

A member of the Farmers Union came into the office Tuesday with blood-in-the-eye, bringing a tearheet from the National Union Farmer. Most of page eight was taken up with an advertisement of the "National Citizens Political Action Committee" which appears to be either a holding company for the CIO political action committee or a subsidiary.

But what made this Oregon FU member indignant was the story at the top of the page that Pres. James G. Patton of the NFU had accepted the position of vice-chairman of this National Citizens Political Action Committee, of which Hon. George W. Norris is honorary chairman and Sidney Hillman, of CIO and of the American Labor party, is chairman. The member's protest was the attempt to herd Farmers Union members into the Roosevelt camp.

Undoubtedly the same reaction will be encountered among other members of the farm organization here and in other states. The action of Patton, however, is not surprising. He has been a stand-out among farm organization leaders in support of the national administration and of administration politics. He backed the program for continuance of subsidies, staunchly backed the FSA when it was under attack and has given the national publication a decided leftist slant, making it more like a labor paper than a farmer paper.

Many Oregon members of the union have been irked at his tie-up with the new deal party. At the spring state convention Oregon farmers spoke out against subsidies but the vote on the question (Continued on Editorial Page)

Molotov Talks With 2 Rival Pole Regimes

MOSCOW, Aug. 8 (AP)—Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov conferred at the Kremlin tonight for more than two hours with Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk of the Polish government-in-exile and representatives of the Soviet-sponsored Polish committee of national liberators.

It was the first time in the Soviet union that the two rival Polish regimes were represented at the same conference table.

In an atmosphere summed up by a member of the London Polish group as "friendly," Molotov presided at the session in his study.

Foreign Minister Tadeusz Romer of the Polish London government and 73-year-old Prof. Grabzki, Polish boundary expert, were among those present.

The proceedings were entirely informal and no statement was issued later by the Polish premier.

US Destroys 13 Nip Planes At Halmahera

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—Thirteen parked airplanes were destroyed in a raid upon Halmahera island, stepping stone between New Guinea and the Philippines, headquarters announced today.

Halmahera is an island octopus, one tentacle of which is about 200 miles west of the foremost Allied base at Sansapor, Dutch New Guinea, and another of which is 300 miles south of Mindanao.

Liberators from New Guinea bases smashed Galela and Lolobata airdromes on Halmahera with 48 tons of bombs Monday. They also damaged a 3000 ton merchantman.

Headquarters also reported that the Japanese were rushing troops from Wewak, in British New Guinea, to the Driunorun front about 20 miles east of Aitape, to reinforce units under attack by American forces there.

Car Strikes, Kills Child

Three-year-old Robert Woodruff, son of Mrs. Geraldine Woodruff, 1565 North 18th street, died in a Salem hospital Tuesday afternoon four hours after he had been struck by a car on 18th street near his home.

Avis Mae Stenerson, 890 North 18th street, driver of the car, told city police that she failed to see the lad but knew the car had struck a child when the bumper touched him. She was driving north and Bobby was crossing the street from east to west, police reported.

Rommel Being "Cured"

NEW YORK, Aug. 8 (AP)—The Berlin radio recorded by US government monitors, said tonight that German Field Marshal Gen. Erwin Rommel, second in command on the western front who was injured during an allied air raid July 17, "is being cured" in a hospital.

Germans Hit Soviet Stonewall

Counterattacks Slow Red Drive All Along Front

LONDON, Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—The Germans are launching desperate counterattacks along virtually all of the 1000-mile eastern front but are being "bled white," Moscow reported today as it appeared that the nazis had managed to stem the red army advance by drawing heavily on their dwindling central reserves.

An early-morning supplement to the soviet war bulletin underscored the German counter-blows in nearly every sector but asserted flatly that all were repulsed and added, "Our troops are stubbornly advancing."

Yank Forces Cleaning Up Guam Drive

By LEIF ERICKSON US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Aug. 8 (AP)—Fast-driving American forces cleaning up the Guam campaign have surged north the last six and one half miles up Guam's west coast, captured 870-foot Mt. Santa Rosa dominating the northeast shore and have pushed a center wedge threatening to cut the last, doomed Japanese in two.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced the successes today in a communique which listed the counted enemy dead since the invasion opened July 20 at more than 10,000—not taking into account the Japanese buried en masse in a cemetery since overrun by the Yanks.

The west coast advance carried the marines and soldiers to Ft. Ritidian.

The east coast force pushed ahead more than three miles close to Anao point, an equal distance from the northeast tip.

The central wedge is within less than a mile of the north edge of the island, making the line resemble the letter W.

Japanese pinned into the northeast corner of Guam are in an area of little more than 15 square miles.

Suit Will Try To Keep Bill Off Ballots

The suit, now in preparation, to keep the so-called Little Townsend plan off Oregon's November ballot, if filed, will attack the proposed amendment as a violation of Article XVII of the state constitution.

This was the understanding of attorneys here Tuesday, who maintained that the little Townsend plan embraces two amendments. Article XVII provides that two or more amendments submitted to the voters must be voted upon separately.

One provision of the plan prohibits a sales tax in Oregon while the other provides for a tax levy sufficient to pay qualified citizens of the state who have attained the age of 60 years an annuity of not less than \$80 a month. Persons over 18 years of age totally disabled or blind would receive a similar monthly allowance.

Hershey Launches Ship

PORTLAND, Aug. 8 (AP)—Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national selective service director, helped launch the tanker Beason Rock tonight. Mrs. Hershey christened the Kaiser-built vessel.

PORTLAND, Aug. 8 (AP)—A sharp conflict over post-war unemployment compensation payments to discharged war workers broke out on the floor today immediately after the senate got down to work on overall legislation to cushion the economic impact of any sudden German collapse.

Republican arguments that the Murray-Kilgore bill to set up a super reconversion agency with authority to require payments up to \$35 a week would shackle labor under government domination was countered by Sen. Wagner (D-NY) who urged:

"Let us not be blinded by the lobby of state bureaucrats who come down here and tell us to do nothing whatsoever that may affect them."

Sen. George (D-Ga.), author of a republican-supported measure to

leave the fixing of unemployment rates to the states, but to bring \$500,000 government workers under their coverage and guarantee the solvency of state unemployment funds, took a shot at the rival bill by declaring "it would be most unwise to approve any system which would induce idleness."

Following up the attack in a statement, Sen. Willis (R-Ind) denounced the Murray-Kilgore bill as a measure to "Hillmanize and Sovietize labor, by shackling re-employment under complete domination of government."

But Sen. Kilgore (D-WVa), arguing that "economic chaos is infinitely more costly than measures to prevent it," said average jobless payments of \$1250 a year under his bill would not exceed \$7,000, 600,000 over a period of two and a half years.

Senate Split Widens as Solons Tackle Reconversion Issue

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8 (AP)—The United States Army in France, Aug. 8 (AP) Among battle highlights:

Normandy cider rather than allied weapons caused the downfall of one group of nazis.

Four German soldiers found in a cider house with cups upraised and rifles stacked outside were captured by a squad led by Sgt. Thomas Mashburn of Abilene, Tex.

Ten other reeling Germans who already had quaffed the brew were picked up in the same vicinity.

Allied Powers Sign Shipping Pool Extension

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8 (AP)—The United States, Britain and other allied shipping powers signed in London today an extension of their present shipping pool agreement insuring that when Germany has been defeated there will be an adequate pooling of tonnage to carry on the war against Japan.

Salem Has 2 Polio Cases, Neither Bad

While the bows beneath the worst epidemic of infantile paralysis in 1916, Marion county was comparatively free to date. The disease, although twofold in polio have been reported within Salem's limits, Dr. Stone, county health officer, Tuesday night.

Both capital city cases are apparently mild. Neither of the children affected is paralyzed; both are under 10 years of age, and neither had in recent weeks used city swimming pools so far as Stone has been informed.

The two cases are in the east end of Salem, although the residences are separated by more than a half mile and the children have never met. They have been isolated.

First case of polio here this year resulted in the death of a Willamette university student.

(For the national polio situation see page 2)

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New Finnish Cabinet Has Red Friends

STOCKHOLM, Aug. 8 (AP)—A new Finnish cabinet, obviously picked to clear the way for peace feelers to Russia, was announced in Helsinki tonight.

The new president, Marshal Carl Gustav Mannerheim, picked as his premier Hannu Hackzell, former minister to Russia and twice foreign minister in the 1930's.

The cabinet was made up of men regarded as experts on Russia and excluded such anti-Russian figures as outgoing Premier Edwin Linkomies and Finance Minister Valno Tanner.

Carl J. A. Enckell became foreign minister, a post he held in 1918-19 and 1922-24. Enckell's connections with Russia date back to 1917, when he was Finnish secretary of state in Russia, signed the Finnish independence agreement with Nikolai Lenin, and subsequently was diplomatic representative to Russia from the new Finnish republic.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8 (AP)—The United States and Great Britain today signed a pact on oil policy designed to prevent peacetime disputes between the two allies and serve as a prime weapon to enforce peace.

The agreement, negotiated by Acting Secretary of State Stettinius for this country and Lord Beaverbrook for Britain, is the first pact dealing directly with post-war trade and security.

Both countries agreed that it shall go into effect when each has notified the other "of its readiness."

The agreement looks toward an eventual international oil conference and the establishment of an international commission which would make recommendations to governments on how companies should produce and sell petroleum.

Normandy Cider Brings Downfall to One Group Of German Soldiers

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Canadians Launch Paris Drive; Hengyang Finally Falls to Japs

Chinese Fight To Last Man

Heroic Defense Of Six Weeks Took Heavy Toll

CHUNGKING, Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—A grim, dramatic message from within walled Hengyang left little doubt today that the city after an heroic stand of more than six weeks, was completely in the hands of Japanese forces and the way open for the Japanese to drive down the remainder of the Canton-Hankow railway to secure their control of a 1000-mile band across China.

The commander within the city notified Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek at 7 p.m. Monday that the Chinese defenders had been killed almost to the last man, and concluded:

"I am afraid this may be my last message to you."

(The Tokyo radio yesterday claimed complete occupation of the embattled city, and said Gen. Fang Hsien Chiao, commander of the 10th Chungking army, had surrendered. The broadcast asserted that four Chungking divisions and supporting American forces were wiped out and the city was occupied at 8 a.m. yesterday. Sixty American officers and men took part in the final battle, Tokyo said, but there was no confirmation from Allied sources.)

Conquest of Hengyang apparently has cost the Japanese dearly. On July 25, after a month's fighting, the Chinese high command claimed 14,000 of the invaders storming the city had been killed. In addition, heavy tolls have been taken by planes of Maj. Gen. Clair L. Chennault's 14th US air force both in the number of river and land supply craft and troop carriers, and in the numbers of troops killed by the planes in widespread strafing and bombing attacks throughout Hunan province.

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The rumor that Gestapo Chief Himmler was dead came from the British front in Normandy. That report, received with the utmost reserve in London, said a newly-captured German intelligence officer related that Himmler had been killed and Goering, Hitler's second in command, wounded. Other prisoners offered to corroborate the officer's story, but all the captives' information was based on what they had been told and not what they themselves had observed.

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Yanks Blast Jap Shipping



Smoke rises from four burning Japanese ships at Haha Jima in the Bonin islands as five navy Helldivers head back to their carriers. In these early July attacks, just 600 miles from Tokyo, US planes sank 15 ships, damaged 20 others and shot down or damaged 123 enemy planes. (Associated Press photo from US navy.)

Himmler Reported Dead; 8 Nazi Officers Hanged

LONDON, Aug. 8 (AP)—Eight expelled army officers were hanged today in the Hitler assassination purge, Berlin announced amid rumors—unsubstantiated by German or by allied authorities—that Heinrich Himmler had been killed and Hermann Goering wounded in a new outbreak against the Nazi regime.

Official broadcasts said Field Marshal Erwin von Witzleben was hanged with seven colleagues for their confessed participation in the July 20 conspiracy to kill Adolf Hitler and surrender Germany to the allies.

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US Heavy Bombers Open Holes in Nazi Lines for Assault

Some Yank Bombs Hit Allied Lines By Mistake; Onrushing Americans Pounding at Gateway of Le Mans

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Wednesday, Aug. 9 (AP)—The Canadians in their first great offensive in France smashed five miles yesterday into some of the strongest enemy lines before Paris, whose defenses 110 miles to the southwest were imperiled by onrushing Americans pounding at the gateway of Le Mans.

More than 1000 US heavy bombers—defying flak as intense as any met over Europe—shattered bristling strong points below Caen on the shortest route to Paris. Canadians tanks and infantry poured through the breaches and fought down the road to about 110 miles from the capital.

One by one enemy strongholds which had blocked the Paris highway since D-day were rolled up, and last night the Canadians were reported engaging the enemy at Cintheaux, 8 1/2 miles south of Caen.

Bombs Hit Allies

The advance was not without its cost, for flak shot down one of the lead bombers, and its formation loosed some of its cargo on allied positions, causing casualties reminiscent of those on the American front in the breakout bombing west of St. Lo.

Canadian tanks and infantry raced through the dust pall across the rolling wheatlands and pastures, seized the hamlet of Gaummesnil, and faced east to engage 20 Tiger tanks forming for a counter-thrust.

Then miles beyond the point of farthest advance reported yesterday, Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's doughboys were closing in on Le Mans—by German accounts in force—and one dispatch said vanguards had reached the big railroad and highway center.

Anniversary Day

These developments fell on the 26th anniversary of Germany's blackest hour in the first world war, when the Kaiser's high command decided that further resistance was hopeless.

But today, despite the crumbling defenses of Normandy and Brittany, the enemy fought fiercely—below Vire, before the British across the Orne southwest of Caen, and in the doomed north Brittany port of St. Malo.

Lines Sway

In the Vire pocket, the lines swayed around Cherence-de-Roussel, where four enemy tank divisions which tried to break through the Avranches corridor were being ground to pieces between American armor striking from north, south and west.

In an advance of 10 miles southwest of Vire, the Americans overran Gathemo threatening to pinch off the enemy forces still fighting back with ever-feebler counterattacks around Cherence-le-Roussel.

On the north Brittany coast, American forces broke into the besieged port of St. Malo at three points, a front dispatch said, and fierce fighting raged in the ruined streets.

At Least Five Die in Crash

HAVANA, Aug. 8 (AP)—Five persons were dead and 12 unaccounted for in the crash of a Pan American airways four-engine clipper today at Nipe bay, Antilla.

The big ship, used by Pan American to blaze a trans-Pacific route from San Francisco to China in 1935, was en route from San Juan, P. R., to Miami with 31 persons aboard when the accident happened during a takeoff.

The plane sank and the full toll cannot be learned until salvage work, already begun, is completed. The cause of the crash is not immediately known.

All five members of the crew and nine passengers were saved.

Thumbnail Of War!

Invasion front—Canadians smash five miles into strong enemy positions, Yanks pound at door of Le Mans on road to Paris, Germans move reserves from southern France.

Aerial—Thousand American heavy bombers shatter strong points below Caen, France; others make shuttle blows against Romanian and Polish targets.

Russian—Germans launch desperate counterattacks along most of 1000-mile front but meet stone wall.

Pacific—Yanks on Guam threaten to cut remaining Japs in two; Chinese lose Hengyang after heroic six-week stand.

German home front—Hitler hangs eight army officers; Himmler reported assassinated.

THE ROAD TO BERLIN

1. Russian front: 322 miles (measured from eastern suburbs of Warsaw).