

FLEET ANCHORED IN TOKYO BAY

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles F. Sprague

One type of problem which comes up from time to time and proves vexing to the city council is that of street vacation. Many times there are dead-ends of streets which are not used as thoroughfares, and owners of adjacent property petition for vacation so the extra ground may be added to their holdings. Sometimes controversies arise over such vacations, as was true with regard to a vacation of a stub street off Front street a few months ago. Sometimes the vote is divided as was true of a recent vacation of a portion of Bellevue street.

Every case is an individual case to be studied by itself, and every precaution should be taken to protect the public interest now and in the future. But it ought to be possible to adopt some standard practice on the matter of compensation to the city where streets are vacated. The theory has been, to be sure, that the street was created originally by taking ground from the adjacent property, and so it should revert if vacated. Whatever legalistic or historical ground there may be for such practice the fact is that so many changes of ownership usually have intervened that the present property-owner has no honest claim to any part of the street. What he bought was a lot, and he paid nothing for any reversionary claim to a portion of a street. He ought, therefore, to compensate the city for such ground as he adds to his own possessions.

The city of Portland has been bothered with the same problem. Its council has worked out a plan to solve it and adopted an ordinance putting (Continued on editorial page)

Soviets Move Toward Nippon In Kurile Chain

LONDON, Aug. 28—(AP)—Russian occupation forces, moving toward Japan proper, seized three more islands of the Kurile chain today in a 375-mile overwater leap and completed the occupation of Sakhalin island, Moscow announced.

Total Russian occupation of Sakhalin island by Gen. Maxim Purkayev's second far eastern army brought soviet forces within 26 miles north of the Japanese home island of Hokkaido.

Amphibious forces at the same time took over Shimushu, Uruppu, and Etorofu islands in the southern Kuriles. The occupation of Etorofu island placed these soviet troops 75 miles northeast of Hokkaido.

Russia's far eastern armies, Moscow said, yesterday added another 36,000 Japanese officers and men to their growing bag of prisoners which now totals more than 474,000.

Butter Due for Cut to 12 Points

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28—(AP)—There will be a little more butter available next month and it will take fewer red points to get it.

OPA officials said today butter would be reduced from 16 to 12 points a pound Sept. 2. And, effective Sept. 1, the agriculture department ended an order under which creameries had been required to set aside butter for government war uses.

Animal Crackers
By WARREN GOODRICH

"I'm not stuck up—I'm just sick and tired of everybody stepping on it!"

The Oregon Statesman

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GALE RAVAGES GULF COAST

Damages Mount To Millions as Storm Wanes in Ferocity

By WILLIAM C. BARNARD
HOUSTON, Tex., Aug. 28.—(AP)—An enormous task of relief and rehabilitation occupied a 300 mile stretch of the central Texas coast tonight as one of the most destructive hurricanes in gulf coast history blew itself out in east Texas.

Early estimates of terrific damage, transmitted by patched communications facilities, placed crop and property damage in the millions of dollars and from some of the hardest hit sections, still isolated from the outside world, there had been no word.

From battered sea-level communities down the fertile, well-populated coast came fragmentary reports that drew a bleak picture of wrecked towns, hundreds homeless, crops destroyed. Three persons were dead and at least 12 injured.

Damage to the western end of the Texas rice crop was estimated in the millions of dollars. Throughout the stricken region the Red Cross worked, feeding and caring for thousands of persons. In Bay City alone, inland town of 8000 about 60 miles southwest of Houston, 1500 citizens looked to the humanitarian organization for aid.

Col. Roy W. Osborn, commanding officer of Foster field, flew over the coastal area during the height of the storm and commented that "it was unbelievable."

"The entire coastline appeared under water. Everywhere you could see was water, except an occasional high spot where hundreds of cattle were trying to crowd. Port Lavaca was simply buildings rising out of the bay."

Ward told newsmen he had questioned Nipponese medical officers regarding the prisoners and was told that no American aid was needed.

WITH U.S. FLEET UNITS IN TOKYO BAY, Aug. 28—(AP)—A Swiss representative of the International Red Cross told Rear Adm. Oscar C. Badger today that of 34,000 American prisoners held in Japan 5000 of them might be considered in a sick condition.

Acting OPA Director Frederic F. Janney asked housewives not to telephone their ration boards, or call in person, stating boards will act on applications on file.

The allotment had been halted Aug. 13 in sixteen western states to permit inventory.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28—(Special)—Lt. (jg) Clifford LaVerne Fluitt, USNR, son of Albert Otto Fluitt, sr., of 710 S. 11th st., Corvallis, was listed as missing today by the navy department.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28—(AP)—Postmaster General Hannegan announced today that the three-cent postage stamp honoring the United States Army in World War II will be placed on first-day sale here Sept. 28.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28—(AP)—The war production board gave the green light today for prompt construction of 1,480,000 of farm residences and business additions in Oregon and southern Washington.

Approved projects, each valued under \$100,000, include: Salem area—Clarence R. Schrock, garage, \$35,000; Arnold B. Pederson, hatchery addition, \$8,000; Frank Setniker, farm residence, \$6,000; Tinkham Gilbert and Robert L. Elstrom, store and garage, \$29,000; J. M. Six, farm residence, \$5,000; Timber service company, Sweet Home, office building, \$12,450; school building addition, Dallas, \$15,000.

NEWSPAPER FILL OKINAWA
OKINAWA, Aug. 28—(AP)—Nearly 200 correspondents alighted today at Okinawa airfield, having travelled from Manila in the greatest mass air movement of newsmen in the Pacific theatre.

Jap Destroyer Nears Third Fleet



The Japanese destroyer Matsuzakura lays to in Sagami bay as Nipponese emissaries go over the side into a motor launch (right) for transfer to the American destroyer Nicholas which in turn took them to conferences on the battleship Missouri. This picture was transmitted by navy radiophoto direct from the Third fleet in Sagami bay to San Francisco. (AP Wirephoto)

Governor Snell Issues Call for Aid in Harvest

Governor Earl Snell issued this message to residents of this area Tuesday, urging all to help save the harvest this season:

"As governor of Oregon I cannot urge too strongly that in the forthcoming weekend holidays through Labor day those who are freed from their tasks in offices, stores, warehouses and factories, join in this essential task of harvesting our crops; and to call upon those who have so diligently worked in the fields and orchards to continue their praiseworthy efforts to prevent the waste of much needed food. Call your local farm labor office and volunteer your services."

British POWs Swim to Fleet

LONDON, Aug. 28—(AP)—Two British servicemen who swam out into Tokyo bay to meet the American fleet were the first two Allied prisoners to gain freedom after the fleet entered the bay, a Reuters correspondent aboard the British battleship Duke of York reported today.

Correspondent Astley Hawkins said the two prisoners were fished out of the bay by a picket boat from an American cruiser. They had escaped from a prison camp near Yokohama by slipping through a typhoon fence, and had walked 30 miles to the bay shore.

Government Cutback in Canned Goods Averages 50 Per Cent

Latest figures from the government to the Northwest Canners association indicate that cutbacks in canned goods will amount to an average drop of around 50 per cent for each commodity. Dr. Egbert S. Oliver, labor coordinator for the Salem canners association, said Tuesday.

Only one item requires the same set-aside percentage, asparagus. Biggest drop was noticed in the government's requirement for carrots and blackberries.

Although some of the products are not canned in the immediate Salem area, and others in limited quantities the military cutbacks for the canners in the northwest will naturally mean more canned goods on the grocers' shelves.

Army Gets New Point System

5,500,000 Men To Be Released By Next July 1

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23—(AP)—The army reported today it was revising its point system to speed up discharges and would reduce its strength from 8,000,000 to 2,500,000 men by next July 1.

War department officials, testifying before the house military committee, nevertheless supported President Truman's proposal to keep on drafting men for military service.

During their appearance before the committee they outlined plans for:

- 1. Establishing a point system for releasing officers—the present one covers only enlisted men.
- 2. Reducing from 85 to 80 the number of points required for discharge of enlisted personnel.
- 3. Barring from overseas duty all men with 60 points—a cut from 75.
- 4. Recomputing all points, now based on calculations made May 12, "as soon as General MacArthur tells us he does not need any more combat men."

Maj. Gen. Stephen G. Henry, assistant chief of personnel, told the committee the recomputation would give men more points so that those overseas "who now have approximately 72 points will be eligible for immediate discharge."

Nips So Happy To Find Yanks So Agreeable

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 28—(AP)—U.S. navy pilots who landed at Tokyo's Atsugi airport were described today as "very light-hearted and agreeable" by a correspondent for Japan's Domei agency.

The pilots "did not show any attitude, whether in speech or manner, of boasting of their victory," said the dispatch, beamed to greater east Asia and recorded by the federal communications commission.

"In fact, they displayed beaming smiles and even shyly tried to hide their pistols, which were hanging by their sides.

"The agreeable attitude shown by these pilots is something of which every Japanese must be ever mindful when coming into contact with the United States occupational forces."

Mexican Said Drowned Near Independence

Two hours search by Sheriff Denver Young and deputies failed to produce the body of Emilio DeLaFuente Guardado, Mexican national of camp 325, Independence, after the man had been reported missing in the Willamette river, about a fourth of a mile from the Independence ferry.

Other workers at the camp told the county officers that Guardado was last seen swimming in the river about 4:45 p.m.

The search will be resumed today, Deputy Sheriff James Garvin said. The man was employed at the D. P. McCarthy and Son hop ranch.

\$20,000 Blaze Razes Albany Lumber Mill

ALBANY, Aug. 28—(AP)—Operators B. L. Keller and Maxon Williams estimated loss at \$20,000 today after a blaze consumed the Albany Lumber Company mill.

A spark from the stack probably caused the fire, reported acting fire chief Cecil Burkhardt. The mill employed 16 men.

No plans have been made for rebuilding, the owners said, adding "We're determined to stay in the mill business somehow."

Weather

City	Max.	Min.	Rain
San Francisco	71	47	00
Eugene	83	53	00
Salem	82	54	00
Portland	89	56	00
Seattle	83	56	00
Willamette river -3.8 ft.			

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Low clouds in morning. Clear after 10 a. m. and warmer with highest 84 degrees.

Landings to Start Today; Guns Still Ready for Action

WITH ADMIRAL HALSEY OFF YOKOHAMA, Wednesday, Aug. 29—(AP)—Big warships of the Third fleet, headed by Halsey's flagship, the Missouri, anchored today off Yokohama—bomb-shattered port of Tokyo.

In the distance appeared the shapes of buildings which presumably were those of Tokyo itself, approximately 20 miles from the anchorages by the large ships. Even through powerful glasses, however, it was difficult to identify the buildings of Tokyo's skyline.

The mighty Missouri on which surrender terms will be signed Sunday, entered the bay at 7:08 a. m. (6:08 p. m. Tuesday, eastern war time.)

The 45,000 ton battleship Missouri was the first of the capital ships in Halsey's huge armada to pass from Sagami bay around Miura peninsula and through Uraga strait into Tokyo bay.

The fleet had been anchored in Sagami bay, only 30 miles south of Tokyo, two days.

Closely following the Missouri were three escorting destroyers, the Nicholas, O'Bannon and Taylor, all of which hold presidential unit citations for heroic action since the early days of the war.

The battleship Iowa and South Dakota followed. The South Dakota is to serve as Admiral Nimitz' flagship while he is here to sign at the formal ceremony Sunday for the United States.

The warships flew huge battle flags and the crews were in battle dress at action stations.

She entered waters which only a few weeks ago were protected by 116 major caliber coastal guns.

That artillery, under the terms of surrender, had been neutralized.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 28—(AP)—Norman Paige, American broadcasting company correspondent, said in a broadcast from Tokyo bay the powerful marine-blue jacket landings will start at 10 a. m. Thursday, Tokyo time (9 p. m. Wednesday eastern war time) at Yokosuka.

Wainwright to See Japan Surrender

NEW YORK, Aug. 28—General Douglas MacArthur has arrived on the island of Okinawa, NBC's Merrill Mueller reported in a broadcast tonight from the American-held island base.

"General MacArthur watched the loading of his troops and their equipment on the Okinawa airfield," Mueller stated.

MANILA, Thursday, Aug. 29—(AP)—General MacArthur today invited Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, the American officer imprisoned by Japan after he surrendered Corregidor, to attend the ceremonies of Japan's surrender Sept. 2. Gen. Wainwright immediately wired his acceptance of the offer.

The presence of Wainwright aboard the battleship Missouri in Tokyo bay for the ceremony should offer a dramatic contrast to his grim experience in being forced to sign the capitulation of American forces in the Philippines early in 1942.

The invitation also was extended to Wainwright's chief of staff, Brig. Gen. Lewis C. Beebe, aides, Lt. Col. John Pugh and Maj. Thomas Dooley, and orderly and chauffeur, Sgt. John Carroll. All were captured with the general at Corregidor.

MacArthur said he also hoped the British commander who signed the surrender at Singapore could be present.

The supreme commander of the allied powers will have Wainwright present, if possible, for the surrender of Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita, in the Philippines. The surrender of Yamashita, the general who accepted the British capitulation at Singapore, is in the process of being arranged.

Wainwright plans to leave Chungking by air tomorrow morning for Manila, where he is expected to land in the afternoon. He said he would bring Beebe, Pugh, Dooley and Carroll with him.

Marine Pilot Said To Be Alive in Tokyo

ABOARD USS ANCON, TOKYO BAY, Wednesday, Aug. 29—(AP)—Word was just flashed aboard this communications ship that Maj. Greg Boyington, marine flying hero of the Solomon campaign, "is alive in Tokyo."

First word was transmitted to the third fleet by the cruiser San Juan. There were no details.

Although the source was not stated, it was possible the information came from a Japanese pilot who was guiding the ship into Tokyo bay, or from advance American units outside Tokyo.

Boyington, now 32, of Okanogan, Wash., was credited with downing a total of 26 Japanese planes as he defiantly rode the Solomon skies at the head of his Black Sheep squadron in 1943 and 1944.

He was awarded the congressional medal of honor and the navy cross and was the United States' ace of aces when he disappeared

over Rabaul Jan. 1, 1944. He disappeared in a cloud as he chased a Japanese fighter and was not seen again.

Although officially credited with 26 planes, his Black Sheep mates said he actually destroyed "at least 40 Japs," including cripples which no one could verify were destroyed.

Boyington was tackled by 12 Japanese on the mission from which he did not return, said his wingman.

Air Force Radio Unit Raises First U.S. Flag Over Japan

OKINAWA, Wednesday, Aug. 29—(AP)—The first American flag was raised over conquered Japan at 12:10 p. m. Tuesday (11:10 p. m. Monday, eastern war time) by a Fifth air force radio unit.

The unit, known as the "Flying Circus," was sent along with the first airborne contingent to set up a radio tower for contact with the mass of troops arriving tomorrow.

Landing at 8:47 a. m., the "Flying Circus" less than four hours later hoisted old glory to the top of the radio antenna.

Top-ranking American air men told of eating an elaborate luncheon of turtle soup and assorted sandwiches at Japanese field headquarters at the edge of Atsugi air field yesterday.

"It was damned good soup too," exclaimed Col. John E. Lackey, Jr., veteran pilot of Norfolk, Va., who landed the first plane on the field.

"The luncheon was served in a spotless frame building. Flowers adorned the table. Food was served to more than a score of American officers by Japanese waiters. Japanese officers ate in an adjoining room.