

IT SEEMS TO ME
By Charles A. Sprague

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

Weather
Maximum temperature Friday 76 degrees; minimum 43; no precipitation; river 2.5 feet. Fair Saturday and Sunday; not much change in temperature.

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Allies In India Attack

Stilwell Forces Trap Japanese Burma Garrison

By RAY CRONIN
Associated Press Pacific War Editor
Launching of a general allied offensive against the Japanese in the Kohima sector of eastern India and the trapping of a Nippon garrison in northern Burma were officially announced late Friday.

On the other wing of the Pacific-Asiatic war theater, American planes hammered Japanese island positions, including a major naval base in the Kuriles.

In India strong British and Indian forces in the Kohima area started a general drive against the invaders and were making "satisfactory progress."

American-trained Chinese troops of the Stilwell command drove through and beyond the town of Inkanghtawun, northern Burma. They outflanked the enemy and trapped a Japanese garrison of undetermined size.

Farther south, Stilwell's advance units shoved forward to within 30 miles of Mogaung, their immediate objective on the Burma railway.

It appeared that the expected Japanese smash in India's Imphal sector had not developed.

In the north and central Pacific regions, some 2000 miles apart, American planes continued their attacks against the Japanese.

Night-flying navy bombers registered their twenty-seventh raid of the war on the Paramushiro naval base in the Kuriles. Their bombs started major fires (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Mayor Gives Facts About City Manager

The city manager, under the proposed Salem charter amendment, "cannot be a dictator," Mayor I. M. Doughton declared Friday in answer to criticism stemming from the measure's opposition and from misunderstanding of it.

"Some have the conception," he said, "that its only purpose is to provide some local politician with a lucrative office and to build up a political machine. Others think this proposed change is designed for the purpose of setting up an autocrat or dictator. Both these conceptions are erroneous."

"The city manager can pass no laws . . . as under our present form, the city council will exercise all legislative functions of the city and will levy the taxes for the city . . ."

"Primarily," Doughton declared in a prepared statement, "the city manager is the business manager of the city. His position in the municipal corporation (and the city of Salem is a municipal corporation) is similar to that of a manager of a private corporation where the board of directors formulates the program and policies of the organization and then directs the manager to carry out such program and policies . . ."

"Let me say right here that I do not have in mind any particular person for the office, and, as (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

Men Over 26 in Essential Work May Not be Drafted

By the Associated Press
Chances that men over 26 and in essential war work will be drafted faded still further yesterday when Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey predicted the pool of draft eligibles under 26 probably will last "until early fall."

Selective service has been making its plans in anticipation that the under 26 group would be pretty well exhausted by some time in July.

Hershey said in an interview at Baltimore, however, that draft calls during the last several months had not been as high as anticipated and that there had been fewer rejections among men under 26.

Currently, selective service has a ban against induction of men 26 and over who are "making a contribution to essential agricultural, war production or war-supporting activities."

Virtually all the state directors

Germans Send More Troops To Northland

LONDON, May 5 (AP)—The Germans reported tonight to have moved 400 reinforcements into Denmark and 30,000 into Norway in a new series of moves ranging along the entire western front, in radio commentaries continued to discuss the expected allied assault as being imminent.

A high percentage of seasoned veterans was included among the troops rushed to the Danish and Norwegian sectors of Germany's western defenses, said reports received here through Stockholm.

The Belgian news agency said the Germans had flooded the coastal zone both east and west of Flankers, inundating most roads. This flooding, the news agency added, although undertaken to check invaders, has forced the nazis to take special protective measures with their defense works between the sea and the submerged inland regions.

Especially in the neighborhood of Calais, Dunkerque, Gravelines and Nieuport rising water and displaced sands from dunes are threatening the defense construction, it was said.

The Germans announced they were ready for assault from any direction, drawing their latest omen from Iceland with a report that there was "great allied activity and large shipping concentrations there, reinforcing the impression that the allies are planning an invasion of Scandinavia."

Woman Murdered

Nude Body Is Found in Trunk Shipped to LA

LOS ANGELES, May 5 (AP)—His curiosity aroused by a fluid trickling onto the floor, a Railway Express clerk opened a trunk in the agency office today and found the body of a woman.

The trickle was caused by the briny melting of salt that encased the almost nude body, bound with torn sheets and a woman's slip.

A way bill disclosed that the trunk was sent from Chicago April 30 by a John Lopez to the same person here. It arrived last night. No Chicago or Los Angeles office was contacted (Turn to Page 2—Story H)

2 Escaped Convicts Captured in Idaho

William Joseph Soderberg and Lloyd Clinton Snyder, who escaped from the state prison annex south of Salem on Tuesday in a truck which was later found abandoned in Vancouver, were arrested Thursday night in Coeur d'Alene, Ida., by police of that city, state officers were notified here Friday. The pair will be returned to Salem within the next few days, police said.

10,000 US Airmen Prisoners in Germany

STOCKHOLM, May 5 (AP)—At least 10,000 American airmen are prisoners of war in Germany, the Scandinavian, Telegraph bureau reported today in a dispatch from Berlin. They parachuted or crash-landed after battles over the reich and occupied territory.

China Admits Loyang Might Fall to Japs

CHUNGKING, Saturday, May 6 (AP)—The Chinese high command indirectly indicated today that Loyang, key position on the important east-west railroad in Honan province was in danger and that the Japanese pincers on the doomed Peiping-Hankow railroad were getting closer.

In a communique reporting on the continued fighting in Honan, the high command announced the fall of Tengfeng, 30 miles southeast of Loyang, to a Japanese column and further advances by another enemy column curling toward the city after the capture of Linju which is about 30 miles east by south from Loyang.

Both Chinese and Japanese planes were reported active with Chinese operations including an attack on Sinyang, Japanese base in southern Honan.

American Nations May Form Bloc

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP)—The Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory committee hinted today that the 21 American republics, including the United States, may form a hemispheric trade bloc as a counter measure to the British and her dominions maintain an empire preferential trade system.

Trade solutions must be sought on a "more liberal" and worldwide basis, the committee said, adding that otherwise it would be difficult for the American republics "to give effect to liberal and non-discriminatory trade poli-

What Allied Bombs Have Done to Berlin



The Stockholm caption accompanying this picture, supplied by the Swedish picture magazine Se, describes it as a view of Berlin bomb damage along the Aschaffenburgstrasse, looking toward the prager platz in the southern section of Berlin. (AP Wirephoto by radio from Stockholm)

British Give Gandhi Release From Jail

LONDON, Saturday, May 6 (AP)—Mohandas K. Gandhi, frail and ascetic Indian Nationalist leader imprisoned 21 months ago, was released from detention at Poona, India, this morning.

A dispatch from Poona said Col. M. G. Bhandari, inspector general of prisons, took Gandhi to "Parnakuti," palatial residence of Lady Vitthal Das Thackersey, old friend of Gandhi and widow of a Bombay merchant. Friends welcomed him there.

The British government had announced it decided on Gandhi's release because of his failing health.

The death in detention of Gandhi, leader of millions in a long struggle for freedom from British domination, would have inspired agitators in all parts of India. The British action today was believed taken to avert conflict at a time when the allies are fighting the Japanese bitterly on the India-Burma front.

The announcement said: "In view of medical reports of Mr. Gandhi's health, the government of India has decided to release him unconditionally. This decision has been taken solely on medical grounds. The release takes place at 8 a.m. (Indian war standard time) today." (This is 6:30 p.m. Friday, Pacific war time.)

The 74-year-old Hindu, whose hair for the theatrical carried him through nine fasts since 1918, was imprisoned for the sixth time in August, 1942, after political activity which the British regarded as hampering India's resistance to Japan. He was confined in the Aga Khan's ornate palace at Poona, near Bombay.

Early this April it was announced Gandhi was suffering from malaria and was weak, and in the following weeks he grew worse. Five days ago he was said to be improving, and it was announced no further bulletins would be issued unless necessary, but two days later the Bombay government (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

Highly-Secret Rocket Arms Will Be Made

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP)—Military plans for rush production of newly-developed, highly-secret rocket weapons were revealed today and congressional leaders promised speedy action to provide the necessary funds.

A house naval committee report said the armed forces plan to spend \$35,000,000 for expanded manufacture of the weapons because of "great demand" for them.

No details about the guns or their method of operation were contained in the report.

The committee recommended appropriation of \$65,000,000 for naval ordnance and included a statement from the navy that \$15,000,000 would be used along with \$20,000,000 already set aside by the army for the rocket weapons.

Oregon Cools Off Slowly

By the Associated Press
Western Oregon, sweetening in mid-summer temperatures for the last three days, breathed more easily today as the mercury hovered around 70.

Portland, which recorded an 88 degree high yesterday, and Salem, whose maximum was 85, both reported mid-afternoon readings of only 73 degrees.

Brush fires which broke out in Lane and Multnomah counties, eating through 160 acres and destroying a farm house in the Vida district, were checked by forest and logging crews. Railroad workers halted a blaze in the Klamath Indian reservation after it covered a mile of young pine and reproduction timber.

The heat wave still clung to eastern Oregon, where Pendleton recorded an unofficial estimate of 84 degrees. Klamath Falls recorded 78—a degree below yesterday.

Salem Stores to Close July 4, Memorial Day

Salem retail establishments will close their doors for the observance of Memorial day, Tuesday, May 30, and for the celebration of Independence day, July 4, directors of the city's retail trade bu-

Allied Bombers Wreck Pescara Dam in Air War

Planes Over Europe Again This Morning

LONDON, Saturday, May 6 (AP)—Waves of allied planes droned high in the spring sky as Londoners went to work today and a few minutes later axis radios began leaving the air, indicating new blows on the continent.

LONDON, May 5 (AP)—Hundreds of US Liberators and allied planes smashed the French Calais anti-invasion defenses and strings of freight cars on rail feeder lines behind it today and Mediterranean bombers in a spectacular stroke cracked the great Pescara dam amid German lines in Italy and attacked two Romanian rail centers.

The axis-controlled Paris and Luxembourg radios shut down tonight, indicating a resumption of allied night activity over the continent.

British-based allied planes delivered four sharp cross-channel punches in the four hours before 9:30 a.m., before a gale temporarily halted the systematic destruction of Germany's coastal fortifications and supporting traffic routes.

Four German fighters were shot down by Canadian Spitfire pilots and one Spitfire was missing out of several hundred allied sorties flown during the day.

Canadian-maned Mosquito bombers on an offensive patrol over northern France tonight attacked and severely damaged several parked enemy aircraft, an RCAF communique said.

The allies have attacked over 100 axis rail junctions in a little more than two months, ripping out great sections of "second front" trackage, wrecking rolling stock and destroying repair shops so vital to Germany's overworked transport system which is about to face its greatest test.

The multiple blows by the allied Mediterranean force followed an attack Thursday night on Hungary's capital at Budapest and an assault the night before on Bucharest, Romanian capital. German broadcasts said the raids on Romania today touched off sharp combats between defending German fighters and American bombers.

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Nazis Declare Reds Massing For New Drive

LONDON, Saturday, May 6 (AP)—The soviet high command announced last night that Russian naval and air units had sunk five more axis ships near besieged Sevastopol in the Crimea, and the Germans declared the red army had deployed men and equipment "on an enormous scale" in old Poland for a new smash on the main invasion path to Berlin.

Berlin reports relayed through Stockholm said the red army had amassed huge numbers of troops in the vicinity of Kowel, 170 miles southeast of Warsaw in Poland, and also near Kolomyja, 30 miles southeast of Stanislawow near the old Czech border.

A midnight soviet bulletin said 300 Germans had been killed in a two-hour battle yesterday southeast of Stanislawow and that 600 Hungarians had surrendered in the last ten days.

While this fighting was only of a local nature, a Russian Tass agency military commentator said these sectional struggles which have been proceeding ever since mid-April were significant because of strategic railways in that part of former Poland.

Although the Russian nightly war bulletin made no mention of ground fighting at Sevastopol, a correspondent with the red army said the soviets were "burning and queening the enemy out of nearly impregnable stone nests."

Siamese Twins Die Early This Morning

PHOENIXVILLE, Pa., May 6 (AP)—The Stery Siamese twins, born last Sunday to a 24-year-old widow, died at 12:10 a. m. (EWT) today.

Hope that the tiny blonde girls might survive was given up by physicians soon after their birth.

Dr. J. Elmer Gotwals, chief physician at Phoenixville hospital, said death was almost simultaneous, although Joyce, larger of the twins, may have died a few minutes before Sandra, the smaller.

May Queen Crowning Set For 1:30 This Afternoon

Marjory Maulding of Silverton will be crowned queen of the 38th annual Willamette university May weekend today at coronation ceremonies which will begin at 1:30 p.m. Miss Maulding will be crowned by Harriet Monroe, queen of the 1943 May weekend, who arrived on the campus Friday from Syracuse university in New York where she has been taking graduate work.

The coronation to which the public is invited will be held on the east lawn of the campus in the traditional setting. Richard Wicks, chairman for the weekend, will give a brief welcome before the entrance of Miss Monroe and Queen Marjory. The arrival of both will be heralded by trumpets and announcing Miss Maulding's entrance will be a male quartet.

Following the coronation the university chorus will sing "Bal-

House Passes New Tax Plan Unanimously

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP)—Spurred by the national outcry against the intricacy and confusion of wartime taxation, the house passed unanimously today a bill designed to relieve some 30,000,000 of the 50,000,000 taxpayers of the necessity of computing income tax returns.

The vote was 358 to 0, the first time in the memory of house veterans that a tax bill passed without a dissenting voice.

This action-shuttled the tax simplification legislation to the senate where Chairman George (D-Ga) of the finance committee predicted early approval.

The streamliner would:

1. Scrap the two-year-old "victory" tax and set new normal and surtax rates and exemptions while keeping actual tax burdens near present levels.

2. Change the withholding levy against wages and salaries—effective next January 1—to deduct currently the full tax liability of persons earning up to \$5000—thus removing the necessity for 30,000,000 persons to compute formal returns.

3. Of the 20,000,000 who still would be required to file returns, 10,000,000 (those earning less than \$500 but with income other than (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Britain Gets Silver Bullion

WASHINGTON, May 5 (AP)—The senate heard today that under lend-lease the United States has shipped silver bullion to Great Britain for minting into coin, but Sen. Connally (D-Tex), foreign relations chairman, explained that the British have agreed to repay the loan after the war.

Sen. Taft (R-Ohio) had asked Connally whether silver or gold had been transferred to other nations under lend-lease. The Texan said he didn't know the amount of bullion lent the British, but that coins minted were for use in the near east.

Although the house-approved bill to extend the lend-lease authority for another year beyond June 30 is expected to encounter comparatively little senate opposition, final action on it was postponed until Monday when Sen. Ellender (D-La) and several others asked more time for study.

Portugal May Stop Shipping to Nazis

LONDON, May 5 (AP)—It was expected in London tonight that Portugal soon would fall in line behind Turkey and Spain in curtailing metals shipments to Germany as Britain, backed by the United States, put pressure on her oldest ally to halt or reduce wolf-ram exports to the reich.

The German radio also forecast an early decision on the matter, reporting there was "a certain tension in Lisbon from which it may be taken that important decisions are pending."

Credit Group Endorses Council-Manager Plan

The Salem Credit association adopted a resolution endorsing the proposed council-manager form of city government at its meeting Friday noon. The vote was unan-

imously.