

By Charles A. Sprague

Skepticism is now quite general over the story of Adolf Hitler's "miraculous escape" from a bomb planted close to his person, in his headquarters. A regular contributor to The Nation, writing on European affairs under the pen-name of "Argus" out of necessity for concealing his identity, offers this comment regarding the bombing incident:

"What happened was the throwing of a bomb—a metaphorical bomb, since it is still uncertain that there was a real one. As this written, all signs indicate that there was not—that the colossal bomb whose explosion was so remarkably ineffective was one of Dr. Goebbels' inventions.

"Even less worthy of belief is the official representation that a so-called clique of generals and officers had attempted to "usurp" authority in an open coup d'etat. Every authentic detail that has come to light has indicated more clearly that the Nazis, as is the way with dictatorships, made a preventive move against a possible menace that had not taken definite form."

This confirms the view expressed in The Statesman that the affair was one of design, to head off a possible revolution or surrender and to consolidate power further in Nazi hands. That at least is

(Continued on Editorial page)

### Suit Filed to Keep Townsend Plan Off Ballot

Charging that at least six constitutional amendments would be required to put the so-called little Townsend plan to work in Oregon, and that the law requires that voters should be given an opportunity to approve or reject each such amendment separately, suit was filed Wednesday in Marion county circuit court to enjoin the secretary of state from certifying the initiative measure to county clerks for a place on the November ballot.

The complaint, made on relation of T. Lester Johnson, Sherman county district attorney, is brought against Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., Nellie Mabel Grewell, Henry C. Menasco and Joseph A. Williams, the latter three, all of Portland, initiators of the proposed amendment who will file the bill for the litigation should the sponsors of the suit be entirely victorious.

Separate amendments would be needed, the complainant alleges, to put into effect sections of the bill which would: (1) forbid levying a sales tax; (2) provide that in event of the death of the annuitant the regular monthly annuity would continue for another two months; (3) limit methods of application of specialities; (4) provide that employers may be required to deduct tax from employees' pay, and (5) permit the tax commission to suspend the tax or restore it according to action of the federal government in the same field, all in addition to (6) the plan proper.

W. S. U'Ren, Portland, is attorney for the sponsors of the suit.

### Americans Kill 1072 More Nips at Aitape

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Thursday, Aug. 10—(AP)—An additional 1072 Japanese have been killed in the Aitape sector of British New Guinea, headquarters announced today.

This is one of the heaviest battle tolls yet taken in that area. Americans have encircled Japanese front lines on the Drinimur river.

Remnants of the Japanese 18th army trapped in the Wewak area who had attempted to break westward through American lines now are on the defensive some 20 miles east of Aitape.

Headquarters also announced that an Allied Liberator bombed a 2000-ton Japanese freighter off Davao, Mindanao, in the southern Philippines Monday night.

Other Allied bombers raided Halmahera island between New Guinea and Mindanao, Yap island in the western Carolines, and Sorong and Manokwari, weakened Japanese bases in Dutch New Guinea west and east of the American beachhead at Sansapor.

### Father of 43 Children Now Has Quadruplets

BOGOTA, Colombia, Aug. 9—(AP)—The 75-year-old father of 43 children today became the father of quadruplets, the newspaper El Espectador reported.

He is Abjon Jaramillo, Amalfi artisan, who had 30 children by his first wife and 13 besides the new arrivals, by his second, the newspaper said, adding that details concerning the birth of the quadruplets were lacking.

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NINETY-FOURTH YEAR

12 PAGES

Salem, Oregon, Thursday Morning, August 10, 1944

Weather

Maximum temperature Wednesday 83 degrees; minimum 48; no rain; river -3 ft. 9 in. Partly cloudy Thursday and Friday with scattered thunderstorms in the mountains and in Cascades eastward Thursday afternoon; little change in temperature.

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## Soviets Grind Out Advances

### Nazis Slow But Don't Stop Red Summer Offense

LONDON, Thursday, Aug. 10—(AP)—Slowed but not stopped by desperate German counterattacks all along the eastern front, the Red Russian armies ground but nine to 12 miles in the battle of Latvia in the offensive northward toward Warsaw, and climbed higher in the Carpathians toward Czechoslovakia.

In telling of the day's furious fighting and hard-won advances, the Soviet midnight communique and an early-morning supplement over and over again used the phrases "stubborn resistance" and "repeated counterattacks," but said that in no case had these Nazi efforts succeeded.

**Draft Everyone**  
Thoroughly alarmed, the Germans drafted every able-bodied man and woman from 15 to 65 to dig trenches against the imminent entry of the Red army onto the "holy" soil of East Prussia.

It was there, too, that they put in the most frequent counterattacks, east of the border town of Schirwindt and northwest of Mariampole and on the flank of the widening Latvian corridor that is threatening Memelland.

But the Moscow radio, in a special air forces broadcast today, said all the digging would do the Germans little good, for Soviet planes, with a sixfold superiority in numbers, were attacking the Nazi defenses at will.

**Predict Advance**

It confidently predicted: "Soviet troops will advance farther and farther to the west until they link up with our Allies." Up and down the 1000-mile front the counterattacking Germans lost more than 3900 killed yesterday, said the Soviet war bulletin, while another 120 enemy tanks were destroyed or knocked out. It was the ninth consecutive day that the Russians had recorded loss of more than 100 tanks by the Nazis.

## Chinese May Be Fighting In Hengyang

CHUNGKING, Aug. 9—(AP)—Die-hard Chinese forces apparently were making good today their vow to fight to the death in battered Hengyang, opposing a Japanese assault to the last.

The Chinese high command said broken radio contact made the situation obscure inside the city, where street fighting last was reported. Tuesday night five generals headed by Hsien-Chueh, 39-year-old commander of the tenth Chinese army, sent a farewell message to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek declaring they would stick with their troops and die fighting.

Japanese troops broke into the suburbs of Yiyang, 60 miles northwest of Changsha, the Chinese high command said. The enemy was trying to take this town to guard his communications and ward off flank attacks.

## Clare Booth Luce Wins Renomination

GREENWICH, Conn., Aug. 9—(AP)—US Representative Clare B. Luce was renominated by acclamation for a second term tonight by the fourth district republican congressional convention and she immediately hit out at the administration in a speech which bristled with criticism of its policies and a condemnation of communism.

## Unemployment Plan Partisans Reject All Compromise Talk

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—(AP)—Spokesmen for and against uniform federal standards for postwar unemployment pay flatly rejected all talk of a compromise today as the senate engaged in increasingly bitter debate on the problem of reconverting the American economy to a peace-time basis.

Senator Revercomb (R-WVa) said that back of the Murray-Kilgore mobilization and adjustment bill calling for uniform standards of pay up to \$35 a week, was "a philosophy of government entirely foreign to America."

"We should be thinking of restoring individual freedoms to the people, rather than of setting up a

## 'Good Work, Colonel'



Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey (right), national director of selective service, congratulates Col. Elmer V. Wooton, Oregon selective service chieftain, on Oregon's "forward looking" organization. The picture was taken in the press room at the state capitol. (The Statesman photo)

## Politics Might Have Caused Transit Strike

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9—(AP)—Federal Judge George A. Welsh charged a special grand jury of 11 men and 2 women today to search out any political motive that may have been involved in the calling of Philadelphia's wildcat transit strike, declaring he could not be satisfied that the strikers were actuated solely "by the thought that eight negroes were going to be upgraded."

"I hope it (racial prejudice) was not the real reason," he said. "You have got to be cognizant of the fact that a national election is impending. God forbid that I should bring politics into this investigation but we want you to find out what certain men did and why they did it. We have to know what was in their hearts and minds that made them spring into action. Something that happens in Philadelphia today—something wherein the truth did not prevail—could have its repercussions in the length and breadth of the land and have its effect on the national election."

"You are to determine the identity of the men who engineered such a strike," he said. "They... should have made a declaration of any grievance."

## 500 German U-Boats Sunk

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9—(AP)—More than 500 German submarines have been sunk by the allies since the start of the war, it was reported tonight in a joint Anglo-American statement.

Issued under authority of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, the statement added that Nazi U-boats were "ineffective during July, a month which has been so important for the success of continental operations."

The report said that the number of German submarines destroyed in July was "substantially greater than the number of merchant ships sunk."

## Alvin Wodtli Dies in Action

LEBANON—Alvin Wodtli, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wodtli of the Foster neighborhood, was killed in action in France according to a message from the war department. He had been overseas only three months. He had lived his entire life in this vicinity. Survivors are the widow, Edna; his parents; one sister, Grace; two brothers, Edward and Louis.

The announcement of his death came to his wife just a week after her father, R. B. Jones, was killed in a logging accident near here.

## Military Demands Not Over

### Hershey Thinks Draft Will Stay For Some Time

Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national director of selective service, sees little chance of an immediate material decrease in the manpower demands of the military even when the war in Europe is over.

"We have the problem of replacement—you can keep men on battlefronts only so long until their fitness for such work decreases," he told interviewers at the capitol Wednesday.

The sandy-haired, energetic officer, to whom fell the burden of mobilizing America for war in the days of semi-peace many dark months ago, is on a routine inspection trip of northwest states. Navy Still Needs Men

"There is no reason to suppose the navy will lower its demand for 390,000 more men by next July," he said in an indirect comment on the Pacific war in relation to future draft quotas.

The general brought with him the thanks and congratulations of himself and his national organization for the work of the Oregon selective service and its component boards.

He said this state's organization "rated with the top," that it was "forward-looking," and that in the preparations for returning service men Oregon was "six months ahead."

**Col. Wooton Praised**

At a press conference, Gen. Hershey had high praise for Col. Elmer V. Wooton, Oregon selective service director, and said "the colonel has a reputation nationally, and not built solely on his work in Oregon, either; there are other important jobs he would be asked to fill if he wasn't so essential here."

The general said selective service faced a hard problem in the demobilization, readjustment and care of service men. He hazarded no guess as to how fast ultimate demobilization would be effected.

Gen. Hershey visited Gov. Earl Snell and other station officials, as well as selective service board members, while here. He and Mrs. Hershey planned to leave for California points tonight.

(Another story on General Hershey is on page 5)

## Pole Premier Happy After Stalin Meet

MOSCOW, Thursday, Aug. 10—(AP)—Shortly after his second meeting with Premier Stalin, Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, premier of the Polish government-in-exile, radiating optimism, announced today he would return to London with proposals concerning the rival Polish regimes on which "no definite agreement" was reached here.

"Premier Stalin has assured us of his desire for a strong, independent, democratic Poland," he told a press conference, adding he had a deep conviction that a durable, close and friendly cooperation between Poland and soviet Russia must exist now and in peace-time.

As negotiations between the rival regimes, the government-in-exile and the soviet-sponsored national committee of liberation, broke up, Mikolajczyk said, "We have agreed not to make statements and counter-statements," and declined to make any prediction about his own prospects.

## Dorsey, Hall Face Trouble

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9—(AP)—Dist. Atty. Fred N. Howser announced today that his office would investigate a pre-dawn fight last Saturday on the balcony of Band Leader Tommy Dorsey's Hollywood apartment in which Actor Jon Hall and two others have declared they were injured.

"In view of the fact that Jon Hall has publicly indicated that he thinks he has been the victim of a criminal assault, I feel it my duty to make a thorough investigation in the public interest," Howser said in a statement.

He said participants in the altercation will be asked to attend conferences in his office and that if they fail to respond, they will be called before the county grand jury.

## Yanks Sweeping Ahead In Big Rush for Paris

### "Ike" Sets Up Headquarters In Normandy

GEN. EISENHOWER'S ADVANCE COMMAND POST IN NORMANDY, Aug. 9—(AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme commander of allied forces, has established his headquarters on the continent in order to maintain the closest possible contact with the allies fast rolling offensive against the German army.

The supreme command headquarters unit, it was announced tonight, was moved to Normandy by air during the past few days. Officers and enlisted personnel—including WACS—are living in tents in a camouflaged area under constant patrol by heavily armed military police.

The general is situated near an airfield from which he makes speedy trips daily for personal conferences with Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery and Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley.

## Florence Beset By Civil Strife, Food Shortage

ROME, Aug. 9—(AP)—The city of Florence, tightly locked in a deadly vise formed by the British and German armies, was reported facing food and water shortages and beset by looting and outbreaks of civil strife today.

While military operations in and around Florence were limited to patrol forays, machine gun positions lined both banks of the Arno river along its course through the city.

The battle lines had cut the city off from food supply from the surrounding countryside, one of Italy's richest agricultural regions, and no food had been distributed on the German side of the city since last Friday.

German destruction of the power plant had deprived the city of light and caused an alarming water supply situation, with black marketeers demanding 20 lire (20 cents) for a bottle of water.

The Tuscan capital has a long history of civil strife and is a hotbed of both fascist and anti-fascist extremists. Fighting between these elements was known to have broken out in at least one neighborhood.

## Allied Burma Drive Gaining

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Aug. 9—(AP)—The allied drive to push the last Japanese invaders out of northeast India penetrated today to a point 54 miles south of Imphal where Japanese rear guards were encountered.

It appeared likely that the last of the beaten 33rd Japanese division would be chased over the Burma frontier toward Tiddim within another week. These retreating elements of the enemy still must pass allied "shadow" troops lodged in their rear and harassing Tiddim road traffic.

In the Mogaung valley campaign in northern Burma allied troops striking down upon the Mogaung-Mandalay railway in the Taungni area encountered heavy opposition at Tiyangzu, five miles northeast of Gaungni and about 10 miles southwest of Mogaung, air line.

## GOP Governors' Meeting Was Serious Affair Reports Snell

No pep rally but a serious meeting given over to consideration of sound government, the recent conference of 28 republican governors, called by Governor-President-elect Candidate Thomas E. Dewey of New York, was held in private and no speeches were made.

This was the report brought home Wednesday by Gov. Earl Snell, who attended the St. Louis gathering.

Discussions of reconversion and postwar jobs, agriculture, public lands, water resources, labor and taxes were of particular concern to Oregon, Snell said.

The governors were unanimous in their belief that agriculture must be free of unreliable controls and restrictions and the im-

## Bradley's Men Get Le Mans, Force St. Malo's Surrender; Canadians Continue Drive

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Aug. 9—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's whirlwind wedges rushed without check on the last 100 miles toward Paris tonight after sweeping through Le Mans and forcing the die-hard defenders of Brittany's sea fortress of St. Malo to knuckle under in surrender.

The capture of St. Malo, whose defenders had been ordered to fight to the last man, was reported in field dispatches. Never before had it been taken, though it was the scene of many sieges in the middle ages. The historic fishing village and resort on the north coast was perched on an island connected with the mainland by a defended causeway.

Yanks in Nantes  
Unconfirmed reports said American troops had pushed into Nantes on the Loire and into Angers, just north of the Loire and 50 miles upstream from Nantes, indicating the Americans were still sweeping forward without any stiffening Nazi resistance that would prestage a real fight for southern France.

On the northern end of the far-flung Allied battleline British and Canadian forces continued to advance.

The Canadians broadened their wedge into the German lines to six miles at the base and pushed a three-mile-wide spear to within about five miles of Falaise.

**Nazis Counterattack**  
The Germans launched a counterattack at Canadian positions north of Falaise tonight but the attack had been anticipated and the Canadians were well dug-in on hill positions. Canadian artillery and mortar fire replied furiously to the German attack.

British troops defending their bridgehead across the Orne river beat off German counterattacks and advanced amid indications the Germans were getting ready to withdraw from their positions between the British and Canadian forces.

The official announcement of the complete occupation of Le Mans—automobile manufacturing city 85 miles east of Rennes made it clear that American tanks were well beyond the city and the German news agencies reported the fast spearheads were only 87 miles from Paris.

The remaining pocket of enemy resistance was expected to be blotted out shortly as the American forces were exerting heavy pressure on the remnants of the Japanese garrison, which had no hope of escape.

Any attempt by the surviving Japanese to flee by water was blocked by American warships that kept up a constant patrol of the island's coast line.

## Bulgaria May Want to Quit

ANKARA, Aug. 9—(AP)—Unconfirmed reports circulated here today that Bulgaria has asked the allies for peace terms through the medium of the Turkish government.

The reports were given some color when Dr. Floyd Henson Black, for 18 years president of the American college in Bulgaria and now president of the American college in Istanbul, left Istanbul hurriedly for Ankara.

It was believed he had been called into consultation by the US embassy because of his intimate knowledge of Bulgaria, his personal friendship with the Bulgarian minister to Turkey, Nikola Balabang, and the wide respect he commands in Bulgaria.

## Population Growing

PORTLAND, Aug. 9—(AP)—Oregon's population is on the upswing, with twice as many births as deaths for the first six months of the year, the state board of health said today. There were 12,395 births and 6933 deaths.

## Thumbnail Of War!

Invasion Front—Allied forces continued their whirlwind rush toward Paris after capturing the Brittany sea fortress of St. Malo.

The Pacific—Americans completed their conquest of Guam, except for a small inland area near Pati Point, where surviving Japanese were surrounded; an additional 1072 Japanese have been killed in the Aitape sector of British New Guinea.

The Aerial Front—Successive waves of Allied aircraft flashed in a day-long assault south of Caen at a great concentration of German tanks; Halifaxes flew 200 miles beyond Caen to the Forêt de Mormal, to bomb fuel depots.

Poland—Soviet troops ground forward in the battle of Latvia, and climbed higher into the Carpathians toward Czechoslovakia; Russians claimed counterattacking Germans lost 3900 killed while 120 more Nazi tanks were destroyed.

Italy—The city of Florence, ringed by British and German armies, was reported facing food and water shortages and beset by looting and outbreaks of civil war.