

IT SEEMS TO ME
By Charles F. Sprague

A circus is a place for mirth, not for sadness. It carries people far into the world of make-believe, away from the soberness and monotony of routine living. The circus gives excitement and thrills; but always, always the trapeze actors succeed in their leaps across space or land safely in the nets below. The circus brings shaggy-bearded lions and fierce tigers and ponderous elephants and long-necked giraffes to excite the wonder of thoroughly domesticated humans, but the animals are in cages or obedient to the voice and the whip of the master.

It is fun to go to the circus, a world of fun. There is the great parade, preceded by the blare of trumpets and accompanied by the ample brass of the circus band; ladies in tights and spangles, men in coats of gaudy colors, matched white horses, clowns with grotesque faces and baggy polka-dot costumes. The circus comes but once a year but its memories remain vivid till the next season. The circus, with fun and frolic, with peanuts and popcorn and cokes at painfully doubled prices. Naught of gloom at the circus; rather the most elemental of pleasures of sight and sound, color and action and excitement. Tragedy at a circus? That is its rarest event. There is risk, there is danger. The human cannonball shot from the cannon might miss the net across the arena. The tiger might claw the venturesome girl who enters.

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Germans Slay Most Residents Of 2 Villages

By the Associated Press
Cold-blooded massacres of virtually the entire populations of the Greek village of Distomo and the French village of Oradour-Sur-Glanes were reported in accounts reaching New York Saturday.

The Greek puppet government announced the Distomo slaughter, in which 1600 persons died, saying it occurred on June 10, the second anniversary of the massacre and destruction of Lidice in Czechoslovakia.

The story of the French village, in the Limoges district of central France, came from the British Broadcasting corporation, which said 1100 out of a population of 1200 were slain.

The Greek puppet communique, a copy of which was received Friday in Izmir (Smyrna) Turkey, said the populace was shot and the town burned in reprisal for the deaths of 30 German soldiers in a fight with guerrillas the previous day.

At Lidice, which the Germans themselves announced was destroyed in reprisal for the assassination of Reinhard Heydrich, "protector" of Bohemia - Moravia, the men were killed and the women and children carried away.

But at Distomo, according to information received among Greeks in Izmir, men, women and wailing babies were slaughtered impersonally.

This account said that after the guerrilla battle on June 9, German SS (elite guard) troops on the afternoon of June 10 surrounded Distomo, herded all inhabitants into the public square, and there chopped them down with machine guns.

Train Death Toll Hits 33
JELICO, Tenn., July 8-(P)-The death toll from the plunge of a troop train into a Clear river gorge Thursday night mounted at least to 33 tonight as workmen laboriously cleared the wreckage.

Violent Battle Raging for Caen

Russians Capture Fortress

Way to Warsaw Open With Fall Of Baranowicze
LONDON, Sunday, July 8-(P)-The red army Saturday captured Baranowicze, important fortress on the invasion route to Warsaw, fought into the streets of Wilno, and cut the Wilno-Daugavpils railway, one of the German supply backbones for defense of east Prussia and the Baltic states, Moscow announced tonight.

Russian infantry, tanks and artillery broke into Wilno and in bitter fighting were inflicting "tremendous losses" on the retreating nazis, the soviet midnight communique supplemented today.

In another sector as German defense lines before the historic key city cracked, the supplement said, a nazi infantry regiment was routed as it was being hurled into battle.

The slaughter of 28,000 Germans trapped east of Minsk and the capture of 15,102 in four days also was announced in the daily communique. The Russians since June 23 have killed or captured approximately 275,000 Germans on the basis of Moscow announcements.

Berlin said that Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's long-rested First Ukrainian army had gone over to the offensive in the southern part of Poland between Kovel and Lwow, thus extending the fast-moving Russian front to a distance of 500 miles between the Daugavpils (Dvinsk) area of Latvia to the Carpathian mountain approaches east of Lwow.

Not Confirmed Yet
While Moscow had not confirmed this new offensive, Berlin usually announces the unfolding of Russian drives ahead of Moscow. Zhukov's troops are on the southern flank of Marshal K.

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US Smashes Bond Quota

WASHINGTON, July 8-(P)-America smashed over the top in the 16 billion dollar fifth war loan today, said Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, announcing that subscriptions have reached \$16,650,000,000 and will soar much higher when all returns are in.

Although today is the last day of the drive in which an army of volunteer workers has done what Morgenthau called "a magnificent job," the reporting period for subscriptions will continue until the end of July - as announced before the campaign was launched.

The secretary said corporations have subscribed \$12,400,000,000, far beyond their ten billion dollar goal, and individual purchasers have subscribed \$4,250,000,000.

This figure is only 71 per cent of the individuals' quota of six billion, but Morgenthau indicated that this will be surpassed.

Jap Inability Of Defense Amazes Yanks

WASHINGTON, July 8-(P)-Japanese inability to put up effective defense over some of their most vital homeland areas was emphasized today by airmen studying the latest attack of the United States fleet of Superfortresses on the enemy in Asia.

The mission of China-based B-29s which hit five targets, three of them on the home island of Kyushu in a Friday night raid, returned without loss of aircraft after encountering only "very weak fighter opposition and meager anti-aircraft fire," a communique by the 20th air force headquarters said today.

A spawning bed for the Japanese navy and the supply system of the enemy's land armies in China were hit in the latest operation. The communique reported that Sasebo, Japan's third largest naval base, "received the heaviest bomb load" of the mission, which also rained destruction on Yawata and Omura, all three targets being located on Kyushu island at the southern end of the Japanese chain. Almost as vital as Sasebo to the fleet-building and repair efforts of the enemy are the steel-producing factories at Yawata and Omura.

The mission also pounded two targets in occupied China, Lanyao, a coal and shipping port on the North China coast, and Hankow on the Yangtze river, 450 miles inland, which has been bombed often by Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault's 14th air force. Through both of these ports funnel supplies and reinforcements for the enemy's columns now attempting to split free China and seize American air fields.

Clue Appears In Hartford Circus Blaze

HARTFORD, Conn., July 8-(P)-A Hartford city detective said tonight that with the appearance of the first flames in the circus conflagration which took more than 150 lives, he heard an unidentified man accuse another of throwing a lighted cigar.

As a result of that information, given, said Detective Daniel McAuliffe, under oath during a fire marshal's inquiry into Thursday's Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey circus fire, State Police Commissioner Edward J. Hickey made a public appeal for the accuser to present himself for questioning.

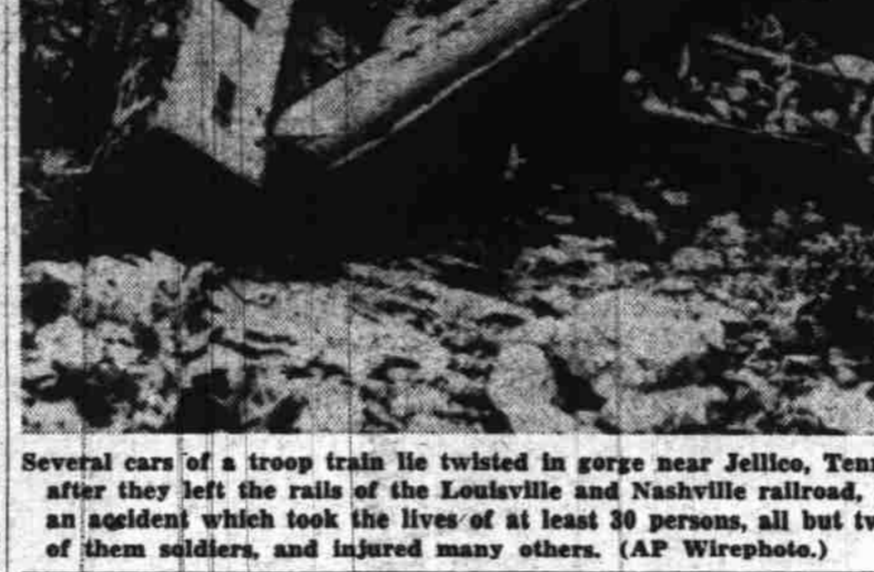
Detective McAuliffe, among the latest group of witnesses to testify at the inquiry being conducted by Hickey as state fire marshal, related:

He was among the spectators (Continued on page 2)

US Will Import Steel to England

WASHINGTON, July 8-(P)-Disclosure that this country soon will import 10,000 tons of steel a month from England's lean supply was coupled tonight with official warning that United States output must be boosted at once "if the allied forces in Europe are to be adequately supported."

Railroad Cars Pile Up in Gorge



Several cars of a troop train lie twisted in gorge near Jellico, Tenn., after they left the rails of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, in an accident which took the lives of at least 30 persons, all but two of them soldiers, and injured many others. (AP Wirephoto.)

Allied Plane Fleets Give Awesome Show

LONDON, July 8-(P)-Every type of aircraft at the command of the allies was hurled at the nazi war machine in the west today in an awesome display of supremacy in the skies, striking heavy twin blows at the robot bomb ramps and storage places, and hitting savagely in support of Gen. Montgomery's troops who crawled over the rubble-strewn approaches to Caen in Normandy.

The great blows at the robot bombs coincided with the longest respite in southern England from the berie weapons since those attacks began, but after nightfall they came winging over again. But there was no doubt the raids had been effective.

RAF out During Night
RAF heavy bombers in some strength streamed southward over the channel well before dusk possibly to deliver another pasting on the rocket-bomb installations. The German radio during the night said no raiders were over the reach itself lending to the belief that the bombers were making counter-attacks against Hitler's long range weapons and giving further strong support to the Normandy ground troops.

The great daylight blows against (Continued on Page 2)

Wallace Slates Speech Today

SEATTLE, July 8-(P)-Vice President Wallace will address his first message to the American people since his return from China in a nation-wide broadcast here tomorrow.

The address, from the studio of station KOMO, will be carried at 3 p. m. Pacific war time over the network of the National Broadcasting System. He is scheduled to talk about 20 minutes.

The exact hour of arrival of the vice president, who flew from China to Great Falls, Mont., via Alaska and Alberta, Canada, on his way back, was not certain tonight.

Even taking into consideration the fact that some of the reports coming out of Germany may be nazi "phantoms" aimed at creating over-confidence in allied countries, this appeared to be a trustworthy review of developments:

1. While no final decision apparently has been made, the Germans probably will throw more reserves into the Normandy front in France in an effort to inflict the heaviest possible losses on the allied troops there.

Japanese On Saipan Attack

Yankees Break Up Drive After 2000 Yard Gain
By CHARLES H. McMurtry
US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, July 8-(P)-An attack by thousands of desperate Japanese, supported by planes and artillery, pushed the American lines on Saipan island back as much as 2000 yards before it was broken up, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz reported today.

The enemy left an estimated 1500 dead on the battlefield. It was the fiercest counter-attack of the central and western Pacific war.

Several thousand Japanese began the attack before dawn Thursday on the western flank. They drove to the outskirts of Tanagap down before they were halted, shortly before noon, and the Americans forced them into slow retreat.

Fighting Severe
"The fighting was very severe and numerous casualties were incurred," Nimitz said, but he made no estimate of American dead and wounded.

Simultaneously, small groups of Japanese planes attacked US positions and shipping, while enemy short batteries on nearby Tinian island poured fire on American-held Iwo Jima. Destroyers and American artillery silenced the guns on Tinian.

Nimitz said no ships were damaged by the Japanese planes. He made no report on damage to American positions on the southern end of the island.

Right Flank Advances
The American right flank continued its methodical advance throughout the counterattack. It was about a mile from Marpi airfield on the northern tip of the island.

About 10,500 Japanese, or half the estimated original garrison, have been killed. The rest are penned on the northern tip.

The counterattack came a day before B-29s smashed at the home land of Nippon climaxing a heart-breaking week for Tokyo.

The toll of Japanese aircraft during the July 2-3 American strikes at three islands in the Bonin and Volcano groups stood today at 105 definitely destroyed and 136 others damaged or probably destroyed.

Military Chiefs Rap Civilian Production

WASHINGTON, July 8-(P)-The joint chiefs of staff asserted tonight that Donald M. Nelson's program to permit limited manufacture of civilian goods might so hamper war production as to necessitate "revision in strategic plans which could prolong the war."

While final mopping up operations were underway on the tiny islet, allied planes struck a series of Japanese airbases around Manokwari, 50 miles west on the Dutch New Guinea mainland. (These attacks duplicated previous raids, but they formed the most concentrated bombing pattern for some time around Manokwari, a possible goal for Gen. Douglas MacArthur's advancing forces.)

British Batter Into Outskirts Of River Port

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Sunday, July 9-(AP)-A violent battle unequalled since D-day raged for Caen last night with the British fighting into the northeast outskirts of the big river port barring the road to Paris. Parts of the enemy garrison were fleeing the doomed city before an earth-shaking bombardment of artillery and naval guns.

(The German Transocean news agency was heard broadcasting a report from headquarters of the new Normandy commander, Field Marshal Guenther Von Kluge, saying the high command probably would "shorten its lines" by moving back its lines at Caen.)

As the British loosed their biggest offensive, aimed at the heart of France, before dawn along a seven-mile front, US troops fought out of the forests and bogs at the base of Cherbourg peninsula and launched three blows southward which jeopardized all German positions on the western end of the front.

Anchor Swept Up
The enemy's central front anchor of St. Jean de Daye had been swept up in the whirlwind of attack, and the night supreme headquarters communique indicated the same fate was near for the coastal stronghold of La Haye du Puits, where patrols fought in the streets and doughboys seized all commanding heights.

Stunned by the terrific bombardment from thousands of guns and wave upon wave of bombers, out-generated by an attack from the northeast when he looked for a blow from the northwest, Field Marshal Edwin Rommel seemed unable to react with his usual violence at Caen.

After the British had swept up nine towns guarding the northern approaches to the city, Rommel began drawing on his stock of 1500 tanks massed in that sector.

20 Nazi Tanks Hit
Probably 20 of them were knocked out, front line dispatches said, as Rommel hurled them into the tornado of fire with which Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery was ripping a path through pill-

(Continued on Page 2)

Yank Losses "Very Light" On Noemfoor

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Sunday, July 9-(P)-Allied troops suffered "very light" losses in their five-day capture of strategic Noemfoor island, off North Dutch New Guinea, and have buried 410 Japanese bodies, headquarters announced today.

While final mopping up operations were underway on the tiny islet, allied planes struck a series of Japanese airbases around Manokwari, 50 miles west on the Dutch New Guinea mainland. (These attacks duplicated previous raids, but they formed the most concentrated bombing pattern for some time around Manokwari, a possible goal for Gen. Douglas MacArthur's advancing forces.)

On Noemfoor through Thursday 24 Japanese prisoners were taken (Continued on page 2)

Four fighter planes supported an enemy attack in the sector and the Chinese suffered some losses as fighting continued into the night, the communique said.

Chinese troops continued their drive against Tengchung, the main Japanese base, which was raided again on Thursday by American B-25 bombers. Villages and pill-boxes were taken southeast of the ancient city, placing the Chinese only a half mile from the wall. About 10 miles south of Tengchung, Chinese forces captured a town on the Lingling road.

2 Drills Bore Toward 66 Trapped Miners
BELLAIRE, O., July 8-(P)-Picked workmen from Belmont county mines, driving themselves relentlessly in hope of having 66 miners entombed in the burning Powhatan mine, tonight watched two drills bore toward the men, and prayed their calculations were correct.

Oregon Officer Leads Yanks Into Rosignano
WITH AMERICAN FORCES DRIVING TOWARD LIVORNO, July 8-(P)-Major Harry McSwain of South Carolina and Capt. Donovan Griffin of Klamath Falls, Ore., led the first Fifth army troops into battered Rosignano yesterday after a three-day fight.

Weather
Maximum temperature Saturday 85; minimum 51; .01 precipitation; river -3 ft. Fair Sunday and Monday except for widely scattered thunder storms east of Cascades. Little change in temperature.