

# IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sponage

Earl B. Day brought to the tax commission a fine maturity of judgment coupled with a broad knowledge of Oregon government, especially county government, and of Oregon taxation. It is regretted that he is leaving the commission to return to his former home in Medford. Day was a steady influence exerted quietly but none the less effectively.

Since the tax commission has been a hot spot in Oregon government for the past four years, filling this vacancy will call for more than ordinary reflection by the three elective officials who do the appointing: the governor, the secretary of state and the state treasurer. Incidentally while these three are the appointing group they do not do so as the board of control, which they constitute. The law granting them the authority of appointing members of the tax commission refers to these elective officials by title and not as a board.

The tax commission divides its work into three sections, with one commissioner heading each. Galloway handles property taxation and review of assessments; Fisher handles income and corporation excise taxes; Day has handled utility assessment. Presumably his successor will handle the same division, since the other members are veterans in their own departments.

However, the tax commission by law and by practice is called on to advise with reference to Oregon's system of taxation. It is ex officio given membership in the new interim commission to study our tax structure. This is a fact the appointing officials must keep in mind in selecting Day's successor.

The field of choice is narrow. Taxation is such a complicated (Continued on Editorial page)

## Chinese Troops Push 31 Miles Along Coastline

CHUNGKING, June 12 (AP)—Chinese troops have swept 31 miles up China's east coast, smashing within 24 miles of the big former treaty port of Wenchow in a mounting drive to clear Japanese forces from mainland defenses opposite Okinawa, Chinese front reports said today.

Chinese sources in Chungking believed the Japanese might be planning to abandon Wenchow and withdraw 225 miles northward along China's invasion-vulnerable coast to Shanghai.

Pursuing Japanese forces which have abandoned virtually all coastal Fukien province, Chinese troops battered into Chekiang province and captured Pingyang, in a southern threat to Wenchow, 440 miles west of Okinawa, the Central News Agency reported.

In the last three weeks, Japanese forces have fallen back along the east coast 135 miles from abandoned Fochow. The Chinese stormed into Pingyang, an outer defense stronghold of Wenchow, after a 31-mile advance in four days from Futing, 55 miles south of Wenchow.

## Dennis Must Pay With Life

Andrew W. Dennis, Portland shipyard worker, must die in the State's lethal gas chamber for the murder of Anna Bell McNallen, his mother-in-law. The state supreme court so ruled Tuesday, upholding an earlier conviction by a jury in Multnomah county circuit court.

Dennis has maintained his innocence, claiming circumstantial evidence had convicted him. The state alleged he had accused Mrs. McNallen of breaking up his marriage.

Justice Percy R. Kelley dissented from the decision written by Justice James T. Brand, but did not write a separate opinion.

## House Passes Anti-Poll Tax

WASHINGTON, June 12 (AP)—Overriding objections of southern democrats, the house passed today and sent to the senate legislation to abolish the poll tax as a requirement for voting for federal officers.

It was the third time in successive congresses the house has approved the measure, and—as in the past—its passage was predicted it would die in the senate.

# YANKS SEIZE VITAL OKINAWA HEIGHTS; AUSTRALIANS PUSH INLAND FOUR MILES

## Japanese Resisting Bitterly

### Americans Use Ropes to Scale Sheer Rock Cliff

By Leif Erickson  
GUAM, Wednesday, June 12.—(AP)—Using ropes for scaling and pre-dawn darkness for cover, US 10th army forces seized vital heights at both ends of the Yaesu escarpment on southern Okinawa Tuesday and held on grimly in daylight against heavy counterattacks of the no-surrender Japanese.

The two separated and fast dwindling forces of the enemy on the island brought every weapon to bear, even ripping machine-guns from the wrecked airplanes as they elected to die with a typical flourish of defiance.

Japanese navy men, trained originally as a landing force, held out grimly on a small pocket on Oroku peninsula.

Climb With Ropes  
On the east flank of the escarpment line, the 17th regiment of Maj. Gen. Archibald V. Arnold's Seventh infantry division pulled their way with ropes up a sheer face of the escarpment northwest of the town of Hanagusuku. They reached the top of a cliff fronting the plateau.

Southwest of Hanagusuku, other Seventh division elements pushed down the south slope of Hill 95 from captured heights. Gains of the division ranged up to 500 yards.

On the west flank, Maj. Gen. Pedro A. Del Valle's First marine division opened an attack at 3:30 a. m. which won advances up to 1000 yards. The leathernecks reached the crest of Kunishi ridge by their surprise move and moved forward against light resistance until daylight. Then the Nipponese struck back but the marines hung on and were reinforced under heavy fire.

96th Takes Town  
In the center, the 383rd regiment of Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley's 96th infantry division captured all of the town of Yuza after a rough, seesaw battle. The 383rd beat off a small enemy counterattack, then pushed forward about 200 yards. This advance reached high ground south of Yuza on the approaches of the irregular escarpment.

Japanese planes renewed their assaults Monday on Okinawa shipping and hit a light vessel, the 54th American ship damaged by such attacks. (The navy in Washington has announced, additionally, that 23 ships have been sunk.) Ten raiders were shot down.

## Service Years Will Count in Teachers' Pay

The 17 men and women now on military leave from Salem public school faculties will fit back into the system's salary schedule as if their years in the service of their country had been spent in the schoolroom, directors decided at their regular meeting Tuesday night.

In addition to establishing a policy for returning teachers, the board accepted resignations from five and hired 10 faculty members, authorized calling for bids for accoustical treatment of the Salem high school auditorium and upper hallway ceilings and a new furnace for the McKinley building, approved a plan for continuation of night machine shop classes and extended for another three years the contract of Supt. Frank B. Bennett.

(More about school teachers and administration, page 2.)

## Flag Celebration Slated Thursday Noon To Help Boost Marion's 7th War Loan Drive

A flag day celebration at Victory Center on Thursday has been arranged by the Marion county committee to help push the Seventh War Loan drive toward the \$4,320,000 goal to be reached before the Fourth of July.

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## London Wildly Greet, Bestows High Honors on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

By Henry B. Jameson  
LONDON, June 12.—(AP)—Amid all the pomp and pageantry of the centuries old English court, the city of London today bestowed its highest honor of "freeman" on Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, who just 30 years ago today was graduated from West Point as a second lieutenant.

Later, at an informal tea at Buckingham palace, King George VI invested the victorious allied commander-in-chief with the order of merit, second only to the order of the Bath, first class, among the honors by which Britain rewards its heroes.

General Ike was acclaimed by the rank and file of Londoners on a triumphant drive through the streets, and then at the ancient bomb scarred guildhall by a throng of cheering dignitaries, to whom he was introduced as the "genius" who steered the allied armies to victory over fascism.

As a token of recognition of his great leadership, the soldier from Abilene, Kans., was presented with the gold-decorated sword carried by the Duke of Wellington at the battle of Waterloo. After the colorful ceremony it was returned to the museum where it rested for nearly 100 years, and in its stead Eisenhower will receive a sword being specially forged with his name engraved on the blade.

The general was visibly touched by the applause which greeted him as he strode into the historic meeting hall to the strains of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Standing at the center of the huge rostrum, he was flanked on three sides by members of the cabinet and scores of notable figures, including Prime Minister Churchill, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur William Tedder and American Ambassador John G. Winant.

Following presentation of the sword by the lord mayor, Eisenhower spoke with emotion when he said he was so overcome he might well lose complete confidence did I not know I was among friends.

"The high sense of distinction I feel in receiving this great honor from the city of London is incalculably mingled with feelings of profound sadness," he said. "All of us must always regret that your country and mine were ever faced with the tragic situation that compelled the appointment of an allied commander-in-chief."

Eisenhower was the fourth American to receive the freedom of the city. The others were Gen. John J. Pershing, Gen. Ulysses S. Grant and Theodore Roosevelt. He was the first American soldier to receive the order of merit, which was instituted by King Edward VII in 1902 as a personal honor from the king.

BRUNEL BAY, Borneo, June 12.—(AP)—The Japanese have set the torch to vast stores of oil in the Seria field, southeast of invading Australian forces advancing toward Brunel.

This drive toward the capital city of the British protectorate, vital because it leads toward rich oil fields, drew the personal attention of Gen. Douglas MacArthur who visited the front with rear Adm. Forrest Bretteyn, royal Australian assault group commander.

Official headquarters reports today listed new gains on Brunel from demolished Brooketon village.

Island Occupied  
An important staging point for supplies to support the mainland push was assured when the "diggers" completely occupied four-mile-long Muara island, lying athwart Brooketon. The narrow channel does not permit direct unloading of supplies on the mainland.

On Labuan island, which General MacArthur visited on D-day, Sunday, hundreds of troops and supplies were poured ashore by the supporting U. S. Seventh fleet. The Aussies veterans of fighting in Africa against the Germans, cleared the Nipponese from densely wooded hills to a point two miles north of the airfield. Labuan commands the entrance to Brunel bay, an excellent fleet anchorage.

Swamps Lie Ahead  
Although the push on Brunel was lightly opposed, ahead of the "rats of Tobruk" are crocodile-infested swamps and rattan jungles, forested with ironwood and rubber trees.

Royal Australian and 13th air force fighter-bombers supported operations with 163 more sorties, dropping 170 tons of general purpose and incendiary bombs on pinpointed enemy targets.

## Army Tells Details Of Its New Lethal Flame Thrower

ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Pacific Ocean Area, Honolulu, June 12.—(AP)—The army disclosed today details of its new lethal flame thrower tanks with extension hoses capable of operating with deadly effect more than 500 feet from the tanks themselves.

The new weapon is being used extensively in the Okinawa campaign to burn out Japanese hidden in steep, cave-studded ridges. Heretofore, details were classified as a military secret.

## Hopkins Back; Polish Problem To Be Viewed

WASHINGTON, June 12.—(AP)—Harry L. Hopkins flew home today from his latest mission to Moscow, and soon afterward the capitals of the Big Three nations announced a step toward settlement of the tangled Polish reorganization question.

Hopkins reported immediately to President Truman, who had dispatched him to Russia to discuss several problems vexing Russo-American relations, and made no public comment on the results of his trip.

A few hours after his return, it was announced here and in London and Moscow that representatives of the United States, Britain and Russia will meet in Moscow Friday with Polish provisional government and other Polish leaders to seek a solution of the Polish government reorganization agreed upon at Yalta.

Mr. Truman is scheduled to discuss Russo-American relations at his news conference tomorrow.

## FEPC Request Turned Down

WASHINGTON, June 12.—(AP)—President Truman's request for a permanent FEPC was turned down flatly today by the house rules committee, with a democrat from the president's home state casting the deciding vote.

By a six-to-six count, the committee at a closed door session refused to send to the floor for a vote legislation to make permanent the fair employment practices committee created by the late President Roosevelt to prevent employment discrimination because of race, creed or color.

The action virtually killed the legislation, since it will stand as long as none of the six committee opponents changes his mind, and there was no indication that this would happen.

## Bonus Bonds of World War I Mature June 15

Bonus bonds, or "adjusted compensation" certificates issued to veterans of the first world war, mature June 15 next. The certificates may now be deposited with the post office for payment, advises Henry R. Crawford, postmaster. While most of the bonus certificates were cashed 10 years ago, some veterans held their certificates which now are maturing.

## Travel By Train Due For Slash

WASHINGTON, June 12.—(AP)—Fifty per cent less Pullman space and 10 to 12 per cent fewer railroad coaches will be available for civilian travel in August and thereafter, Transportation Director J. Monroe Johnson said today.

The critical shortage will last through next March as battle-bound troops from Europe move from eastern ports to western embarkation points, Johnson said.

The office of defense transportation will seek to avoid travel rationing or train priorities, he told a news conference, "but if necessary, we'll ration."

"We'll do whatever is necessary to keep the business of the nation going," the ODT director asserted in a plea for less civilian travel. "Travel rationing would be one of the most difficult things ever attempted, but if driven to it, we'll have to act."

Stringent tightening of air travel was also predicted, especially west-bound.

"I understand that in another two or three weeks you might as well stay home unless you hold a No. 2 airplane priority," Johnson said.

## L. A. Simington Dies in Navy Bomber Crash

Lawrence A. Simington, AMM 3/c, of Salem, was killed in a navy bomber crash off San Diego last Wednesday night. Two other men lost their lives when the plane ploughed into the sea on a routine flight from Long Beach, Calif.

Simington's widow, Anne B. Simington, and four children, Robert, Lorraine, Barbara and Martin, all of Salem; his father, Walter Simington of Vancouver, Wash.; his mother, Rachael Simington, Wisconsin; three brothers, Les, Lewis and Leonard Simington, all overseas with the U. S. army; sisters, Mrs. Harris Boyer of Swisshome, Ore., and Mrs. John Jaukebek of Vancouver, all survive.

Funeral services Thursday at 1:30 p. m. from the W. T. Rigdon chapel will be under auspices of Capital Post No. 8, American Legion, the Rev. S. Raynor Smith officiating. V-12 men from Willamette university will be pallbearers.

## Provisions of Charter for Security Council Approved By Conference Committee

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL  
SAN FRANCISCO, June 12.—(AP)—The heart of a new world charter—provisions for a security council to enforce peace and back up its decisions with armed might—was approved unanimously late today by a United Nations conference commission.

Accepted by diplomats of 50 nations at a public session was a committee report which termed these provisions "a great historic development" and the keystone of a peace structure.

They empower a tightly-knit council of 11 members to take over for all the United Nations the responsibility for stepping into any situation or dispute which threatens to embroil the world in conflict in the future. Council membership is restricted to the United States, Russia, Britain, France, and China permanently, plus six smaller powers on a rotating basis.

The council could take whatever measures it considered necessary to erase the threat of war. It could make recommendations, draft terms for peaceful conciliation of quarrels, and apply military and economic sanctions.

If it takes military persuasion to prevent war, the council will have at its call some of the air, sea and land forces of great and small powers. Directing them will be great power chiefs of staff—the experts who engineered the defeat of Germany.

Still to be decided, however, is the voting procedure by which the council will make its decisions and the question of whether each of the big five will have the right they demand to veto peace-enforcement action. A conference committee was working toward a critical ballot on the issue tonight.

British delegation chief Lord Halifax told the committee the result would show whether we shall or shall not have a charter. The commission action on enforcement arrangements is subject to final approval of the entire conference, but that will be more or less routine.

## Stilwell in Okinawa Mud



Gen. Joseph Stilwell (left) braved mud and rain to see his old command, the 7th division, in action on Okinawa. He was accompanied by Maj. Gen. Arch V. Arnold (right), commanding general of the 7th. This photo was transmitted from Guam via navy radio. (AP Wirephoto)

## Austrian Head Seeks Support

By the Associated Press  
Dr. Karl Renner, chancellor and foreign minister of the provisional Austrian regime, said today in a broadcast address that his administration included "absolutely all parties in the country with the single exception of the fascists."

He said he hoped it would be admitted to the "community of nations that the victorious powers have undertaken to establish."

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facts of the regular army operations will be demonstrated at the Silverton ball park Friday night, June 22. Fighting equipment used by the soldiers in capturing the Japanese pillbox positions will be shown on the streets of Silverton during the day. Rex Kimmel of Salem will give the bond talk at the ball park.

Bond sales slowed down yesterday despite the stimulus given E bonds through the Elsinore premiere, "Valley of Decision," on June 21. Tickets are being given with all E bonds purchased at the regular issuing agencies.

Total sales were reported by Treasurer Lawrence Fisher as \$2,362,000 but E bonds still were not much past the halfway mark reached Monday.

With a million dollars goal to work on, Industrial Chairman Dent

## Nurses' Aides Win Honors

The highest award of the U. S. office of civilian defense, the Citation of Merit, has been granted to the Salem Red Cross nurses' aides corps.

The corps, with more than 300 members performing services in state and general hospital here is one of the largest in the country, State CD Administrator Jack Hayes, who announced the award, said.

Only 40 of the awards have been granted and this is the second to come to Oregon. The first went to the Multnomah county Red Cross blood bank.

Specifically, the award is in recognition of the nurses' aides assistance when 30 cases of infantile paralysis were under treatment in Marion county. They learned and practiced newest methods of treatment, Hayes said.

## Adair to Get Old Divisions Only Rumor

Rumors that the 70th and 104th divisions, which trained at Camp Adair, would return to the Willamette valley's cantonment to prepare for assignments as replacements in the Pacific theatre were quashed here Tuesday night by Lt. Col. Eugene I. Foster, camp commander.

No information which might serve as basis for such a rumor has been received by him, he declared, "although we'd like to have them."

The colonel's statement followed by a few hours the departure of an army ground forces general staff party which had spent the weekend conferring with him on plans for re-opening the camp.

In the group, which left Salem by plane Tuesday morning were Maj. Gen. F. B. Mallon, Col. A. L. Harding, Lt. Col. B. P. Carden, Lt. Col. J. A. Logan, Lt. Col. A. R. Flemming of Ninth service command headquarters, Fort Douglas, Utah; Maj. A. B. Simonson and Capt. S. J. Hamshaw, aide to the general, with Capt. A. K. Thompson as pilot and First Lt. A. L. Cornier as co-pilot. All except Flemming were from Washington or Fort George Meade, Md.

Maj. Clyde Baum, Ninth service command, Fort Douglas, Utah, also has been conferring with Colonel Foster.

## Civil Service Group Meets

The new state civil service commission, created by the 1943 legislature to administer the civil service law for state employees which became effective July 1, met here in its first session Tuesday.

One of the first tasks facing it is the naming of a provisional director by July 1 and selection of a permanent director by September 30. Gov. Earl Snell said he had received several applications for the position. Members of the commission are J. N. Chambers, Salem; A. C. Cammack, Portland, and Mrs. Effie Turneure, Hood River.

## Fraternization Is Widespread, Increasing in West Germany

By Daniel De Luce  
FIELD MARSHAL MONTGOMERY'S HDQTS., BAD OYENHAUSEN, Germany, June 12.—(AP) Fraternalism is widespread and increasing in western Germany, regardless of all allied military edicts.

It ranges from open comradeship in rural villages to bootlegged friendships in big towns.

It's a case of boy meets girl, and the ranks of allied armies are in favor of it, whatever the home fronts may think.

On a 600-mile trip from the Saar to the Danish border, this correspondent was unable to discover any difference of opinion among American, British and Canadian troops concerning fraternization.

In each army zone, I found abundant violations—at least 89 per cent official unreported—of supreme headquarters policy of non-fraternization. I have yet to meet a soldier whether he comes from London, the Mississippi valley, or the Alberta wheat fields, who wants the ban continued.

"How are we punishing the German people by living ourselves as if we were in prison?" is the commonest question.

As a correspondent I have received condolences from enlisted men which their officers rarely enjoy. At one motor service depot, the commanding captain told me the non-fraternization policy was being observed strictly but that he hoped for the benefit of all that it would be relaxed soon. His sergeant clerk quietly admitted later that every man in the unit had been entertained in some German homes in the past month.

## Invaders Driving On Brunel

### Occupation of Isles Offshore Nearly Complete

By Spencer Davis  
MANILA, Wednesday, June 13.—(AP)—Australian invaders of north-west Borneo, switching from helmets to broadbrims under the broiling sun after Japanese resistance continued light, have pushed in force four miles from the coast to within 10 airline miles of Brunel.

This drive toward the capital city of the British protectorate, vital because it leads toward rich

oil fields, drew the personal attention of Gen. Douglas MacArthur who visited the front with rear Adm. Forrest Bretteyn, royal Australian assault group commander.

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Swamps Lie Ahead  
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Royal Australian and 13th air force fighter-bombers supported operations with 163 more sorties, dropping 170 tons of general purpose and incendiary bombs on pinpointed enemy targets.

Seventh fleet patrol - torpedos boats strafed Sipitang, east of Brunel placed a stranglehold on attempted enemy barge movements.

While work was pressed toward preparing a great new allied base within 800 miles of Singapore, a navy privateer sank a freighter and left another smoking at Kuching, capital of Sarawak, on the west coast of Borneo.

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