

Yank Airmen Sweep France

LONDON, March 21—(AP)—American, four-engine Liberators attacked the Pas-de-Calais invasion coast area of northern France today without losing a plane and with the loss of the eighth air force made an unprecedented sweep over 450 miles of occupied France, strafing enemy airdromes and destroying 20 planes.

Ranging all the way from Paris to the Pyrenees mountains at the Spanish border, the Mustangs, which combine a long range with speeds up to 425 mph, shot down 11 enemy aircraft and destroyed nine on the ground.

A communique tonight reported seven Mustangs missing from the daring operation.

The German radio tonight said "nuisance raiders are over western Germany," an indication that RAF Mosquitos were attacking.

In attacking military targets in the Pas-de-Calais area, which has become one of the most bombed regions of the world in the last three months, the Liberators and their escorting Thunderbolts met no fighter opposition, although the air rocked with anti-aircraft fire.

Mt. Vesuvius Erupts Lava Over Big Area

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Standing 100 yards from the advancing 30-foot wall of red clinkers on the outskirts of Massa di Somma today, I was unable to conceive of a more horrible form of destruction, though I have watched flood waters sweep down the Ohio river valley several times and observed the effects of the 1938 New England hurricane.

When it "blew off" Saturday the volcano spilled lava down its slopes in three streams. The flow of two subsided, while a third intensified as it snaked down a deep valley in a northwesterly direction.

At noon today it was flowing from the crater at an estimated speed of 40 miles an hour, then slowing in the course of its descent until by the time it fanned out on the comparatively flat lower slope it was only creeping.

The people of San Sebastiano and Massa di Somma, whose towns also were buried in the eruption of 1872, watched the great lava field inching its way toward them over the weekend, but few prepared to move their household belongings until allied authorities took the situation in hand.

So bewildered was one woman that she poured a pitched of water on the smoking mass as it piled up behind a stone wall at the edge of her garden. Others, protesting that Saint Januari, protector of Naples, would halt the flow, tried to prevent the authorities from moving them.

When the first buildings went down and the people at last realized that the force was irresistible, they thronged into the narrow, walled roads by the hundreds, bearing bedding, food, cooking utensils and furniture on everything from their heads to donkey carts. This afternoon the roads below the two towns were so choked that trucks could move only a few yards at a time, materially slowing the task of evacuating Sorcola's 5000 residents, many of whose homes will be buried tomorrow.

Australian Bride Misses Sunshine

PORTLAND, March 21—(AP)—The first Australian bride to arrive in this area declared today that the only large difference between Portland and her homeland is a scarcity of sunshine here.

In other respects, said Dorothy Walsh Fisher, this area is very similar to Australia.

The former corporal in the Australian women's army service, who married Sgt. Jess C. Fisher of Portland at Melbourne last April, was one of 11 American soldiers' brides who came to the United States this year.

Gas Coupons Must Last Month Longer

SAN FRANCISCO, March 21—(AP)—The regional office of price administration today emphasized the reduction of the gasoline allotment for "A" book holders effective tomorrow will not change the three-gallon value of each coupon.

An OPA announcement on tomorrow's validation of A-1 stamps said "all A" coupons will remain at the three gallon value. However, they will have to last until June 21 instead of May 21, a three month period instead of two. Thus "A" bookholders will have a total monthly mileage of 120 miles instead of 180."

DR. WILL I. THOMPSON
Ophthalmologist and
Orthodontist
311 Oregon Bldg.
Over Sears Store

Naval Engineer Tells of Escape From Philippines

Editor's Note: Chester M. Peters, 32-year-old University of Washington Graduate and a civilian naval engineer in the Philippine Islands at the time of the Japanese occupation, escaped from the islands, reached Australia and returned to his home country. Here he tells some of his experiences.

By CHESTER M. PETERS

Written for the Associated Press

SEATTLE, March 21—(AP)—We were at work at Sangley point across the bay from the Cavite navy yard that December morning when Manila newspapers brought word of Pearl Harbor.

We began building bomb-shelters

We saw no Japanese planes the first day, but we had 14 or 15

Catalinas patrolling the Manila bay area. They went up the second day and we never saw them again.

Two days later Cavite was bombed. We got about half an hour's warning. Seventy-two Japanese planes came over in six flights. We saw them drop a few bombs over Nichols field, then fly over Manila and come back over Cavite. Some were dive bombers.

We could see the explosions from across the bay. It was some of the best bombing I've ever seen the Japanese do. They missed only once, one flight of bombs dropping into the bay. Their bombs hit in the office buildings and barracks and tremendous fires started immediately.

Most of the deaths were among laborers and office and navy personnel. From 500 to 1000—no casualty lists were announced—were killed outright or burned to death in the crowded quarters.

For 10 days after that there was little regular work for us.

After Christmas we planned our escape, knowing that Manila would soon fall.

Several other Americans, my wife and I left early in January in a 29-foot racing sail boat.

We had an extra pair of sails, some boat equipment and canned goods.

We talked with another American and he planned to go with us but gave up the idea for arrangements more suitable to him.

We intended to head for Singapore.

The first two nights we stayed aboard, but after that nearly every night we got ashore. We took the so-called "outside route" away from the regular channels.

It was several months before the Japanese finally invaded the central islands in the Philippines.

We didn't see any Japanese ships on the way through these islands en route to a large city. That city was shelled twice in the days we were there.

We abandoned plans to head for Singapore when we learned that the Japanese had moved south swiftly, along the Malay peninsula.

Later we reached another large island and spent nearly a year there. Of that, I can say nothing at the present time. Finally, with others, I reached Australia.

There were rewards offered by the Japs for the capture of Americans. These increased in size as the months went on.

The equipment with which resisting Filipinos and Americans had to fight was inadequate and out-of-date. For one thing there were old Enfield rifles and ammunition dating back to 1918.

Nazi Fanatics Re-take Hotel, Casino Fight

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destroyed and the slopes almost too rugged for pack mules, P-36 Invaders dropped parachute bundles of food, water and ammunition on a small plateau halfway up.

The Germans appeared determined to gain possession of Castle hill. In their three strong counterattacks against it yesterday they came some 400 yards down a wide gulley from northeast of the wrecked monastery. Each time they were thrown back with losses, but they were expected to come again.

Down in the smoke-filled valley allied troops had little room in which to maneuver and were forced to make frontal attacks on the remaining German positions, which could not be outflanked.

Jennifer Jones Goes To Reno for Divorce

HOLLYWOOD, March 21—(AP)—Jennifer Jones, who recently won the motion picture academy award for the best feminine screen performance in 1943, announced tonight she intends to seek a divorce.

The action, charging incompatibility, will be filed in Reno against her screen actor-husband, Robert Walker, as soon as her film commitments will permit her to establish residence in the Nevada city, she said.

The Walkers were married in 1939 and have two children.

ONE OF THE GREATEST HITS OF ALL TIMES

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS

PARAMOUNT'S TECHNICOLOR TRIUMPH

Feature today at 1:35 - 4:50 - 7:50 p. m.

Matinee until 5:00, 7:50c; Evening \$1.10 (including tax)

Ends Today! Grand

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

PLUS

SO'S YOUR UNCLE

TONIGHT AND THURSDAY LAST TIMES

PLUS

SO'S YOUR UNCLE

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SO'S YOUR UNCLE

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SO'S YOUR UNCLE

Soviets Sweep Nearer Danube, Cut Off Nazis

B (Continued from Page 1) B

Poland toward Lwow had captured 62 more villages. Soviet spearheads were reported already within sight of Brody, 50 miles northeast of Lwow.

Berlin's high command said the Russians were attacking Kovel, 100 miles north of Lwow, 170 air line miles from Warsaw, and 500 miles from Berlin—the same distance from Berlin as the American-British invasion forces gathering in Britain.

One soviet unit "which had broken into Kovel was wiped out," said Berlin, and German radio commentators said the battle for that strategic rail junction on the Kiev-Warsaw line was raging with unparalleled ferocity.

Attacking on a 500-mile front from Poland to the Black sea near imperiled Nikolayev and Odessa, Moscow's broadcast bulletin, recorded by the Soviet Monitor, said three big armies had seized a total of 330 towns and villages during the day.

The 40 villages captured in Bessarabia made a total of 80 taken in three days as the Russians pounded toward the Carpathian mountains in the west and toward the Danube in the south. Ataki, just across the river from Mogilev Podolski, was among the points seized.

The cutting of the Cernauti-Balti (Chernovits-Balti) line presumably occurred at Oknitsa, 14 miles west of Ataki, where the trans-Dniester line meets the railway running 75 miles west to Cernauti and 50 miles south to Balti on the way to the Ploesti oil fields and Bucharest, capital of Rumania. Oknitsa is 30 miles from the Prut, and if the Russians cut the line elsewhere they would be even nearer to the river.

Moscow front dispatch said a steady flow of red army tanks, infantry and artillery was pouring across the Dniester into Bessarabia, apparently in an effort to strike southward to the Danube and tie a great noose around huge German forces retreating toward Odessa in a 10,000-square mile area of southern Russia yet to be liberated.

Falling back on Odessa from the north, the Germans admitted in their broadcasts that they were trying to "disengage" their troops from the attacking Russians and withdraw them safely across the lower Bug river in the Pervomatsk-Voznesensk sectors.

The downtown women's division likewise sold more than enough to purchase such a plane and will name it "Salem Soroptimists" for one women's service club whose members were particularly active during the drive. Mrs. Winifred Pettyjohn was chairman.

Chairman Carl A. Gies of the Hollywood Lions club committee, which solicited the Hollywood district, reported that his group sold \$72,162.87 worth of bonds and that \$39,512.87 went into E bonds. James W. Tindall, president of the club, was high solicitor, selling \$12,100 in bonds.

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with Vichy officials. Such reports are "false on their face" and "evidently inspired."

The policy toward Vichy was set forth because of reports from Algiers implying that the United States would deal with Vichy officials after the liberation of France begins.

"No loyal supporter of the allied cause would make the ridiculous charge that the United States government, while sending its military forces and vast military supplies to the most distant battlefields to prosecute the war against the axis powers, would at the same time have any dealings or relations with the Vichy regime except for the purpose of abolishing it," the statement said.

Assurances to this effect were given to Rene Massigli, foreign minister of the French committee of national liberation at Algiers in January and were communicated by him to the committee, it was learned at the state department.

Last Saturday Gen. Charles De Gaulle addressed the Algiers consultative assembly, which includes underground leaders from France, and made a bid for Anglo-American recognition of the committee as the proper governing power to follow invasion armies into France. He was quoted as saying that "All attempts to maintain even partially or by camouflage any part of Vichy or any artificial form of powers foreign to the government will be intolerable and condemned in advance."

Roosevelt Improved After Cold in Head

WASHINGTON, March 21—(AP)—President Roosevelt, who had been confined to the living quarters of the White House with a head cold, was described tonight by his physician as "definitely improved."

CO-HIT! "Spider Woman" with Basil Rathbone as Sherlock Holmes

CAPITOL Starts Today!

CO-FEATURE! "WALTER HILL" with "WALTER HILL" and "WALTER HILL"

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ON THE HOME FRONT

By HANSEL CHILDS

Our bus creaked and groaned from the time it left the Portland terminal until it dropped us in the alley behind the Salem liquor store, and there were times when we wondered whether we were hearing the gears or the teeth of our rawboned driver grinding.

First there came the lady who alone would have found the aisle too narrow for comfort (either front or sideways) and who brought along with her a good-sized leather suitcase, a shopping bag from which stuck out the heels of two pairs of not-new shoes, and, topping everything else, a large pasteboard carton which smelled like baby chicks. Since there were no noises from it we assumed that the chicks had been sold or were dead. Something after the manner of a ship at a poorly-planned launching, she finally got to the rear of the car.

Then there was the woman who wanted her ticket marked for Canby, so that she could use the other three-cents worth next day if she so desired. Patiently, albeit a little grimly, the driver told her that wasn't being done, but that he'd let her off at Canby—he did, too, and at the right side of a mud puddle.

Climax to his hour of strain (all the time the motor sounded as if it might start moving back to Portland of its own accord and the bus was labeled for the through trip to San Francisco)—finishing touch to these troubles was the thin old gal with the screeching voice who got on at one small town and declared she was going to the next small town although she had purchased no ticket. Informed she couldn't do that, she proceeded to talk to everyone in the bus station while the big driver fumed and waited.

Some of us are still trying to figure whether it was the Red Cross flag on her shabby coat, the tightly slicked back hair reminding us of numerous other women we had liked better or the hole in the heel of one gumshoe stocking that made him smile gently as he helped her off at her destination. However, I don't suppose it matters much: She didn't even thank him for the waiting, to say nothing of the smile.

Sen. Cordon Asks Jobs, Education For US Veterans

PORTLAND, March 21—(AP)—Jobs and an opportunity for further education must be provided returning veterans, Sen. Guy Cordon declared today.

The Roseburg man, appointed interim successor to the late Charles L. McNary, told an American Legion meeting that an allotment is not sufficient compensation "for these heroes."

"We must give back to them, as far as we are able, the things that were taken from them when they left their private lives to fight for their country," Cordon said. "We must provide the mechanics and the opportunity for them, whether it be in further education or immediate employment."

Fishermen Start Season 10 Days Early

ASTORIA, Ore., March 21—(AP)—Commercial fishermen embarked on the Columbia river today for an open season moved forward from the usual April 1 date for the first time in years.

Fishermen have been promised 20 cents a pound for salmon and 12 cents for steelhead, unless catches prove too heavy for local markets.

ELGINORE HURRY! Ends Thursday

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Nazis Occupy Capitals of 3 Balkan Nations

F (Continued from Page 1) F

pressed a full-scale drive into Bulgaria such as was sent against Hungary, where the German occupation was meeting some opposition.

The Ankara radio also brought Rumania into the picture, declaring that she was expected to be included, along with Hungary and Bulgaria, under a unified command "to intensify the German war effort in southeast Europe."