

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Squire

Papers report tensions over the impending invasion of Europe. The Germans are said to be nervous as they await the blow to fall. Roy Roberts of the Kansas City Star reports from Washington that there is tension there as the capital awaits the hour. It is even asserted there is tension among the British, though that is disputed as not being in keeping with their phlegmatic nature.

Even out here, far distant from the coast of Europe, there is a noticeable apprehension among the people, an eagerness for news. A few Sundays ago when all radios interrupted their programs for an announcement, probably the first thought of listeners was that it would be for the opening of the second front.

May it not be that the allied command is using all its materials in a war of nerves? That was a favorite method of Hitler—to wear down his opposition by irritating their nerves. Perhaps the allies feel if they cause nervous excitement and tensions among the German people that their armies may become a bit worn and confused. At least there is no harm in trying, though there is no thought that the German armies will go down in a faint or swoon under the excitement.

Mass psychology will have much to do with the result of the invasion operation. If we can only unseat the German confidence and start bewilderment and confusion among the Nazi armies, then the allies could (Continued on Editorial Page)

Nazis Withdraw Nine Miles Back On Italy Front

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, May 9—(AP)—The Germans, straightening their lines, have withdrawn approximately nine miles in the rugged mountain area on the left flank of the British eighth army's Adriatic front and have been followed up by the allies, headquarters announced today.

The Nazi retreat was south of Monte Maiella in the vicinity of Palena, 25 miles inland from the Adriatic on the little Aventino river and 11 miles southeast of Sulmona, and near the village of Letto Palena, which is two miles northeast of Palena.

Before pulling back the enemy demolished bridges and houses and a tunnel.

The official report failed to give the specific depth of the withdrawal, but the villages named are nine miles from the last announced line of the eighth army in that area.

Palena is 22 miles southeast of the Big Pescara river dam which was blasted apart by allied planes last Friday afternoon, flooding the countryside along axis communications lines, but there was nothing official to indicate that the withdrawal could be attributed to the bursting of the dam.

On the Anzio beachhead the Germans heavily shelled the rear area and poured a strong mortar fire against the left flank.

In the lower Garigliano valley west of Minturno enemy motor vehicle movements were shelled by American guns. It is in this sector that the nazis were reported to have evacuated all civilians for a depth of 20 miles.

Judges Rate Salem Band "Excellent"

The performance of the Salem high school 80-piece band rated "excellent" at the concert played before 700 listeners at the school auditorium Tuesday night, by comparison with hypothetical standards set up throughout the entire country in lieu of actual competition. Two years ago the band attained the same grading, which is second only to a rating seldom achieved by high school students.

Franklin Combs, playing the French horn, was judged No. 1 at the solo contest in the afternoon and was chosen to play at the evening performance. His selection was Bloch's "Chant d'Amour." Dick Whitley, also on the French horn, was likewise rated No. 1 for his playing of Wienman's "Nocturne." Dean Allport on the oboe was given the rating of No. 1 plus for his rendition of Handell's "Sonata."

The three national judges listened to three selections of the orchestra and weighed them with (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Weather
Maximum temperature Tuesday 54 degrees; minimum 43; precipitation .46; rain 1.6 feet.

Russians Capture Sevastopol

The Oregon Statesman

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Night Raiders Keep U.S. Assault On Nazi Europe

RAF Follows Day Attacks By 4000 Allied Planes That Drop 6000 Tons of Bombs

LONDON, Wednesday, May 10—(AP)—RAF night raiders lobbed block-busters on the German-occupied coast across Dover strait last night—causing explosions which shattered windows on the English side of the channel—as a quick follow-up to extensive daylight attacks by more than 4000 allied planes.

The violent blasts echoing across the water from the French coast roused residents from their beds a few minutes after a huge fleet of RAF bombers had passed eastward, darkening the starlit sky.

The din lasted ten minutes without a pause and the concussion was so great that the ground literally shook at Fokestone and neighboring towns. Dishes rattled in cupboards and furniture rocked as from an earthquake.

The bombing appeared centered on Calais and Dunkerque—a scant 20 miles across the channel—but a light haze prevented observation.

The daylight operations, spearheaded by American heavy bombers, dropped possibly 6000 tons of explosives on scattered enemy installations.

The 25th consecutive day of the colossal aerial preparation for the invasion saw about 1000 American heavy bombers hurled against supremely important (Turn to Page 2—Story H)

FDR Picks Up 70 More Votes Of Delegates

By the Associated Press
While Ohio and West Virginia voters elected gubernatorial nominees yesterday from among 17 candidates, Pres. Roosevelt picked up 70 more claimed delegates in those states. That ran his total to 325, only 64 short of the 389 required for renomination.

The chief executive added 52 to his column from Ohio and 18 from the mountain state. Ohio's went to him indirectly through State Auditor Joseph T. Ferguson, who filed for the preference vote unopposed with the understanding the delegation would be for Roosevelt. West Virginia's 18 were unpledged but described as pro-fourth term if the president runs.

The fourth term was given another boost yesterday. CIO President Philip Murray told the United Steelworkers of America in Cleveland that an "overwhelming majority" of the people demand it.

Ohio's 50 republican delegates elected in yesterday's primary are pledged to Gov. John W. Bricker, who ran unopposed in the preference. This gives him 56, counting Mississippi's six claimed for him, and places him second in the GOP nomination race behind Gov. Thomas E. Dewey. The New Yorker leads with 264.

Pinball, Juke Box Tax Law Held Constitutional

The 1943 legislative act, imposing a tax of \$50 a year on pinball machines and \$10 a year on juke boxes, is constitutional except for that provision authorizing confiscation of machines on which taxes are not paid, the state supreme court held in a unanimous opinion here Tuesday.

The circuit court for Multnomah county held the entire law unconstitutional and the state tax commission appealed to the supreme court. Two suits attacking the law, one by S. Fox and company and the other by S. A. Sedlock and company, were consolidated into one action.

The opinion, written by Chief Justice J. O. Bailey, reversed Circuit Judges Earl C. Latourette, Alfred P. Dobson and Ashby C. Dickson.

The law provided that funds derived from the taxes should be used for old age assistance. Another decision, also by Chief Justice Bailey, held that the law

Japs Threaten in China



Arrows indicate Japanese offensives in northern China, which were reported to be threatening the city of Loyang and to have narrowed to only a few miles the length of the Peiping-Hankow rail route still held by the Chinese. Shaded areas are dominated by Japanese. (AP Wirephoto).

Three Top Admirals Meet in Conference

WASHINGTON, May 9—(AP)—Three top admirals met in San Francisco last weekend in a conference that offered full opportunity for planning even heavier blows at Japan, the navy disclosed today.

The announcement from headquarters made disclosure of the meeting incidental to the award of a new decoration to Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific fleet chief, but the extraordinary opportunity for high strategy planning was evident.

Participants were Nimitz, Admiral William L. Halsey, South Pacific commander, and Admiral Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the United States fleet.

What line this planning took was in no wise indicated by navy officials here. However, Admiral King is known to feel that the Pacific fight must be pushed to the limit even while allied forces are massing finally for the assault on western Europe.

The main line of strategy of the forces under Nimitz and Halsey is likewise obvious. They must either assault Truk in the Caroline island group directly ahead of American conquest or, by-passing Truk, seek to establish one or more bases in the Mariana island chain running north from the Carolines to Japan.

The aim of these operations is to open a central Pacific supply route to the Philippines for General Douglas MacArthur's amphibious legions advancing from the south and already in possession of a new jumping off point at Hollandia, New Guinea. (Turn to Page 2—Story C)

New President Takes Office In Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador, May 9—(AP)—President Maximiliano Hernandez Martinez turned over his presidential powers today to Gen. Andres Ignacio Menendez, minister of national defense.

Hernandez Martinez submitted his resignation yesterday as a result of a general strike which was the outcome of a recent revolt. The president told newspapermen after the ceremony that he had given up power "satisfied with having done my duty, and I hold ill will against nobody."

The general strike was begun by students in the National university and spread quickly to business houses, pharmacies, banks, railroads and other activities. Leaders said the strike was in protest to the execution of civilians and military men who participated in revolutionary movements April 2. The government had announced 25 persons were executed for their share in a revolt in which 53 persons were killed.

The strike still was in effect this morning before Hernandez Martinez quit the presidency, but government officials expressed hope that the change would bring about normal conditions.

De Valera's Defeat Will Bring Election

DUBLIN, Wednesday, May 10 (AP)—It was officially announced early today that a general election would be held in Eire—probably May 30—as the result of the defeat of Prime Minister Eamon De Valera's government on a transport bill by a vote of 64 to 63 in the dail.

De Valera's government party took the minority spot last June after the first wartime general election ended with the Fianna Fail holding 67 seats to the opposition's 71. This was a portent of rough going on issues such as that which resulted in the one-vote defeat.

Irish observers hastened to say that De Valera's neutrality policy had nothing to do with the rebuff, since leaders of the opposition parties have endorsed his stand on that question.

The negative balloting on the transport bill was the equivalent of a no-confidence vote.

The reversal meant that not only De Valera but all other members of the dail would resign and stand for reelection.

The bill provides for amalgamation of Eire's two biggest transport companies.

CIO Wins Ward Election; Firm Gets Plant Back

CHICAGO, May 9—(AP)—A CIO union at Montgomery Ward and company's Chicago plants tonight won a collective bargaining election, balloting in which ended just as the US government relinquished control of the properties it had seized April 26.

The final point on the question of whether the CIO still represented a majority of the employees—an issue which led to government seizure of the properties—showed the union receiving 2,340 yes votes and 1,565 no votes in the main unit and 100 yes votes and 28 no votes in the smaller unit.

These developments came also on the eve of a scheduled court ruling on the legality of the government seizure of the plant.

President Roosevelt said earlier in Washington that the election outcome would "end the case" but Sewell Avery, board chairman of the big firm, said the president had made a "misstatement." He said Ward officials would bargain with any union chosen by the employees but would oppose any contract providing for any form of "closed shop."

Avery later said he would return to his office at the usual time tomorrow morning, attributing the government's action in returning the plant to "the indignation of the public which has risen like a balloon and has made it too hot for the administration."

Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones in Washington issued the order returning the property to company officials. He said the government had taken over the property pending the election and added that the operation of the business was continuing "in a normal way."

Commented Sewell Avery, chairman of the board of wards, who was carried from his office May 26 by two soldiers when the government took possession: "I think it would be better if (Turn to Page 2—Story D)

Crimean Prize Falls After 24 Day Red Siege

At Least 100,000 Axis Troops Believed Killed or Captured In Month Long Offensive

By TOM YARBROUGH
LONDON, Wednesday, May 10—(AP)—Premier-Marshals Stalin announced early today the capture by storm of the Crimean fortress-port of Sevastopol after a 24-day siege in which thousands of axis troops died at their guns or perished in the Black sea trying to escape by ship.

At least 100,000 German and Romanian troops were believed killed or captured in the overall 31-day Crimean offensive which began April and ended late yesterday just a few hours before Stalin's dramatic order of the day.

The victory, gained after a final three-day assault against the exhausted axis garrison, freed two big Russian armies for the major mainland offensive expected soon in conjunction with an allied invasion of western Europe.

The soviet Black sea fleet also gained a valuable port for amphibious operations against Romania's coast, 200 miles to the west.

In the dying hours of the axis struggle at Sevastopol swarms of soviet bombers and torpedo boats pounced on enemy ships trying to evacuate troops, sinking two transports totalling 7000 tons in the open sea and smashing other vessels in Kazachya, Strel'tskaya and Kamshchaya bays west of Sevastopol near Cape Kercherson.

Russian infantrymen scrambling over the chalk face of the hill city also blasted enemy troops in their cave hideouts.

Stalin named 56 commanders for distinction in the drive which completely cleared the last of the 18,000-square-mile Crimean peninsula. Among these were Marshal Alexander M. Slesnev, chief of the red army general staff who is a master soviet operational planner.

The order of the day was addressed jointly to Vasilevsky and Gen. Zhdanov, I. Tolbukhin, whose fourth Ukraine army topped Sevastopol in a final overwhelming of three deep zones of steel and concrete fortifications laced with barbed wire and mine fields.

Conspicuously absent in the final citation was Gen. Andrei I. Yeremenko, commander of the independent maritime army which participated in the early phase of the Crimean offensive. (Turn to Page 2—Story G)

Maj. Gen. Pelz New Nazi Air Chief in West

LONDON, Wednesday, May 10 (AP)—Adolf Hitler has appointed 29-year-old Maj. Gen. Oeder Pelz as chief of the western Nazi air forces and charged him with building up a striking force to parry the allied invasion, a reliable European underground source said today.

Pelz, youngest general in the German army, is regarded as an air genius and is a prime favorite of Hitler, the informant said.

At the same time the Nazi air force in the west was reported to have been reorganized into three corps—two composed completely of fighters and one of bombers.

The reorganization is part of a German effort to strengthen the air force in the face of great losses in production through allied bombing.

Top-ranking American airmen said the Germans had adopted a "mixer" policy of air warfare at the expense of both the civilian population and vital industry to build up a strong anti-invasion air force.

Whatever the Germans do, even the most conservative American and British air leaders believe that the allies can win complete control of the air in from seven to ten days after start of the invasion.

Despite big losses in production through American bombings, Marshal Goering is building a large air force striking arm along the west wall by letting the civilian population "take it."

Here is the air war picture as seen through the eyes of the men who are running it: The allied aim at present is three-fold: One—To wipe out German aircraft reserves by bombing factories and air fields so that when the German first line fighting strength is destroyed there will be nothing to replace it.

Two—To hamper and obstruct German army communications along the west wall by continuous bombings.

Three—To soften—not completely smash—the Nazi fixed defenses by bombing. (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

School Board Announces Teaching Staff Changes

New appointments to replace resigning staff members was the chief business taken up at the brief meeting of the school board Tuesday night. One member of the board was absent, Ralph Campbell.

R. W. Tavener, principal of Leslie junior high school, has been selected for the post of registrar at the senior high school and will assume his new duties next fall. The duties of the new registrar will be enlarged over those formerly assumed by J. C. Nelson, whose death last winter resulted in the vacancy.

To fill Tavener's post of principal of Leslie, the board voted in favor of Joy Hills who now teaches social science at the high school, and has also been doing part-time work with the state department of education. Mary E. Eyre, who has been teaching social science at the high school, will be promoted to the position now held by Miss Hills.

More Civilian Goods Coming

WASHINGTON, May 9—(AP)—The war production board will soon permit an increase in production of consumer goods, Chairman Donald M. Nelson revealed today.

The increase, it was said, will not be large but will "fill in the cracks" of the war economy with civilian production. Small plants will be permitted to use surplus materials for certain goods. Large factories will be allowed to participate also in those cases where the civilian production would not interfere with munitions output.

Farmers will be the first beneficiaries, Nelson said at a press conference. A program now is being drafted under which simpler items of farm equipment—such as barns and hayloading equipment and supplies for beekeepers and poultrymen—could be made from idle and surplus materials without regard to WPB limitations and quotas.