

# Jap Officers Slay Own Men to Balk Surrender

See Columns 1 and 2

A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

## La Grande Evening Observer

HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON  
Union and Wallowa Counties

**Weather**  
Data for 24 hours to 7 a.m.  
Temperature:  
Maximum ..... 62  
Minimum ..... 37  
Forecast: Clear and warmer tonight and Saturday.

ESTABLISHED 1896

LA GRANDE, OREGON FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 15, 1945

FIVE CENTS

# Superforts Batter Osaka War Plants

## Annihilation Faces Big Enemy Force in In Trap on Okinawa

GUAM, June 15 (UP) — Vengeful Japanese officers murdered hundreds of their men who tried to surrender in the southern Okinawa death trap today while triumphant American forces herded the beaten enemy toward the sea with flame throwers, fire bombs and artillery.

Many despairing Japanese, their organized resistance broken by overpowering American military might, killed themselves with grenades and knives in mass suicides.

Maj. Gen. Pedro Del Valle, commander of the 1st marine division, predicted complete conquest of Okinawa within two days to two weeks and said:

"We've just reached the turning point—the point where the Japs' will to fight is broken. The enemy is beginning to fold up through surrenders, suicides and disorganized resistance."

The greatest slaughter was at the Oroku peninsula, where hundreds of milling, screaming Japanese were killed by their own leaders for "weakness" in trying to give up, or by the marines.

Many Surrender

United Press war correspondent E. G. Valens reported several scores of Nipponese succeeded in surrendering, while others were being taken alive by persuasion or force in occupied areas.

The enemy garrison of 5,000 to 10,000 soldiers and sailors, plus thousands of civilians, is cornered on a rocky slope approximately four miles long. See JAP TROOPS ... Page 5

## Guy Spencer Is Elected Leader Of Legion Post

Members of the La Grande post of the American Legion elected officers at their meeting Wednesday night and appropriated funds for the purchase of a \$1,000 war bond in the 7th war loan campaign.

Guy Spencer was elected commander, succeeding George Tiss, and other officers were elected as follows:

Charles Erbe, first vice commander; Axel Dahlstrom, second vice commander; Lee Thomas, adjutant; Treve Lumsden, finance officer; S. H. Burleigh, service officer; Fletcher Milton, assistant service officer; William Dietrich, sergeant at arms.

Executive committee members were elected as follows: Tiss, Milton, Frank Flanery, Eugene Millering and William Koether.

## Australians Aim Borneo Drive at Rich Oil Fields

Navy Units Pave Way For Troops In New Move

MANILA, June 15 (UP)—The Australians today opened a drive for the rich Seria and Miri oil fields on north Borneo, where air and naval units were reported "paving the way for future operations."

United Press correspondent Richard Harris reported from Borneo that minesweepers had cleared 117 mines the last few days along the jutting piece of coastland where Miri and the town of Lutong lie.

PT boats, patrolling the waters there, exchanged fire with coastal batteries just north of Lutong. An American destroyer poured shells into caves and gun positions along the coast. And 13th air force planes strafed the Miri airstrip, probably destroying six planes parked there.

The Australian Ninth division, after taking Brunei, capital of the sultanate, struck out along the road to the oil fields. Their next objective was the oil refinery town of Tutong, 18 miles from Brunei and about half-way to Lutong, where the naval activity was reported. The Seria and Miri oilfields, which formerly produced 700,000 tons annually, are linked with Lutong by pipeline.

## Ribbentrop, Last Of Top Nazis, is Caught By British

WITH BRITISH 2nd ARMY, Germany, June 15 (UP)—Former Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop, last of the Nazi hierarchy not tentatively accounted for, was captured yesterday in a Hamburg boarding house where he had lived unrecognized for more than six weeks.

A British lieutenant and two sergeants discovered him lying naked in bed. Dressed and taken to British headquarters, he was found to be carrying a can of poison.

Ribbentrop registered at the boarding house under the name of Riese April 30, but admitted his identity to his captors. A sister arrested today confirmed the identification. He had been in disguise.

The foreign minister who engineered the diplomatic phases of Adolf Hitler's European conquests told his captors that he had hoped to hide until British opinion against Germany had died down and he could surrender for a "fair trial."

(A London dispatch said Ribbentrop was on the individual war criminal list of many countries and also was accused under the general classification grouping all members of the Nazi government. The dispatch said he would be taken to Britain pending trial.)

He had three letters in his possession, one addressed to "Vincent" — presumably for Prime Minister Winston Churchill, another to British Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery and the third to Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

## U. S. Destroyer Hit By "Suicide" Plane

SAN FRANCISCO, June 15 (UP)—A Japanese suicide pilot crashed his explosive-laden plane into the veteran destroyer USS Hazelwood off Okinawa April 29, smashing and setting afire the bridge and superstructure. Ten officers and 67 men were killed or missing, the navy revealed today. The names were not yet released.

The 1,200-ton Hazelwood, commissioned June 12, 1943, steamed into San Francisco Bay yesterday, on its way to Mare Island navy yard for reconditioning. Four officers and 35 enlisted men were wounded.



U. S. SARATOGA READY TO FIGHT AGAIN—After fighting through three months of war without suffering an enemy bomb hit, the luck of the navy aircraft carrier USS Saratoga ran out on Feb. 21 in operations at Iwo Jima. The photo shows crewmen desperately attempting to put out fires on flight deck that destroyed more than 5,000-square-feet of its surface. Suffering from seven direct hits, the gallant carrier proceeded under its own power to Puget Sound navy yard where the flight deck was repaired and the day nears when she can again put to sea.—U. S. navy photo.

## USS Saratoga Back in Action After Terrific Mauling at Iwo

PUGET SOUND NAVY YARD, Bremerton, Wash., June 15 (UP) — The USS Saratoga, queen of the flattops, was severely damaged off Iwo Jima last Feb. 21 when she took seven direct hits from Japanese bombs and suicide planes and suffered 315 casualties.

The story of the Sara, one of the navy's luckiest ships, can be told for the first time today because the tough old lady is back in action. She is sending all she's got against an enemy that has had good reason on three occasions to believe she was tough.

The Sara took her latest beating two days after the invasion of Iwo. Heroic action by her crew members saved the ship. She survived, but at a cost of 123 men killed or missing and 192 wounded.

Twice before she had undergone torpedo attacks that would have sunk a lesser ship. But each time she came back — this time after a repair job in this navy yard that set a new speed record.

On that day off Iwo it looked for many hours as though they had succeeded. The repairmen in the Puget Sound yard said the Sara sailed in with enough damage to sink "any other ship."

The Saratoga had survived not only the gaping wounds left by the suicide plane crashes and bomb hits, but also the more dangerous damage caused by her own burning gasoline and exploding bombs.

The old carrier was providing air support for the marines at Iwo after returning from the first large carrier strike at Tokyo. She was cruising with a cast crew. See CARRIER ... Page 5

But he then surprised the audience by announcing that the Soviet Ukraine would support Colombia's amendment because some powers have been kept," he continued.

After an hour debate Colombia's proposal to insert the words "in good faith" was adopted unanimously.

The commission got bogged down in interminable debate for the second time in two days. Even as debate continued, the big four of the United Nations conference sought means of adjourning on June 23—a prospect that was not good.

## State Guardsmen To Go To Pendleton

Capt. G. L. Gregory, commander of the local company of the state guard, today announced the guardsmen will leave at 7 a.m. Sunday for Pendleton for their first rifle range trials with their new equipment.

He said he has obtained a school bus to transport the company to the rifle range, and said members must be at the armory at 6:30 a.m. to receive equipment. All are to take their own lunches, he said.

## Drive to Destroy Enemy Industries Opened With Fire

GUAM, June 15 (UP) — A fleet of 520 Superfortresses smashed at Japan's great war production center of Osaka today, officially opening an offensive to wipe out Japanese industry with 2,000,000 tons of bombs in the next 12 months.

The big bombers dropped 3,000 tons of fire bombs on steel plants and other key war factories in northern and eastern Osaka and adjacent Amagasaki. Radio Tokyo admitted a number of fires broke out during the hour-long attack.

The planes bombed by instrument through a heavy overcast that obscured results.

Only one superfortress was lost out of the 520 which dumped 3000 tons of incendiary bombs on Osaka today, the war department announced.

The raid inaugurated the second year of B-29 attacks on Japan. Gen. H. H. Arnold, commander of army air forces, revealed at a press conference here what is in store for the enemy homeland during those coming months.

Superfortresses, Flying Fortresses, Liberators and the remaining bombers in the American air arsenal will drop twice the tonnage of bombs on Japan in the next year as they did on Germany during the entire European war, he said.

Super fortresses of the 21st bomber command alone will deliver 1,300,000 tons, he said. Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle's eighth air force, the terror of the European skies, and Gen. George C. Kenney's far eastern air forces will contribute another 700,000 tons.

Complete and utter destruction of industrial Japan will be the aim, Arnold said. The program calls for an average of more than 5,000 tons of explosives a day to be heaped on the enemy homeland.

"We believe we can do the same thing with industrial Japan that we did with industrial Germany," he said. "We hope it will ease the load of the army and navy, but they aren't going to wait until we finish."

"We are just starting. Before long, we will be using more than twice as many B-29s as we ever have before and more than double the rate of bombs."

His statement envisioned 1,000-plane, 10,000-ton Superfortresses raids.

Arnold revealed he had come to the Pacific to determine how many of the 12,000 planes the United States used against Germany could be accommodated at Pacific bases. He said every possible foot of every possible land mass would be utilized.

## Veteran Policeman Observes Birthday

Clint Haynes of the La Grande police department, observed his 77th birthday yesterday. Haynes came to Oregon with his parents when he was two years old and has lived in eastern Oregon most of his life.

He joined the police department in October, 1920, and served as assistant chief and chief, and left the force October 5, 1931. Haynes again joined the force last July.

He was presented with a birthday cake with 21 candles by Mrs. Clem Wallace and Miss Ruth Burns, and also received many gifts.

## Baseball Results By United Press

National League	
Brooklyn	R H E 9 16 2
Boston	8 8 1
Pfund, King (6) and Dantonio, Andrews (7); Tobin, Hutchinson (7) and Masi.	
R H E	
Philadelphia	5 10 1
New York	7 13 0
Mauney, Karl (3), Scott (6) and Mancuso; Hansen, Emmerich (6) and Lombardi.	

## La Grande Women Exceed Quota in War Loan Drive

As Union county today approached the end of the 7th war loan campaign, with a considerable amount of the \$964,000 bond quota yet to be sold, it was revealed that the women's division of the sales organization in La Grande has been in important factor in bringing the drive to its present level.

When the campaign was launched the women's committee of the city was given a quota of \$185,000, and when the returns were checked including sales to yesterday, it was found they had sold bonds to the sales value of \$188,711.75.

Despite this showing, W. C. Perkins, chairman of the county war finance committee, announced that the sales are lagging and that there is a definite prospect that the county will not reach its quota unless sales increase materially.

He said \$5,000 worth of bonds must be sold every business day until June 30 if the quota is to be reached. Sales yesterday were only \$1,700, he said.

The critical situation in the Union county campaign was discussed at a special meeting of the war finance committee last night in the Elks club and it was emphasized that every effort must be made to speed up sales or the county will fail to meet its quota.

Woman Sets High Mark  
Mrs. Ann Decker, chairman of the city organization, announced she had sold \$1,700 worth of bonds.

## Eisenhower Favors Draft in Peacetime

WASHINGTON, June 15 (UP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower joined Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson today in declaring that this country must have peacetime military training.

Eisenhower asserted that "the great forces necessary in war must be produced through a citizen training system in time of peace; that is, with a minimum-sized professional nucleus and maximum capacity for training the national power."

Eisenhower, who is returning home Monday, made his views known in a letter to Chairman Clinton A. Woodrum, D., Va., of the house postwar military policy committee.

## 27 Die in Crash

LONDON, June 15 (UP)—Twenty-seven members of the Royal Air Force were killed early today after a Liberator crashed into the side of a hill on the Dorset coast at Swanage.