

By Charles F. Sprague

One of the casualties of the war was the large-scale celebration of 1943 as a centennial year in Oregon history.

It had been planned to have a series of local celebrations, starting at the Idaho border, and culminating in a great cavalcade to be held somewhere in the vicinity of Portland or Oregon City.

Then came Pearl Harbor, and plans for easy transportation, and concentration on winning the war. So the centennial celebrations were reduced to minuscule proportions.

Recognition of the centennial in Salem is confined to the historic displays in several of the store windows downtown.

Too bad the plans for the Oregon centennial were interfered with by the war. In another century the names of Jesse Applegate and James W. Nesmith, of Joe Meek and George Abernethy will have less significance.

Buses to Call For Volunteer Bean Workers

For the convenience of Salem's volunteer bean harvesters who are turning out in increasing numbers, the emergency farm labor service has arranged for buses to call for these workers at four points in the city each morning while the emergency continues.

Pickers may report at 6:30 a. m. either at the Hollywood theatre, at 18th and State streets, at Leslie junior high or at the employment office, Cottage and Ferry streets.

There was demand Wednesday morning for 350 or 400 more pickers than were available, though this shortage was reduced somewhat by groups who provided their own transportation.

Plans for operating a bus about 9:30 each morning for the convenience of housewives who wish to pick beans but cannot leave at 6:30, were in the making Wednesday but arrangements had not been completed.

Liferaft Adrift; Army Asks Return

The bathtub-shaped blue and yellow rubber life raft which drifted to earth about 4:30 p. m. Wednesday approximately ten miles northeast of Toledo is being sought by officers and men of the Salem army air base, Lt. Al Fowler has announced.

The airplane release for the life raft was accidentally set off during a cruise, inflating the raft and allowing it to drop. Not only is the raft an expensive piece of property, but it is a life-saving piece, Fowler pointed out in urging anyone sighting the escaped equipment to call him collect at the Salem army air base.

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Layton, Officers Queried

Admitting Statements Argued at Trial

DALLAS, August 18 (Special)—Richard Harry Layton was on the witness stand late today in the Polk county circuit court, where he is on trial charged with the first degree murder of Ruth Hildebrand of Dallas.

Layton, questioned by Harry Hoy of defense counsel, said he had been taken from Hillsboro, where he was in jail for assault on Milwaukee, and there interrogated by state police officers; that the examination began about half an hour after arrival, at 2:30 p. m., and continued until early the next morning.

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Fire Destroys Residence

Hydrant Valve Outlet Hard to Find, Delay Results

Fire which broke out Wednesday night about 9 o'clock leveled the residence of Mrs. Bernice Strong at 552 North 17th street.

Firemen responded to a call but were delayed in getting water onto the blaze by inability to find the underground valve controlling the flow, its outlet being hidden in tall grass at the corner of Center and 17th streets.

Unable to start the flow of water from the Center street hydrant, firemen hooked a second line to a hydrant on A street and got water into the fire. Witnesses estimated that a delay of at least ten minutes had occurred. They also agreed that the fire-fighting equipment was under-manned.

Virginia Strong, daughter of Mrs. Strong, reported that her girl friends first saw the blaze at 9 o'clock and that at that time flames had already spread over most of the roof.

According to Miss Strong, the furniture was not insured, and only a davenport and three kitchen chairs were saved. Whether the house, owned by Clarence B. Wilson, was insured, was not reported Wednesday night.

Channel Shift Danger Real

Danger that the North Santiam river may quit its present channel above Stayton and course down what appears to be an old channel to the south, thus missing the Marion-Linn county bridge at Stayton by about a mile, definitely exists, members of the two county courts learned on a joint inspection trip Wednesday.

The river is cutting into its south bank and in the next high water period some of the flow will be diverted, court members said and the engineers of the two counties agreed.

Norway Blight



Jonas Lie, minister of Norway's civilian police, has set all Norway under tension by warning police that they will be shot if they refuse to sign a loyalty pledge to enforce Nazi orders.

Russians Make Decisive Gains Near Kharkov

3200 Germans Said Killed on 2 Fronts in Ukraine Sector

LONDON, Thursday, Aug. 19 (P)—Russian troops striking across the Donets river below Kharkov Wednesday captured Zmyev, 20 miles south of the city, in a decisive assault that killed 1200 Germans and threatened to cut one of the last railways feeding the besieged Ukraine base, Moscow disclosed early today.

Red army snatches northwest and west of Kharkov also resulted in overall gains of seven miles, the killing of 2000 more Germans, and the capture of more than 50 villages in the steady semi-circumference of the big enemy bastion, the daily communique announced. Soviet shock troops have been fighting reinforced German units in the northeastern suburbs for a week.

Scores of mortar batteries, machineguns and tanks were captured or destroyed in the wheeling movement below Kharkov that reached Zmyev, said the communique, recorded by the Soviet Monitor. Zmyev is only 10 miles from the Kharkov-Losovaya railway, a main enemy escape route should the Germans elect to flee as they did last winter.

The Kharkov-Krasnograd branch a few miles beyond is another line that must be cut before the Russians can trap the thousands of Germans still resisting fiercely inside the city. The line running west to Poltava already had been cut early in the campaign.

On the Bryansk front, the communique said, converging Russian armies attacking the approaches to that city from three sides had killed 1300 Germans during the day. A supplement also announced the capture of an "advantageous point" on the Spas Demensk front farther north. One thousand Germans were slain there, it said.

Gains of four to six miles were reported on the Bryansk front where 40 villages were seized, including the rail stations of Berzozovka, 21 miles northeast of Bryansk, and Malinka, 20 miles to the east. Front dispatches had said earlier the Russians were only 25 miles from Bryansk.

Hastily-massed German reserves hurried into the attack had delayed the Russian offensives, especially around Kharkov, but the communique said these had been overcome once more in the effort to force the Germans to fall back to the Dnieper river.

The Soviet army newspaper Red Star, however, bluntly called again for an allied second front in Europe, one that would divert 50 or 60 German divisions from Russia. Red Star declared: "Only such an operation can cut down the length of the war to any extent. The allied command carried out a well-prepared landing operation in Sicily. The struggle in Sicily, however, failed to divert a single German division from the Soviet-German front."

The Soviet communique did not mention any further gains on the Spas Demensk front where Soviet troops last were reported 80 miles southeast of Smolensk, fighting extensive minefields as well as German counterattacks.

Allies Tell Occupied Countries To Get Ready; Armies Set to Go

Invaders Poised In Sicily

Eisenhower Tells Axis Casualties; Hints New Thrust

By RELMAN MORIN

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, August 18 (P)—Two superb armies in Sicily — the American Seventh and British Eighth — are "ready to go at any minute" in bold new offensives, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower declared today, reporting that the axis lost more than 167,000 men killed, wounded and captured on the island up to August 10.

As the allied commander-in-chief disclosed the magnitude of axis casualties, artillery duels thundered over Messina strait and allied warplanes hounded enemy remnants retreating by sea and over broken roads up the Italian mainland.

Allied casualties from beginning to end in Sicily were 25,000 men, Eisenhower said, while the axis toll of over 167,000—of whom at least 32,000 were dead or injured—did not include their losses in the final week of battle.

The axis also lost 260 tanks and 502 guns up to Aug. 10, and 1,891 planes from July 1 to Aug. 17—more than a six-to-one ratio over allied planes losses of 274.

Eisenhower hinted at new thrusts to come soon. He declared the battle-tired US Seventh army now is "A worthy partner of the Eighth army" and would give ground Commander Gen. Sir Harold Alexander a mighty onetwo punch.

"Both armies are ready to go at any minute. We can count on them with complete confidence," he said.

With the battle of Sicily finished "head of schedule" in 38 days by occupation of Messina yesterday, allied ground troops today continued rounding up isolated enemy units in the hills, and allied artillery hammered shells onto the Italian mainland to harry the German retreat.

Fleets of airplanes took up the pursuit of the axis rearguard with bomb and gunfire attacks on roads and beaches and rail lines in southern Italy yesterday, and sank eight boats and barges along the Italian coast carrying troops seeking safety in the north by sea.

The weightiest attacks were made upon freight yards at Battipaglia south of Naples, highways at Castellavere south of Naples, and a bridge at Anagni.

Flying Fortresses that smashed at airfields 25 miles northwest of Marseille, France, yesterday, laid two big showers of heavy bombs among 150 grounded German airplanes, causing "heavy damage," today's allied communique said. (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Senator Views Front Line



Sen. Henry Cabot Lodge (R-Mass) (right) on a visit to the Sicily battle front, talks with Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, US army corps commander. He is now in Cairo. (Associated Press photo by radio from signal corps.)

Over 200 Jap Planes Destroyed at Wewak; Sea Victory Reported

By C. YATES McDANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Thursday, August 19 (P)—Japan's airforce tragedy at Wewak, New Guinea, was made more complete Wednesday by returning allied fliers which shot down 28 out of 30 interceptors, then swept low to finish off all but 10 of the 225 planes the enemy had in the area.

Today's communique reported the new devastation along with a new naval victory in the Solomons and a third pounding within a week of oil refineries and ships on southeastern Borneo.

On Tuesday, American and Australian fliers trapped planes, massed wing tip to wing tip, on four Wewak area airfields, destroyed 120, severely damaged 50 others and shot down three out of seven interceptors. That left only 52 ships undamaged.

Wednesday, four-engined and two-engined bombers went back to Wewak, escorted by fighters, bagged 28 of those 52 ships in the air, then for hours dived over the base, churning up piles of ashes and torn plane parts with their bombs.

Then they spread fire and explosion through the town and harbor area, setting three cargo ships afire.

This second raid wound up the heaviest blow yet to fall on the Japanese air force in the Pacific war, one which virtually wiped out a fleet of ships the enemy had assembled, probably in support of its beleaguered garrison at Salamaua, 250 miles down the coast from Wewak.

The communique also reported a sea victory on the Vella gulf below American-occupied Vella Lavella island in the Solomons. Our warships hit three enemy destroyers and probably sank one. The Vella gulf also was the scene of an earlier naval victory in which a Japanese cruiser and at least two destroyers were sunk.

For the third time within a week, allied heavy bombers made a 2600 mile round trip from Australia to Balikpapan, enemy oil port, on the southeast coast of Borneo, today's communique said.

In the latest raid, four large vessels, probably tankers, were set on fire. In the two previous raids, Japan's oil refineries and storage tanks were wrecked.

In addition to the new destruction wrought at Wewak, the communique disclosed that in the continuing aerial war in that area against supply barges 17 more have been destroyed off nearby New Britain.

Of the latest Wewak raid, the communique reported: "The enemy mounted 30 fighters to meet the onslaught. Twenty eight were shot down. The fields were then combed to practical annihilation. Only 10 planes of 225 escaped."

"We then struck the town and harbor area, setting fire to three (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

High Command Sends Message To Conquerors

Invasion Time and Place Not Given, but Metropolitan France Specially Mentioned

By JAMES M. LONG

LONDON, August 18 (P)—The allied-controlled United Nations radio at Algiers told the people of occupied Europe Wednesday night to perfect their preparations "for the day you will head the call of the allied high command" on the eve of the invasion of the continent.

The broadcast, recorded by the Associated Press, said that although "we are obviously not going to reveal where the next blow will fall," the people of "the occupied country which is to be the first to welcome the armies of liberation will be notified at the last minute." It said that time might be near at hand and added that now after the conquest of Sicily "the new phase, the liberation of occupied countries, has begun."

"You must prepare yourself by day and by week for the role you will have to play at a future date which might be near in the liberation of your country," the broadcast said. It added that "the people of the occupied country which is to be the first to welcome the armies of liberation will be notified at the last minute."

Although the broadcast especially mentioned metropolitan France, in effect all those awaiting freedom from Greece to Norway were told to make their preparations for "the new phase, the liberation of occupied countries," which it said had already begun.

The announcer concluded the broadcast by saying the message was from the allied high command.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower broadcast the first warning to occupied countries to prepare for the battle of Europe on July 10, when the invasion of Sicily began. (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Nazi Soldiers Said Losing Faith in Hitler

STOCKHOLM, Thursday, Aug. 19 (P)—German residents of Hamburg want peace, and many Nazi soldiers fighting on the Russian front no longer believe Hitler can lead them to victory, a 20-year-old Swede just returned through Hamburg from the eastern front said Wednesday night.

Sigfried Forsberg, who got out of the German army when his mother discovered that by a previous marriage her son was still a Swedish citizen, was caught in the record allied bombings of Hamburg.

He gave the newspaper Dagens Nyheter the following picture of conditions in Hamburg and on the eastern front: "I lived in Hamburg for 10 years, and as I bicycled around the city following the raids I was told that 10 per cent of the town was undamaged, but it looked to me like everything was destroyed. 'You couldn't recognize the town.'"

"Even before the last attacks, the people wanted peace, and after that everyone was saying: 'The only thing one now wants is peace.'"

"Air attacks against Germany have changed the attitude of the soldiers fighting on the eastern front. Their morale is still good, but they are worrying about what is happening back home. They still respect Hitler, but they don't believe he can lead them to victory."

Forsberg said that 17 and 18 year old boys were fighting with him southwest of Leningrad, indicating the strain placed on Hitler's critical manpower supply.

He said that as he was returning from Russia through Poland he found the Poles still fighting the Germans, even hurling hand grenades at them on the streets of Warsaw. (Turn to Page 2—Story B)

Dimout

Thurs. sunset 8:14

Fri. sunrise 6:17

(Weather on Page 5)

RAF Bombers Demolish Nazi Air Plants

Yank and British Planes Make 3000 Sorties in 24 Hours

By RICE YAMNER

LONDON, Aug. 18 (P)—In a smashing climax to nearly 3000 American and British warplane sorties in 24 hours, the RAF's big bombers switched with smooth and tremendous power from the Italian to the German theater Tuesday night and crushed one of the Nazis' vital war plants so thoroughly that officials estimated it could hardly be reestablished within a year.

The target for this precision attack—the sort of attack that the Americans threw in against Schweinfurt and Regensburg in southeast Germany—was Peenemuende, the Nazi center for the development of aircraft radio-location devices and armament.

(The Nazi-controlled Paris radio went off the air tonight, the federal communications commission reported, indicating that allied bombers might be over France again.)

Without disclosing complete figures a US army air force spokesman said today that the raids in the European theater during the last 36 hours was a record for the Americans in the number of sorties, the number of targets attacked, and the geographical scope.

During the same period, it was estimated, the RAF made 1,500 sorties—not a record, but adding weight to the American smashing power.

United States army headquarters announced that the 36 Flying Fortresses lost Tuesday over Germany was the highest number of American bombers yet downed in a single day in the European theater. The previous high was 26.

The headquarters announced also that more than 100 enemy fighters were shot down by the Fortresses and their escorting Thunderbolts Tuesday in the raid on Schweinfurt.

This toll of axis fighters probably will be increased when the crews that assaulted Regensburg (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

British Disclose New Gun Details

NEW YORK, Aug. 18 (P)—The British radio disclosed Wednesday night details of two new medium guns used by British artillery units against the Nazis in North Africa and Sicily. "They are the 4.5 and 5.5-inch, and each of them has surpassed the comparable German weapon," BBC said in the broadcast, recorded here by CBS. "The 5.5 lb. shell of the 4.5 gun is highly effective at ranges up to about 11 miles," the announcement continued. "The 5.5 can throw a 100 lb. projectile with devastating effect at a maximum range of more than eight miles, exceeding its German counterpart by almost a mile."