

# Allied Wise Closes on Normandy Fortress

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### St. Lo Hit Fiercely; Fall Near

#### Allies Sweep Up 7 Towns; Germans Stunned, Sickened

By JAMES M. LONG  
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS  
A. L. L. E. D. EXPEDITIONARY  
FORCE, Friday, July 14—The  
fall of St. Lo seemed imminent  
today as American doughboys  
stormed heights a mile and a half  
to the east in position to fire at  
point-blank range on escape  
routes and into the heart of the  
fortress itself, guarding all enemy  
positions on the Cherbourg  
peninsula front.

The night communique from supreme headquarters reported further gains by the column of armor and infantry which fought to the outskirts of La Barre de Semilly two miles east of St. Lo, and the Germans summoned echelons from the rear in an attempt to prevent a break-through.

Seven towns were swept up by Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's doughboys, who were on the move in a slugging advance all along the flaming battlefront that put them within three miles north of the enemy's central periers and two miles north of the coastal strong-point of Lessay.

Supreme headquarters broadcast a new warning to fishermen to stay out of coastal waters from Bayonne, near the Spanish frontier, to the West Frisian islands off the northwest coast of Germany, renewing orders expiring last night.

The Americans moved to the attack on St. Lo after an opening barrage which left Germans stunned and sickened in their fox-holes.

Associated Press Correspondent Don Whitehead, picturing the blazing battle in the green countryside of hedgerows, said a staff officer declared the enemy's position in the ancient Normandy city was untenable.

Americans on the ridge, which points like a dagger at St. Lo's flanks, were pressing slowly toward the city, while the enemy, waiting in tanks and behind the hedges, was putting up stiff resistance.

Sound trucks were wheeled up (Continued on Page 2)

### Hot Streets Get Bath of Chilled Beer

Mercury officially was nearing its 81-degree maximum for the day and in Salem proper reflecting pavements had magnified the heat to more than 90 degrees Fahrenheit. . . when 39 cases of cold beer slawed from a truck to fill and chill gutters at the intersection of Capitol and D Center streets Thursday afternoon.

Guy E. Waldron, Oregon City, driver, told police a bus unit in front of him as he was driving east on Center street and attempting to turn north on Capitol.

Quick application of the brakes saved the truck but caused loss of part of its beer cargo, he said. Logs on a truck trailer which collided with a northbound passenger train at State and 12th streets, shortly before 8 o'clock Thursday night, twisted loose but did not fall to the paving.

### Bastille Day Today In Freed France

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, July 13—(AP)—Every city, town and hamlet in liberated Normandy—most of them scarred by war—proudly flew the tricolor tonight in anticipation of the celebration of Bastille day tomorrow.

The American and British flags hung from the shellpocked buildings alongside the tricolor from Caen to Cherbourg in France's first free observance of their own "Fourth of July" in four years. Commissioner Francois Coulet and other representatives of the French national committee will attend the ceremonies at Cherbourg.

### Marine Officers, 38, May Retire

WASHINGTON, July 13—(AP)—Officers over 38 years of age in the marine corps can apply for discharge, the navy said tonight, orders to that effect having been promulgated recently.

A similar directive permits enlisted men over 38, if they are serving in this country, to make application for discharge, which, the service said, will be considered if they are "serving under normal circumstances."

Approval of the discharge applications must be given by the individual commanders, it was said.

### Yankees Slog Way Near Arno

#### Nazi Stronghold Falls in Drive On 'Gothic' Line

By NOLAN NORGAARD  
ROME, July 13—(AP)—American troops have captured the German stronghold of Lajatico, 17 miles inland from the Italian west coast, in some of the bitterest fighting in weeks and tonight were reportedly battering their way slowly down the Era valley toward the Arno river, first great obstacle in the enemy's "Gothic line" defenses.

Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's doughboys cleaned out the last German suicide squads in Lajatico yesterday, taking 150 to 200 prisoners, and pressed on northward in their drive to flank the big port of Livorno, whose strong defenses virtually have stalled an American push directly up the coast for the past week.

Late dispatches placed the flanking forces less than a dozen miles from the point where the Era river empties into the Arno northeast of Livorno, where the broad Arno valley stretches westward to the sea between Livorno and Pisa. There was no indication that American troops on the coast had progressed beyond their last reported position eight miles from Livorno, where they had encountered withering enemy artillery fire from the hills.

Inland from Lajatico other allied forces prepared to assault four key road centers commanding the approaches to the "Gothic line." After beating back several savage Nazi counter-attacks, French colonial units from positions from which they could strike at Poggibonsi, which guards both the Elsa river valley approach to the Arno and the main highway northeast to Florence, 21 miles away.

Arezzo, key junction 36 miles east of Poggibonsi and the same distance southwest of Florence, was under constant probing by British eighth army patrols and a major attack on its defenses appeared to be imminent. An allied officer said the Germans had massed more than 70 big guns around Arezzo.

### Lower Octane For Civilians

WASHINGTON, July 13—(AP)—Secretary Ickes, petroleum administrator for war, announced tonight that refiners have been directed to change specifications of civilian gasoline from 72 to 70 octane, thus reducing its anti-knock content.

The action, effective tomorrow, was taken because of increased needs of the armed services for 100-octane aviation fuel, Ickes said. He added that "a people which is giving its blood generously to back up our wounded men will hardly object to another knock or two in the old automobile."

### 2nd Class Postoffice Earned by Two Towns

STAYTON, July 13—As of July 1 the Stayton postoffice became a second class office. Mrs. Grace Nelbert is postmistress.

INDEPENDENCE, July 13—Glen Smith, postmaster, reports that the local postoffice was advanced to second class as of July 1. The office had postal receipts of \$17,221.15 for the six months of 1944, an increase of 33 percent over the same period in 1943.

### TR, jr., Dies



Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr.

### Gen. Roosevelt Succumbs on French Front

WITH AMERICAN TROOPS IN NORMANDY, July 13—(AP)—Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., 56, the soldier son of a soldier father—died of a heart attack last night as he rested in a captured German truck.

General Roosevelt had been using the truck for his office and bedroom. He suffered a slight heart attack four days ago but had kept at work as assistant commanding general of the Fourth infantry division. He died two hours after a visit with his son, Quentin, a captain in the First infantry.

Tomorrow Roosevelt, son of the former president and one of the best beloved generals in the army, will be buried in the Fourth division military cemetery. His body will rest in the soil of the same country where his brother, Quentin, was killed in the last war. (Please see page 7 for biography.)

### State's Funds May Make Up \$7000 Deficit

There may be no necessity for a conference of the state fish commission to consider means of making up the commission's \$7000 financial deficit, it appeared today.

Should Attorney General George Neuner hold that the state emergency board is authorized to appropriate sufficient funds to straighten out the tangle, Gov. Earl Snell indicated Thursday he might not call the meeting.

Neuner was expected to complete a legal opinion as to whether the emergency board has this authority within a few days. In event Neuner's opinion is favorable, Governor Snell indicated that he would call a meeting of the emergency board at which the chairman of the fish committee would appear and discuss the situation.

### Dewey Assails Federal Policy

ALBANY, N.Y., July 13—(AP)—Governor Thomas E. Dewey assailed today what he said is a recently-developed concept that the executive branch of the federal government is "above the people" and pledged his efforts to "bring the people closer to the practice of self-government."

He spoke to the Empire State State, a government training conference held annually for New York's high school girls.

### Turkish Move Against Nazis Likely Within Next Few Days

By FLORA LEWIS  
WASHINGTON, July 13—(AP)—Turkey is moving rapidly towards the allies, it was learned authoritatively today, and may take a concrete step in support of the United Nations war effort within a matter of days.

Talks have been going on for three weeks between the Turks on one side and the United States, Britain and Russia on the other.

Ever since the conference at Cairo last year between President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Turkish President Ismet Inonu, Turkey has been teetering over into the allied camp.

### Two Jap Admirals Are Killed

#### Pearl Harbor, Midway Attacker Dies on Saipan

By EUGENE BURNS  
US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, July 13—(AP)—Two Japanese admirals, one of whom directed the attacks on Pearl Harbor and Midway, died July 7 on Saipan, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced tonight in a communique.

One, Vice Adm. Chuichi Nagumo, was commander in chief of the Central Pacific area of the imperial Japanese navy. He was in command of Japanese forces which attacked Pearl Harbor and in command of the carrier task force which was wiped out at Midway.

Just prior to his latest and fatal command, he was commandant of the Sasebo naval base on the Japanese mainland.

Nimitz said Rear Admiral Yano was killed on the same day. Simultaneously he announced that elements of the second marine division had landed on Managassia Island July 12 west longitude which is two miles north of Mutchu Point on Saipan island, and controls the entrance of the important Tanagap harbor.

The similarity between Saipan and Oahu is striking and Tanagap harbor and Pearl Harbor emphasizing this close likeness.

Now that Saipan is in American hands, artillery bombardment and navy gunfire is neutralizing Tinian island on which there is a Japanese airfield.

Indicating the similarity of his Oahu headquarters and those of the late Vice Admiral Nagumo on Saipan, Nimitz pointed out that Saipan was built up by the Japanese as the principal fortress guarding the southern approaches to Japan and as a major supply base for Japan's temporary holdings in the south seas.

Presumably before Nagumo was killed on Saipan, he must have learned of the disaster which met the Japanese navy in the Philippines sea June 18-20 western longitude.

### Japs Yield Burma Town

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, July 13—(AP)—Japanese retreating in north Burma have yielded the village of Pyn-daw, where they apparently tried to rally for another stand eight miles southwest of their fallen stronghold of Mogaung. Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's communique announced today.

West African Nigerians and Chinese wrested the village from the Japanese after a day of bitter fighting, and the Nigerians pursued the enemy on southward.

Disorganized Japanese, wandering through the monsoon in eastern India, are being wiped out or captured along the Imphal-Ukhrul road, and all their escape routes to the south have been closed.

### Soldiers Gentle With Women's Dormitories

CORVALLIS, July 13—(AP)—Soldier students, jammed into living quarters in double the normal capacity, have caused no more than normal wear and tear to Oregon State college's women's dormitories, Melissa Hunter, dormitories director, said today.

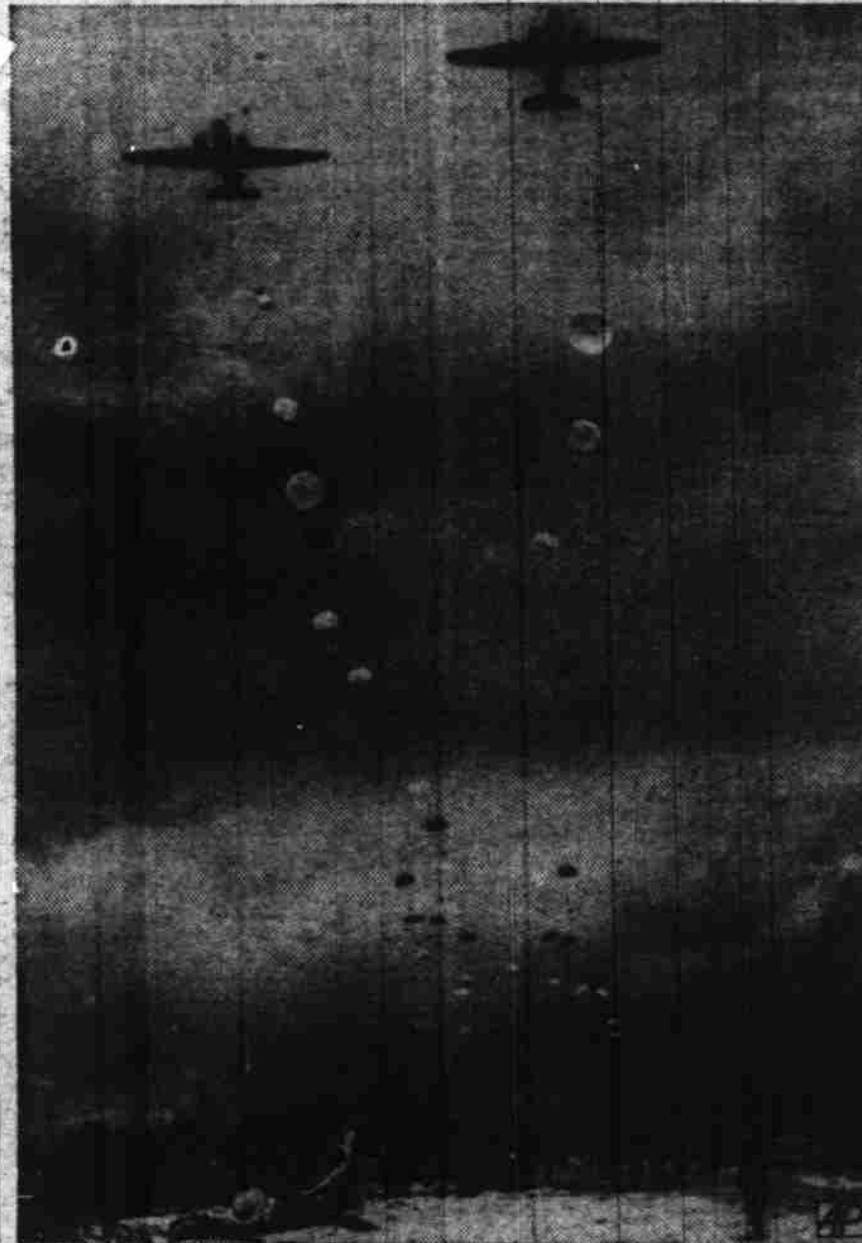
### Four German Prisoners Recaptured Near Border

LETHBRIDGE, Alta., July 13 (CP)—Four German prisoners who escaped at 7:30 a.m. from the Magrath hostel were recaptured tonight by mounted police at Del Bogita, Alta., five miles from the international border.

### Weather

Maximum temperature Thursday 81; minimum 47; no rain; river - 5 ft.  
Over: Fair Friday and Saturday. Warmer indicator Friday.

### Paratroopers Land, Noemfoor



With infantrymen who already had swept ashore gathered to watch, US paratroopers float down from transport planes over Noemfoor island, off the coast of Dutch New Guinea, during the occupation of that Jap-held island by allied forces. AP photo from signal corps.

### Munich Targets in Ruins From 1000-Plane Raid

LONDON, July 14—(AP)—The German radio warned today that enemy bombers were approaching the lower Danube, indicating allied raiders were striking again from Mediterranean bases. Earlier residents on Britain's southeast coast had observed a big force of Britain-based daylight bombers setting out across the channel.

### Salem Leads In Number of WACs, WAVES

Salem's June record of WAC and WAVES enlistments is highest in the nation on a per capita basis comparison.

Recruiters here have been notified today of their top billing at a time when their organizations over the nation are laying extra stress on the need for women in the armed services.

Women's army corps enlistments through the Salem substation during June were highest in the Ninth Service command, which led the nation.

Navy recruiters have been informed that the Salem district leads the 13th naval district. Oregon, part of that district, has led all the states during most of the war, they said.

(News and pictures about the women in the two services from Salem on page 11.)

### Invasion Cost Allies 15 Ships

WASHINGTON, July 13—(AP)—Of the several thousand ships that took part in the June 6 invasion of Normandy, 15 were lost, it was announced today—seven American and eight British.

American losses included three destroyers and the former \$4,000,000 Grace liner Santa Clara, renamed the transport Susan B. Anthony. The British admiralty in London said the Susan B. Anthony sank without the loss of a soldier. Most of the troops aboard were transferred to other ships with their equipment. Some 50 or more of the 400 naval personnel aboard are unreported, but most are believed safe.

American destroyers lost were the Corry, Glennon and the Meredith. Also lost were the destroyer escort Rich, minesweeper Tide, and the fleet tug Partridge. Commanding officers of all vessels except the minesweeper survived, although two were wounded. The minesweeper's skipper, Lt. Cmdr. Alford Barnwell Hayward, was killed.

### Reds Gain After F Of Wilno

#### Soviets Drive Within 30 Miles Of East Prussia

By RUSSELL C. LANDSTROM  
LONDON, July 13—(AP)—Wilno, gateway to the Baltic and capital of the Soviet Lithuanian republic since 1940, fell to the red army today after five days of street fighting in which more than 8000 Germans were killed and 5000 captured, Moscow announced tonight, while continuing advances to the southwest placed the Russians less than 30 miles from the borders of East Prussia.

Several hundred towns and villages were taken in the general soviet advance all along the central, Baltic and Finnish fronts, the soviet midnight communique announced, with noteworthy gains being made in the steady encirclement of Daugavpils, big rail hub in southern Latvia.

Twenty Mile Gain  
One of the day's significant advances was in the center where the soviet communique as recorded by the soviet monitor said Russian troops took the town of Ruzhany, 60 miles northeast of Brest Litovsk, anchor-point on the Germans' next defense line and border city in the 1939 German-Russian partition of Poland.

This represented an advance of 20 miles from previously reported soviet positions and confirmed German broadcasts earlier in the day admitting that the Russians had broken through a German security line in that region.

The Soviet communique also made official Berlin's day-long reports of withdrawal in the north, where Generals Andrei I. Yermenko and Ivan C. Bagramin were pounding toward the Baltic sea.

Baltic Front Moves  
Besides the heavy losses inflicted on the Germans at Wilno, troops of the second Baltic front commanded by Gen. Yermenko killed 3000 and captured at least 600 and southwest of Lida another 1000 nazis were killed and nearly 400 captured, the early morning supplement to the Soviet communique said.

West of Lida the big rail center of Grodno, stronghold of the last German defense line before East Prussia, came practically within the grasp of the third White Russian army as Gen. Ivan Cherniakhovsky's forces advanced 25 miles and seized Nova Ruda, 18 miles east of the junction.

### Nazis Deny Herriot Death

LONDON, July 13—(AP)—Nazi-controlled radios labeled "erroneous" tonight earlier broadcasts announcing the death of Edouard Herriot, 72, thrice premier of France and for 36 years beloved mayor of Lyons.

Berlin and Paris radios both broadcast reports of Herriot's death during the day but later the Vichy radio said "the announcement of Herriot's death was erroneous. Monsieur Herriot is in excellent health." His whereabouts was not disclosed.

In German custody since the fall of France, Herriot once previously was reported to have died in a Nazi prison.

### Rather Have Statesman

Many a service man thousands of miles away is keeping track of the home folks through the medium of The Oregon Statesman.

One of these is Capt. William S. Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Parker of 506 Rose street, Salem.

Captain Parker, an army dentist in the European theatre, was getting another Oregon newspaper until his parents received this note: "Ed rather have The Statesman. The local news is better in it." Captain Parker now is getting The Statesman and his cherished local news. The Statesman hopes he and his friends are enjoying it, and will continue to strive towards making it even more invaluable to those far away.

### IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

There is such a thing as "party" politics, not the party of political organization, but the social affair which mixes politics with the drinks. Washington is full of it, and so are other capitals. Holland house was famous in English history as a rendezvous for political figures; and Lord and Lady Astor made Cliveden so distinguished it became a byword over the whole world.

So it is not surprising that the social set in Rome is shifting its allegiance with the advent of the allies and seeking to hold its place with the exercise of the social graces. Thus the liberal newspaper in Rome, Risorgimento Liberale, protests because "friends of Edda Ciano and the Count, who used to have parties with German officers in their homes are now giving parties with the Americans in their homes."

These ex-fascists profited by their former allegiance, they had the best of food and drink, so now they can put on the best entertainment for the new military guests; and they can change from praise of fascism to avowals of eternal loyalty to democratic principles, with never a quail.

That indeed is one of the marks of the social lobby; just so long as its members can hold their social positions they will go along with any regime. Which is perhaps natural—the social set of the capital is permanent, the regime changes, whether it is a president or a governor—or a king.

There is real danger however in the activities of the social lobby in (Continued on Editorial Page)

### State Draft Board in New Headquarters

State selective service headquarters moved during the night to the building at the southeast corner of Commercial and Court streets, from the State Office building. The new quarters are those formerly occupied by the Salvation Army—operated USO, more recently used as Fifth War Loan headquarters.

Ad: Gen. Ray F. Olson and his staff retain the offices formerly shared with selective service. Col. Elmer V. Wootton, state selective service director, said the offices would probably remain in the downtown district after the close of the war because of its new duties in aiding rehabilitation of veterans.

### Ghandi Agrees To Back War

NEW DELHI, July 15—(AP)—Mohandas K. Ghandi has pledged not to renew his campaign of civil disobedience during the war and instead has promised to help the allied war effort and envisaged a nationalist government of India under a British viceroy.

His statement, in which he foresees the king of England guided by responsible ministers, "outlined what was interpreted as a formula for settlement of the political impasse between Britain and India, but it failed to elicit any general approval from either side.

Apparently modifying his well-known "quit-India" resolution of September, 1942, Ghandi's statement represented a distinct retreat from the position he had held. However, he qualified his promise respecting civil disobedience with, "Unless there was a very grave reason, as for instance the thwarting of India's natural rights of freedom."

### First Call for Christmas; Mail Early to Servicemen

The first appeal for early-mailing of Christmas parcels for service men and women went out from the postoffice department today.

Postmaster H. R. Crawford said such packages should be mailed between September 15 and October 15. The must weight not more than five pounds and have a combined length and girth of not exceeding 36 inches.

### Flying Bomb Attacks In Normandy Disclosed

LONDON, July 13—(AP)—As more winged bombs exploded in London and southern England today and members of parliament demanded additional information about defensive measures being taken, it was disclosed that the nazis had used the new weapon against American troops in Normandy.