

Key Burma Stronghold Falls to Stilwell's Forces

(Story in Column 2)

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

While congress is hitch-hiking through August by three-day recesses, committees are at work on special business of prime importance. Months ago the Baruch-Hancock report was filed with the president, who issued certain executive orders to put recommendations into effect. Needed however was accompanying legislation. Congress however passed but one bill in this field before its summer recess, that dealing with contract termination.

With the war seeming to be rushing to an end in Europe the phrase, taken from the sundial, which was used so freely in 1940-41 in speeding preparation for war, "It is later than you think," seems applicable; and members of congress are now working in Washington to speed up the needed legislation to ease the change from war to peace.

About four committees are carrying the principal work. There is the senate committee on post-war economic policy and planning, headed by Sen. Walter George of Georgia, which has held extensive hearings. Sen. George is also head of the senate finance committee which is considering bills that have been proposed. The senate military affairs committee, Sen. Reynolds of North Carolina, chairman, is meeting today to consider demobilization problems and disposal of war plants. There is however, some demand to move these subjects over to the senate finance committee.

Then there is the committee considering problems of small business. Sen. Murray of Montana, chairman, which has been holding hearings along

(Continued on editorial page)

Army Seizes Philadelphia Transportation

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 4 (Friday)—(AP)—Several thousand Philadelphia transportation company employees voted tonight to return to their jobs on the government-seized transport lines but later revoked their decision in a renewal of the racial issue that precipitated the walkout.

James McMenamin, head of the workers' general emergency committee, told the men jubilantly at one mass meeting that "we have won. There are no negro operators."

He told a second meeting a few hours later, however, that the employees had been "misinformed" and said the men would stay out "until such time as we get a written guarantee that there will be no further hiring of colored operators and no further instruction of colored operators now in training."

Meanwhile, in the first disorders in the city's negro sections since Wednesday midnight, a 13-year old negro boy, identified as Franklin Howard, was hit in the chest by a bullet fired from an automobile which police said contained two white men.

Police also investigated a report that gunfire was heard in another part of the same North Philadelphia section.

China Troops Smash Into Tengchung

CHUNGKING, Aug. 3 (AP)—Chinese forces in Yunnan province, striving to join Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's troops in Burma and open a land supply route from India into blockaded China, have broken into Tengchung, largest city west of the Salween, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

The Chinese entered the city yesterday and a battle with the enemy garrison is in progress, said the communique. Tengchung is a principal objective in the Chinese Salween river offensive.

Bitter fighting continued in Hunan province, where encircled Hengyang has resisted Japanese attacks for five weeks. The high command reported Chinese relief columns were trying to knife their way through the Japanese lines to aid the battered defenders.

King George Returns From Italy Battlefield

LONDON, Friday, Aug. 4 (AP)—King George VI, returning to Britain by air after a 10-day tour of the battlefields in Italy, declared in a message tonight that the Germans had been "out-generalled and out-fought" on the Italian battlefields. The message was addressed to Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, commander-in-chief of the Mediterranean theater.

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Yanks Roll Towards Brest, St. Nazaire

Myitkyina Captured By Allies

Nippon Garrison Holds Out Since Last May 17

COLOMBO, Ceylon, Friday, Aug. 4 (AP)—Myitkyina, largest town in northern Burma, has fallen to the forces of Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell as a climax of a siege which began last May 17, an allied announcement said today.

The Japanese garrison held out to the last. All remnants were killed or captured in the final cleanup. More than 3000 were known killed during two and one-half months of fighting.

The siege of Myitkyina began when Brig. Gen. Frank Merrill's Marauders swept out of the hills and captured Pamati air field after a 20-day forced march over 112 miles of perilous terrain.

The city, terminus of the trunk railway from Rangoon, capital of Burma, had been occupied by the Japanese for two years. Allied forces have held the main airport there for weeks, but the Japanese garrison clung stubbornly to sections of the town.

Myitkyina has been the heart of Japanese activity in northern Burma.

Lamb Market Glut Dissolves Packer Says

The glut in the lamb market is about over, in the opinion of Claude Steusloff, president of the Valley Packing company. It was blamed on the inability of packers to handle accumulated stocks rushed to market as the result of pastures drying up in the extreme warm weather.

This rush is now past and the Valley Packing company has bought all finished lambs offered it for the last several days and expects to continue to do so within its own territory, it was declared. Feeder lambs are not bought, however.

Many growers have put their lambs on summer pasture and will market them as fat lambs. Meanwhile, growers who have no summer pasture available, will find a market for their lambs now that the rush to sell is past its peak, the Salem packer believes.

Despite war time conditions the ration points are only one of the factors involved, Steusloff said. Spring lambs in Salem are now quoted at \$10 to \$11 and yearling lambs at \$7 to \$7.50.

Tax Levy Will Be Announced

The state income tax levy for the next fiscal year, based on property valuations, will be made known by the state tax commission next Tuesday or Wednesday, Charles V. Galloway, commission chairman, announced here Thursday.

GOP Governors Take Swings At Roosevelt Administration

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 3 (AP)—Republican governors neared the end of a politically significant conference here tonight, took new swings at the Roosevelt administration and broke out in a rash of predictions of election victories in state after state.

They completed three more items of a 14-point declaration of principles, leaving five to go.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, the presidential nominee, who is leading the meeting, said a statement of general conclusions also was nearing approval. But it and the five remaining points will be released tomorrow morning.

A report on agriculture assailed "impractical and whimsical restraints" which the governors said

Russians Shatter Nazi Line



Three Russian ferry pilots and a US infantry officer (second from right) look aloft for US-built planes to arrive from Fairbanks on the way to the Russian front, stopping off at Nome. The field is the last stop on the ferry route of lend-lease planes flown by Russians from Alaska to the front. This picture is by Grant MacDonald, AP photographer with the wartime still picture pool. AP Wirephoto

Grand Ronde Bank Robbers Still Missing

No trace of the two men who Wednesday held up J. C. Barry, cashier of the Bank of Grand Ronde and robbed the institution of approximately \$12,000, had been found Thursday night, state police announced.

Working on the theory that after leaving the bank the two drove away in an automobile with the intention of reaching Portland, all main highways and a number of side roads in all directions from Grand Ronde were patrolled constantly while descriptions of the men were sent to officers in coast states.

Criminal identification records, both in Salem and in Portland, were searched to determine whether men answering descriptions of the bank robbers were found to have criminal histories. One of the robbers was described as 40 years old, with red hair, while the other was said to be about 35 years of age.

A light-colored automobile, seen on Grand Ronde streets a few hours prior to the robbery had not been located Thursday.

Hemingway Helps Capture 6 Nazis

WITH THE US FIRST ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 3 (AP)—Ernest Hemingway, the American novelist, matched the action of his fiction by taking part in the capture of six Germans.

Hemingway entered Percy with Sgt. Herbert Kimbrough, Van Buren, Ark., army photographer. French resistance men told them six Germans were hiding in a cellar.

Hemingway and Kimbrough took up positions nearby and the photographer tossed a grenade into the cellar. The Germans came up without any more fight.

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"Anything I might say or do as a member of the committee would be construed as political," he said. "It is best for me to leave it entirely."

Pope Pius Receives Three High Officials

NEW YORK, Aug. 3 (AP)—The vatican radiob, recorded by the federal communications commission, reported tonight in an English-language broadcast that Pope Pius had received Myron Taylor, President Roosevelt's representative to the vatican, Brig. Gen. Thomas Churchill and a Col. Hoover.

Yank Troops Gain 2 Miles In Guam Drive

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Aug. 3 (AP)—A two-mile advance Wednesday by American troops on Guam, made against increasing Japanese resistance and over rough, wooded terrain, was reported today by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

This placed the reconquerors of Guam well into the upper third of the island, southernmost of the Marianas group. It gave them control of an important road junction, north of a ridge that extended nearly across the island.

The hard-driving Yanks were advancing with the continuing support of carrier-based aircraft. Those planes yesterday flew low over enemy fortifications and storage areas in the northern end of Guam to shatter targets with bombs and rocket fire.

Nimitz reported that the American flag was raised formally over Tinian island, 125 miles north of Guam, yesterday. Scattered remnants of the garrison of that conquered island were being flushed out of caves and dugouts by marines.

Truman Quits Committee Job

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3 (AP)—Sen. Harry S. Truman gave up today the chairmanship of the senate war investigating committee in order to free himself for a vigorous campaign as President Roosevelt's fourth term running mate.

Sen. James M. Mead (D-NY) is expected to be elected his successor tomorrow.

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Nazis Renew Robot Salvos On England

LONDON, Aug. 3 (AP)—The nazis renewed their flying bomb salvos against London and southern England tonight after a late afternoon respite from a damaging 14-hour blasting that was a record for length and severity.

Night explosions increased the casualties and destruction as rescuers still dug for victims among the rubble of some of the dwellings, business houses and the 10 hospitals hit in the day's barrage of horror missiles.

Nazis Claim Ship Sinkings

LONDON, Aug. 3 (AP)—The German radio claimed today the sinking of a British cruiser, two destroyers, two corvettes and two freighters, on an American Liberty ship freighter, in a series of early morning attacks in the Seine bay. There was no allied confirmation.

The broadcast claimed the sinkings were caused by "weapons recently employed at the German navy," interpreted here as probably meaning human torpedoes.

The broadcast asserted the cruiser "was torpedoed at close range at 3:42 a.m., broke in two and was abandoned" and that other craft were sunk at intervals.

Nazis Turn Over Maps of England

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Aug. 3 (AP)—The Germans have turned over the maps they once planned to use to invade England, and on the back sides of them have printed maps of the territory they now are trying to defend in France.

This was reported by a high-ranking officer at supreme headquarters today who displayed a captured German war map of St. Lo which the nazis, short of paper and long since discouraged in the matter of invading Britain, had printed on the back of a map covering a section of England.

Russians Shatter Nazi Line

Vistula Crossed In Two Places By Surging Reds

LONDON, Friday, Aug. 4 (AP)—Red army troops shattered the axis Vistula river line in Poland yesterday, smashing 15 miles beyond that last natural defense barrier short of the "holy soil" of Germany in a broad flow of men and tanks that flanked burning Warsaw and sped toward German Silesia; only 100 miles away.

The Vistula, which a desperate enemy had attempted to hold with reinforcements sent from central German reservoirs, was crossed 110 miles south of besieged Warsaw on a front nearly 19 miles wide between Koprzywnica and Polaniec.

German broadcasts also said that another strong bridgehead was established on the west bank near Warka, only 30 miles southeast of Warsaw, where Polish patriots were fighting the Germans in the streets, but Moscow did not confirm that enemy announcement.

The west bank towns of Koprzywnica and Polaniec fell to the Russians, a Moscow communique said, along with Sleszow, 15 miles west of the swift-flowing Vistula. By seizing Polaniec the Russians were only 60 miles northeast of Krakow, Poland's fifth largest city.

Russian troops were reported even nearer ancient German soil in western Lithuania, attacking toward East Prussia on a broad front. Moscow dispatches said these units were only three miles from East Prussia.

Nazis Ordered To Take Root

LONDON, Aug. 3 (AP)—Moscow broadcast tonight that a captured order from Col. Gen. Sherner, recently named by Hitler commander of the northern German armies, showed "with complete clarity" the hopelessness of the German positions in the Baltic states.

Sherner, said Moscow, called for defense of every inch of ground with "burning patriotism," adding "we must root ourselves to the earth."

To this Moscow succinctly added: "The general ordered his men to 'take root' in the earth—they certainly will, but not in the manner he supposed, for the Baltic is becoming one enormous cemetery for the German forces."

Los Angeles Cool

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3 (AP)—Last month was the coolest July in 64 years, the weather bureau said today. The average temperature was 66.6 degrees, compared with a normal of 70.2 degrees.

WFA's "A" Flag Presented to Paulus Bros. for Achievement

The green, white and blue "A" flag of the war food administration banner is out today above Paulus Bros. packing plant in Salem.

To the world it advertises accomplishments judged truly outstanding in efficient utilization of existing facilities for wartime production, ingenuity and cooperation with the government in developing and producing war food products and overcoming of production obstacles.

Many capital city residents will see in it recognition for long hours of physically hard and mentally exacting work performed by at least two distinct groups of persons: Those described by the company's management as "experienced employees who have worked with us so faithfully for so many years" and the other group which that same management terms "food-saving commandos who have given up cherished spare leisure hours after a day's work elsewhere

US Captures Rennes, Capital Of Brittany

Other American Columns Advance 20 Miles East of Avranches on Paris Road

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Aug. 3 (AP)—A mighty tide of US troops and armor swept up Brittany's capital and main rail city of Rennes today and rolled on unchecked toward the prize ports of Brest and St. Nazaire along roads littered with the wreckage of enemy tanks and vehicles.

The powerful force that brushed past resistance at Rennes pounded on south toward St. Nazaire, the Nazi U-boat base less than 60 miles away, after traveling 40 miles in 24 hours in the invasion's swiftest dash.

Another great force of triumphant Yanks headed straight west across the Breton peninsula toward Brest, and probably already was well past Dinan after breaking across the Rance river, 110 miles east of the second port of France where their fathers landed to fight the first World war.

Behind them, other forces methodically widened the corridor through which these forces were pouring into Brittany from Normandy, pushing 20 miles east of Avranches to Mortain on the road to Paris.

While making the American breakthrough into Brittany more secure, this force also was executing a broad outflanking movement against remaining enemy positions along the 150-mile front and was tightening the noose on six enemy divisions already in mad flight to the north.

This once-proud force of two enemy armored and four infantry divisions, which had held back the allied advance east of Granville, was on the run before a four and one-half mile gap was closed below Vire, abandoning tanks and other heavy equipment.

Following up swiftly in a seven-mile advance from the southwest, American forces pushed to within a mile of St. Sever-Calvados, midway between Vire and Villiedieu-Les-Poels.

In a fruitless attempt to stall their pursuers, the Germans drove French civilians out into the highways in the path of the American advance, but the non-combatants were shunted off to temporary camps.

It appeared that the Germans, far from offering a threat to the Normandy-Brittany corridor, were pulling out of the whole salient between their fallen road centers of Mortain and Vire.

Col. Edmund Starling Dies From Pneumonia

NEW YORK, Aug. 3 (AP)—Col. Edmund W. Starling, 69, retired head of the White House detail of the US secret service, died today at St. Luke's hospital where he had been under treatment for pneumonia since July 14. He had guarded five presidents.

Thumbnail Of War!

Invasion Front—US armored troops swept through Rennes and on towards the prize ports of Brest and St. Nazaire, the Nazi U-boat base less than 60 miles away.

Polish Front—Soviet troops smashed far beyond the shattered German Vistula river line in Poland, and sped toward German Silesia, only 100 miles away.

In the Air—Flying bomb salvos against London were renewed as heavy squadrons of RAF bombers ripped at German robot bomb bases in Europe.

The Pacific—Four more Japanese suicide attacks were thrown back in the Aitape area of British New Guinea; American forces continue conquest of Guam with aid of carrier-based aircraft.

Weather

Maximum temperature Thursday 80 degrees; minimum 54; no rain; river -3 ft. 3 in. Clear except cloudy north coast Friday and entire coast Saturday; warmer in Willamette valley and east of Cascades.