

Tanks Shatter Nazi Normandy Line

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

I have noticed in the news items from over the state many reports of changes in positions of public school superintendents and high school principals. Believing the number to be greatly in excess of that of former years I asked the state department of education to give me a list of the changes as far as the department knew. This report shows that out of 41 cities in the state which employ superintendents there are 12 changes in superintendency and 20 changes in high school principals.

Cities which have or will have new superintendents include: Coquille, Eugene, Lebanon, Marshfield, Newberg, Ontario, Parkrose, Portland, Redmond, Roseburg, Toledo and West Linn.

The following cities are having new high school principals: Albany, Ashland, Baker, Coquille, Corvallis, Cottage Grove, Dallas, Eugene, Grants Pass, LaGrande, Lebanon, Medford, Milton-Freewater, Newberg, North Bend, Pendleton, Roseburg, Salem, Springfield and Tillamook.

Of even greater significance is the report on what the persons leaving these positions are planning to do. Of the 12 retiring city superintendents, seven are going into private business, one to the state system of higher education, one to the state division of vocational education.

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Germans Name Three Leaders Of Conspiracy

LONDON, July 27 (AP)—The Germans named two comparatively obscure veterans of the Russian front today as central figures, along with the previously-identified Col. Gen. Ludwig Beck in the deep-laid conspiracy against Adolf Hitler which misfired a week ago.

They were Infantry General Friedrich Olbricht, 65, described as the leader, and Maj. Gen. Erich Hoepner, 57. Berlin said that Gen. Olbricht, the only one of the trio on active army service last week, was executed in Berlin on the night of the assassination attempt last Thursday, and that Gen. Hoepner was awaiting sentence.

Gen. Beck, 64, who was chief of the German general staff in 1938 described earlier as "no longer among the living," shot himself upon being found in a "sobbing fit" after the plot failed, Berlin said today.

Gen. Olbricht was identified as chief of a general army department at German supreme headquarters and second in command of the German army at home. He "held the ropes of the conspiracy" in his hands because he was in a position to give false orders, Berlin said.

Germans Announce "Total War" Orders

STOCKHOLM, July 27 (AP)—The first "total war" orders for Germany by Reichminister Paul Joseph Goebbels are two forbidding all vacations for women and directing the front line troops do the manual work of building bridges and repairing roads formerly done by the Todt Speer labor organization.

Oregon Flax Seed Yield to Be Small

CORVALLIS, July 27 (AP)—E. G. Nelson, federal flax specialist, predicted today that Oregon would not have a heavy yield of flax seed and straw this season. The crop in many areas, he said, was cut sharply by low soil moisture, low humidity and high temperatures during seed formation.

Weather

Maximum temperature Thursday 95 degrees; minimum 54 degrees; no rain; river 3 ft. 7 in. Clear Friday and Saturday except scattered P.M. thunderstorms over and east of the Cascades; fog on coast; continued warm except on coast.

Russian Troops 30 Miles From Warsaw

Soviets Enjoy Best Day

Lwow, 5 Other German Bastions Taken by Reds

LONDON, Friday, July 28 (AP)—Russian troops, inflicting the war's most disastrous series of defeats on the Germans, yesterday plunged to within 30 miles of Warsaw, captured the great city of Lwow and five other enemy bastions, and crossed the San river in a wide sweep toward Germany itself.

Lwow, Bialystok, and Stanislawow, ancient Polish fortresses, fell to the soviet tide pouring westward through broken German armies, along with 1635 other cities, towns and villages. This was the greatest one-day bag yet announced by Moscow during the gigantic soviet summer offensive.

In the north Daugavpils and Rezekne in Latvia and Siauliai, strategic rail junction in Lithuania, also were seized, and the capture of Siauliai plugged the last main enemy escape route out of the Baltic states.

Routed German armies nearly everywhere appeared to be falling back in precipitate flight, and military men here now believe the Germans may retire to the Oder river in eastern Germany itself. They based this belief on the almost two-miles-an-hour pace of the Russians, and the lack of any sign that the Germans would attempt to hold on the Vistula river in Poland.

Berlin itself said the Vistula defenses had been pierced southeast of Warsaw, and that water barrier is the last natural defense line short of the Oder.

German Silesia is only 140 miles west of the Vistula, where the Germans said the Russians had crossed, and farther south other soviet units were reported officially by Moscow to have crossed the San river on a 50-mile front and raced 17 miles beyond to a point only 128 miles from Silesia.

Chinese Take Enemy Base

CHUNGKING, July 27 (AP)—Counter-attacking Chinese have recaptured Leyang, southernmost point of advance from the north in the Japanese grand strategy to split China in half and seal her off from help from the Pacific, a Chinese communique announced tonight.

Thirty-four miles to the northwest in Hunan province, confused fighting raged inside and outside the beleaguered rail junction of Hengyang, where the Japanese were acknowledged to have broken into the streets after hammering at its gates for a month.

The communique described the fighting as severe. The importance of the recapture yesterday of Leyang is that it was a logical springboard for a further southward plunge to link up with the Japanese trying to push up from positions about 150 miles away, north of Canton.

Cherbourg Still Practically Useless Stimson Reveals

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—The mystery of the limited Allied offensive in Normandy got its first real illumination today when secretary of war Stimson disclosed that the port of Cherbourg captured a month ago, was so completely wrecked by the enemy that it still is all but useless to the Allies.

In a discussion of beachhead operations at a news conference, the secretary, just returned from an inspection of the Normandy front, let it be known that virtually all men and supplies for the invasion forces still have to be landed on the D-day beaches.

In view of the staggering requirements in equipment and supply before a major offensive can be launched, the delay in get-

Reds Cross Vistula River



Underground reports quoted in Moscow said Russian infantry was storming across the Vistula river southeast of Warsaw after capturing Debiln and Rulawy. The German radio reported Bialystok, to the north, was evacuated. East of Warsaw, Russians were reported pressing a frontal attack, and in the south the capture of Delatyn put Russian forces within 20 miles of the Czech border. (AP Wirephoto.)

Present Meat Points Remain Until Aug. 13

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—Current point values on all rationed meats and dairy products will be continued until at least August 13, the office of price administration announced today.

The decision was in effect a postponement for two weeks of the war food administration's recent directive ordering OPA to remove most beef steaks and roasts from rationing by August 1. The directive also "authorized" restoration of point values to pork loins and hams.

OPA protested that enforcement of the directive would disrupt cattle prices and flood the retail market with an excess of ration points.

OPA also announced that three more 10-point red stamps—A-5, B-5 and C-5—in ration book four will become valid Sunday for buying meats, fats and dairy products. They will be good indefinitely.

Berlin Cut Off From Outside World Again

LONDON, Friday, July 28 (AP)—Berlin was cut off from the outside world last night under circumstances much the same as the night before announcement of the attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler.

Contracts Awarded

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 27 (AP)—Contracts for four additional AP5 transports have been received by Vancouver's Kaiser shipyard, Mike Miller, manager, told workers at the launching today of the USS Pondera, fifth of the AP5 series.

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ting this one major port in the beachhead area into operation would be enough to explain the apparently slow progress in Normandy.

US Sinks 10 Ships At Palau

Americans Also Destroy 26 Nip Planes in Raid

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, July 27 (AP)—Ten Japanese ships, one a destroyer, were sunk and 26 planes wiped out in a two-day American task force assault on Palau, gateway to the Philippines, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced tonight.

Confirming Tokyo radio reports Wednesday of the attack on that western Carolines naval base and adjacent islands, Nimitz said carrier planes routed Palau's air force the first day, Monday. The raiders, who lost five planes but only one pilot, were not bothered by Nipponese planes Tuesday.

In addition to the destroyer, an oiler, a destroyer escort or minesweeper and seven small cargo ships were sunk in the attacks which took in Yap and Ulithi islands. Many smaller craft also were destroyed.

The sinkings increased to 53 the total of enemy ships in all categories from carriers down to destroyers sent to the bottom since the beginning of the Marianas drive June 10. Four other ships probably have been sunk and 17 plus damaged.

Marines Spread Out

Nimitz' communique tonight reported that Second and Fourth division marines had spread out on invaded Tinian in the Marianas over one-third of the island's north portion, while killing Japs at a rate of better than 19 for each Leatherneck slain.

Enemy dead total 2089 and 62 other troops have been captured. American casualties through July

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Union Against Mexican Help In Canneries

Any move to bring Mexican laborers into canneries here will be opposed by the cannery workers' union "until and unless" certain other steps have been taken to solve the cannery personnel problem, the union advised the Salem cannerymen's committee Thursday.

Not because of opposition to Mexicans as fellow workers would object, but because we are convinced that there is enough labor right here to handle the job if the labor in turn is handled correctly."

By and large, cannery employers of Salem have made no move to obtain a 1944 wage scale, have refused to agree to the overtime provisions of the union contract and have thus failed to provide pay and conditions commensurate with those offered in competing industries, union representatives charged.

The stand was taken at a meeting to which non-union as well

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Ceiling Prices For Peaches Set

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—The war food administration announced today ceiling prices on canned and frozen peaches will be set at levels permitting canners and packers to pay growers an average of \$60 a ton for the fresh fruit in all states except California, where the average would be \$50.

Letter Introduced In Conspiracy Trial

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—A letter purportedly written in 1941 by William Dudley Pelley to Maj. Gen. George Van Horn Moseley of the US army, outlining plans "to alter the course of American history in the next two to four years," was introduced in evidence by the government today in the sedition conspiracy trial.

Killed



Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, above, former commander US ground forces, has been killed in Normandy. In this picture he wears the purple heart awarded for wounds received from shrapnel on the Tunisia front last year. (AP Wirephoto.)

Lt. Gen. McNair Dies in France; War Toll Given

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, intrepid "brains of the army," has been killed in Normandy, and coincidentally it was announced that World War 2 has exacted a greater toll of dead and wounded Americans than the entire 1917-18 conflict.

Both announcements were made today by the war department. Chief of Staff George C. Marshall said the highest accolade an officer can pay a colleague, when he called the 61-year-old McNair the brains behind the ground forces he built from scratch to a mighty war machine.

The general, wounded once on an inspection tour of the Tunisian battlefields more than a year ago, was on special assignment in Normandy.

Enough Funds Secured For McNary Picture

Funds sufficient to secure the services of a good portrait artist have been subscribed for the picture of the late Sen. Charles L. McNary which is to hang in the state capital building here. Sen. Frederick S. Lampert, appointed by Gov. Snell as treasurer of the fund, reported Thursday that \$3500 had been raised.

The committee to select the artist consists of Mrs. McNary, Elizabeth Putnam, George B. Guthrie of Portland, and Lampert.

Argentine to Be Excluded From Postwar Peace Talks

WASHINGTON, July 27 (AP)—The Argentine government, by its continuing support of the axis, is considered in official quarters here to have forfeited its right to sit down with the United Nations in important war and postwar conferences, including whatever peace conferences may be held.

This exclusion policy, already invoked at the Bretton Woods monetary conference, has been given a new and more permanent base by last night's official United States declaration denouncing Argentina as a "deserter" of the allied cause.

One immediate result will be that the Argentine government will have no part in the talks this fall between the United States

Yankees Drive Within 5 Miles Of Coutances

Germans in Chaotic Retreat As American Push Smashes All Organized Resistance

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Friday, July 28 (AP)—Lightning US tank columns shattered the Germans' western Normandy line yesterday in a sudden breakthrough that plunged the enemy into chaotic retreat and drove to within five miles of strategic Coutances, whose fall might trap the entire 84th corps of seven battered Nazi divisions.

The American armor that fashioned the sensational breakthrough was not identified. German broadcasts recently said that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton and his armored corps were in Normandy ready for action.

Thundering lines of tanks, half-tracks and self-propelled artillery, revealed by supreme headquarters for the first time to be striking in divisional strength in the greatest armored blow since D-day, smashed all organized resistance, field commanders declared.

Without a fight the enemy yielded the old sea coast stronghold of Lessay, 12 miles north of Coutances, and Periers to the west, and fled south under a hail of bombs and shell fire to try to make a stand, possibly behind Coutances.

But the midnight communique disclosed that besides the column driving head-on toward Coutances from the east a second column fanned out four miles southwest of fallen Canisy in what may be an outflanking threat to that next stop on the American drive deeper into France.

Field dispatches said one armored finger had stabbed to Cerisy La Salle, seven miles southwest of Canisy and 7 1/2 miles southeast of Coutances.

The column heading straight down the road toward the city had enveloped Camprond, north of the highway and less than five miles from Coutances.

With a third column slashing the road 6 1/2 miles south of St. Lo, and with two more columns crashing through the enemy's lines east of St. Lo, a front line broadcast declared jubilantly:

"Today the Americans have broken out of the beachhead. Today we are on our way into France proper."

Development Commission Sets Meeting

Western public lands policy, trade relations with Alaska, the Pacific islands and the orient, markets for food products, industrial expansion, a northwest interstate coordinated highway program and postwar scenic and recreational development will be discussed at the conference of the Northwest States Development commission in Portland on August 11 and 12.

Announcing the program Thursday, Gov. Earl Snell said that governors of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming and their advisers would participate in the conference. Gov. C. A. Bottolfsen, Idaho, is conference chairman.

State Highway Engineer R. H. Baldock and State Engineer C. E. Stricklin, with Gov. Snell, are Oregon's representatives on the commission.

The governors will participate in a ship launching in Portland and will inspect Bonneville dam August 11.

Thumbnail Of War!

By the Associated Press

Russian Front — Soviet troops capture Bialystok and Stanislawow and penetrate Brest-Litovsk and surge across the Vistula in a smash that takes them within 30 miles of Warsaw.

Invasion Front — Lightning US tank columns shattered the German's western Normandy lines in a sudden breakthrough that put the enemy in retreat and drove within five miles of strategic Coutances.

Italian Front — Vengeful Polish troops pushed 17 miles beyond the captured port of Ancona and seized Senigallia at the mouth of the Misa river only 22 miles from Pesaro.

Pacific — Reconnaissance planes for American artillery today using Ushi point airfield on Tinian island while southward on Guam US assault forces closed in on the trapped defenders of the important Orote peninsula.