

Yank Forces Land at Biak In Schoutens

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clearly indicate the mercy of a guiding providence."

Possession of Biak's three airfields will give MacArthur's fliers a base for blasting everything the enemy has between New Guinea and the Philippines.

The fields on Biak, more than 300 miles northwest of Hollandia and 200 northwest of Wakde, are within fighter-escorted bomber range of a nest of Japanese airfields on Noemfoor and Japan islands and the enemy mainland bases of Manokwari, Nabire and Babo.

The landing at Biak places MacArthur virtually as near to the Philippines as to his main New Guinea base at Finschhafen.

The Biak invasion was preceded by one of the heaviest aerial softening ever handed a Japanese New Guinea base. More than 700 tons were dropped by American Liberator bombers in incessant raids for 22 consecutive days this month.

The Biak landing marked another step in the lightning advance toward the Philippines to which MacArthur long has avowed return.

In a little more than a month, his forces have used a hop-skip-and-jump procedure to advance more than 800 miles up the New Guinea coast.

The April 22 invasion at Hollandia and the accompanying operation at Aitape put the allies in one stroke some 500 miles ahead of their slow-moving ground forces below Madang, British New Guinea.

MacArthur added another 110 miles May 17-18 with the invasion of the Toem area of the Dutch New Guinea mainland and the Wakde islands nearby.

The Wakde airbase was seized at the end of the second day's fighting and MacArthur's forces then concentrated on the expansion of the mainland beachhead.

His ground forces pushed on from Toem along the Maffin bay shoreline toward the partially-completed Maffin airdrome which they reached Wednesday.

There the American advance was held up by tough Japanese resistance. There was no report of progress at Maffin yesterday and today's communiqué told of continued sharp fighting for the field.

At least 225 Japanese dead had been counted on this battlefield and a great quantity of enemy equipment captured. The Biak invasion was carried out while the Maffin situation remained unaltered.

70th Presents Demonstration

CAMP ADAIR, May 27—Wednesday's 70th (Trailblazer) division of the battalion in defense was witnessed, in addition to division officers, by distinguished guests of Maj. Gen. John E. Dahlquist.

Portland newspapermen and many others from the Rose City and Salem saw what a modern infantry unit, dug in for defense, can do in an attacking force with artillery fire, mortar and small arms.

Among the civilians who watched the demonstrations were Aaron Frank, president of Meier and Frank Co.; Palmer Hoyt, publisher of the Portland Oregonian; Lawrence Teeple, Portland manufacturer; Phillip L. Parrish, editor of the Oregonian's editorial page; Don McLeod, feature editor, the Oregonian; John (Sky) Dunlap, northwest bureau manager, United Press; Robert S. Farrell, Jr., secretary of state, state of Oregon; Harry S. Schenk, deputy secretary of state; Robert Cavagnaro, San Francisco Associated Press; and Herbert W. Maloney, president of Paul Block associates.

FDR Supporter Assumes Lead

A (Continued from Page 1) A

Senator Elbert D. Thomas, who is seeking renomination, call for the president's reelection to provide an experienced American at the peace table. Thomas predicted that Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York would be the republican nominee.

Governor Earl Warren of California told a press conference at Hershey, Pa., that he knew of no movement to draft him as the republican vice presidential candidate. He added that he had no "understanding" with anybody that he might be given the No. 2 spot on the ticket if Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York is nominated for the presidency.

Alaskan Ace Comes Home to Be Married

EUGENE, May 27 (P)—Maj. Gerald R. "Jed" Johnson Alaskan and south Pacific army ace, will arrive here to wed Miss Barbara Hall, Portland nurse, sometime over the weekend.

He downed 15 enemy planes. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Johnson, of Eugene.



DEATH WATCH—A mallard drake (right) keeps vigil in Grant Park, Chicago, over the body of his mate, believed to have been killed by a hit-and-run driver.

Yanks Near Key Highway Escape Line

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steadily along the entire 80-mile active front today.

American fifth army forces forging a ring around the Pontine marshes stormed through the mountain town of Sezze, which has a population of 20,000 and is the largest town yet taken in the allied offensive, developing a second threat to the main German forces.

Capture of Sezze brought the Americans squarely up against a new defense line which two German divisions have tried to establish in the Lepini hills northeast of the marshes to protect the flank of the German troops in the Liri valley and their principal route of retreat along the Via Casilina toward Rome.

The main bodies of the two fifth army forces, whose patrols joined earlier in the week, now were less than ten miles apart.

The Germans, apparently growing desperate about the plight of their forces at the center of the front near the junction of the American fifth and British eighth army sectors, began withdrawing them as best they could, meanwhile throwing powerful reinforcements into action to bolster the principal points protecting the escape route.

The cutting of the Via Casilina—highway six—would seriously impair the German efforts to make an orderly withdrawal of the large forces still fighting in the Liri valley.

Field Marshal Albert Kesselring probably would be able to extricate a substantial part of those forces along other escape routes to the north, but these relatively small roads would be easily clogged and the Germans probably would be compelled to leave behind the bulk of their guns and other heavy equipment.

Yank Airmen Pound Kurile Islands Again

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, May 27 (AP)—Hitting again along the north road leading toward Tokyo, American airmen blasted two islands in Japan's Kurile chain, a US Pacific fleet headquarters press announcement disclosed today.

A single 11th AAF Liberator staged a pre-dawn raid on Matsushima island, just a little more than 1,000 miles from Japan's capital and about 500 miles from the Nippon mainland. The big bomber struck the island last Thursday. It encountered no opposition.

Before dawn the same day a fleet air wing of four Ventura search planes hit Shumushu island, northernmost of the Kuriles. It was unopposed. Shumushu has been bombed eight times this month.

The announcement gave no details.

In the central Pacific American army bombers again visited Ponape island, on the eastern fringe of the Carolines. They unloaded explosives on docks, warehouses and gun positions. Anti-aircraft fire was meager.

Army, navy and marine planes teamed up to blast Japanese positions in the Marshalls. They bombed and strafed runways, barracks and anti-aircraft batteries. Japanese fire was moderate.

LEATHER GOODS

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Stationery Co.
370 State Street

ON the HOME FRONT

By ISABEL CHILDS

Listen, my children, and you shall hear

Of the budget meetings held every year—

Under the courthouse, ancient roof,

The county court it sits;

The court, at times it seems aloof

About signing all those chits.

"Hark, hark," hear the court bark,

"Taxpayers are coming to town

"Some with hopes and some with ropes

"To hold this budget down!"

—V—

There is a school board in this,

Has so many children it doesn't

know what to do.

To take care of this startling bevy

It calls for a tax—a six-mill levy.

—V—

This is the city council,

The murmuring Dads and the silent

Hoary with wisdom and weary

With pinching the pennies forever.

Then up rises one brave citizen,

And cuts off twenty bucks

The rest they'll in committee trim

That is they will, if luck's

With them—and vigor and vim!

—V—

Who put in his thumb and pulled

out a plum?

(I sit in budget meetings)—Brother,

it wasn't I!

—V—

way some time this spring or

summer, many informed persons

familiar with the president's deep

preoccupation with military af-

airs, especially at this critical

stage, believe he would like to

get nearer to the scene of action.

Only a week ago when he was

talking with reporters about pro-

gress on the Italian front he em-

phasized the difficulty of sizing

up a military campaign several

thousand miles away.

Another factor, although one

that is viewed here as of secondary

consideration, is the forthcoming

visit to London of Gen. Charles

de Gaulle, the French leader,

for conferences with Churchill.

Beyond these is another con-

sideration which diplomats regard

as of growing importance. That

is the possibility of starting work

jointly among the leading United

Nations on creation of a postwar

set-up.

—V—

Head the list with

HEALTH!

IN any record of national as-

pects, we're bound to put

health right up at the top. Our

other riches are of no account

unless we have the health, the

strength and the energy to de-

fend them. In momentous times

like these, no individual has a

right to neglect health. The na-

tion needs the full measure of

your energy and effort. The

moral can be put in four little

words: Get well—KEEP WELL!

See your physician and then

come here to have his prescrip-

tions precisely compounded.

—V—

Willett's

Capital Drug Store

Cor. State & Liberty - Phone 5115

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UO Will Give Degrees to 10 From Salem

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, May 27 (Special)

Among the 350 candidates for de-

grees at the 57th annual com-

memencement of the University of

Oregon, scheduled for June 4 in

McArthur court, are ten residents

of Salem and vicinity. They are:

Floyd Alvin Brodhagen, Rebekah

Marie Putnam, Sara Spencer,

Barbara Scott Zentner, Margaret

Catherine Sehon, Albert Hunting-

ton, Florence E. Berndt,

Shirley Huntington, Arthur W.

Lamka, Jr., all of Salem, and Una

Lewis, Aumsville.

Miss Putnam is applying for a

bachelor of arts in nursing edu-

cation; Lamka, for a bachelor of

business administration; Brodha-

gen, for a bachelor of science in

business administration; Miss

Spencer, daughter of Col. and

Miss Sehon, daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. George Sehon, for a bachel-

or of science in sociology.

Miss Berndt, for a bachelor of

science in education; Hunting-

ton, for a bachelor of arts in

journalism; Miss Huntington,

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hollis

W. Huntington, for a bachelor of

science in journalism; Miss Lew-

is, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.

Lewis, for a bachelor of science

in history.

The commencement address

Sunday evening will be delivered

by Orlando John Hollis, acting

president of the university, who

will speak on "Our Frontiers."

The baccalaureate address Sun-

day evening will be given by Dr.

Paul S. Wright, pastor of the First

Presbyterian church of Portland,

whose topic will be "Freedom

Through Knowledge of the

Truth."

—V—

\$5000 Fire Hits

Portland Shipyards

PORTLAND, Ore., May 27 (P)

Loss from last night's fire on Way

No. 9 at Oregon Shipbuilding cor-

poration's yard was estimated at

\$5000 by a company official to-

day.

The blaze apparently started

from a welder's spark in launch-

ing grease in the timbered deck

of the launching way. Damage

was confined to scaffolding and

bottom plates for a victory ship.

Nations on creation of a postwar

set-up.

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District VFW Picks Sanders Commander

Stanley Sanders, commander of

Silverton post of Veterans of For-

eign Wars, was elected command-

er of district no. 6 at a meeting

held in conjunction with the regu-

lar session of Marion post 661 here

late last week. Comdr. Forester

of the Dallas post was elected

senior vice-commander; Lawrence

Winkewer, Salem, junior

vice-commander; and Solon Shin-

kle, Salem, chaplain. All were in-

stalled by Department Comdr.

George W. Watts. Dr. Roy Sco-

field, retiring district command-

er, presided.

Department Judge Advocate

Worthington Blackman, with

Comdr. Watts, paid an official visit

to the post and district organiza-

tions. Both men spoke briefly con-

cerning activities and growth of

the organization.