

Japanese Planes Attack Okinawa Invasion Fleet

(Story in Column 2)

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

NINETY-FIFTH YEAR

10 PAGES

Salem, Oregon, Saturday Morning, April 7, 1945

Price 5c.

No. 10

Weather		
San Francisco	Max.	Min.
Eugene	50	48
Salem	52	45
Portland	52	45
Seattle	50	39
Willamette river 1 ft. 6 in.		

FORECAST: (from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem) Rain showers, with frequent clearing in between showers, not much change in temperature.

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

Earl Riley is mayor of Vanport. Vanport is a brand-new city across the river (Columbia) from Portland.

These gems of errata appear in an article in the April Harper's magazine, "The Empire of the Northwest" by C. Hartley Grattan. They illustrate the danger from motor stage reporting over an area as vast as the northwest empire. The result is a blend of hurried eye and ear impressions. Grattan records his visual images of towns and country, and echoes pretty much the comment that long has been stock about the cities of the northwest. It is not that his comments and conclusions are unkind or unwelcome but that they are superficial.

We ought not to complain, however, that we are "discovered." National attention is what the northwest has been clamoring for. That Fortune magazine should recently devote an entire number to the Pacific coast, and now Harper's gives articles in two issues, one to California and one to the northwest, is gratifying from the standpoint of publicity at least.

Grattan finds Portland "the least spectacular city on the Pacific coast" though fortunately he spares us the conventional cliché of eastern journalists that it is "like some New England city." He finds that its growth has followed the Pacific coast average, that it has never really

(Continued on Editorial page)

Hong Kong Hit For Third Day By Liberators

MANILA, Saturday, April 7-(P)—Fifty Liberators heavily bombed the Hong Kong waterfront for the third straight day Wednesday while in the Philippines 11th air-borne paratroopers, landing in Cub planes, seized Lucena, capital of Southern Luzon's Tayabas province, and its two airfields.

The escorted four-engined bombers set off tremendous waterfront fires and wrecked three merchant ships in the harbor with a shower of 164 tons of bombs.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today the heavy bombers scored direct hits on a 10,000-ton freighter and two smaller vessels. Oil storage tanks were set ablaze and fuel fires sent smoke up 6000 feet.

There was no interception.

Giant Nippon Mortars Kill Many Marines

BREMERTON, Wash., April 6-(P)—The giant Japanese mortars encountered by the marines at Iwo Jima which caused the "awful mangling of so many" were described today by Cpl. Bill Faulkner, 21, one of the first casualties of that campaign to be admitted to Bremerton naval hospital.

"They were the great-granddaddies of all the mortars in the world," he said. "I don't know just how big they were—some said they were 240 millimeters and others said they were over 300. But I do know you could drop your helmet right into one of them.

"It was these mortars that caused the awful mangling of so many of our marines—so long as I had to get hit, I'm sure glad it was just a bullet."

Faulkner was shot in the right elbow by a sniper.

Marion Red Cross Fund Reaches \$115,000 Total

The 1945 Marion county Red Cross war fund now totals \$115,000 or 141 per cent of the quota. Announcement was made by F. G. Leserer, 1945 campaign manager, at the Salem Credit association luncheon Friday noon.

The Marion county quota was \$80,500.

Jerome L. Moshberger Loses Life in War

WOODBURN, April 6—Jerome L. Moshberger, water tender second class, US navy, previously reported missing in action, is now presumed to have lost his life in enemy action. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Moshberger, have been notified by the navy department.

(Additional details on service men's page 8.)

150 Jap Attackers Destroyed

Some U.S. Ships Receive Damage But Stay in Fight

GUAM, April 7-(P)—Japanese planes belatedly attacked the American invasion fleet in the Ryukyus in force for the first time yesterday and by late afternoon an incomplete count showed 150 of the attackers shot down. There was every indication the raid was continuing.

A fleet communique today said some U.S. ships received minor damage, but "all remained fully operational." An invasion armada of 1400 ships was involved in the Okinawa island invasion last Sunday.

In the Okinawa ground fighting, marines on the north end of the American line scored advances up to 5000 yards, still finding only "small, scattered groups of the enemy," while infantrymen pressing upon the capital city of Naha at the south fought deeper into fixed defense positions. Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

539 Japs Killed
Nimitz reported 539 Japanese were killed and 166 captured in seizing the Kerama islands off the southwest coast of Okinawa prior to the main invasion.

The count of 150 enemy planes shot down attempting to attack the U.S. invasion fleet was still "preliminary and incomplete," the communique said.

The carrier task groups were commanded by Rear Adm. Frederick C. Sherman and Rear Adm. J. J. (Jock) Clark. Some American ships received minor damage, but all remained fully operational.

The enemy air force already had lost 1212 planes destroyed or damaged by American naval fliers since the start of the Okinawa operations March 17.

The communique did not specify the location of surface ships under prolonged assault in this hottest air attack yet reported from Okinawa, but it evidently was off the Okinawa invasion beaches, for Yanks ashore were being hit also.

Chinese Open Counterblow Against Japs

CHUNGKING, April 6-(P)—Chinese troops in southwestern Honan province launched a major counteroffensive yesterday against Japanese troops battling toward Shensi province, northern gateway to China's war-time capital, the high command disclosed today.

An army spokesman said Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces wiped out an enemy battalion and encircled a number of strong-points west of Neisiang on the Honan-Shensi highway, but lost contact with a garrison defending Nanyang, one of the primary Japanese objectives.

China's three-pronged drive, mounted against a double enemy attack, came after the Chinese annihilated more than 1000 Japanese troops and destroyed nine enemy tanks about 31 miles from the Shensi border.

Salem Police Officer Wins Furious Rattle With Cow

Police Officer Harold See of the Salem police force demonstrated the versatility of members of that department Friday afternoon when he answered a call from Irate residents on North 20th street who "wanted a cow corralled."

Arriving on the scene, the officer applied all his knowledge of bovines to the occasion, and when Bossy insisted on doing the opposite of that expected of her, the officer grabbed her by her short horns and proceeded to "bulldog" her to the ground. But agile as was the officer, he was no match for the cunning of the cow. Dropped to the ground, she rolled and

Rocket Ship at Okinawa



Rocket bombardment—Official U. S. navy photo. A barrage from an American rocket ship prepares the way for the invasion of Okinawa by army troops and marines. A constant stream of projectiles is "played" like a fire hose on the enemy's shore-side installations. (International)

Nazis Report Suzuki Forms New Cabinet With Tojo, Other Former Premiers

LONDON, Saturday, April 7-(P)—The German agency DNB, quoting the Singapore radio, said today Premier Kantaro Suzuki had formed a new Japanese cabinet which included Gen. Hideki Tojo, premier at the time of Pearl Harbor.

(The office of war information, which recorded the same dispatch in the United States, said it was possible the DNB report was a garbled version of a previous Japanese announcement that former premiers of Japan met Thursday and recommended Suzuki to form a new cabinet.)

This account said Suzuki, who often had stood against army and navy extremists, has selected a cabinet studded with former premiers.

If the report was correct, then it was a strong mingling of political opinion in Japan, because it included moderates as well as sabre rattlers.

The lineup, none of whom was a member of the cabinet of former Premier Kuniaki Koiso, includes: Prince Fumitaka Konoye, premier just before Tojo took over for the surprise blow at Pearl Harbor.

Admiral Keisuke Okada, premier at the time of the bloody army revolt in 1936 in which he first was reported assassinated by the extremists who found him too conservative.

Gen. Koki Hirota, former premier and foreign minister at the time the Japanese began their current war on China.

Gen. Baron Kiichiro Hiranuma, long an advocate of a strong and militant Japan.

Gen. Baron Waratsube and Marquis Hiro, the latter former lord privy seal.

The broadcast did not say to what portfolios these men had been assigned.

DSM Awarded To Gen. Rilea At Vancouver

VANCOUVER, Wash., April 6-(P)—The Distinguished Service Medal was awarded today to Brig. Gen. Thomas E. Rilea, USA, who as adjutant general of the Oregon National Guard went overseas with the famed 41st division.

Brig. Gen. Rilea's citation, recommended by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, was for service in Australia as commanding general of the army service and supply base early in the southwest Pacific campaign.

The medal was presented by Col. Charles Berle, commanding officer of Barnes General hospital, where Rilea is recovering from a tropical illness.

5th Outflanks 3000 Ft. Peak

ROME, April 6-(P)—The American Fifth army, outflanking 3000-ft. Monte Folgorito, has gained nearly two miles since yesterday in a surprise attack southeast of Massa on heights dominating the Ligurian coastal highway in western Italy, Allied headquarters announced.

The smouldering Italian front flared into activity at both ends. In the west the Americans, attacking from Azzano, six miles inland, passed Monte Folgorito, which overlooks the coastal shelf.

An accompanying push from Strettoia, two miles from the sea, made initial gains also, but collided later with a German counterthrust from Porta, a mile be-

came up on her feet with the officer still maintaining his hold.

Then the cow decided it was time to leave, and made for a picket fence. The officer stuck out a foot to meet the fence in order to lessen the shock, but his foot met not a post or pole but went cleanly between two pickets.

Suburbs Of Vienna Captured

Reds Bear Down On Capital City From All Sides

By Romeo Wheeler
LONDON, Saturday, April 7-(P)—Russian shock troops captured four suburbs of Vienna on the city line yesterday, cleared the south bank of the Danube east of the city in a 10-mile advance, and reached the Morava river barrier protecting Vienna's northeastern approaches on a 37-mile front.

Intensifying the blazing battle of tanks and infantrymen raging around the old capital, the Russians approached the southern and southeastern limits of the city on a five-mile front and battered through suburbs to within four miles of St. Stephen's church in mid-city.

Just before midnight last night, the Vienna radio reported that violent street fighting had broken out in the city proper and that Russian tommygunners had penetrated the railroad defense line along the municipal boundary.

The roar of guns was heard in the background and the broadcast asserted that Vienna had been under shell-fire "for several hours."

At the same time, Red army forces battered out new gains along a 350-mile front in southeastern Europe and were mopping up enemy remnants on the Vistula delta east of Danzig. Along the active front, 16,340 enemy troops were taken prisoner.

In Czechoslovakia, Soviet forces swept to a point 38 miles southeast of the big industrial city of Brno (Brno), while in Yugoslavia, Soviet cavalrymen slashed through enemy lines within 41 miles northeast of the Croat capital of Zagreb and 104 miles from the Italian border.

Germany's Rail Traffic Choke Points Blasted

LONDON, April 6-(P)—More than 1250 U. S. eighth air force planes attacked rail traffic choke points today at Leipzig and near Halle and Gera as hundreds of other allied craft likewise smashed at targets ahead of on-rushing American armored spearheads in southern Germany.

At the same time it was disclosed that at least 21 warships and freighters, including the 6000-ton cruiser Koeln and 11 submarines, were sunk in last month's massive port-busting raids on Bremen, Wilhelmshaven and Hamburg.

Jaycees Issue Call For More Blood

A call for more blood donors for next Tuesday was issued Friday by Salem Junior Chamber of Commerce members. There has been no decrease in the call for plasma from battle fronts, they explained, and Salem's weekly quotas will not be met unless other persons who believe they are eligible to contribute register.

Would-be donors should call Red Cross offices, 9277, to register and receive instructions.

Acute Housing Shortage Claims First Casualty

PITTSBURGH, April 6-(P)—The acute housing shortage in the Pittsburgh area claimed its first casualty today.

Reed M. Krotzer, 52, of Wilkesburg, who had been seeking a house for five weeks, dropped into a real estate office. When an agent told him he'd found a house for him, Krotzer became excited and dropped dead.

Capt. Mason W. Harris Dies in Europe Action

Capt. Mason W. Harris, whose wife, Rosemarie Harris, 1545 North 16th st., Salem, has been killed in action in Europe. His name appears on the current OWI list.

Named



Adm. Baron Kantaro Suzuki (above), president of the Japanese privy council, was asked to form a new cabinet following fall of the government of Gen. Kuniaki Koiso, Tokyo radio announced. (AP wirephoto)

Japs Slightly Damage Units Of Royal Fleet

By Marlin Spencer
GUAM, Saturday, April 7-(P)—Some major units of the British Pacific fleet, including possibly the battleship HMS King George V, were damaged slightly by a concerted attack of Japanese aircraft as the British forces struck the Sakishima islands March 31 through April 2.

Five enemy aircraft made a concerted attack on the King George, a British naval observer, just returned from the battle, related today after U.S. Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz reported in a press release that "some major units" of the British force were damaged slightly.

The King George is a 35,000-ton battleship.

Particular group of planes were driven off, the British spokesman said as he related his eyewitness account. British fighters and ships' anti-aircraft gunners destroyed 22 enemy planes and damaged nine more in the three-day engagement, which constituted the Japanese's first attack on the allied force since it went into action against Sakishima, southernmost of the Ryukyus islands.

German Army Being Split Up As Guerrillas

LONDON, April 6-(P)—The Germans were reported today to be splitting up the Wehrmacht into practically autonomous army groups under SS (elite guard) control for last ditch resistance and guerrilla warfare.

The scheme is called "decentralized resistance," according to Swiss reports which said it was adopted at a recent emergency military conference at Adolf Hitler's headquarters.

These reports followed Gen. Eisenhower's statement that guerrilla warfare could be expected in Germany because of recent western front experiences that "even when formations as small as divisions are disrupted their fragments continue to fight until surrounded."

The chief of staff told an army day audience the transfer of troops and equipment to the east will be one of the greatest problems in administration and supply in history, although he is confident that it will be carried out in a "thoroughly workmanlike manner."

That phase of the job, he declared, is not worrying the army but the human element is. Once V-E day comes, he said, this will be the general picture: Every soldier in Europe will have an "overwhelming urge" to

Germans Claim 3rd Within 90 Miles of Berlin

Hamm, Wuerzburg Taken; Weser River Line Ripped to Shreds; Allies Drive Close to Hannover

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR
PARIS, Saturday, April 7-(AP)—A relentless tide of allied tanks and troops—sometimes sweeping ahead 40 to 60 miles—broke the Weser river line 18 miles from Hannover yesterday, all but sealed off Holland and her greatest cities, and engulfed Hamm and Wuerzburg.

A wholly unconfirmed German broadcast said U.S. Third army forces, coursing far in the van of the western advance, had suddenly spurred 40 miles east into Martin Luther's birthplace of Eisleben, in Saxony 90 miles southwest of Berlin, striking with airborne tanks.

The Weser river line—only the Elbe now stands between the allies and Berlin—was ripped to shreds by multiple British Second and U. S. Ninth army crossings as the U. S. Ninth army jumped into the swirling attack with a 22-mile push to the Weser 164 miles west of Berlin.

One of the British Second army's flying columns, some of which traveled 60 miles in 24 hours since breaking out on to the north German plain through the mountain passes, turned up abruptly in Diepholz, less than 35 miles south of the big German river port of Bremen.

Hamm, Germany's biggest large city center, fell with astonishing swiftness to the U. S. Ninth army, which with the powerful First army began a broad scale attack on 125,000 or more Germans trapped in the Ruhr.

Wuerzburg Captured
Wuerzburg, 55 miles northwest of Nuernberg, where the nazis in their heyday held their party rallies, was captured by the U. S. Seventh army which had one column within 39 miles of that Nazi shrine and had hurled a bend in the river Main in the southeastward push. Wuerzburg had a normal population of 108,000.

The Canadian First army kept up the dazzling pace set by the U. S. First and Ninth and British Second armies, sending one steel-freighted column north to within 35 miles of the North sea and broke into the center of the stronghold of Zutphen, hurling the last 20 miles to the Zander Zee, in twin strokes designed to trap the enemy in Holland.

Bridgeheads Deepened
The British Second and U. S. Ninth armies deepened their bridgeheads over the Weser river to five miles but had not yet begun the assault on Hannover. (The British radio said without any other confirmation that the allies were less than two miles from Hannover.)

The U. S. First army in joining the assault fought through the Hessian gap, historic military gateway to inner Germany, in its drive to the Weser.

V-12 Program Will Last Until Nov. 1

Willamette university's navy V-12 program will be continued until November 1, and, as a result, the university will continue to operate on a three semester basis for another year, President G. Herbert Smith announced Friday.

The university catalogue, held up pending receipt of the notification as to navy training plans, will now be sent to the printers.

get home to his wife, family or girl friend. The soldier who learns that he is eligible for demobilization, but finds there is no room on ships going home, may become intolerant "even to the smirching of a fine and soldierly fighting record." Mail from home will be of no help because "protests will be more artful on this side of the Atlantic from the wives and the families and the sweethearts."

The army, Marshall said, will not be able to meet these "very human desires" without the risk of higher casualties in the orient and denying the fighters there the support they must have.

Superforts Hit Tokyo, Nagoya; Mustangs Help

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, Guam, Saturday, April 7-(P)—A large force of Superfortresses, aided for the first time by long-range Mustang fighters from Iwo Jima, raided Tokyo and Nagoya today (April 7, Japan time).

The B-29s, as usual, flew from their bases in the Marianas islands and were joined by the Mustangs near Iwo, the half-way point on the 1500-mile run to the enemy capital.

Presumably about 150 bombers took part in the raid. Tokyo said there were about 100 B-29s and about 40 Mustangs. The enemy radio added that the Mustangs bombed and strafed the western part of the Tokyo-Yokohama area while the Superforts hit military objectives.

Negotiations On Soft Coal Wage Collapse

WASHINGTON, April 6-(P)—Soft coal wage negotiations virtually broke down today and John L. Lewis summoned his 25-man policy committee to determine the United Mine Workers' future course.

While the mine leader did not say for what specific purpose the committee was called in, it was understood that the various offers of the operators and the proposed contract advanced last week by Secretary of Labor Perkins will be placed before the group. Lewis had accepted the Perkins proposal but operators turned it down.

The committee, scheduled to meet Monday at 12:30 P.M., would have to pass upon any new contract, as it did the original 18 demands of Lewis on February 26.

GOING TO THE BEACH?

It's a rare pleasure these days, of course, but the fishing season opens soon and carefully saved "A" gas will be brought into use. And many beach cottages will open.

With these factors in mind, The Oregon Statesman has arranged to obtain tide tables, computed for Tolt, from the U.S. Coast and Geodetic survey. The tables, to include computations for several days in advance, will be published daily as a new service for readers.

Starting tomorrow in The Oregon Statesman "The World at Your Door Each Morning"