

Conquest of Okinawa Completed

See Columns 1-2

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 94
Minimum 56
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Friday; cooler Friday.

ESTABLISHED 1896

LA GRANDE, OREGON THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 21, 1945

FIVE CENTS

Enemy Resistance Ends; Stilwell Gets Command of Victors

GUAM, June 21 (UP)—The American 10th army has won the battle of Okinawa after 82 days of the bloodiest fighting of the Pacific war, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

Simultaneously, Gen. Douglas MacArthur in a surprise move appointed Gen. Joseph W. (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell, chief of U. S. army ground forces, to command the victorious 10th in the climactic battle of Japan.

Radio Tokyo said the United States apparently already has begun preparations for a "direct invasion of the Japanese mainland."

Nimitz's brief, triumphant communique reported that all organized Japanese resistance on Okinawa, hard-won stepping stone island only 330 miles southwest of Japan, ended today.

The 41-word communique was issued after a dramatic message to headquarters here from Marine Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger, 10th army commander, three days after his predecessor Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., was killed in action.

"Remnants of the enemy garrison in two small pockets in the southern portion of the island are being mopped up," the communique said.

Only yesterday, marines and doughboys of the 10th army had split diehard enemy remnants into three separate death pockets. Nimitz's announcement indicated one of the three pockets since had been wiped out and the others reduced to impotency.

Holdouts Pockets

Apparently still holding out were pockets in the area of hill 81 and another pocket at the extreme southern end of the island where many of the Japs were leaping from cliffs to their deaths. But the marines and doughboys swept into the pockets, breaking up what little was left of Japanese communications and severing the enemy from overall command.

A handful of Japanese fighting as guerrillas remain at the northern end of the island, but it is believed they will be of no effect in halting development of Okinawa as a base for the reduction of Japan.

Casualties Are Great

Total Japanese casualties were not announced immediately, but they were believed well above the 900,000 mark. A total of 87,343 Japanese dead had been counted through Tuesday and 2,565 other enemy troops had surrendered.

American casualties have not been tallied for publication since May 24. Then they totaled 35,116 in the army, marine corps and navy, including 9,602 dead.

It was a costly campaign for the U. S. fleet as 31 ships, mostly smaller units, were sunk, and 85, including four large units, were damaged.

Conquest of the island gave the Americans an island base 60 miles long with a number of air bases and sufficient ground area to deploy hundreds of thousands of troops for the invasion of Japan.

British Aid May Be Asked to Save Poles From Prison

LONDON, June 21 (UP)—A source close to the Polish exile government said today the government probably will ask Britain to intercede in behalf of 12 Poles sentenced in Moscow to four months to 10 years in prison for terrorism against the Red army.

Official British quarters refused to speculate on the possibility that Britain would intercede with Russia. Britain and the United States still recognize the exile government, as opposed to the Soviet-backed Polish provisional government in Warsaw.

Radio Moscow announced that the Soviet court had sentenced Gen. Leopold Okulicki to 10 years for his part in the terrorist attacks and for operating clandestine radio transmitters behind the Red army lines.

Jan Jankowski, vice premier of the London government and its delegate inside Poland, was sentenced to eight years. Adam Bism, vice-chairman of the Polish underground council of ministers, and Stanislaw Jaskulowicz, a Polish nationalist, were given five-year terms.

Eight other defendants were sentenced variously to four months to one year each in prison and three more were acquitted.

Truman Approves Alaskan Highway

OLYMPIA, Wash., June 21 (UP)—President Truman today advocated completion of the Alaskan highway as an essential postwar project.

Mr. Truman told his press conference that 600 miles of highway still must be constructed to complete the long highway which links the United States with Alaska.

He made the announcement to his press conference after meeting with Gov. Ernest Gruening of Alaska and Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, D., Wash.

Mr. Truman said the commission which planned the original highway will be revitalized.

Suicide Planes Sink American Destroyer, Damage Big Cruiser

WASHINGTON, June 21 (UP)—The navy, rapidly removing the news blackout on Japanese suicide attacks, told today how the double blow of a Japanese suicide plane and a "baka bomb" sank the destroyer Mannert L. Abele off Okinawa last April 12.

The account, containing the first disclosed incident of a baka bomb hitting an American ship, followed by only 12 hours navy release of a six-month old account of a suicide plane attack on the light cruiser Nashville enroute to the invasion of Mindoro island in the Philippines.

The Nashville was hit by a single suicide plane while in convoy last Dec. 13. "A total of 133 officers and men were killed but the ship remained afloat and has since been repaired and restored to action.

Casualties aboard the Abele were 113—81 dead and 32 wounded. The ship was on picket duty off Okinawa on the day of the attack.

The suicide plane, a single-engine Zeke fighter, dived through a blazing hail of anti-aircraft fire from the Abele to hit the ship on the starboard side, penetrating the deck to the after engine room. A bomb attached to the plane exploded inside the ship, breaking the shaft and keel.

About one minute later the baka bomb came skimming above the water at about 400 miles an hour to crash into the ship at the waterline on the starboard side. A second terrific explosion...

Light Ballot Indicated Tomorrow



THEY HOPED TO CONQUER THE WORLD—These dejected, ashamed or merely stupid-looking Japs were captured by American soldiers of the 37th division on their victorious push north from Baguio through the Bayombong area on Luzon. They wear identifying POW tags. Signal Corps photo.

Speed-up of Sales of Small War Bonds Is Urged to Prevent County Failure to Meet Quota

Urgent appeal to Union county residents to step up their purchases of war bonds of smaller denominations was voiced today by W. C. Perkins, chairman of the county war finance committee, with the declaration that if small bond purchases are not continued at a high rate during the next eight days the county cannot meet its quota in the 7th war loan campaign.

He called attention to the fact that to date sales of E bonds aggregate \$535,830, against a quota of \$741,000, and the sales of all types of bonds total \$736,255, toward a quota of \$964,000.

Allied Air Raiders Blast Japs on Wake, Home Isles

GUAM, June 21 (UP)—Tokyo reported that 56 American planes scouted Honshu and Kyushu for several hours today in apparent preparations for stepping up the bombing of Japan.

The Japanese radio also said 300 or more allied carrier planes attacked Wake island far behind the Pacific battlefronts yesterday. It was the first attack in strength this year on Wake, scene of a gallant stand by 385 marines in December, 1941.

The reconnaissance fleet over Japan today, Tokyo said, comprised 12 Liberators, 40 Grumman fighters, two naval patrol bombers, one superfort and one other plane of a large type. The radio said the Liberators and Grummans evidently came from Okinawa.

Tokyo said the task force from which the Guam raiders took off included at least two aircraft carriers, but did not indicate its nationality. A British task force attacked Truk island last week and an American task force hit Jaluit atoll in the Marshalls only Monday.

Mother Greets 'Ike' At Homecoming

KANSAS CITY, Mo., June 21 (UP)—General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower received a homecoming son's welcome today, a hug and a kiss from his 33-year-old mother, Mrs. Ida Stover Eisenhower.

"Hello, mom," he called out. "How are you feeling?"

"The same old way, son," she replied as she hugged him to her bosom and smothered him with kisses.

To his wife, Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower, Ike called out: "Hello, darling, I'm sure glad to see you again."

The general's wife had come to Kansas City ahead of him by train for this, her third meeting of the week with him. Also with Eisenhower was his son, Lt. John S. Eisenhower, and his sister.

As photographers swarmed around the family party near the C-34, Ike yoo-hooed at his brothers, Arthur B. Stover, Sr., Edgar, and Earl. It was the first such family get-together in nearly a score of years.

Yugoslavs Say Italy Protecting War Criminals

LONDON, June 21 (UP)—A Yugoslav spokesman charged today that the Italian government is protecting and even assigning important positions to fascists who are high on Yugoslavia's list of war criminals.

The charge was made in a formal statement by Radomir Zivkovic, Yugoslav representative on the United Nations war crimes commission.

Zivkovic also announced that his government has preferred atrocity charges against Adm. Nicholas Horthy, ex-regent of Hungary, an dthat Gen. Draja Mihailovitch, leader of the Yugoslav Chetnik forces, is being hunted for trial as a traitor.

Zivkovic denounced the treatment accorded fascist war criminals by the allied-dominated Italian government and declared Yugoslavia has unearthed evidence of more than 10,000 fascist atrocities against the Yugoslav people.

Horthy and 100 other Hungarians were on the list of accused criminals, along with Mikhailovitch, who battled both the Germans and Marshal Tito's forces in Yugoslavia.

The Yugoslav commission, Zivkovic said, has discovered orders issued by Mikhailovitch instructing his men to link up with the Italians and Germans for combined operations against Tito's forces.

School Budget is Approved at Cove

COPE, June 21—Mrs. Vernon Rundall and Harvey Elmer, incumbents, were re-elected to the school board at this week's election without opposition.

The board has approved a budget of \$19,291, of which \$12,823.67 is within the 6 percent limit, and \$6,437.33 will come from sources other than district taxation.

Pea Growers Talk Over Pest Control

Pea growers of Union county met last night in the Imbler high school to discuss pea weevil and aphid control. Dr. T. A. Brindley of the U. S. bureau of entomology at Moscow, Idaho, was the speaker.

Dr. C. D. Harrington, of the Associated Seed company, discussed the history and control of pea aphids.

Among the large crowd present were Al McPinn, local manager of California Packing company, Keith Province and Merlin Johnson, owners of the local flying school, and Joe Scaman, Yakima, Wash., all of whom are working on the dusting of peas by airplane, and County Agent Rollin W. Schaad.



IKE DECORATED BY TRUMAN—President Truman pins an oak leaf cluster in lieu of his third distinguished service medal on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in ceremony held on White House grounds. Mrs. Eisenhower proudly witnesses the award given her husband for "conspicuous service to the United States and to the peoples of all the United Nations."

Bowman Testifies Concerning Fatal Fight With Father

Family Members Defend Man On Death Charge

Albert Forrest Bowman, 28, today faced a jury in the circuit court of Judge R. J. Green to tell first hand the story of the fight with his father at the family ranch near North Powder on April 22 which resulted in the death of his parent, for which he has been indicted on a charge of murder.

The early part of his testimony was devoted to describing his employment, family life and other personal affairs, and during the afternoon the defense, in the hands of attorneys Henry Hess and S. H. Burleigh expected to get to the recounting of the altercation which led to the fatal fight.

Prior to Bowman's appearance on the witness stand, the defense called a number of character witnesses who testified that they found him peaceful, sober and industrious.

Brother, Sisters Called

The accused man's brother, Clinton, who was discharged from the army a few days ago on the point system, and a 15-year-old sister, Larose, and another sister, Evelyn Dickinson, supplemented testimony of their mother and brother, Eugene, concerning their father's use of intoxicants and quarrelsomeness, which the defense contends was the cause of the slaying.

The mother, brother and sister of the accused testified that excessive use of intoxicants marred the elder Bowman quarrelsome and antagonistic, and the mother said that it was because of the father's disposition and habits that they induced Forrest to go to the ranch and serve as foreman.

Attacks by Parent Told

Clinton Bowman testified that his father attacked him in 1939, and attempted to do so in 1940.

Mrs. Forrest Bowman also testified concerning her report to her of the fatal struggle with his father, saying he told her after he decided his father was dead he became panic stricken and excited and threw the body in the well.

The defense yesterday attempted to introduce in evidence the divorce complaint filed against the elder Bowman by his wife a few days before the fatal fight, but the court upheld objections of the state that it was irrelevant. Larose Bowman testified that she and her mother left the ranch in October, 1944, and went to North Powder to make their home, and that her father threatened her.

35 Percent Vote Predicted; Registration of Electors in Union County Decreases

Oregon voters will go to the polls tomorrow to ballot on the question of whether \$10,000,000 of surplus income tax funds shall be expended on a state institutional building program, and whether a levy of 2 cents a package shall be imposed upon cigarets to provide additional funds from the support of public education.

While the state has a registered voting strength of some 560,700, of which 6,853 is in Union county, only about 85 to 40 per cent of the voters are expected to ballot on the issues.

Support of the state institutional building proposal has been almost universal, no organized opposition having made itself heard.

Although this preponderance of approval of the building measure would indicate its adoption without serious threat, its proponents fear over-confidence and an apathetic attitude on the part of the majority could result in its defeat.

Many organizations and individuals throughout the state have endorsed the building program as one of the chief items in the state's "must" development projects. They point out that most state correctional and welfare institutions, as well as those in the higher education system are badly in need of additional buildings, the latter particularly because of the expected increase in enrollment when men and women begin returning from the armed forces in large numbers.

Eastern Oregon college is cited as one example of this need, due to the lack of a men's dormitory. Similar conditions exist in other units of the educational system, and various institutions, such as the penitentiary are badly in need of improvement, proponents point out.

While the measure is titled on the ballot a "bill authorizing tax levy for state building fund," its proponents point out See LIGHT ... Page 7

Truman Predicts Early Improvement In Food Situation

OLYMPIA, Wash., June 21 (UP)—President Truman today forecast a material improvement in the national food situation when the new food administration takes over.

Mr. Truman made this forecast in a special news conference here in the office of Gov. Mon Wallgren, his host during a vacation in the northwest.

The president said he thought the food situation would straighten out automatically as soon as the new administrator—Rep. Clinton Anderson, D., N. M., who becomes administrator and secretary of agriculture—takes over his job.

Noncommittal on Cabinet

Asked about rumored cabinet changes, particularly the reported replacement of Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes, the president said it was news to him and no changes were contemplated immediately.

As he has been in recent weeks, the president was noncommittal about the future of his secretary of state, telling reporters today that when he had some news they would get it.

One theory which followed Mr. Truman's request to congress for a change in the rule of presidential succession was that it might result in Stettinius retaining his post longer than had been anticipated in some official quarters.

He announced plans to make a brief stop Monday at Portland, Ore., en route to San Francisco where he will address the adjournment session of the conference on Tuesday.

Mr. Truman said he will leave here at 10 a.m. (PWT) Monday and fly to Portland, arriving there about 11 o'clock, and leaving there in time to reach San Francisco about 4 p.m. Monday.

Security Parley Gets Bolivia Bid For Sea Outlet

SAN FRANCISCO, June 21 (UP)—Bolivia, the land-locked South American plateau country, today broke the informal rule of no territorial discussions at the United Nations security conference with a bid for an outlet to the sea.

The proposal was made at an open commission session considering the sole remaining unapproved chapter of the world charter—the chapter on the political and security functions of the general assembly. It was voiced by Victor Andrade, Bolivian ambassador to the United States and chairman of the conference committee reporting to the commission.

The session marked one of the last steps prior to formal signing of the final charter on behalf of the 50 nations represented here, slated for Monday. President Truman is to address the closing session of the parley on Tuesday, under the revised schedule announced yesterday.

Wind Fans Fire In Deschutes Forest

BEND, June 21 (UP)—Fanned by fitful winds, the most severe forest fire in recent years was raging in the lower Metolius river section of the Deschutes national forest, approximately 45 miles northwest of Bend, as upwards of 300 men fought to bring the blaze under control. Meager reports from the area said that already 800 acres of virgin timber between the Warm Springs Indian reservation and Alder Springs had been gutted, and the flames were spreading rapidly through the tree tops.

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Baseball Results

By United Press

AMERICAN LEAGUE	
	R. H. E.
Cleveland	1 7 1
Detroit	5 11 1
Bagby, Henry (8) and Hayes, Overmyre and Swift.	
New York	14 12 1
Boston	4 7 3
Dubiel and Garbark, Ferriss, Barrett (5) Hefflin (5) and Walters.	
NATIONAL LEAGUE	
	R. H. E.
Pittsburgh	4 7 0
Chicago	5 13 2
Roe, Sewell (7) and Salkeld, Lopez (6); Wyse and Livingston.	