

Australians Seize Oil Area



INVADING AUSSIES CROSS BALIKPAPAN BRIDGE—Seventh division Australians, fanning out from bridgehead after a new invasion of Borneo, cross a bridge on the outskirts of burning Balikpapan. Aided by hammering allied warplanes, the column took the great oil center.

Douglas To Speak At Forum

William O. Douglas, associate justice of the U. S. supreme court, will address a forum meeting of chamber of commerce members and the general public about the first of September, it was announced today by C. H. Reynolds, chairman of forum meetings, at the regular meeting of the board of directors of the organization held today noon.

Justice Douglas is at present vacationing at his summer cabin on the south fork of the Willouva river above Lostine.

Space Reoccupied

Reynolds said details, such as time and place and the subject on which Douglas will speak have not been determined, but will be announced as soon as possible.

Re-occupation of space in the chamber offices by the AAA offices, which have been in the Sacaiaewa hotel, was announced by Ray Gray, president. Gray said that the motorists' association will pay rent of \$30 monthly to the chamber.

Board members voted to send offers of cooperation to officials of the veterans' bureau which will shortly establish offices in La Grande for the re-employment of returning veterans and advising them generally on welfare matters.

CAA officials have informed the chamber that a report of the San Francisco proceedings of last year, during which La Grande made application for a main line air stop will be released shortly.

Highway Signs

A. K. Parker, chairman of the Eastern Oregon college cooperation committee announced a recent drive for money to assist in the passage of the state building fund bond issue which passed easily resulted in collection of \$871.50 to date and money is continuing to come in. Cash received over the \$500 voted to support the project which will be used for general chamber promotion.

After discussion, it was voted to request the Union Pacific railroad to increase reservations held for La Grande more than one. Gray pointed out this request is on a permanent basis and not to conflict with present war restrictions.

The establishment of new and more complete highway signs at the three entrances to the city was discussed and it was moved that the highway department be contacted to determine the extent of their cooperation.

Two Billions In Projects Planned

SEATTLE, July 5 (UP)—Engineering projects costing \$1,666,018,127 have been authorized or are contemplated for the Pacific northwest after the war, the Pacific Builder and Engineer reported today.

The trade journal said the figure represented heavy construction only and excluded building construction and airports. Those projects, the magazine said, will bring the contemplated construction to more than \$2,000,000,000. Largest single project reported in the survey is the \$277,000,000 Columbia basin irrigation system. Thirty-six other reclamation projects will bring the total in that category to \$599,986,000.

Other construction listed by the magazine includes 12 projects under the jurisdiction of the army engineers in Portland (dams, locks, etc.) \$273,500,000.

Cigaret Shortage Blamed for Break

SAN FRANCISCO, July 5 (UP)—After less than 24 hours of liberty in San Francisco, where the tobacco shortage has eased up a bit lately, two escaped county jail prisoners were back in the clink today with a brand new excuse for their break.

The men, Charles M. Jones, 27, and Clarence M. Jacobsen, 30, said they just had to get out of jail because:

"We were short of cigarettes, and it was getting on our nerves."

Registration at Summer Session Will Be July 19

Lyle H. Johnson, registrar of Eastern Oregon college, has announced registration for the second half of the summer session will be Thursday, July 19.

The course offerings for the second session have been carefully worked out so that local citizens wishing to take classes for credit or on an auditing basis may do so.

Courses which will appeal to townspeople are geography of South America, taught by Prof. Ralph Badgley and meeting at 2 p. m.; music appreciation, taught by Dr. Henry Ehlers at 9 a. m.; contemporary social problems, taught by Dr. Joseph H. Gaiser at 9 a. m.; geology, taught by Charles W. Quaintance at 3 p. m.; adolescent psychology at 3 a. m. and child development at 1 p. m., taught by Prof. Roy L. Skeen, and American literature at 11 a. m., taught by Prof. Amanda Zabel.

Two courses required for certification to teach in the schools of Oregon are being offered, namely, Oregon history and organization of schools.

Spaatz Will Lead U. S. Air Forces Against Japanese

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, who commanded the U. S. air forces in the strategic warfare which destroyed German resources from the air, will direct the strategic air attack on Japan, Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson announced today.

Spaatz will command the 20th air force, whose B-29s have been battering Japan's resources for more than a year, and the Eighth air force, which is now being re-employed from Europe.

Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Lemay, who has commanded the 21st bomber command, will become commander of the 20th air force under Spaatz' overall command.

Gen. Henry H. Arnold has held command of the 20th heretofore in addition to commanding the entire U. S. army air force.

Lt. Gen. James A. Doolittle already has been designated to command the Eighth air force in the Pacific. Like Lemay, he will function under Spaatz' overall command.

The new strategic command will be known as United States strategic air forces in the Pacific—USASTAF in the Pacific. Its headquarters have not yet been designated, but it was speculated they probably will be on Guam, Okinawa was regarded as another possibility.

Lt. Gen. Barney M. Giles, who has been deputy commander of the 20th air force, will serve as deputy commander of USASTAF under Spaatz.

Spaatz will report directly to Arnold, who has been named executive agent of the joint chiefs of staff for this purpose, Patterson said.

Weather

Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m. Temperature: Maximum 89 Minimum 45 Forecast: Clear tonight and Friday, warmer tonight.

Firemen Get Share Of Water at Blaze

Mrs. W. T. Phy, manager of the Foley hotel, used her own fire extinguisher service in competition with the city fire department.

Firemen, who were called this morning to put out an awning fire, started by a burning cigarette, arrived in time to be liberally doused by Mrs. Phy, who at that moment threw a bucket of water on the awning, extinguishing the small blaze, and startling the firemen. "It's humiliating," chuckled one fireman.

Independence Day Observed Quietly; Many at Picnics

Independence day was observed quietly in La Grande, the noisy, colorful fireworks of other years necessarily being unavailable. A large number of local citizens attended the Oregon Trail Days celebration in Baker, it being the first fourth of July celebration in eastern Oregon in several years.

Picnics, large and small, were the order of the day yesterday with every available spot on both the Grande Ronde river and Catherine creek made use of by those seeking a day in the open. By noon today no accidents of any consequence had been reported, most of the celebrants having confined their activities to fishing, swimming and the usual picnic activities.

MacArthur Hurries To Curtin Funeral

CANBERRA, July 5 (UP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur was hurrying here today for the special state funeral to be held tomorrow for Australian Premier John Curtin, 60. Curtin died from heart disease at 4 a. m. today at Canberra Lodge, his official residence. He died in his sleep.

MacArthur immediately sent the Duke of Gloucester word he would speed here by plane from the South Pacific battle areas. The duke, in a message of Curtin's wife, called his death "a shattering blow to Australia." (In Manila MacArthur issued the following statement: "He was one of the greatest of wartime statesmen, and the preservation of Australia from invasion will be his immortal monument. I mourn him deeply.")

After the service here, Curtin's body will be flown 2,000 miles across Australia to be buried at the little Karrakatta cemetery, at Claremont, in West Australia, from where he first went to parliament in 1923.

Acting Prime Minister Francis M. Forde will continue to run the government until the labor party elects a new leader.

Paint B-29s Black

SEATTLE, July 5 (UP)—Boeing Aircraft company announced today that its giant Superfortresses now are being painted black on all lower wing and body surfaces as a camouflage measure. The ebony color, Boeings said, is extremely effective in baffling Japanese searchlight crews during low-level night incendiary raids by the huge B-29s.

Two Communities In South Return To United States

By United Press The nation's millions, more than ever aware of freedom's cost, returned to their war jobs today determined the next independence day will be celebrated in a world at peace.

The fourth wartime anniversary of the adoption of the declaration of independence was celebrated with comparative calm yesterday throughout most of the country.

Missing from the national scene were the parades, lofty oratory and flamboyant fireworks displays that characterized the holiday in peacetime. The nation death toll was low.

In the deep south, two Civil war communities sobriety returned to the union. Residents of the free state of Dade, which seceded from Georgia and the rest of the nation in 1860, saw the stars and stripes run up. See TWO... Page 7

July 4 Fatalities In State Only 3

By United Press Independence week deaths in Oregon at noon today stood at three—with two attributed to drowning and one to a fall.

Near Ashland, Leo Walter Hoffman, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hoffman of Talent, Wash., fell from a rock into Emigrant lake, where his parents had stopped for a picnic lunch.

At Boring, Ruth Joan Brandt, 15, an unskilled swimmer dropped into a hole while swimming in the Columbia river near Crown Point. She was caught in strong currents.

In a second Ashland accident, Mrs. L. B. Maplesden, 20, Klamath Falls native and ranch employe, died today after a fall to the pavement Tuesday which occurred when her horse ran away with her. Her husband, Dan, is overseas.

'Jap Bomb Balloon' Turns Out Blimp

SALEM, July 5 (UP)—Oregon's amateur sky-watchers are nearly on the beam.

Yesterday police authorities got so many calls from people who thought they were seeing a Japanese balloon, and said the course of the object could be traced inland from the coast.

The "Jap balloon" was a U. S. navy blimp on the way to Salem for Independence day festivities.

Eclipse Monday Visible Here

Dr. Charles Quaintance of Eastern Oregon college faculty, speaking as an astronomer, today announced that a partial eclipse of the sun will be visible in the Grande Ronde valley at 5:28 a. m. Monday, July 9.

Though in some parts of the northwest the eclipse will be total, Dr. Quaintance said that the totality in eastern Oregon will probably not be more than 50 percent, giving a darkness comparable to that of 40 minutes after sunset.

Persons living in a 100-mile strip extending from Cascade, Idaho to Butte, Mont., in a northeasterly direction, will view a total eclipse, the first seen in the United States in 13 years, though it will not in any area be visible for more than a minute or two, the actual totality being over in about 30 seconds.

The eclipse, the first partial eclipse visible to the northwest since 1943, will sweep across the United States in a northeasterly direction, across Canada and into Asia.

To Use Philippines As Major Bases for Invasion of Japan

MANILA, July 5 (UP)—Australian troops pressed ahead from the captured center of Balikpapan to clean up the entire oil port today, while Gen. Douglas MacArthur indicated the Philippines might be the major base for the invasion of Japan.

The Australians had taken most of Balikpapan town, and now are pushing toward the Pandansari oil refinery area to the northeast. They fought through streets filled with rubble from Sunday's pre-invasion bombardment, which was estimated to have destroyed 60 percent of Balikpapan.

Churchill Fears Communism Will Replace Socialism

Warns Against Any British Swing to Left Policies

By C. T. HALLINAN

LONDON, July 5 (UP)—An estimated 27,000,000 voters went to the polls today for Britain's first general election in 10 years. Political Observers saw a possibility of a swing to the left that could unseat Prime Minister Churchill's conservative government.

All signs pointed to one of the closest contests in British history, matching the bitterness of the campaign.

Churchill himself laid down a blunt ideological challenge to the opposition when he invaded the laborites' southwest London strongholds. Ignoring caecals and exploding firecrackers tossed by hecklers in the crowd, Churchill declared the course of all European hinges on the British election.

Fears Left

"They are looking from the continent to see which way Britain is going to go," he said. "If there should be a landslide to the left, many countries on the continent would slide into decent socialism but into the violence of communism. If we go down, all the nippings of Europe will fall."

Looking tired after the most strenuous of his 16 election campaigns, the prime minister nevertheless radiated belligerent confidence at each of his many street corner stops.

Count July 26

His chief opponent, laborite leader Clement Attlee, also finished his campaign before a crowd of 1,500 persons at Bethnal Green, where he denounced the conservative's "injection of 'boggies' into the election."

"We are asking that, for the first time in the history of Britain, a working class party should be given power to carry out a policy that puts the interests of the common man first," said Attlee.

The ballots will be counted July 26, and the final results are expected to be known by 4 p. m. of that day.

Sub 'Trigger' Long Overdue in Pacific

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—The Navy today reported the submarine USS Trigger is overdue on patrol operations and must be presumed lost with all its officers and crew.

The loss brings to 45 the number of American submarines sunk or missing during the war.

A submarine of the Trigger type normally carries a crew of 80 to 85 men.

The lost submersible was skippered by Cmdr. David R. Conner, Madison, Ill., who is listed as missing.

The Trigger participated in the battle of Midway and was awarded a presidential unit citation for outstanding performance in combat during other war patrols.

Churchill Fears Communism Will Replace Socialism

Warns Against Any British Swing to Left Policies

By C. T. HALLINAN

LONDON, July 5 (UP)—An estimated 27,000,000 voters went to the polls today for Britain's first general election in 10 years. Political Observers saw a possibility of a swing to the left that could unseat Prime Minister Churchill's conservative government.

All signs pointed to one of the closest contests in British history, matching the bitterness of the campaign.

Churchill himself laid down a blunt ideological challenge to the opposition when he invaded the laborites' southwest London strongholds. Ignoring caecals and exploding firecrackers tossed by hecklers in the crowd, Churchill declared the course of all European hinges on the British election.

The implication is the Philippines will be the scene of a tremendous build-up of American armed strength just as England was in the few months preceding the invasion of western Europe.

MacArthur said American ground, air and naval forces in the Philippines had "inflicted the greatest disaster ever sustained by Japanese arms."

The communiqué disclosed the Japanese had 18 divisions in the Philippines at the time of the Leyte landing. They stripped other defenses, including the homeland, of five more divisions for the Philippines fighting, only to have all 23 wiped out. The Americans used 17 divisions, most of which now will be free for other operations.

The Borneo beachhead now measures eight miles long and two miles deep, according to the communiqué. Earlier Australian radio reports of the capture of Manggar airfield, 12 miles northeast of Balikpapan, apparently were premature. But the Aussies had taken the Spinggang airfield, 5 miles east of Balikpapan, and gone on to seize the village of Batakan-Kotijl near the Batakan river.

Potential Water, Land Resources Shown in Report

BOISE, Ida., July 5 (UP)—The preliminary draft of a comprehensive report on the potential development of land and water resources of the Columbia river drainage basin has been completed by the Pacific northwest headquarters of the federal bureau of reclamation here, and has been sent to Washington, D. C. office for further study.

This report will be made public when presented to congress later this year, according to R. J. Newell, acting regional director for the bureau here.

It will list potential irrigation and multiple-purpose projects and outline their benefits, including the total area of new land which can be brought under irrigation, the acreage which can be furnished a supplemental supply of water, the production of additional blocks of hydroelectric power for new industries and farms, flood control, navigation and recreation improvements, and preservation of wildlife.

Liberators Aid B-29s In Jap Island Attacks

GUAM, July 5 (UP)—Japanese radio said two powerful American air fleets totaling 300 Superforts, Liberators and fighters attacked the Tokyo area, the port of Nagasaki and other targets on Honshu and Kyushu today.

Pre-invasion softening up of the Japanese homeland roared through its 30th straight day with morning and afternoon assaults paced by Superforts and Liberators with a strong fighter screen, Tokyo broadcasts reported.

Non-Stop Raiding forces were reported ranging widely over the main Japanese islands in what had become virtually a non-stop offensive by daylight.

First enemy accounts said nine Superforts and about 100 long range Mustang fighters hit Honshu. They concentrated on the Chiba, Ibaraki and Tokigigi prefectures in the Tokyo area.

A few hours later about 200 Liberators and fighters attacked objectives in Kyushu. The heaviest blow was struck at Nagasaki and nearby Omura, the Japanese said. Other targets in Miyazaki, Oita, Saga and Nagasaki prefectures were attacked.

Hit Airfields Thundering in across the Japanese coast in three formations, the raiders bombed and shot up ground targets in eastern Honshu for a full hour.

The attackers centered their fire on Japanese airfields in Chiba, Ibaraki and Tochigi prefectures east and north of Tokyo proper. The same general area was pounded by a similar Superfort-fighter team yesterday.

Meanwhile, Tokyo reported an American battle fleet was menacing the northern coast of Japan after a surprise bombardment Tuesday against Japanese-held Sakhalin island in the sea of Ohotsk.

Deep Strike

The strike carried American naval power almost within sight of Russian Siberia for the fleet's deepest penetration of Japanese waters since the war began. There was no immediate confirmation from Admiral Chester W. Nimitz headquarters.

Tokyo said American surface units had broken through the Kurile island barrier and steamed more than 500 miles westward.

Five warships of unidentified types steamed into Tarakai Bay and opened a heavy bombardment of shore installations at Shikoku, American submarines, which shelled and machine gunned Kaiho island south of the bay Monday, surfaced off Shikoku to join the attack.

U. S. Will Break Relations With Poles in London

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—The United States will break off relations with the Polish government-in-exile today or tonight and formally recognize the new-born Polish government of national unity at Warsaw.

The action will complete the switch in this country's Polish policy which began at the Crimea conference when the United States, Britain and Russia agreed to promote jointly a more democratic Polish government. It was to be based on the Soviet-sponsored provisional government then functioning at Lublin.

Lane Leaves

Arthur Bliss Lane, who has been waiting here for several months for a settlement of the Big Three dispute over Poland, left this morning by plane to take up his assignment as U. S. ambassador to Poland.

The formation of the new Warsaw regime was completed last week when Poles from within Poland and from abroad were brought into the provisional government, now seated at Warsaw.

Free Elections

Russia has recognized the Lublin government from its inception, but the United States and Britain have maintained diplomatic relations with the exile government in London.

American recognition of the newly-formed government has been withheld pending a pledge on the part of the new Warsaw government to give the people of Poland "free, unfettered elections." Britain was expected to join the United States.

Navy Ordered to Seize Rubber Mill

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—President Truman today ordered the navy to seize the Goodyear Tire & Rubber plants at Akron, O., scene of a 10-day strike.

Truman acted after the United Rubber Workers of America (U. R. W. A.), refused to abide by repeated war labor board orders for the 16,700 strikers to return to work. The strike began June 16. Truman acted on the recommendation of economic stabilization director William H. Davis. Davis said Goodyear production was "urgently needed by our military forces."

The plants produce heavy-duty tires, aircraft tires, fueling hose and other rubber products. The president's seizure order authorized the navy to take any action necessary—including use of armed forces—to provide production for the plants and all persons employed in them.

Combat Casualties Reach 1,036,937; 239,533 Are Dead

Army Figure Now 911,397, With Rest 125,540

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—Announced U. S. combat casualties in this war reached 1,036,937 today, an increase of 8,258 in the past week.

Total includes 239,533 killed. The army listed 911,397 of the overall figure, with navy, marine corps and coast guard casualties totalling 125,540.

Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson, announcing the army figures to a press conference, also revealed Japanese casualties in Okinawa and other Ryukyu islands to June 28 were estimated at 118,000. He said they included 107,046 killed and 10,578 prisoners. A American ground casualties in the same islands to June 27 totaled 8,252 killed, 34,165 wounded and 1,781 missing.

"A significant indication of mopping up operations in an area far behind the present theater of war," Patterson added, "comes in a report 318 Japanese have been captured during the first six months of this year and 1,500 natives evacuated from the Marshall islands."

"During June, 54 Japanese were killed and 145 were captured on Saipan."

The overall U. S. casualty table:

Table with 3 columns: Army, Navy, Total. Rows for Killed, Wound, Missing, Prison, Totals.

Japanese Leave Indo-China in Sampans, Junks

CHUNGKING, July 5 (UP)—Japanese troops withdrawing from Indo-China in sampans and junks skirting the Asiatic coastline are under attack by a concentration of U. S. 14th air force planes, Lt. Gen. A. C. Wedemeyer announced today.

More than 200 enemy troops fleeing toward Hongkong through the Gulf of Tonkin and Hainan Strait were attacked and strafed by P-51s, the communiqué said.

Fighter missions have been concentrated on the Japanese withdrawal through Hainan Strait, Wedemeyer declared. Japanese forces in Indo-China have been virtually cut off from overland communication with south China by the Chinese offensive which has reached the Indo-China border.

To the north, American fighters and bombers destroyed or damaged 33 enemy railroad locomotives, while other planes supporting Chinese ground forces continued to strike at enemy shipping along the Siang and west rivers, hitting junks, sampans, barges and dpower boats.

Two U. S. aircraft were lost. No enemy air opposition was encountered.

ASK SUGAR CZAR WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—The Republican congressional food study committee today called upon Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson to appoint a sugar czar to relieve the sugar shortage.

Bulletin

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UP)—President Truman today announced the resignation of Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, jr., and the retirement of associate supreme court Justice Owen J. Roberts.

The president told a news conference Morgenthau will remain in the cabinet post until the chief executive returns from the Big Three meeting. He said the meeting will take place sometime within the next three weeks.

Asked whether Morgenthau would be made American director of the international finance set-up under the Bretton Woods agreement, the president said he can not answer now.