

Japs Say Halsey to Hit Soon

By WILLIAM F. TYREE
GUAM, July 21 (UP)—Tokyo spokesmen hinted Adm. William F. Halsey's allied battle fleet is bearing back for Japan today to follow up its 11-day bombardment of the home islands with a new blow at southern Honshu or Hokkaido. There was no official word from fleet headquarters on the whereabouts of Halsey's Armada.

But Japanese broadcasts said American and British warships, perhaps 150 strong, had reformed and refueled at a secret Pacific rendezvous and are expected at any time.

New "Secret"
At the same time, the enemy boasted of new "secret weapons" awaiting the allied raiders and a naval spokesman declared the remnants of the Imperial fleet would shortly be thrown into action for "one last blow."

Swarms of U. S. army warplanes from Iwo Jima and Okinawa, meanwhile, carried the pre-invasion bombardment through its 45th straight day with a series of slashing attacks on Honshu and Kyushu.

All Alone
Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Okinawa-based airpower joined in the assault on Honshu for the first time, when a lone B-24 Liberator bombed the Miho airfield on the southern part of the main island.

At the same time, a fleet of 94 seventh air force Mustang fighters flew 1,600 miles round-trip from Iwo to strafe airfields and aircraft factories in the Nagoya-Osaka area.

Striking in successive waves, the Mustangs beat up the area with rockets and machine gun fire, meeting no aerial opposition and only moderate anti-aircraft fire.

Got Six
They spotted only 12 enemy planes and destroyed one and probably a second of those, damaging six others. Fifth air force raiders from Okinawa were over Kyushu in force throughout the day, bombing and strafing airfields, railroad targets, waterfront installations and factories near Kushakino and Miyakonojo.

Another 200 heavy and medium bombers and fighters from MacArthur's command ripped up five airfields and dock facilities at Shanghai in their second straight raid on the Chinese port. Large fires were set all over the target area and nine grounded Japanese planes were destroyed or damaged.

Next Paper Scrap, Tin Can Pickup Next Weekend

The lowly tin can and the unworthy scrap paper, both of which have assumed great importance in the fight against the axis, are still in demand and La Grande residents are urged to prepare the tin cans and scrap paper they have to be picked up next week.

During all the coming week, Cub Scouts will be calling on householders to remind them the pickup is Friday and Saturday, and to help them prepare the cans and paper. Cans must be flattened and paper must be bunched.

First pickup will be Friday afternoon for all the city west of Fourth street; the next pickup will be for all of the city east of Fourth street and will take place Saturday afternoon. Bundles and cans should be placed on the curbs in the morning.

Lynne Bohnenkamp, salvage committee chairman, said a donation will be made by the committee to the Masonic hospital fund.

Yank Subs Sink 11 More Jap Vessels

WASHINGTON, July 21 (UP)—American submarines have sunk 11 more Japanese vessels in far eastern waters, the navy announced today. The bag included four small combatant craft.

Vessels destroyed were two minesweepers, two patrol escort vessels, one large cargo transport, one medium transport, three small merchant vessels and two freighters.

This brought to 1,174 the number of enemy ships sunk by American undersea craft in this war. This total includes 144 enemy warships.

Today's announcement of submarine losses was the first since early this month, when the sinking of 10 Japanese vessels was announced.

Weather
Data for 24 hours to 7 a. m.
Temperature:
Maximum..... 92
Minimum..... 58
Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Sunday. Scattered showers, cooler Sunday.

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A Community Newspaper For Every Member of the Family

FIVE CENTS



HALIFAX ROCKED BY EXPLOSIONS—One of the explosions which rocked the city of Halifax and surrounding countryside as the big ammunition dump of Royal Canadian naval arsenal went up in flames. Disaster started when fire spread from burning barge at arsenal pier.

First Flight Made In La Grande to Portland Service

Air service between eastern Oregon and Portland today became available with the first daily charter flight being made this morning from La Grande to Portland.

The five men left at about 7:30 a.m. today in a Waco cabin plane owned by Eastern Oregon Airways. Regular scheduled flight will start next Monday.

As guests of Merlin Johnson and Keith Province, proprietors of Eastern Oregon Airways which instituted the service, Raymond Gray, president of the chamber of commerce La Grande, Harry McCarthy, La Grande merchant, and Frank Schiro, publisher of the La Grande Evening Observer, made the first flight into Portland.

Gray, manager of Eastern Oregon Light and Power company, said on arrival in Portland, "this service is of tremendous importance to our section of the state. It provides a long-needed modern passenger service, linking eastern Oregon with Oregon's metropolis."

The five will return later today for completion of the first dual-way service. A \$500,000 municipal fund provides the La Grande base.

WLB Decision Not Affecting Labor Conditions Here

Decision of the national war labor board in setting aside the \$1.75 an hour rate for power sawing in the west coast lumber industry does not affect the M. L. Emily Lumber company, it was announced here today.

The decision leaves in effect the guide rate of \$1.40 an hour with certain differentials, which are right in line with rates established in this area and which the west coast lumber commission had also established. Labor members of the board dissented from the decision.

WLB Says 'Above All State Laws'

WASHINGTON, July 21 (UP)—The war labor board today said itself above new state laws passed to offset WLB policy on maintenance of membership and other forms of union security.

In deciding a Florida case the WLB said its decisions superseded state constitutions as well as state laws. It decided that the vote last November by the people of Florida for a right-to-work amendment to their state constitution is not binding upon the board.

The decision was the board's first involving labor legislation approved in last November's elections or enacted by 1945 state legislatures. It was regarded as a precedent for decisions which may involve similar state acts or constitutional amendments approved in Arkansas, South Dakota and other states.



CAPT. BOB KARTHER—describes flight to Jap homeland from Guam.

Karther Finishes 27 Air Missions Against Japan

Capt. Bob C. Karther, La Grande, has completed 27 missions against the homeland of Japan, a total of over 400 combat hours.

He is commanding officer of the Superfortress "City of Raleigh," (Jughead III to the crew) based on Guam.

Captain Karther, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Karther, and husband of the former Mildred Hardey, entered the air force in March, 1942, and graduated from the Roswell, N. M., field in February of '43, when he transferred into combat training. His overseas duty began in February of this year.

Lead Crew
He recently has been promoted to captain and has been awarded the distinguished flying cross and the air medal with two oak leaf clusters.

His is an authorized lead crew and has led several formations over their targets in Japan. He also rides check flights with co-pilots who are trying to qualify for first pilot on B-29s. The Superfort shown in the June 18 edition of Life magazine is Captain Karther's plane. It is the one shown with the Jap plane just off the left wing.

An excerpt from his latest letter follows, telling of incidents from flights.

Has Record
"Jughead III has established a record here in our group. She has 35 missions to her credit without having to return to base before the mission is completed. I believe there is only one ship in our group that has any more missions than Jughead."

"We had quite a lot of St. Elmo's fire last mission. St. Elmo's fire is static electricity. Several times the prop tips looked like neon signs. One time right after we left the target it was hopping around the inside of the ship. At the same time it was jumping about a foot off my prop tips. I didn't tell you about the time we were struck by lightning. Some day I will tell you all about it. I really expected it again when we were on this last mission."

Two Trips
Not all members of the class were students in the college, although the course is part of the

Little Minam Fire Now Almost Under Control

Homes in Area Still Emptied

PORTLAND, July 21 (UP)—Rain that began falling today mitigated the peril from forest fires to two western Oregon communities from which many residents had fled.

In Washington county, the Wilson river fire had covered 46,000 acres — more than 70 square miles — before the rain slowed its fiery march, although on one salient the flames continued to advance between the communities of Cochran and Glenwood.

Fires Merge
State highway officials reported rain falling over the Pacific coast with good prospects for a drenching of the stricken area.

Earlier, two fires — along the Wilson and the Salmonberry rivers — had merged to Imperial Glenwood and the nearby Consolidated timber company's sawmill and community of 80 homes. From both of these places many had moved out on army trucks and private vehicles.

In addition to the partial evacuation Consolidated camp families, a group of 22 boys and girls, most of them from Portland, were forced to evacuate the Highbanks play school summer camp in the woods near Glenwood, in face of the steadily advancing flames.

Out of Control
In Polk county, residents of the pioneer district prepared to evacuate their homes as a forest fire again flared out of control and gained on all sides.

The city of Dallas was darkened by billowing clouds of smoke most of the day Friday as flames were reported only 12 miles from the city.

Portlander Awaits Sentence; Started House in War Time

PORTLAND, July 21 (UP)—Edward L. Kropp, Portland business man, awaited sentence today in federal court after pleading guilty to violating WPB order L-41 in starting the construction of an \$8,000 home without making application to the war production board.

United States District Judge James Alger Fee referred the case to the chief probation officer for pre-sentence investigation and committed Kropp to the county jail until sentence could be passed.

Maximum penalty for the offense is \$10,000 fine and one year in jail.

Judge Fee said earlier he was cognizant of extenuating circumstances, but inasmuch as Kropp had been an employe of the war production board when the offense was committed, he believed that a severe sentence is called for.

Early Riser Gets the Bird, Ornithology Classes Taught by Dr. Quaintance Find

Now that his ornithology (bird study) classes have been completed, Dr. Charles Quaintance can get some sleep. Dr. Quaintance, associate professor of biology at the Eastern Oregon college of education, has been arising at 5:30 a.m. and sometimes at 5 a.m. to conduct the field trips taken by his class — and it's hard on the nervous system.

Dr. Quaintance, however, is not complaining. It's the early riser that gets the bird, as proven by the unusual birds seen by the class on their field trips. Various habitats were visited, such as Deal canyon, Riverside park, the Kate Henley bird sanctuary along the Grande Ronde river, the cemetery, the campus, Hot Lake, the airport, and around the viaduct. Several students also went to Wallowa lake on various occasions, Dr. Quaintance said.

Finds Redstart
Several unusual birds were observed by the class, among them the American redstart, a warbler discovered by Dr. Quaintance a few years ago. While it is an eastern bird, it has apparently taken a liking to the Riverside park district.

Evening grosbeaks very vivacious birds, were seen earlier in the season, also in the Riverside park district, Quaintance said, and several green-tailed towhees were seen in the Deal canyon district.



"THEY BROUGHT IT ON THEMSELVES"—A tour of the German capital, now a specter city, strewn with rubble and studded with skeleton buildings, brought out the comment from President Harry S. Truman "This terrible thing they brought on themselves." Photo shows center of Berlin.

Big Three Close To Decision in Discussions

POTSDAM, July 21 (UP)—The big three has reached the decision-making phase of their discussions, it was believed today.

That was indicated by statements from the American delegation that the work of the conference is going forward steadily and that "much serious business has been done."

The Americans revealed President Truman, Premier Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill have met an average of three hours daily.

Long Hours
The three foreign secretaries have been meeting even longer hours while the numerous sub-committees and committees of experts have worked into the late evening hours preparing material for the big three.

The material is screened by the experts, submitted to the foreign secretaries and then passed on to the big three in final form for decisions.

Thus, it was believed, the preliminary sifting of a myriad of problems virtually has been completed leaving the big three free to make their decisions.

Inspect Berlin
Members of the president's party are spending a good deal of time inspecting Berlin. Edward W. Pauley, chairman of the American section of the reparations commission meeting in Moscow, said "after seeing Berlin I didn't feel so bad about London."

Pauley was amazed that although on a national basis only 20 per cent of German industry was destroyed Berlin itself has been largely obliterated.

Duke, Duchess To Return to England

WASHINGTON, July 21 (UP)—The Duke of Windsor and the woman for whom he gave up the British crown are going back to England together for the first time since their marriage in 1937.

British officials said today the Duke and Duchess will visit London within a few weeks. The Duke has been back occasionally since he abdicated but the duchess, the former Wallis Warfield Simpson of Baltimore, has not returned to England since their famous exile began.

While in Britain, the famous couple probably will stay at the duke's Surrey country place, Fort Belvedere.

Regional OPA Unconvinced By Anderson Move

PORTLAND, July 21 (UP)—The regional OPA remained adamant today on the state-wide lamb point controversy as news came from Washington Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson had requested removal of points on Oregon "soft lamb," giving promise of a lamb-producer victory over the OPA.

McDaniel Brown, district OPA head, said Oregonians long have enjoyed more meat than has the rest of the nation and he didn't think the points should be removed to give local people more meat than the rest of the country, and especially when the army needs meat.

Meanwhile, E. L. Peterson, state director of agriculture, expressed satisfaction with Anderson's recommendation, saying "That's what we've been asking for."

Nuernberg Will Be Scene of War Trials

LONDON, July 21 (UP)—Trials of European war criminals will be held in Nuernberg, the Nazi shrine city where the German fascist party met each year to lay the foundation for war, it was revealed today.

American, British and French delegations of the war crimes commission, which selected the site, left by plane today for Nuernberg to examine courtroom and other facilities.

Decision to try the major European war criminals in the picturesque German city where the Nazis held their annual party congresses was a gesture of retribution. Further details of preparations for the trials are expected when the delegations return to London tomorrow.

The absence of Russian delegates from the party flying to Nuernberg caused surprise. The only explanation was "circumstances had arisen unexpectedly which made it impossible" for the Russians to make the trip.

The delegation's visit to Nuernberg prompted speculation the date for the first of the trials may be announced soon. One of the big-name prisoners may be the first to face the court. There was some speculation it might be Reichsmarshal Hermann Goering.

Many Holes Dug For Street Markers

Horace J. Nelson, chairman of the Lions club committee on street marker placement, today extended the thanks of the club to those in the area of the city where markers are being planted who have completed digging the holes for the markers at the street corners in front of their property and urged others to complete their digging.

The city has marked the sites of the holes with stakes and the stakes, when the holes are dug, should be saved so they may be used over again.

Reason householders are urged to dig the holes for the street marker posts is that the city just simply doesn't have enough man power available to do the work. The first group of markers will be put in some time next week, Nelson said.

150 Attend Vocal Recital at College

More than 150 La Grande music lovers last night heard Florence Coardy, contralto, present a well balanced and interesting recital at the college auditorium. She was presented by the Eastern Oregon college of education and assisted by Marjorie Scobert Wilson, pianist.

Miss Coardy sang a program which included both classical and modern numbers. Numerous encores testified to the pleasure which the audience received from her singing. Mrs. Wilson also was well received.

300 Acre Area in Flames

U. S. forest service expects to have the forest fire in Whitman national forest on the Little Minam river under control by late evening, Charles Arlington, fire control assistant, at the headquarters in Baker said today.

Seventy men, including rangers, brush crews and firemen, thus far have confined the blaze to the 300 acres of the original site, which is at the mouth of Big Canyon creek on the Little Minam. The fire is about two miles west of the Horse ranch, a dude ranch, and the ranch is the only habitation nearby. With the wind in the south, the danger to the ranch is remote. The fire is about five miles southeast of Point Prominence, Arlington said.

Most of the timber involved is lodgepole pine and upper slope types, including fir, according to Arlington. The fire broke out at 4:30 p.m. yesterday and by 7 p.m. had covered 300 acres.

Fire trenches have controlled the fire on all sides, and the work has been entirely done by hand since the terrain is too rugged for use of machinery, such as bulldozers.

Supplies with which to fight the blaze have to be packed in from Moss Springs, forest service supply center, which is seven miles from the scene of the blaze. As soon as the blaze is brought under control, the crews will traverse the area to put out the "last spark" of blaze.

Rain, which is forecast for this part of the state Sunday, would be most welcome in controlling the blaze, Arlington declared. Rain raises the humidity to the point where the fires smother down.

The blaze was discovered by lookouts at Mt. Emily, High ridge, Goodman ridge and Flat lake in this district, Floyd McLin, dispatcher here, said; and was observed at Bone Springs in the Walla Walla district. Readings gave the location of the blaze.

Strike Cripples Eugene Plywood Manufacturer

EUGENE, July 21 (UP)—The Springfield Plywood corporation plant was crippled today by a strike of AFL workers who walked out over a jurisdictional dispute, curtailing work on nine million board feet of unfilled government orders.

An earlier report that a group of CIO workers at the plant quit their jobs was denied by labor officials, who said the men reported to work but were turned back by the company.

The national labor relations board granted the AFL a strike vote, which was held July 9, but refused a bargaining election in which the AFL would have sought to represent the workers.

There was no production today or Friday at the plant as only 80 men reported in warehouse and shipping departments of the normal shift of 140.

National war labor board chairman John D. Galey telegraphed the company and men Thursday that the west coast lumber commission had directed continuation of work. The company replied it would comply to the limit of its ability, and CIO officials said they would try to bring in workers from other plywood plants.

Pfc Howard Rowman Of North Powder Reported Wounded

Army war casualties announced today included Pfc Howard D. Rowman, son of Mrs. Helen Rowman, route 1, Box 8, North Powder, who was wounded while in the Pacific regions. No details were given with the announcement of Rowman's injury.