

Stalingrad Beats Back German Smashes

Convicts Admitted Setting Fires In State Flax Sheds

Confession Clears Two of Recent Fires at Penitentiary; Three-Year Sentences Meted

Mystery of at least two of the three recent state penitentiary flax plant fires was solved Friday when five inmates of the prison pleaded guilty to arson charges before Circuit Judge E. M. Page and were given added penitentiary sentences. A sixth convict, who refused to confess any part in the fires but is alleged to have spread the propaganda that caused them, will be taken before the county grand jury, officers said.

Unexplained by the confessions was the third fire, which destroyed shed number six and the greatest quantity of flax burned in any of the conflagrations. The three fires resulted in a loss of approximately \$215,000.

USS Oregon May Be Scrap

Governor Agrees to Disposal if Needed; State Ranks Third

NEW YORK, Oct. 9-(AP)—Scrap metal piles throughout the nation grew in size Friday and there was a possibility that even an old battleship might be cut up to feed the country's wartime steel furnaces.

The committee charged with conducting the American newspapers' metal drive reported 765,461 tons had been collected in the top 24 states reporting for a total of 32.5 pounds per person.

Meanwhile the navy reported that an earlier decision not to scrap the old battleship Oregon, now a historical relic in the harbor at Portland Ore., probably would have to be reconsidered.

Undersecretary James V. Forrestal wrote Gov. Charles A. Sprague of Oregon that pressure exerted upon the navy to make "every possible contribution toward the building up of an adequate stock pile" made it necessary to review the earlier judgment.

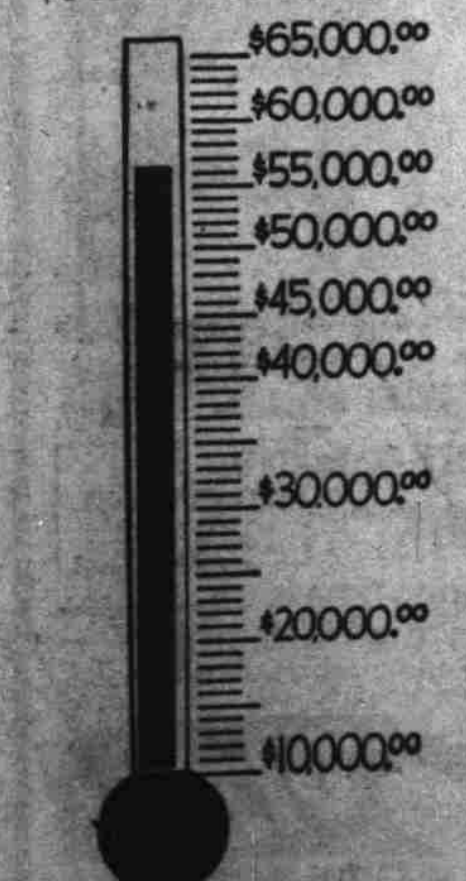
"I think we both may be able to take some comfort out of the fact that the act itself may serve to emphasize to the general public the urgent need for adding to our scrap reserves," Forrestal added.

The potential change of policy might bring about the scrapping of old ships in various ports.

The urgent hunt for scrap revealed itself in many other ways. At Flain Dealing, La., school children dug along the banks of the Red river for buried river boats heavy with metal. Among their finds was an old paddle wheel.

(Turn to Page 2)

War Chest



Chest Grows To \$56,035.86 per Cent

Subscriptions to Salem United War Chest mounted to \$56,035.07 on Friday when division captains reported an additional \$6038.07 at the luncheon, held jointly with Salem Realty board, Retail Merchants association and the Salem Ad club. This brought the fund up to 86 per cent of the \$65,000 goal.

Next report luncheon will be on Monday at the chamber of commerce, in connection with that organization's regular luncheon, and heavy weekend collections are expected to bring the total much nearer to the goal.

Division reports Friday included: Automotive \$261, contractors \$323, general gifts \$830, government and education \$1894, mercantile \$1313, professional \$409, utilities \$293, women's division \$500, West Salem \$53, rural division \$151. The industrial division made no report though its solicitors are active. Professional division is nearest its goal with 92 per cent attained.

By-products of such an effort (Turn to Page 2)

School Girls Go Farmerette

Salem high school lassies who wore "work clothes" to classes Friday as part of their Girls' league farmerette fun fest, annual frolic in honor of sophomores, believed they had outdone male members of the student body in the roughness of their garb. Not only did they don jeans, but rolled them halfway to the knee and in numerous cases chose to top those logger-type "staged pants" with plaid shirts in cotton or flannel. No calked boots were seen at the school, however. Short bobby socks in dainty shades and soft sports shoes provided the feminine touch to the feet of young misses whose tresses were tied with gay ribbons.

Damaged Zero Fixed by US For Testing

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—The navy reported Friday that a Japanese Zero fighter, forced down in the Aleutians, had been repaired at the naval air station at San Diego and would soon be flown across the country to the air station at Anacostia (Washington), DC, where exhaustive tests will be made of its performance characteristics.

Already, however, preliminary tests have been made on the west coast and have shown up both weaknesses and strengths in the famous enemy fighter.

In these preliminary examinations, the navy said, the Zero developed a top speed of slightly less than 300 miles per hour, less than the speed of the best American fighters, but this may be increased somewhat in later tests.

Security Tax Rate Sticks

Senate Disregards FDR Appeal to Double Levy

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—Disregarding a direct appeal from President Roosevelt, the senate voted 50 to 35 Friday to continue social security pay roll taxes at their present rate, instead of doubling them on January 1, 1943, as originally planned.

During the day Mr. Roosevelt addressed a letter to Chairman George (D-Ga.) of the senate finance committee saying the increase — from one to two per cent each on employer and employees — was necessary.

It is "not only in accord with the necessities of the social security system itself," he said, "but at the same time would contribute to the non-inflationary financing of the rapidly mounting war expenditures."

Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.) led a successful fight against the proposal, asserting social security funds already exceeded the legal minimum. He presented figures to show a social security tax of one per cent would yield as much revenue next year as the treasury had originally expected to derive from the two per cent rate.

Earlier, the senate adopted a 5 per cent "victory tax" levied on all incomes of more than \$24. The tax, effective January 1, 1943, would be deducted from pay envelopes and salary checks and paid directly to the government by the employer. It would be collected in addition to the usual normal tax and surtaxes. The house has yet to approve the levy.

War Prisoner Controversy Adds Nations

LONDON, Oct. 9—Military and propaganda spokesmen in both Berlin and Rome applied new threats Friday to the unsavory nerve war which the Germans have begun over the treatment of prisoners of war, and the controversy widened to the point where it may affect the future well-being of hundreds of thousands of captives.

The Germans, trading on the fact that they hold some 115,000 British prisoners as compared to 23,000 Germans in British hands, announced that 1376 Britons had been shackled, noted the British decision to fetter a like number of Germans by noon Saturday, and said it was done three times that number of British would be placed in bonds.

The Italians broadcast charges, based on so-called captured British orders, that commando forces which recently raided Tobruk had been instructed to kill all Italians (Turn to Page 2)

Fireside Chat Set for Monday

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—Monday at 10 p. m., eastern war time, was fixed by President Roosevelt Friday as the time for his fifth radio "fireside chat" to the nation since Pearl Harbor. He told reporters he had not yet decided what he would talk about, but that he would talk for half an hour.

Allied Airplanes Wreak Havoc on Three Fronts

Greatest Raid Yet Drops 60 Tons, Rabaul

Attack Widespread; Japs Encountered in New Guinea

By MURLIN SPENCER

GEN. MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Australia, Saturday, Oct. 10-(AP)—The largest force of allied heavy bombers yet hurled against a Japanese base in the southwest Pacific dumped 60 tons of explosives on Rabaul, New Britain, scoring direct hits on jetties, machine shops, supply dumps and other objectives, it was announced officially Saturday.

Not a single allied plane was lost in this and other devastating raids throughout the island area above Australia, the communique said.

On the ground, Australian patrols pushed on into the Owen Stanley mountain "gap" leading down the northern slopes to the Japanese base of Kokoda. Contact with the Japanese patrols for the first time in days was established in the Myola-Templeton's Crossing area, the bulletin said, but no further details of that action were given.

The huge aerial offensive apparently was part of a master plan designed to aid US Marines battling the Japanese in the Solomons.

General MacArthur's airmen not only struck at Rabaul in their biggest night raid, but also dumped 16 tons of bombs on Lae in upper New Guinea where Japanese supply dumps on the water front were destroyed amid debris that flew hundreds of feet into the air.

Buka, in the northern Solomons, also was hit again and numerous fires were set there. Attacking Japanese-held Saumlaki in the Tanimbar islands north of Australia, allied airmen pounced on a Japanese ship they previously had crippled. They destroyed it this time, the communique said.

Over St. George's channel an allied reconnaissance unit also turned in a neat performance. Attacked by three Japanese Zero fighters, it shot down two and the third fled, the communique said.

Of the big attack on Rabaul, the communique said: "The attack penetrated a barrage of intense anti-aircraft fire and was delivered from a low altitude.

"A preliminary incendiary sweep by allied medium units lit up the target area, starting many fires and exploding fuel dumps whose flames, visible for many miles, led our main attacking force to the target areas."

Record Crops Not Yet Sure

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—The federal crop reporting board said Friday that outstandingly heavy crop yields that have been in prospect for several months were now in sight but not yet "in the bag," warning that farmers were showing less assurance that the "tremendous job" of harvesting can be completed in season.

Repeating previous forecast of the record production of food and fiber crops, the board said nevertheless that a wet fall and an early winter would probably catch a big volume of crops still in the field. Officials said shortages of labor were causing harvesting delays in some areas.

The board said the volume of crops grown was impressive. The aggregate crop production — which included the largest crop of corn in history — was expected by the board to exceed the 1923-32 pre-drought level by 26 per cent.

Army Pounds Kiska Japs, Fire Vessel

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—The army air forces dropped 15 tons of bombs on the Japanese base at Kiska Island last Tuesday, the navy announced Friday, indicating that a systematic campaign had been undertaken to reduce to rubble and ruin this last enemy stronghold in the Aleutians.

The navy communique said that the Tuesday raid was carried out by the army's B-24 Liberator bombers escorted by P-39 Airacobras and P-38 Lightning fighter planes — all operating from the new advance air base in the Andreanof Islands.

Eight tons of bombs were dropped on the enemy camp area, starting fires, and seven tons were released over the vicinity of the seaplane hangar with unannounced results.

In addition a cargo ship in the harbor was attacked and left afire and sinking, the radio station was damaged by strafing, and two seaplanes were hit, one being destroyed and the other damaged.

Along with the report of the operations at Kiska the communique disclosed that a reconnaissance flight also was made over Attu and Agaitu islands the same day and that no sign was found of any enemy activity on either place. The Japanese apparently withdrew from those islands several weeks ago.

Manpower Up Before House

Temporary Freezing Of Farm Workers Asked of Draft

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7-(AP)—Proposals all the way from a "fill the soil or fight" order to cash subsidies to farm labor confronted the house agriculture committee Friday as it set about writing its answer to one of the war's most pressing economic questions: "How you going to keep 'em down on the farm?"

Meanwhile, emphasizing the urgency of the farm labor situation, 15 farm state senators petitioned selective service to freeze dairy and livestock workers on the farms for the next three months, to prevent "irreparable injury" to food production.

Still another proposal was contained in a bill introduced by Senator Taft (R-Ohio) to create a new office of manpower director with authority over recruiting for the armed services, industry, agriculture, and other occupations. The present war manpower commission would be abolished.

Chairman Fulmer (D-SC) said the house committee, after a six months study of the farm labor problem, would file its report early next week.

Specifically, the 15 senators asked selective service to hold labor on the farm for 90 days, while a general manpower program is being worked out. Manpower chief Paul V. McNutt now is writing proposals for such legislation, and an administration bill is expected to be presented to congress soon.

The house agriculture committee was expected to declare that labor scarcity menaces the nation's wartime food and fiber supply, and make detailed recommendations for a remedy.

Japan Internees Must Write Jap

TOKYO (From Japanese Broadcasts) Oct. 9-(AP)—Enemy and neutral civilians interned or living in Japan or Japanese occupied territory may start writing letters abroad on October 12—but they must write in the Japanese language, it was announced Friday.

Such letters will be forwarded by the Japanese Red Cross to the international Red Cross committee at Geneva, which will translate and forward the communications.

600 in Force Strike Lille War Plants

Four Planes Lost; Many Nazis Sent Crashing Down

By WES GALLAGHER

WITH THE US BOMBER COMMAND IN ENGLAND, Oct. 9-(AP)—More than 100 American Fortress and Liberator bombers with an escort of 500 allied fighter planes made the greatest single daylight aerial attack of the war on Hitler's industrial and transport system Friday at Lille in occupied France.

The raiders directed by Maj. Gen. Carl Spaatz, commander of the USAAF in the European theatre, smashed factories and railroad yards against strong Nazi opposition and came home with only four of 600 planes missing.

In operations beside the battle-tested Fortresses were the American Liberators, triumphantly passing their first tests in this battle zone. Both are four-motored planes.

The raid was greater than anything thrown by the Nazis against England in the dark days of the Battle of Britain, before the Luftwaffe called off their daylight attacks and concentrated on night raids.

In numbers of offensive planes involved, Friday's mass raid topped the climax day of Britain's defensive war, September 15, 1940, when the Germans sent 500 machines over and lost upwards of 185 of them in a single day.

The official communique announced the great allied fighter escort knocked down at least five German fighters Friday in widespread aerial dogfights but no attempt has been made so far to total up the number shot down by bombers.

The Liberators alone claimed an unofficial total of seven Focke-Wulf 190's destroyed.

American airmen in the raid told this correspondent that Nazi fighters, including Reichsmarshal Goering's proud Yellow-nose squadron, had machine-gunned the crew parachuting to earth from one crippled Fortress.

The greatest American aerial exploit of the war came two days after the warning from the United States army by radio to the French people to move away from factories producing for Germany.

It also brought from the German radio the threat tonight of "reprisals" for raids "instigated by Roosevelt."

Guard Cutter Presumed Lost

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—The coast guard cutter Muskeget, with possibly 100 officers and men aboard, has been overdue in the Atlantic "for some time," the navy announced Friday, and must be presumed lost.

The vessel, third coast guard ship lost on anti-submarine duty in the Atlantic, was the former SS "Cornish" of the Eastern Steamship lines and had been put into service by the navy only last June. She was commanded by Lieut. Com. Charles Ernest Toft, 35, of South Portland, Me., a veteran of 12 years in the coast guard.

Other coast guard ships lost in the Atlantic were the cutter Alexander Hamilton, torpedoed off Iceland, and the tender Acacia, which was sunk by enemy submarine action in the Caribbean.

New York Alerted

NEW YORK, Oct. 9-(AP)—The approach of an "unidentified" plane, later identified as "friendly," caused the headquarters of the eastern defense command and first army to sound a "blue alert" for seven minutes in the New York City and New Jersey areas Friday night.

Coming Home



WENDELL WILLKIE

Willkie Misses Enemy Attack

Emissary Leaves for Home; President Says All Okeh

CHUNGKING, Saturday, Oct. 10-(AP)—Wendell Willkie, personal representative of President Roosevelt on a tour of war fronts, left China Friday, flying homeward.

WITH THE CHINESE ARMY IN NORTH CHINA, Oct. 9-(AP)—The Japanese have failed again in what appears to have been a determined effort to get Wendell Willkie.

Thirty-five Japanese planes bombed the Honan province city of Loyang Thursday and machine-gunned a railway coach on a siding there which evidently they believed was the one carrying President Roosevelt's personal representative on his tour of the north China battle zone.

But Willkie wasn't in it; it wasn't even Willkie's car, although it was painted the same blue as the special sleeper which had been used for part of the journey on the Luanghai line.

Willkie did not learn of the attack until he had finished his tour of the Chinese front lines on the south bank of the Yellow river where he missed enemy shelling by only a half hour.

The fact that the raid was the (Turn to Page 2)

Draft Group To Report Here Monday

A new list of men ordered to report to the Salem armory at 7:15 Monday morning for induction was released Friday by the Salem selective service board.

The abbreviation "vol." in the list appears after the names of men who volunteered for service through selective service; the abbreviation "tr." indicates those transferred from Salem to another local board.

From the Salem board go: Frederick John Noeske, Clare Ruthven Palmer, Davis Irwin Stall (vol.), Lee Weldon Walker, Gerald Lancelo Gregson, LaVere Weesner, LeRoy Harley Mize, Edgar Albert Lloyd, George Edward Day, Wesley Raymond White, James Daniel Lepley, Charles Edward Duncan, Jr., Alfred Joseph Domogalla, Ronald Arthur Nopp, Edwin Leslie Jones, Gilbert Earl Redinger, Willis Henry Oldenburg, Ralph Donald Meyers (vol.), James Francis Martindale (tr.), Clive Wilson Smith, Stanley Wil-

7 Desperadoes Escape Prison

JOLIET, Ill., Oct. 9-(AP)—Seven convicts, including two top men in the old "terrible Touhy" gang, fled from Stateville prison Friday, leaving one penitentiary guard shot and wounded and another slugged.

Four of the escapees, led by Roger Touhy, 44, ringleader in the gang that once ruled Chicago's northwest side, and Hugh Basil "The Owl" Banghart, 41, Touhy lieutenant, made their break in a spectacular dash across the prison yard during the afternoon exercise period.

They fled in a small green sedan parked outside the penitentiary.

Weather

Thursday's max. temp. 75, min. 44. River Friday -1.1 ft. By army request, weather forecasts are withheld and temperature data delayed. Dimost Saturday's sunset 6:36 p. m. Sunday's sunrise 7:33 a. m.

No Signs Of Letup In Attack

Nazis Reported Advancing on Astrakhan

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW, Saturday, Oct. 10 (AP)—Stalingrad's defenders were reported officially Saturday to have smashed two German attempts to break through to the Volga east of the city, but dispatches said a new threat had developed in a Nazi advance across the arid Kalmyck region toward Astrakhan on the Caspian sea.

The midnight Russian communique did not mention the Kalmyck area south of Stalingrad after the government newspaper Ivestia told for the first time of a German penetration there.

Nazi seizure of Astrakhan at the mouth of the Volga would spare the Germans further costly losses in frontal attacks on Stalingrad and at the same time control that vital Russian communications artery.

There was no immediate evidence here to bear out the German radio reports that the Nazis were counting on their artillery and dive-bombers instead of their infantry henceforth in the battle to reduce Stalingrad.

Nazi infantry still is attacking the city, but if it is withdrawn it would be a tacit admission that the Germans again miscalculated resistance as they did in the battle for Moscow last year.

As far as an artillery duel at Stalingrad is concerned the Russians probably would welcome it for soviet artillery still is referred to here as "the god of war," and always has given a good account of itself.

Both tank-supported German efforts to crash through Stalingrad toward the Volga were crushed on the city's outskirts, the communique said. One German infantry company was wiped out, it added.

One red army unit fighting in the same general area, a workers' settlement in the northwestern outskirts, was reported to have killed 300 Germans in breaking out of a German ring which had been closed on it for several days.

Northwest of Stalingrad where a soviet relief offensive has sought to ease the pressure on Stalingrad, the Russians "fortified their occupied positions and on separate sectors engaged in battles of local importance."

Thus, as Stalingrad entered its 47th day of siege, the general position was one of stalemate, the communique indicated.

But on a sector of the northwestern front, presumably near Leningrad, the Russians acknowledged that German infantry supported by 30 tanks had ousted the red army from two populated places after losing ten of their tanks and suffering heavy casualties.

(Turn to Page 2)

Allies Would Yield Rights

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9-(AP)—To an embattled China on the eve of its national anniversary, the United States Friday night announced its willingness to abolish promptly by treaty the system of extraterritorial rights it has enjoyed in that country for nearly 100 years.

Great Britain, the state department added, "shares this government's views and is taking similar action."

The United States decision was communicated to Chinese Ambassador Wei Tuo-ming by Sumner Welles, acting secretary of state, Welles told the ambassador the United States plans to present a draft treaty to the Chinese government for its consideration in the near future.