

Today, the toga-wearing little sultan, who tells at a glance the fortunes of Salem Senators baseball team, returns to The Statesman front page.

Malta Bombers Hit Back at Enemy Base

RAF Heighten Tempo in Fiercy Daylong Attack

Assault Over France, Germany Meets Heaviest Resistance; Nazis Retaliate at Night

LONDON, Sunday, April 26—(AP)—The Royal air force daylight offensive over France reached a new peak Saturday with six large-scale onslaughts in 11 hours in a fiery aftermath to a second violent night attack on Rostock.

The Germans retaliated by sending large numbers of bombers over the west of England Saturday night and early Sunday, cascading high explosives and fire bombs on one town.

Jap Spearhead Gains in Burma

Chinese Counterattack But Enemy Thrust Nears Mandalay

By The Associated Press

NEW DELHI, India, April 25 The hard-pressed Chinese defending the allied left flank counter-attacked Saturday night to halt a Japanese drive six miles west of Taunggyi, but the strongly reinforced enemy struck furiously with tanks, artillery and planes on both sides of their stalled comrades.

The Japanese, striking through the Shan states within 100 miles of devastated Mandalay, thrust forward in three columns around Taunggyi in an effort to encircle the outnumbered troops under Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, USA.

One Japanese spearhead which reached Hopong drove abruptly northeast in the direction of Loi-lem, 22 miles away, while another column sought to move west and encircle Taunggyi. Still a third unit was striking out 16 miles further west of Taunggyi.

The Chinese, almost devoid of air support, inflicted heavy casualties and captured several trucks and other material.

Heavy fighting also was reported in the center on the Sittang river front, and on the British-held right on the Irrawaddy.

The Chinese of the center and their British allies were reported officially to have held their positions. The central front is south of Tatkon and the British are drawn up behind the Pin-chang river near the burned oil center of Yenangyaung.

The Japanese were attempting to overrun Burma and isolate China before the steaming Monsoon of mid-day bogs down their mechanized might.

Our Senators

Lost 43

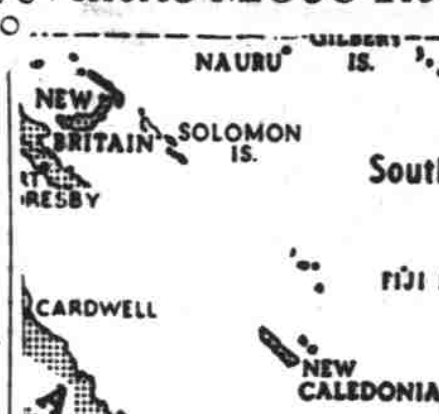


It's Their Job to Provide Adair Bus Service



On the shoulders of these men will rest much of the responsibility for both providing and keeping up the Salem-Camp Adair bus service proposed by the Salem chamber of commerce.

Thanks Move In



Location of New Caledonia island, held by the Free French and where American troops entered Saturday, is shown by the above map. The occupation was in way of acting before Japanese forces.

US Troops on New Caledonia

Island Flanks Supply Line to Southwest Pacific Forces

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP)—The United States announced Saturday it had landed troops in New Caledonia to assist the Free French in the defense of that vitally strategic island which flanks the supply route between this country and Australia.

The action, which the war department said was taken "with the approval of local authorities," was the first announcement of American troops moving into French territory. The size of the American force was not disclosed.

In view of the new collaborationist regime of Pierre Laval at Vichy—and of the previous angry outburst from Vichy when the United States sent a consular general to Brazzaville in Free French equatorial Africa—observers expected a new outcry from Vichy over the troops in New Caledonia.

Relations between the Washington and Vichy governments have steadily deteriorated since announcement that Laval was returning to power. Ambassador William D. Leahy has been called to Washington for consultations. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Inmate Dies Suddenly On Release

Walter Stevenson, who Friday completed a 2½ year term for larceny in the state penitentiary here, died suddenly as he was leaving the institution after receiving his formal discharge. He had been suffering from a heart ailment.

Stevenson was received at the prison August 24, 1940, from Josephine county. He has a sister living at Santa Rosa, Calif.

Fletcher Isakson also died suddenly at the penitentiary Friday immediately following his return there from the state tuberculosis hospital where he was taken for medical treatment.

Isakson was received at the prison from Portland in 1934 to serve a 25 year term for robbery. His mother resides in Portland.

Friday's Weather

Weather forecast with held and temperature data delayed by army request. River Saturday, -4 feet. Max. temperature Friday, 54, min., 43. Rainfall, .17 inches.

Roofing Awarded At Adair

Salem Firm Puts 50 to Work on \$500,000 Job

Largest roofing contract ever awarded, so far as can be learned here, that for Camp Adair is held by a Salem firm comprised by R. L. Elfstrom and Carl Armpriest. Calling for more than 250 cars of composition roofing, the contract with that for all sheet metal work in half of the cantonment area, represents approximately \$500,000, a member of the firm said Saturday.

Armpriest and Elfstrom, separately engaged in business in Salem, formed their partnership to secure and handle the cantonment construction job.

No shortage of labor has been felt in securing help for their share of the construction work, they declare.

Charles Olson, for many years Valley Motor company office manager, is in charge of the firm's office at the cantonment site. Already constructed there is the concern's warehouse and approximately 50 men are at work, it was said Saturday.

Jobs for Small Plants Urged

McNary Tells Nelson Equipment Ready For War Work

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP) Senator McNary (R-Ore) urged Donald M. Nelson, director of the war production board, Saturday to take steps to provide war work for small shops of Oregon and the nation.

The senator said that on the basis of reports from his home state and conferences with business men from Oregon he believed that one of the most important issues before the WPB now is to get the government procurement agencies to recognize the smaller concerns which have good equipment and skilled workers.

"If conditions in other states are similar to those reported to me by people from Oregon," McNary said, "there must be a very heavy war production capacity which is not yet used." McNary said he knew Nelson was appealing to the procurement agencies and large private contractors to place business with smaller concerns but he felt confident that a heavy producing capacity was not yet enlisted.

The senator said that of 274 metal working shops in Oregon which have been studied and listed some are too small to take war work but experts have found a large number of Oregon shops equipped and manned in a manner that would insure good production. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Hitler Plans Report to Reichstag

LONDON, April 25—(AP)—Continental reports said Saturday night that Adolf Hitler had returned to Berlin and was expected to call a meeting of the Reichstag soon—probably Monday—to make a statement on German-French relations.

A Reuters dispatch from Vichy quoted the Swedish newspapers NYA Dagligt Allehanda as saying German newspapers published reports that the Kroll opera house—scene of Reichstag sessions—is to be closed, indicating a session is imminent. The Swedish paper also said Hitler was back in Berlin from the front.

An earlier report credited by the British news agency to the Berlin correspondent of the Swiss Gazette De Lausanne, said this correspondent had learned a large number of French prisoners were to be released soon, but that most of them would remain in Germany as factory hands or be sent to French industries producing for Germany.

Malta—The Unsinkable



Despite ceaseless severe bombing raids on the little British island in the Mediterranean, Malta went on the offensive Saturday to bomb an airport at Sicily, 60 miles to the north, and hit an axis supply ship to Gen. Rommel's forces in North Africa. This map shows how Malta lies athwart the Italian supply lines and how it receives supplies from the ends of the Mediterranean.

Cargo Ship Loses To Axis Subs But Probably Got One

Three U-Boats Follow American Cargo-Passenger Boat, Torpedo And Shell It Off East Coast

NORFOLK, Va., April 25—(AP)—Three axis submarines, in a torpedo and shelling attack, set fire to an American cargo-passenger ship off the Atlantic coast Tuesday night in one of two sinkings announced Saturday by navy officials who said 44 passengers and crewmen were either lost or not reported from the two vessels.

Nine passengers and five crew members were missing and presumed lost from the cargo-passenger ship, and three men were missing and 27 others had not been reported as reached after a medium-sized cargo ship was sunk Sunday night.

Survivors related that the score was not altogether one-sided and that one or two of the submarines attacking the cargo-passenger were believed to have been sunk. Lawrence W. Earle, 18-year-old son of Pennsylvania's former governor, George H. Earle, said he was told by the crew of their rescue vessel that they had certainly destroyed one of the raiders and probably another.

The 95 passengers and 75 crewmen surviving the attack on the cargo-passenger ship were adrift for 18 hours in six lifeboats before they were rescued.

Harry King, jr., 18, of New York, whose father is a member of the war production board, said he saw submarines, sometimes two and sometimes three, following the ship throughout the day. He was not particularly concerned, he said, since the vessel carried no cargo of military value and the submarines were close enough to see that women and children were aboard.

One of the attacking submarines, Earle related, fired a torpedo into the ship's port side just aft of amidships, and the raiders waited until about 15 minutes after the last of the six lifeboats had been launched before firing about 30 shells into the vessel. From his lifeboat he saw two submarines exchanging signals. The nearer submarine, he said, was "quite large" and had deck guns fore and aft.

Eighteen men of the crew of 47 and one passenger of the cargo ship sunk Sunday night were rescued by the same ship that picked up survivors of the cargo-passenger vessel. Three men were missing and presumed lost, and 27 others, after safely launching a lifeboat, had not been reported as rescued to the navy.

Salem Music Groups High

McMINNVILLE, April 25—(AP) Orchestra and band competition ended the annual central Oregon district high school music festival Saturday.

Ratings: Orchestra, Class A—Eugene 1, Salem 1, Class B—Bend 1, Corvallis 1, Class D—McMinnville Junior high 1.

Bands, Class A—Eugene 1, Salem 1, Corvallis 1, Albany 1, Class B—Bend 1, McMinnville 2, Lebanon 2, Silverton 3, Sweet Home 3, Class C—Creswell 1, Lakeview 2, Class D—McKenzie 1, Corvallis Junior high 2, McMinnville Junior high 3.

Late Sports

SEATTLE, April 25—(P)—Second night game (seven innings): Oakland ..... 700 100 6-3 5 2 Seattle ..... 000 020 0-2 10 0 Cheini and Glenn; Bevans, Libke (1) and Collins, Stagg (3).

Battered Island Sends Aircraft To Strike Sicily

Merchant Ship Crossing Sea Is Bombed; Italian Airport Feels Raid; Axis Continues

CAIRO, April 25—(AP)—Despite continuous axis air raids, the battered little island of Malta—Britain's unsinkable "aircraft carrier" 60 miles from Sicily—struck back Saturday at an enemy airdrome and a big merchant ship which was carrying supplies to Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's North Africa corps.

The airfield bombed was at Comiso in Sicily, whence most of the German and Italian planes have flown against Malta in virtually ceaseless attacks for the last four months. The supply ship in the central Mediterranean was reported probably hit by bombers, soaring from one of Malta's three air bases at Halfar, Luqa and Tahali.

In defense of the island fortress itself, RAF fighters and ground batteries knocked down four planes and damaged 10 more out of enemy squadrons engaged in heavy raids during the past 24 hours, a Malta communique said Saturday night. It added that civilian casualties during this period were "considerable."

The heaviest of these assaults came Friday night when fighter-escorted axis bombers concentrated on Valletta harbor and some bombs fell on the city itself. A number of dive-bombers took part in this raid, while a smaller force bombed and machine-gunned a nearby airport without serious damage.

In daylight follow-ups, the raiders struck three times at Malta Saturday, the first time during the morning in an attack of fairly large force against western Malta. Another heavy attack was made in midday and a lesser one in the afternoon but casualties from these forays were described as lighter than last night.

CCC Camps Cut to 350

Remaining Enrollees To Do Mostly War Work, Protection

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP) A retrenchment in operations of the civilian conservation corps, reducing the number of camps to 350 and the personnel to approximately 70,000, was announced Saturday by Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator.

A CCC spokesman described the action as an adjustment to war time conditions, particularly to the present employment opportunities for youth.

Of the 600 camps now operating, McNutt said 202 would be closed before May 31 and an additional 48 in June, making a total of 250 to cease operations within about two months. There are about 85,000 enrollees in the CCC at present.

The reduced operating basis compares with the 1935 high of 2652 camps with 520,000 enrollees. On April 1 last year the corps maintained 1500 camps with 270,000 enrollees. The CCC expended approximately \$500,000,000 in the fiscal year 1936, but expects to use about \$141,000,000 this year.

James M. McEntee, CCC director, said the corps would concentrate on war work for the armed forces and forest protection, the latter principally in timber areas of the northwest.

The announcement did not designate the camps to be closed.

Ceiling Put On Exports

WASHINGTON, April 25—(AP)—The government imposed a blanket price ceiling Saturday on all commodities and products sold for export.

In an action interpreted widely as a preliminary to overall price freezing within the United States—reportedly due Tuesday—the office of price administration ordered the export ceiling in effect next Thursday.

Under its terms, the export price of any commodity is fixed at the cost of acquisition by the exporter, plus the average premium charged in the export trade on a similar transaction between July 1 and December 31, 1940, or March 1 and April 15, 1942—whichever period yields the lowest average premium.

Red Cavalry Takes Over

Other Forces Bugged Down; Nazi Ship Sunk in North

KUIBYSHEV, April 25—(AP)—Red army cavalry units, scorned the spring swamps which have bogged down other ground forces, have taken a number of German-occupied villages and reached an important highway feeding the German front, dispatches to Izvestia said Saturday.

The horsemen were reported to be harassing the Germans at every turn by lightning raids on villages despite the efforts of German planes and artillery to check them.

(The midnight communique of the Soviet information bureau broadcast from Moscow reported that 68 German planes were shot down along the front Friday, but said "no essential changes took place.")

(In the Barents sea, units of the red navy sank a German ship of 12,000 tons, the communique said. Presumably the ship was being used to reinforce German forces in northern Finland.)

On the Karelian front, it was reported that a unit of Russian guards attacked a hilly sector where the Germans had been fortifying the crests during the winter and captured an important height.

German efforts to recapture the height were repulsed, Izvestia said. (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)

45-65 Group Registers

Men from 45 to 65 in the Salem area register today and Monday at the Salem armory for the fourth classification by military authorities, part of the 13,000,000 expected to sign up over the nation for possible non-combatant war duty.

From 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. today, from 7 a. m. to 9 p. m. Monday, armory headquarters are to be open.

In the Brooks community, registration offices are to be open Monday only.

At Woodburn, where registration commenced Saturday, it is to continue today and Monday in the council room of the city hall. Stayton's eligibles may register today or Monday in the Beuchamp building.

In Mt. Angel, the city hall is to be registration headquarters today and Monday. Jefferson's registration is to be held Monday only, in booths set up at the city hall.