

IT SEEMS TO ME that the most important service of the protective division of civilian defense is the aircraft observation service. From December 8, 1941, on to this day, observation posts have been manned all over western Oregon. It is because of the vigilance of these observers, all of them, except the forest lookouts, volunteers, that people in the cities and towns have been free to sleep well of night, without fear that they may wake up to the sound of exploding enemy bombs.

While the battle of Midway removed the great threat of Japanese invasion of our mainland, there is still the possibility of attempts to fire our forests (as in Curry county last fall), and even by suicide raids to blast our factories and power dams. So continued vigilance is needed.

There is another reason for keeping up this service at full strength, and that is in assistance to our own pilots. A week ago I attended the assembly of aircraft observers at Leslie school and heard officers of the Fourth Fighter Command tell the value of observation to their fliers in this area. With permission of the command I will report the incident related at the meeting by Lt. Young:

A few weeks ago in this very area you read of a bi-motor airplane being lost during a training mission. Undoubtedly you have noticed the increase in aerial activity in the recent months but possibly have not thought of the reason behind it.

Young men flying our planes are barely out of their teens and have only recently finished their primary, basic and advanced training under ideal weather conditions at the various army air force schools. They are flying combat aviation for their first times and are sent to this area for a two-fold purpose. One is that the weather and terrain that they encounter here will better prepare them for combat activity; the other reason that our area is ideal is the ground observer corps. Should these young men become lost or in trouble, the IV Fighter Command will be in constant touch with them through reports from the ground observers of the aircraft warning service. All aircraft are charted by the army from reports of the observers piloted by our young men. A northern air field on a training mission and headed for one of our nearby airports. One of the purposes of this flight was for these fliers to gain experience in very bad weather. A constant track of these five planes was maintained on the filter boards by the reports of the ground observers, and suddenly one post reported only "four bi-motors high." Almost immediately another post east of there reported "one bi-motor high." It was obvious to the controller that one plane was off his course. He reached the pilot by radio and upon discovering that his instruments had failed, the controller was able to direct him properly according to the report received from the observation post over which he was flying. Since he was over a post not many miles from an air field, where under favorable weather conditions he would have probably been able to see the field itself, he was told to turn slightly to his right. For some unknown reason he veered to the left and upon realizing his mistake began to

(Continued on editorial page)

**OPA Officer Quits in Huff**

WASHINGTON, May 31—(AP)—J. Kenneth Galbraith, deputy OPA administrator in charge of prices, resigned Monday night after a period of conflict in which OPA was riven by internal dissension and battered by criticism from Capitol Hill and elsewhere. Galbraith, a former Princeton professor, who took office with Leon Henderson at the outset of OPA and held over under Administrator Prentiss M. Brown, has been at sharp odds with Lou R. Maxon, another deputy administrator who was brought in by Brown. Brown announced Galbraith's resignation late in the day.

**Salem Firm Gets Contract**

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 31—(AP)—The Halverson Construction company of Salem, Ore., has been awarded a war department contract for construction of storage facilities in Deschutes county, Ore. The contract was less than \$50,000. Similar contracts were awarded to Babler Brothers, Portland, for construction of taxiways in Marion county; to Gilpin Construction company, Portland, for an overpass in Multnomah county, and to Hord and Stuart, Portland, for temporary frame buildings in Clark county, Wash.

**French Fleet To Aid**

**Nine Vessels Held At Alexandria To Fight With Allies**

CAIRO, May 31—(AP)—The French naval fleet at Alexandria has volunteered to fight for the allies as a result of successful negotiations by Gen. Henry Giraud, it was announced Monday night.

The British government was kept fully informed throughout the negotiations.

This was the first official announcement of the move, which will bring nine vessels into the allied fleet. It was first made public by a Berlin radio broadcast and was later unofficially confirmed by allied sources.

It was reported here that the agreement was reached several days ago, but the announcement was withheld until the formation of the French executive committee combining the forces of Gen. Giraud and Gen. Charles De Gaulle.

The decision finally ended rumors of more than a year that the ships would be taken over in a surprise coup. They had been interned and disarmed under the command of Vice Admiral Rene Emil Godfrey since the French armistice on June 22, 1940.

**City Schools To End Work**

Four thousand nine hundred ninety four students of the 11 Salem public schools will clear their desks and clean out their lockers before leaving classes for summer harvest work today.

Although the number of students volunteering to work in Marion county harvest fields under the platoon system has not yet been tabulated by the US employment service in Salem, it is understood that the enrollment of students from the fifth to the tenth grades will be large.

**Memorial Day Here Draws Large Crowd**

Largest crowd and longest and most varied parade since celebration of the city's centennial filled Salem's streets Monday afternoon in observance of Memorial day and in goodly number went on to the armory for the afternoon's formal exercises.

**Memorial Day Death Toll Declines**

The nation today counted 154 violent deaths over the three-day holiday weekend, exactly half the death toll in the two-day holiday of 1941.

**300 Forts Lash Axis In South**

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, May 31—(AP)—Thundering fleets of American bombers from North Africa and the middle east converged on southern Italy in daylight Sunday to smash important targets at Naples and Foggia without the loss of a single plane.

More than 100 Flying Fortresses of Lieut. Gen. Carl A. Spaatz's North African command cascaded bombs on Naples harbor, destroying shipping, railroads and suburban airfields and shooting down 10 of possibly 60 enemy fighters that attacked them in the air.

**OPA Approves Farm Priority Ration Plan**

WASHINGTON, May 31—(AP)—The war production board today provided simple priority procedure by which farmers can purchase 178 kinds of hard-to-get supplies.

**Memorial Day Here Draws Large Crowd**

At the courthouse lawn, where a portion of the uniformed participants were arranged in military formations, patriotic organizations and hundreds of school children laid their floral tributes at the base of the War Mothers' monument. Sounding of taps and the firing of a salute were included in the ceremonies there, for which Col. Carl A. Braun, grand marshal for the day, was presiding official.

**Battle of Attu Ends In Victory**  
**New Crisis Seen As Miners Quit**

**Federal Operation Ignored**

WASHINGTON, June 1—(Tuesday)—(AP)—Thousands of coal miners were idle today in a widespread strike, bringing government operations of the mines to an unprecedented crisis.

Even before the deadline, thousands of miners laid down their tools in Pennsylvania and Kentucky, and battalions of the nation's coal-mining army in West Virginia, Ohio and other states were ready to stay away from work today.

**Wage Negotiations Recessed Until 10 a.m. Today**

Lewis and the operators met again Monday, but gave no report of progress in their negotiations for settlement of the miners' demands for a \$2 a day increase, portal to portal pay and other concessions. Secretary Ickes, who as fuels administrator has operated the mines for a month in behalf of the government, appealed to the negotiators yesterday afternoon to reach an agreement speedily so that "the uncertainty which is interfering with the maximum production of coal which this nation requires for war purposes, may be promptly eliminated."

**Nazis Claim Gain on Reds**

LONDON, Tuesday, June 1—(AP)—The Germans claimed to have driven a wedge into Russian lines above Smolensk Monday, and both sides reported thrusts and parries of scouting raids as June brought the traditional month of best fighting weather to the long Russian front today.

**Funds Given Flood Victims**

WASHINGTON, May 31—(AP)—The federal government made funds available Monday, first to give emergency food, shelter and medical attention to homeless families in the midwestern flood area and then to rebuild roads and bring crop lands back into war food production.

**Henry Ford Seen As New President**

DETROIT, May 31—(AP)—Executives of the Ford Motor Co. met Monday, but made no announcement as to who will succeed the deceased Edsel Ford as president of the company. Edsel died last week and it had been suggested that his father, 80-year-old Henry Ford, will pick up the reins he laid down 25 years ago.



Where Japs Held Out  
Black arrows show where American forces attacked the last major concentration of Japs on Attu and annihilated all but scattered snipers and isolated bands of "not more than 50" demoralized Jap soldiers. South of Lake Corles (a) is the scene of one drive; and at (b) southwest of Chichagof harbor Yanks penetrated a strongly held ridge. Areas outlined in black were last strongholds of the Japs.—Associated Press Map.

**Chinese Trap Hits 75,000 Jap Troops**

CHUNGKING, Tuesday, June 1—(AP)—One of the biggest victories for Chinese armies in the whole Sino-Japanese war—the complete routing of five enemy divisions—and the most shattering joint air victory over the invaders ever achieved over China were claimed in a special high command communique today.

**Mott Announces Building Plan**

WASHINGTON, DC., May 31—(AP)—Representative Mott (R-Ore.) said Monday the navy has approved construction of a \$74,500 barracks for WAVES at the Astoria, Oregon, naval air station.

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**Eyewitness Tells of Dortmund Havoc**

STOCKHOLM, Tuesday, June 1—(AP)—Sven Malmberg, Swedish violinist, who has just returned from bombed Dortmund, said today that the whole center of the German city is in ruins.

**Only Snipers Left; Battle Plans Eye Use Of Key Base**

WASHINGTON, May 31—(AP)—The battle of the Aleutians settled down Monday to a campaign to eradicate scattered nests of enemy snipers on Attu pending disclosure of where the next offensive moves will be made.

Two major possibilities exist in the north Pacific, a move against Kiska, or a campaign to the west aimed at the Kurile island chain reaching north from Japan.

Each became highly feasible with the annihilation of principal Japanese forces on Attu near the tip of the Aleutian island chain which reaches west and south toward Japan.

**Bombers Rain 36 Tons on Japs at Lae**

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Tuesday, June 1—(AP)—The Japanese base at Lae, New Guinea, underwent its heaviest bombing to date Monday when two small formations of Liberators blasted the airfield, the runway, the town area and the waterfront with 36 tons of high explosives.

This was the largest tonnage ever dropped upon Lae and it included a number of 1,000-pound bombs. The previous record attack against Lae was made last Thursday when 28 tons of bombs were dropped.

**Steel Lack Hits Kaiser Ship Yard**

PORTLAND, Ore., May 31—(AP)—A steel shortage threatens ship production at the record-breaking Oregon Shipbuilding corporation, Edgar F. Kaiser, general manager, said Monday.

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**Delayed Story Tells Saga Of US Carrier's Battles**

By EUGENE BURNS WITH THE PACIFIC FLEET. Dec. 7—(Delayed)—The United States aircraft carrier Enterprise, in the year since Pearl Harbor, has sunk 19 Japanese ships, including three carriers, and has damaged 13 enemy ships, while her airplanes and anti-aircraft fire have shot down at least 185 planes.

She has been in every naval battle of the Pacific ocean except the Coral sea engagement. Then, within two days' sailing, she was detected by Japanese patrol planes, and the proximity of the ship may have caused the Japanese to divert some of their power. The men of the Enterprise, who have not seen their homeland for 20 months, took part in these important actions: 1. The landing of marine pilots (Turn to Page 2—Story F)