

Cherbourg Fall Believed Imminent

Report Says US Two Miles From Key City

By JAMES M. LONG

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Wednesday, June 21—(AP)—American troops stormed to the top of the last ridge barrier to Cherbourg last night, and were within sight of the great port less than four miles away where the explosions of hasty German demolition threw a smoke shroud over the city and thundered the collapse of any Nazi hope of a successful siege stand.

(An NBC broadcast from London said that American troops were within two miles of Cherbourg's city limits and that the fall of the port "seems imminent.")

The correspondent said allied warships were pounding the Germans around Cherbourg and also in the Cap De La Hague area at the north-west tip of the peninsula 15 miles above Cherbourg.)

An allied spokesman called upon the tens of thousands of trapped Germans to surrender. There was no other choice, he said—except death.

American long-range artillery laid a powerful drum fire on the Germans around the city, and also hurled shells into the roads leading northward to Cap Levy and northward to Cap De La Hague at the tip of the peninsula.

Headquarters communique No. 30, issued just before midnight, said allied troops now were "attacking the outer defenses of Cherbourg," and were engaged in heavy fighting on three sides of Valognes, 10 miles southeast of the prize port.

Field dispatches already had reported American capture of Valognes, ruined Montebourg, four miles to the rear, and St. Martin Le Grand, four miles south of Cherbourg, and late reports told of the attainment of the top of the last hill outside the city.

(The German DNB news agency announced that the allied troops "have reached the fortified area" of Cherbourg, and said six positions also were under heavy allied naval and air bombardment. "Fresh US infantry and tank troops now also are taking part in the assault on Cherbourg," the broadcast said.)

Of the eastern end of the front the allied communique said: "Our positions in the area of Tilly are firm. Very heavy fighting continued near Hottot."

Spearheaded by the veteran US Ninth and Fourth divisions and led by French patriot scouts in the final assault, thousands of American troops were fanning out on all sides of Cherbourg.

On the west coast one unit was reported as far as Vasteville, 15 miles north of Barneville and only six miles southwest of Cherbourg. On the east coast other units had pushed as far as Eglise de Grenneville, three miles north of Quineville and 13 miles southeast of the port. Both these columns were making steady gains to outflank Cherbourg and the pace of the western column suggested a Nazi rout along that coast.

Cornered German troops, estimated from 25,000 to 50,000, were taking a terrific mauling from a massive infantry, artillery and aerial onslaught as a German-speaking British officer stepped to a BBC microphone and asked them to surrender.

"Little more than a year ago," he reminded them, "other German soldiers commanded by General Von Arnim were driven in to the sea by this same 9th infantry division. The soldiers of Arnim's army (on Cap Bon in Tunisia) who then realized that it is not dishonorable to surrender when..." (Continued on page 2)

Bulletins

LONDON, Wednesday, June 21—(AP)—Reflecting the seriousness of the situation on the Karelian front, the Finnish radio today urged all persons whose presence in Helsinki is not essential to evacuate the city.

"In view of the scope of the Russian offensive in Karelia," said a broadcast, "everyone whose presence in Helsinki is not essential—especially children—should leave for the country."

LONDON, Thursday, June 21—(AP)—The Germans intensified their rocket bomb attacks on southern England during the night after a day of comparative inactivity and a few Nazi planes also were reported over Scotland.

Some casualties and damage were inflicted in southern England by the flying bombs.

LONDON, June 21—(AP)—The German radio announced shortly after 9 a. m. today that formations of allied planes were approaching "northwestern German coastal territory."

Senate, House Compromise On Price Bill

WASHINGTON, June 20—(AP) With the White House intervening to break a deadlock, senate and house conferees reached a compromise late today on the Bankhead amendment to adjust cotton textile ceilings in the price control extension bill.

The administration agreed to a requirement that ceilings on "major" textile items be revised to reflect a parity price for raw cotton. Eliminated from the original Bankhead proposal was a requirement that the ceilings guarantee manufacturing costs plus a profit to millers.

James F. Byrnes, war mobilization director, was said by members of the conference committee to have taken the lead in the move that brought about the compromise. The conference committee bill representing a merger of conflicting measures passed by senate and house, is scheduled to go to the senate first and then the house for concurrence tomorrow.

The White House intervention obviously was aimed to prevent a congressional stalemate over the extension bill. President Roosevelt had called the original Bankhead proposal inflationary and administration congressmen had predicted a veto if it appeared in the bill as finally passed.

Britain Sorry For Jap War Blame Remark

LONDON, Wednesday, June 21—(AP)—British morning newspapers expressed dismay today at a statement attributed to Capt. Oliver Lyttelton, minister of supply, that American lend-lease aid to this country was Japan's "provocation" to attack Pearl Harbor.

"US Got Lyttelton Speech All Wrong," said the headline of the Laborite Daily Herald, and this was the theme of the other stories. (In Washington, Secretary Hull described the statement attributed to Lyttelton as "entirely in error," and said that "Japan for years had notoriously pursued a program of the widest conquest.")

A possibility that the London government would act quickly to give an official explanation of the statement, an interpolation in a prepared speech delivered before the American chamber of commerce yesterday, was seen in some quarters. Prime Minister Churchill may be called on for a statement, it was suggested.

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Jap Fleet May Engage American Navy

Nimitz Hits History Making Sea Battle Already Under Way

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, June 20—(AP)—Japanese naval armada—"possibly the entire Japanese fleet"—has moved out between the Philippines and the invaded Marianas, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced tonight, hinting dramatically that a history-making battle with the American Fifth fleet already may be under way.

Already it is possible that damage has been inflicted on the Japanese warships, the admiral said.

American forces invaded the Marianas, 1500 miles from Tokyo along Japan's inner defense line of islands, "on the assumption the Japanese would bring out everything they possibly could," he added.

"We put enough muscle in the Fifth fleet to take care of everything he (the Jap) could muster."

Nimitz said there was a possibility that a major naval engagement might result.

(Earlier Tokyo radio told the Japanese people that a huge naval battle was taking shape and promised them a decisive victory.)

"I can't control Japanese fleet movements," Nimitz said.

"If I did there definitely would be a naval engagement." Although he did not specify what the situation was, as of Monday, he added the significant hint that possible damage already may have been inflicted in enemy surface units.

(These blows could have fallen either from naval forces or carrier planes, but either way, they might mark the first stages of the battle. The previous big naval battle of Midway was fought out by opposing planes from carriers and island airfields.)

Three hundred Japanese planes, believed to have been carrier-based, signalled the presence of enemy warships in the area, as they were shot down attacking the American task forces and today Nimitz said enemy plane losses since the invasion operations opened in the Marianas approaches 600.

"That's a lot of planes," he commented. "If we lost 600 naval planes in two or three days we'd be very..." (Continued on page 2)

More Whisky To Be Made

WASHINGTON, June 20—(AP) One month of whisky making, on a basis that could provide more than one-fourth of a normal year's output, was authorized for domestic distillers today by the war production board.

The liquor will be made during August and spokesmen for the trade said the holiday from industrial alcohol production should ease the greatest liquor drought since prohibition. It was pointed out that liquor firms may bring more aged whisky out of storage, replacing it with the new product, and that some of the new liquor itself may go quickly on to retail store shelves in blended beverages.

Easing of the industrial alcohol situation was given as the reason for the temporary return to beverage making, which had been segregated by the trade and by some segments of congress.

Marion Trailing Nation In Waste Paper Salvage

Facilities to handle and transport waste paper, lacking in Marion county earlier in the war period, can not now be blamed should Marion continue to trail the rest of the nation in this phase of the salvage campaign, Chairman Gardner Knapp declared as he outlined plans for saving every ounce of salvageable scrap paper.

Open at all hours for deposit of bundled newspapers, magazines and cardboard cartons, the new salvage depot at 430 South Commercial street will receive the smallest and largest contributions offered, Knapp said.

Persons who have 200 pounds or more of paper for the salvage may have it hauled to the depot without charge any Saturday. They should call the civilian de-

Greatest Air Fleet Hits Nazis

2000 Bombers Smash Rockets, 12 Oil Plants

LONDON, June 20—(AP)—In the greatest heavy bomber assault in history, United States air forces hurled more than 2000 Fortresses and Liberators against Hitler's Europe today to smash once at 12 German oil plants and twice at the rocket-bomber coast of France, which also was attacked throughout the day by other allied planes.

More than 1500 heavy bombers—at least equal to the largest force ever sent on a single mission—thundered to the continent, smacking the pilotless-plane launching platforms in Pas de Calais and continuing across Germany almost to Poland in the first operation of the heaviest daylong assault ever made.

Then in the lingering daylight of this evening another force of about 500 Fortresses and Liberators returned to hurl more explosives on the Pas de...

(Continued on page 2)

Chinese Admit Changsha Falls To Japanese

CHUNGKING, Wednesday, June 21—(AP)—Changsha, capital of Hunan province and for five years a symbol of successful Chinese resistance, has fallen to the Japanese, the Chinese high command announced today.

Fifty thousand Japanese troops, strongly supported by artillery and war planes, participated in the final assaults which overwhelmed the city's suburban defenses, the Chinese said. A supplementary communique asserted that the last defenders withdrew Sunday from the strategic city on the Hankow-Canton railway 400 miles east of Chungking.

Heavy losses were inflicted on the enemy, the communique said. Thus the Japanese succeeded where three times previously they had been bloodily repulsed, once in September of 1941 at the very gates of this communications center which had a pre-war population of 500,000.

The invaders already had swung around the capital and begun a battle for strategic Hengyang, some 130 miles to the south where the Canton-Hankow joins the Hunan-Kwangsi railway on the Siang river.

Should Hengyang fall the Japanese would be a long stride on the way toward splitting China in half.

Nazis Pursue Waiting Policy

LONDON, June 20—(AP)—Nazi propagandists told the German people today that watchful waiting for new allied landings from Britain and North Africa was the guiding principle of the high command in combatting the Normandy invasion.

This attempt to explain battlefield reverses suggested that the narcotic effect of the news that robot bombers were being used against England was wearing off within the reich.

Nearly all Paul Joseph Goebbels' commentators, who had been busy for nearly a week with tales of the buzz-bomb's prowess, admitted tonight that it was of little strategic value and spent most of their time on a theme expressed by Capt. Ludwig Sertorius:

High Court Affirms Folkes' Conviction

The state supreme court, in a five to 2 decision, Tuesday afternoon affirmed the conviction of Robert E. Lee Folkes, negro, who is under death sentence for the lower berth "13" slaying of Mrs. Martha Virginia James, Norfolk, Va., aboard a Southern Pacific passenger train in January of last year.

The slaying occurred in Linn county where Folkes was tried and convicted.

The predominating opinion was written by Justice James T. Brand, with Justices J. O. Bailey and Arthur D. Hay concurring. Special concurring opinions were written by Justices Hall S. Lusk and Harry Belt with a dissenting opinion by Justice George Rossman. Justice Percy Kelly joined in the dissenting opinion.

Determination of the case in the supreme court here centered largely on whether admissions by Folkes should have been received in evidence.

The majority opinion reviewed at length the evidence and referred particularly to written copies of stenographers' notes which were received at the trial.

Justice Brand held that receiving these transcripts as written confessions was error, but that the error did not warrant reversing the case in view of other testimony. He set out that in addition to the transcripts which were verified by...

(Continued on page 2)

Yanks Capture Two Airfields In Schoutens

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Wednesday, June 21—(AP)—Borokoe and Sorido airbases on Biak island have been captured, completing conquest of the airstrips in the Schoutens islands once held by the Japanese.

The two strips were taken Tuesday, headquarters announced today. There was minor enemy resistance west of Sorido.

Biak island's other major drome, Mokmer, was captured earlier this month. These fields place the Fifth air force within 880 miles of the Philippines.

A fourth drome has been built by the Americans on Owi island, five miles from Biak.

Jap losses on Biak were described as heavy. Sorido village, three quarters of a mile northwest of Sorido drome, also was captured. Truk atoll in the Carolines again took a heavy pounding, headquarters announced. Liberators dropped 35 tons of bombs there. For the first time in many raids, no enemy interception or anti-aircraft fire was encountered.

Nazi Invasion Try Smashed On Continent

LONDON, June 20—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill partially unveiled one of the war's greatest secrets today when he disclosed to the house of commons that a German attempt to invade Britain in 1940 was smashed in continental ports before a "very heavy concentration of troops and ships" could put to sea.

One of the favorite subjects of bar and drawing room speculation, this 1940 "invasion" had appeared in gossip as having been everything from a full-scale expedition that actually touched down on British soil to a wholesale smashing of enemy landing craft caught at sea during exercises.

Heretofore the government had limited its commons comment to a statement on July 29, 1943, by Clement Attlee, then lord president of the council, that "it is well known throughout the world that the enemy's preparations for invasion in 1940 were frustrated by the Royal Air force."

Today Major Vyvyan Adams asked for further details, and Churchill first said he would stand on Attlee's statement, but when the member persisted with a request to know whether "The enemy set in motion the apparatus of a sea-borne invasion," the prime minister replied:

"I do not quite know what is..." (Continued on page 2)

Russians Capture Viipuri

Finland Appears Near Defeat As Port Falls

LONDON, Wednesday, June 21—(AP)—Premier Stalin announced last night that the red army captured Finland's second largest city and southern gateway, Viipuri, yesterday as the smashing climax to an 11-day offensive in which the soviet forces have driven 60 miles and appear to have plunged the Finns to the verge of defeat.

Stalin announced the fall of the important seaport in a midnight order of the day, praising the units of the Leningrad army of Marshal Leonid A. Govorov, and within a few minutes after the announcement the Moscow radio declared "Viipuri's fall brings Finland to the brink of defeat."

The commander in chief said the red troops had crashed through the Mannerheim line and "developing their offensive, overpowered the outer and inner defenses of Viipuri, and yesterday, June 20, carried by assault the fortress and town of Viipuri."

Later the regular nightly Moscow communique announced that during the course of the day's drive the Pussians captured more than 60 other populated places, including seven railway stations.

Moscow saluted the success of Govorov's troops with 20 salvos from 224 guns at 12:30 a. m. (Moscow time) Wednesday and Stalin, following his custom on the occasion of important triumphs, decreed special honors for those who had distinguished themselves.

Viipuri, with a normal population of about 85,000, lies 125 miles from Helsinki. Besides its stature as a commercial port and second city of Finland, Viipuri was a bastion in the deepest and strongest fortifications of the Mannerheim line with which the Finns hoped to stave off the soviet advance.

The London Press expressed the opinion that with Viipuri's fall the battered Finns would be unable to make an effective stand anywhere, and from Stockholm came reports that a new Finnish "peace cabinet" would be formed in Helsinki "very soon."

Summer to Arrive In Winter Weather

PORTLAND, June 20—(AP)—Summer arrives officially at 6:03 a. m. tomorrow—but unofficially, the weather bureau warned, it will still be winter.

The forecast for the longest day in the year shows leaden skies in the morning; clouds in the afternoon, and thunderstorms over eastern and southern Oregon.

Pity the Poor Fellow Who Has to Count 'Em

BAKER, June 20—(AP)—Joe A. Thompson paid for a \$500 war bond with 37,750 pennies.

County War Bond Sales Go Over \$600,000 Mark

Salem Eagles in a rally which closed at a late hour Tuesday sold to themselves \$10,150 worth of bonds.

Marion county's fifth war loan bond sales had topped the \$600,000 mark by Tuesday night, reaching one-ninth of the way up the official thermometer.

Right along with the call for heavier bond purchases Tuesday came the request for greater registration in the "Miss Oregon" competition, an advertising feature of the campaign in which an attractive Marion county girl vocalist will be selected to compete for the state title. Girls 18 to 26 are eligible.

Third of the contestants, Anita Jean Jarman, is to be heard on the program over KSLM from 8:30 to 9:30 this afternoon. Velma Swart broadcast a program Tuesday as second competitor to appear here, singing "Goodnight Wherever You Are" and "Johnnie Doughboy," with Ethel Benner at the organ. Mrs. Raymond Barton on the same program played a piano solo.

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Industrial division workers took the bond organization's "mobile bank" to the alumina-from-clay plant Tuesday afternoon and wrapped up and delivered, upon receipt of full payment, \$7500 worth of bonds to employees of Columbus Metals corporation and Northern Construction company.

First purchaser was Harry A. Brinkerhoff, superintendent of operations at the Cherry avenue site where the new plant is rapidly rising. Brinkerhoff then introduced...

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sponage

TRAVEL LETTER NO. 3

June 16
When a person misses a train reservation these days it is distressing incident, but when whole trainloads lose out that must be a major headache for the Pullman company. That was about what happened on account of the Nebraska floods. The eastbound trains piled up, and when they reached Chicago scores of persons missed their eastern connections—adding to the grief of the already burdened Pullman company. Our 12-hour delay on the streamliner meant just a 24-hour delay in getting a train out, luckily with sleeping accommodation.

Dr. Paul Carter caught an earlier train—his lieutenant colonel's uniform giving him a proper priority. Messrs. White and Langton of Portland's Commercial Iron works, coming east to talk business with government officials in Washington, made this train. They reported the Paget family were likewise fortunate in getting accommodations on another train, for Philadelphia. Also on the "City of Portland" were Earl Childs of the Fred Meyer stores and Mrs. Childs, but they were stopping in Chicago.

Chicago for a half day at least was comfortable, refreshed by a thundershower the evening before. Father's day and the Fifth War Loan seemed to be dividing attention in the downtown district, with father really getting a break in the windows of the retail stores. A barrage balloon over Grant park was boosting war bonds; the Tribune had a display of army equipment and the Herald-Examiner was staging a promotion—buy a bond and get a ride in a jeep—over on Michigan avenue.

Looming, however, is the republican national convention. The Sherman hotel where Carter and I were lucky to get a room called for all rooms to be vacated by the 23rd when republicans start coming to town. The Oregon delegation is to put up there. Down in the (continue on editorial page)

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French Stand Guard Over 1900 Germans

ROME, June 20—(AP)—French colonial troops stacked arms on the conquered island of Elba today and stood guard over some 1900 German prisoners, while allied armies on the Italian mainland slogged forward through the mud of a 30-hour downpour and kept the Nazis on the run toward the Pisa-Florence-Rimini defense line in northern Italy.

The ancient communications center of Perugia, 85 miles north of Rome, shook with the sound of battle as eighth army troops expelled the last stubborn German rearguards from its streets and buildings. For several days the enemy had braced and made a bitter stand on the approaches to the city, whose peacetime population was 88,500.

German forces in the center of...

(Continued on page 2)

Yankees Take Southern Half Of Saipan

WASHINGTON, June 20—(AP) Inching forward against a heavy enemy artillery fire, American troops have taken the southern half of Saipan, largest island in the western Pacific Marianas group.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific fleet commander, announced tonight that forward lines now extend from the shore of Magicienne bay on the southeast side of the island to the outskirts of Garapan, principal town of Saipan.

Army and marine units, Nimitz said, have moved up artillery to blast away at the enemy's big guns. American bombers and strafing fighter planes are joining in the assault, while offshore warships are pouring shells onto enemy positions.

While front line troops continue their advance, other units to the rear are heavily attacking "strong pockets of resistance" left behind in the advance.

Nimitz also reported bombardment of Japanese airfields on Tinian island south of Saipan. In addition to the shelling by warships, bomber planes on Monday attacked the Tinian fields.

Weather

Maximum temperature Tuesday 75 degrees; minimum 54; no precipitation; river—18 ft.

Partly cloudy, scattered showers, local thundershowers in mountains Wednesday and Thursday. Little change in temperature.