg and Poultry association's postal box had been forced open and all the mail removed. Further search turned up an additional \$1,500 in checks and negotiable stocks discarded in a nearby alley.

The case was turned over to the postal inspector.

Meanwhile, Billy reflected on the price of an ice cream cone. He decided inflation had come.

A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON
Union and Wallowa Counties

ESTABLISHED 1896 LA GRANDE, OREGON MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 11, 1945 FIVE CENTS

Yanks Crack Last Okinawa Line

Doughboys Repulse Enemy Counter-Thrusts to Forge Hold at Base of Fortress

GUAM, June 11 (UP)—A spearhead of American infantrymen established a foothold at the rim of the Yaejo-Dake plateau fortress today while other 10th army forces smashed forward in the outer defenses of the last Japanese defense line of Okinawa.

Front dispatches said elements of the 17th infantry division, seventh division, who sealed the escarpment Saturday afternoon and repulsed six Japanese counter-offensives during the week end, still were under heavy machine-gun and mortar fire from entrenched Japanese.

An inexorable drive southward slowly but steadily was herding the Japanese garrison toward the cliffs overlooking the southern Okinawa shoreline.

At least two towns and four hills were captured in the outer works of the so-called Itoyan-Hanahusaku defense system bisecting the southern tip of Okinawa. Itoyan already is in American hands, while the sixth marine division captured all the beach territory between Itoyan and Naha.

Census Reveals Increase in Farm Acreage in County

The area of Union county under cultivation has increased and the average size of the farms is larger, than in 1935, John Kallak, in charge of the 1945 farm census, reported today in Salem.

A United Press dispatch quotes Kallak as reporting the number of farms in the county declined from 1,255 in 1940 to 1,208 this year, and 1,399 in 1935.

The census figures show the total area in farms in the county this year as 496,189 acres, as compared with 471,173 acres in 1940, and 463,536 acres ten years ago.

The average size of the 194 farm is 411 acres, which compares with 375 in 1940, and 346 acres in 1935.

He also reported a decrease in the number of farms in Lake county in the past five years, and an increase in Lane county. In the latter enumerators found 5,351 farms as compared with 4,454 in 1940, and 4,640 in 1935. The acreage there is below the 1935 total, and the average size of the farms, 95.9 acres, is smaller than in 1935, but is greater than in 1940.

Kallak said all the figures are subject to recheck and revision.

Enterprise Marine Killed in Pacific

The death of Cpl. George J. Evans of Enterprise, a member of the marine corps, is reported in a navy department casualty list released today. He was previously reported wounded in action in the Pacific area on the casualty list of May 17.

His next of kin, who was previously notified, is given as his wife, who resides in Enterprise.

THREE FLYERS KILLED

SAN DIEGO, Calif., June 11 (UP)—The navy has announced the names of three fliers killed when their bomber crashed into the sea off San Diego last Wednesday while on a routine flight from Long Beach, Calif.

Coast guardsmen recovered the bodies. The victims included: Lawrence A. Sirmington, 32, AMM 3/C, Salem, Ore.

U. S. Airmen Save Iwo Base From Blasting by Derelict Superfort

IWO JIMA, June 11 (UP)—While thousands of American troops watched, one of their own P-61 Black Widow night fighters shot down a derelict Superfortress to keep it from crashing with its bomb load on this tiny island air base, it was disclosed today.

The strange air drama began over Osaka when an anti-aircraft shell ripped into the pilot's compartment, killing the pilot, stunning the co-pilot and locking the bomb bay doors with the bombs still inside.

The Superfort lumbered back far behind its formation. The Black Widow fighter, on a routine patrol, encountered it far out to sea.

The fighter was manned by Lt. Arthur C. Shepherd of Seattle, Wash., and Lt. Arvid Shulenberg of Washington Springs, S. D.

They led the crippled Superfortress back and warned other aircraft to stay out of the way.

Fearing a landing might explode the bomb load, the co-pilot ordered the crew to jump, set the automatic controls and jumped out himself. The body of the dead pilot remained in the plane as it headed out to sea.

"As soon as it cleared the island, we started firing all eight guns," Shepherd said. "The first burst went into the left outside engine which began to smoke. But the bomber continued to fly—and loss of the engine swung it so that it headed back toward the island."

"We held our fire until it cleared the island again and then gave it everything."

"Finally the plane plunged into the sea."

Jap War Plant Is Hit by 280 Bombs In Superfort Raid

Tokyo Area Is Again Hit By Incendiaries

GUAM, June 11 (UP)—B-29 Superfortresses scored at least 280 direct bomb hits on the Hitachi engine works at Sukagawa, 115 miles northeast of Tokyo, in a precision demolition raid Sunday, it was announced today.

Japanese broadcasts said other American planes kindled fires at two airfields in the Tokyo area today and, 830 miles to the southwest, joined 10 warships in a bombardment of Minami Daito island Sunday.

Damage is Extensive

The 21st bomber command said photographs taken during the raid on Sukagawa, one of five objectives of 250 to 300 Superfortresses Sunday, revealed extensive bomb coverage of the target.

Results at the other four targets, ranged on a semi-circle around Tokyo, were believed equally good. They increased the destruction wrought in urban and industrial areas of Japan by the B-29s to at least 92.6 square miles.

Seventy planes, three battleships, three cruisers and four destroyers attacked Minami Daito Sunday, radio Tokyo said. The planes presumably came from new American bases on Okinawa, 200 miles to the west.

Pacific fleet headquarters was silent on the report, but announced yesterday that a naval task force shelled Okino Daito, 120 miles south of Minami Daito, on Saturday.

Return To Peace Basis is Subject of Red Cross Parley

Looking to the time when America will have returned to the pursuits of peace, Red Cross officials and workers from five countries came to La Grande during the week-end to confer with regional officials from San Francisco on various phases of the work on which emphasis is laid by the organization in time of peace. The sessions were held in the headquarters of the Union county chapter.

First aid and water safety, nursing, disaster service, accident prevention, special services and publicity were discussed at various sessions at which representatives of chapters in Union, Wallowa, Umatilla, Baker and Wasco counties participated. Fifty Red Cross personnel were present at the various sessions which ended Saturday.

Officials from the area headquarters here for the conference included Edwin Carroll, assistant manager, Pacific area; E. S. Osborn, regional director; Norris Baker, director of public information; Miss Edith Olson, deputy director of nursing service; Mrs. Violet Knight, assistant to administrator of volunteer services; Ben Carpenter, assistant director. See RED CROSS . . . Page 7

Veterans Approve Japanese Return

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Cal., June 11 (UP)—Delegates at the convention of the military order of the purple heart yesterday approved the federal return of loyal Japanese-Americans to California.

Legislative action to make teaching of U. S. history compulsory in all California public schools, was also recommended. Ray Dorris, Portland, Ore., was endorsed as national commander for 1946.

Stilwell Says War May Last Two Years

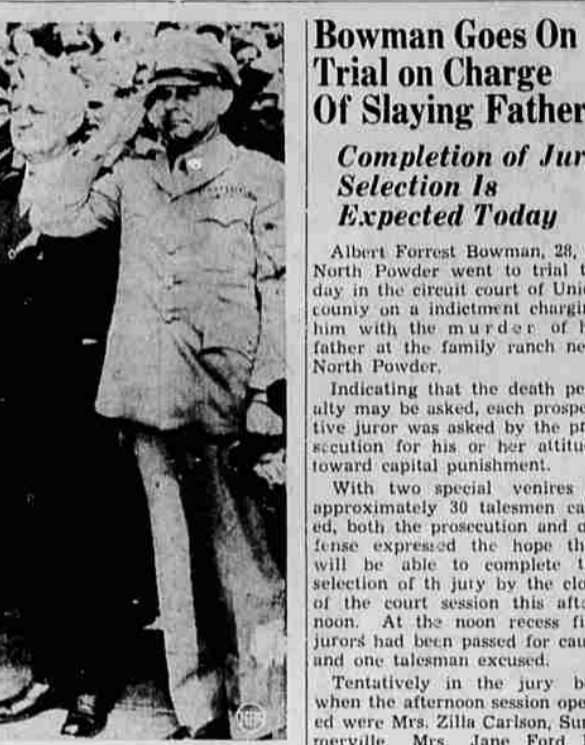
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PATTON, DOOLITTLE RETURN HOME—Two be-medaled war heroes—Gen. George S. Patton, jr. (left) and James Doolittle, stand beside Los Angeles Mayor Fletcher Bowron as they salute crowds following giant city ovation for them after their arrival home.

Tears Flow as Patton Consoles Families of Wounded Soldiers

HOLLYWOOD, June 11 (UP)—Gen. George Patton, jr., and Lt. Gen. Jimmy Doolittle began their military leaves today after basking for two days in the glare of all the klieg lights Hollywood could muster.

Patton went home to San Marino and Doolittle stayed in Los Angeles. Both planned to get the first rest they had had since their arrival here Saturday.

"We're just a couple lucky old bums," Patton said, at the end of a wild two-day homecoming celebration. "The men deserve all this honor."

Hollywood had outdone itself to help the Third army commander and the Eighth army force leader during their "recess between wars."

The celebration was climaxed with a jubilee Saturday night in the Los Angeles memorial coliseum and ended yesterday after the generals attended church services.

Ike and Monty Get Soviet Decorations

FRANKFURT-ON-MAIN, June 11 (UP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery today wore Russian decorations estimated to be worth anything from \$12,060 to \$100,000 each as a result of the visit here yesterday of Marshal Gregory Zhukov.

Zhukov, deputy commander of the Red army, flew to Frankfurt from Berlin to present Eisenhower and Montgomery with the coveted Russian order of victory. The decoration is a magnificent affair made of diamonds, rubies and platinum. Before yesterday's visit seven top-ranking Russian field commanders had received it.

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