



Britain's new prime minister, Clement R. Attlee (left), joins President Harry S. Truman and Premier Joseph Stalin as the new big three meets at the Potsdam conference July 28. (AP Wirephoto via Signal Corps radio from Berlin)

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Stryker

The action of the aluminum division of the war production board in recommending that WPB stop all work at the Salem alumina plant probably stems out of the original opposition of this division to the plant. WPB ordered the work over objections of its aluminum division. That decision was made about 15 months ago, when the emergency with respect to bauxite ore and aluminum production had largely passed. The plant was projected as a pilot plant for testing of various processes for reduction of alumina from domestic clays. There is no essential change in the situation since the plant was approved as far as bauxite and aluminum are concerned, and WPB cannot just casually throw the plant overboard.

When construction of such a plant was first agitated, our stocks of domestic bauxite were dwindling fast and ore-carrying ships from Dutch Guiana were being torpedoed in crossing the Caribbean sea. By the first of 1944 that submarine menace was ended and plants found they could use lower-grade bauxite found in abundant supply. Nevertheless, under pressure from northwest congressmen WPB approved the plant.

Under the arrangement, Defense Plant corporation, subsidiary of RFC, finances the plant construction and initial operation, under a contract with Chemical Construction Co. of New York. After the latter has tested the plant thoroughly it is to be turned over to Columbia Metals corporation.

(Continued on Editorial Page)

Army Slates Release of Railroad Men

WASHINGTON, July 31—(AP)—The war department announced tonight it is expediting release of former railroad men from the army and making available enough planes and pilots to fly 25,000 troops monthly across the country.

Acting Secretary of War Robert F. Patterson said the two measures were "intended to relieve the pressure on the nation's railroads in connection with the redeployment of American troops."

The department said 1362 men with railroad experience will be released from military railway service in Europe by August 10 for return to this country and separation from the army.

Animal Crackers
By WARREN GOODRICH



"Nix, Sweetie—that is Monarchy!"

Stalin's Sickness Caused Delay in Big 3 Meeting, Progress Reported Made

POTSDAM, July 31.—(AP)—The big three "made a great deal of progress" in a "fruitful" 3½-hour session today, it was announced officially tonight and observers predicted the history-making conference would end by Thursday at the latest.

President Truman will fly to Plymouth, England, and meet King George VI and Queen Elizabeth there on his way home, the American delegation disclosed.

12 More Jap Cities Warned Of B-29 Raids

GUAM, July 31.—(AP)—Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Lemay warned 12 Japanese cities today they are marked for quick destruction by his 20th bomber command Superfortresses, increasing to 19 the total of warned targets—six of which the sky giants already have burned out.

Six of the B-29s carried today's warning—in the form of 720,000 leaflets—to the doomed municipalities, four of which were among the 11 cities listed in the first warning four days ago.

"Evacuate these cities immediately," the 1,300,000 persons in the 12 places were told. The eight new cities added to the list are: Mito, Hachioji, Maebashi, Toyama, Nagano, Fukuyama, Otsu and Maizuru—all important small centers on Honshu island.

Nagaoka and Nishinomiya on Honshu, Hakodate, largest coastal city on Hokkaido island, and Kurume all received their first warning last Saturday and had it repeated today.

Koriyama on Honshu, the 19th city, was on Saturday's list but not today's.

Army Reveals Jet-Propelled Plane Secrets

WASHINGTON, July 31.—(AP)—The army air forces' new jet plane can fight more than eight miles above the earth at speeds in excess of 550 miles an hour.

One of the P-80s was put on press display here today, a gray-painted, sleek and deadly looking craft, suggesting super-speed even when standing motionless on its tricycle landing gear.

Its pilot, Capt. Wallace A. Lien of Wright Field, Ohio, said some of the P-80s had gone overseas but he believed none had been in combat up to now.

These official and company specifications were released on the P-80, built by Lockheed and powered by a gas turbine built by General Electric:

Speed—In excess of 550 miles. Service ceiling—"More than 45,000 feet."

Wing span—38 feet, 10½ inches. Weight—Empty, 8000 pounds; with maximum fuel load, 14,000.

Armament—Six .50 caliber machine guns, located in the nose of the ship. The section can be removed and a camera installed for reconnaissance purposes.

Snell Confirms Allen Choice for Secretary

Gov. Earl Snell on Tuesday confirmed reports published by The Statesman that Eric W. Allen, jr., Salem newsman, would succeed Douglas Mullarky as his private secretary. "After nearly three years, Mullarky desires to return to his home county and his newspaper interest," Snell said, adding "I can appreciate his wishes but accept the resignation with personal regret." Mullarky is a co-publisher of the Burns Times-Herald. Allen will take his new post September 1.

Navy Adds to Totals

Laval In American Custody

Yanks Will Turn Laval Over to British Justice

SALZBURG, Austria, July 31.—(AP)—Pierre Laval, arch pro-Nazi collaborator and No. 2 man in the French Vichy regime, surrendered to American authorities today after being expelled from Spain and tonight was en route to Innsbruck to be handed over to British justice.

Wanted as a war criminal by Gen. Charles De Gaulle, the swarthy former chief of government of the Vichy state was expected to reach Innsbruck tonight. With his wife, Laval was in the custody of Brig. Gen. John E. Copeland, assistant commanding general of the U.S. 68th division.

The party, which took off from Barcelona at dawn in a speedy Junkers dive bomber, landed on an airstrip at Horsching, southwest of Linz. They were immediately arrested by members of the U.S. 79th fighter squadron.

Laval was sentenced to death in his absence by a court at Marseille on October 20, 1944, but a retrial probably will be ordered. (The news of Laval's surrender caused lawyers for Marshal Henri Philippe Petain, who was Laval's chief in the Vichy government, to announce they would ask postponement of Petain's treason trial.)

(In Washington, U.S. state department officials said Laval was expected to reach Paris before Petain's trial ended. The affair, however, was considered purely a French one. The United States, it was said, wanted nothing to do with him.) (Additional details on page 2.)

Morse Seeks Demo Aid in Probing OPA

WASHINGTON, July 31.—(AP)—Senator Morse (R-Ore.) today called on Oregon democratic leaders to support his demand for a congressional investigation of OPA.

Morse telegraphed Lew Wallace, Oregon democratic national committee man, commending a letter in which Wallace discussed OPA's handling of the Oregon soft (milk-fed) lamb situation and suggesting joint action by the major political parties in "correcting OPA abuses."

"I believe that correcting OPA abuses should be a purely non-partisan matter," Morse telegraphed Wallace. "May I respectfully suggest that the time has come for the entire democratic organization in Oregon to point out to the administration and particularly to Mr. (Robert) Hennessee (democratic national chairman) that OPA maladministration has become a great political liability."

Sunday-Morning Dormitory For Soldiers at Armory Eyed

The general conferred also with Gov. Earl Snell. The idea of using the armory was suggested after an earlier plan for using barracks at the army airbase here had been declared impractical. Without sufficient man at the base to keep up the barracks, which are out of the jurisdiction of the Adair command, the scheme would not work, it was said.

A. J. Crose, in command of the state guard unit based in Salem, has been asked to consider the plan to use the armory as an auxiliary dormitory, to be outfitted with cots and bedding by the Salem United War Chest and operated by other service agencies. The armory could serve a number of men who come into Salem not intending to go to bed until early morning hours—after the dances, including that at the armory—over, it was suggested.

Allied Forces Kill 7000 in Burma Trap

CALCUTTA, July 31.—(AP)—Allied forces have wiped out upward of 7000 Japanese troops attempting to escape a bloody jungle trap in lower Burma and break eastward across the Sittang river, the southeast Asia command announced today. This fighting has centered between the Mandalay-Rangoon road and the river, in a region generally 80 to 150 miles northeast of Rangoon. More than 6000 enemy dead have been counted, a communiqué said, and nearly 600 have been captured. This toll, however, does not include casualties inflicted by guerrilla forces. This latest announcement raised the count of Japanese dead by 2000.

Strong Support Develops For Alumina Plant

If the war production board does ask discontinuance of work at the Salem alumina plant (and some representatives of the WPB denied Tuesday that they intended to do any such thing, while others said they were making this recommendation for all war-born experimental projects), other federal agencies and numerous individuals and organizations are determined that the five million dollar experiment station shall be completed and put into operation.

Gov. Mon C. Wallgren of Washington, close personal friend of President Truman, notified Gov. Earl Snell of Oregon last night that he had added his voice to the protests against the WPB recommendation.

From Seattle, Portland, Eugene, Albany and Medford chambers of commerce pledges of support poured into Salem chamber of commerce offices Tuesday. Clay Cochran, Salem chamber manager, said the task of lining up forces for what might be a genuine battle was proving simple; on all sides he found agreement that the formulas for removing alumina from clay should be tested before any consideration should be given to dismantling the costly plant at still further cost.

The state chamber of commerce and the Western States council, which represents business interests in 11 western states, with Christy Thomas, Seattle chamber manager, as its president, have indicated they would enter their protests.

Sen. Wayne Morse wired Governor Snell that Sam Husbands, president of the Defense Plant Corporation, now a part of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, had declared reports published Tuesday morning erroneous.

From Sen. Guy Cordon the governor received a telegram to the effect that the WPB had told him it was going to divest itself of the sponsorship of all similar yet unproductive enterprises. However, Cordon declared, such action on the part of WPB should not mean the end of the alumina plant chances for operation, adding that he would see WPB authorities again today for clarification and would then get in touch with RFC and bureau of mines offices with a view to prevailing on those agencies to continue the project.

3 Portlanders, Pilot Crash To Their Death

MEDFORD, Ore., July 31.—(AP)—Three Portland passengers and a pilot crashed to their death in their foreign plane, missing since Saturday, in mountains near the California-Oregon border, a searching party reported tonight.

The bodies of Sylvan L. Goslinger, his wife Ruby, her sister, Mrs. Alma V. Pratt, and the pilot—identified only as "Mr. Armstrong"—were found with the plane wreckage. The spot was extremely rugged terrain on Butte Fork, about 40 miles southwest of here and three or four miles south of the state border.

A 25-man search crew of Camp White soldiers and forest service men, led by M. L. Tedrow, assistant forest supervisor, started back to Medford tonight with the bodies. Carrying stretchers, they had reached the scene by an eight mile grind on foot through country abounding in rocks, canyons, wild creeks, and timber, after driving 30 miles from here.

Salem's Legion Ball Club to Start in State Tourney Tonight

Salem's Capital post No. 9, American Legion Junior baseball team, champions of Marion, Clackamas, Washington, Yamhill, Columbia and Tillamook counties, enters the annual Oregon state tournament at Portland's Lucky Beaver stadium tonight. The Salem team, a product of the local Junior baseball leagues born a year ago, meets the strong and favored Albany Juniors in the 8:30 p. m. game.

Two Portland teams, defending champion Lind & Pomeroy and Challenge Creameries, open the tournament play with a 2:45 p. m. game. The three-day tourney is a double-elimination affair with each team required to lose two games before being eliminated. The two losing teams in today's round meet Thursday and the two winners today play Thursday night. The tournament winner qualifies for a trip to regional playoffs at Billings, Mont., next week.

Tax Chief



Coe A. McKenna

Coe McKenna Selected Tax Commissioner

Coe A. McKenna, twice senator from Multnomah county, is Oregon's new tax commissioner. He was elected unanimously by the board of control Tuesday afternoon.

An alumnus of Portland university and Notre Dame, he is a graduate in political science from George Washington university, has served 13 years on the Portland planning board, is past president of the realty board there, past vice president of the National Association of Realty Boards, served on the state tax investigating committee of 1923 and is a member of the current interim committee on taxation.

McKenna succeeds Earl B. Day, who resigned to return to his southern Oregon fruit ranch and other properties. The term expires December 31, 1946. Day's speciality on the commission has been in assessment of utilities, while Charles V. Galloway, re-appointed to a four-year term this summer, handles property assessments, and Earl L. Fisher, also recently reappointed, specializes in excise and income taxes.

McKenna's speciality as a realtor has been in appraisals, and he has handled appraisals of a number of large estates. In the legislature, which he entered by way of the house of representatives in 1939, he has been particularly active in sponsorship of tax legislation. He went into the senate in 1941.

Tenth AAF to Shift Operations to China

CHUNGKING, Wednesday, Aug. 1.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer announced today that the famous Tenth air force has been added to the newly reorganized U.S. army air forces in the China theatre.

The 10th formerly was located in Burma.

HOSPITAL REPORTED HIT

LONDON, July 31.—(AP)—The Japanese radio said tonight that the big military hospital at Bangkok, built with funds of the Rockefeller foundation, was badly damaged Sunday by three heavy bombs during an allied air raid. BBC recorded the broadcast.

Jap Suicide Pilot Sinks Abandoned Ship

SAN FRANCISCO, July 31.—(AP)—A Japanese suicide pilot put his explosives-laden plane into a dive off Okinawa and sank a landing ship which had been abandoned by the crew two days previously.

Crewmen, now at Treasure Island here, told of the incident today. The landing ship was beached and abandoned after it was damaged by a mine. It had been stripped of all valuable material. The suicide pilot saved the navy demolition crew a job.

Salem's Legion Ball Club to Start in State Tourney Tonight

Salem players who are to see action in the first state tournament for a Salem team since 1931 are Joe Carroll, Rod Province and Gary Keppinger, pitchers; Dick Allison, catcher; Johnny Dalke, Dick Hendrie, Roger Dasch and Bud Craig, infielders; Warren Valdez, Bud McKinney and Al Russell, outfielders, and Herb Appleton, Del Kleen and Bob Fink, utility men. Al Lightner is coach of the team. Carroll, star pitcher for the Salem high team last spring, will pitch the opening game for the Capital Posters tonight.

Salem won the right to a state tournament berth by eliminating the Silverton, Forest Grove and Milwaukie teams in recent weeks. A large group of fans is expected to follow the Capital Posters to the tournament. The Salem team will make the Mallory hotel its headquarters during the junior baseball classic. (Additional details on Sports page).

Nips Lose Heavily Monday

68 Vessels, 227 Planes Damaged Or Destroyed

By Murlin Spencer

GUAM, Wednesday, Aug. 1.—(AP)—Admiral Halsey's Third fleet carrier planes destroyed or damaged 68 surface craft and 227 planes over the Honshu naval base of Maizuru Monday — a day in which Tokyo radio said more than 2000 allied aircraft hammered the homeland.

Admiral Nimitz revised assessment of destruction, announced today, added eight ships and 89 planes to previous reports of the one-day assault — and gave the vast allied fleet credit for a total of 1035 Japanese surface craft and 1278 airplanes destroyed or damaged in its 21 days of activity in Honshu waters since July 10.

Driven from the Tokyo targets Monday morning by thickening weather, American pilots from Halsey's 1500-plane carrier force damaged a light cruiser and a destroyer, and sank another destroyer at Maizuru, on the west coast.

Reports still were incomplete; there was no estimate of damage done by British carrier planes operating with the Americans.

There was no indication of the great fleet's location today — aside from the Tokyo radio's nervous insistence that it was "lingering within quick reach of the Honshu coast for fresh attacks that the enemy expected momentarily."

In their afternoon sweeps over Maizuru, the Americans sank a medium freighter—transport as well as a destroyer; damaged a light cruiser off the Kashima or Sakawa class, one destroyer, two medium freighters and two small freighters. They also destroyed 56 grounded planes and damaged 33.

Their widespread bombing, rocketing and strafing of ground targets destroyed eight locomotives and damaged four others; damaged 17 war plants, two bridges, four hangars and two radio stations. Fires flared in four main buildings of the Kanto-Special Steel company and in the Japan International Aircraft company, both located in Hiratsuka, 30 miles south of Tokyo.

The international plant at Hiratsuka manufactures suicide bombs and is the last remaining Japanese plant still making aircraft propellers.

Maizuru is Japan's only naval repair base on the north side of Honshu fronting on the inland sea, and although secondary it was able to handle Japan's largest ships. The war-booming town has spread to join with Tagashi, making a total population of 150,000 in the area.

Crews of the second marine aircraft wing joined in the homeland destruction Monday with sweeps over Kyushu, striking warehouses, railroad facilities and a single parked plane. Today's communiqué also confirmed in part Tokyo radio's repeated reports of air thrusts at American-held Okinawa; it announced one enemy bomber was shot down there Monday.

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Weather

	Max	Min.	Wind
San Francisco	69	49	30
Eugene	85	41	30
Buena	88	42	30
Portland	85	52	30
Seattle	78	50	30

Willamette river: - 3.7 feet.
Forecast from U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem; clear skies today and warmer this afternoon with maximum of 90 degrees.