

Troops Abandon Litovsk, Kaunas

July 28—Brest Litovsk, last great fortress position of the onrushing Russian army, was abandoned today along with Kaunas in Lithuania, Berlin and other cities.

Troops charged within 30 miles of the Polish capital. The advance beyond the San river, they penetrated 128 miles from German Silesia.

Litovsk and Kaunas gave the Russians 10 major battles in 24 hours as they whipped through the Baltic and the Carpathian foothills toward East Prussia.

German high command announced the evacuation of Litovsk in its daily communiqué, and soon after a transoceanic agency admitted the loss of Kaunas, the capture of Garwolin, 30 miles southeast of Warsaw.

Russian triumphs were announced in a record of orders of the day by Marshal Stalin coloring the skies with many-colored flares for five hours until dawn.

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EDITION

Eugene Register-Guard

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VOL. 103

TODAY'S NEWS TODAY

LANE COUNTY'S HOME NEWSPAPER

EUGENE, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1944.

NEWS STANDS—5c

NO. 28

Americans Smash Through Nazi Lines In 15-Mile Spurt Toward Coutances

Japanese Sink Under Five Allied Thrusts

By Associated Press
The shrinking Japanese empire bled today from five new allied thrusts, including a devastating U. S. stab into the Carolines which wiped out 10 ships and 26 planes and reduced Palau as a stumbling block on the allied road back to the Philippines.

On eight sea and land battlefields the best Japan could manage was a stand-off against the underdog Chinese at Hengyang. Allied victories were scored at Palau, Truk, Sabang and on China's two battlefronts.

Caroline Islands. A fast American task force raided Palau and other western Caroline bases for two days (July 24-25), sinking a destroyer, an oiler, a destroyer escort of mine-layer, seven cargo vessels and many smaller craft. On the first day 26 planes were destroyed. On the second no enemy interceptors were seen. Five U. S. planes were lost but four pilots were saved.

Another stinging blow, inflicted by bombers of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's command, sank one ship and fired three others of a five-ship convoy 180 miles south of Truk. The fifth vessel escaped.

A third sea blow by a British-directed fleet hit Sabang at the northwest tip of Sumatra and wrecked its harbor, vital to control of the Japanese supply line to Burma.

21 Ships Sink
London announced today, in addition, that British submarines destroyed 21 Japanese supply and other ships in far eastern waters recently, and damaged several by torpedoes and gunfire.

Allied land successes nearly matched these clear-cut sea victories. On Guam and Tinian in the Marianas U. S. troops pressed the isolated enemy garrisons closer to annihilation. The Tinian invaders, killing 19 Japs to every marine slain, held a third of the island and were putting Ushu airfield in shape for our use. U. S. lost 159 dead, 441 wounded, 32 missing in six days of fighting.

Nimitz issued no word on the Guam fighting, but a war correspondent said Apra harbor, a 4,700-foot airfield and the old navy and marine base at Sumay seemed about to fall.

On New Guinea the trapped enemy still probed, in vain, for a weak spot in the allied encirclement.

"WHO DAT?"
WITH AMERICAN TROOPS NEAR MARNY, France, July 28—(AP)—A Negro signalman was stringing wire along the road near Marny last night when a German suddenly approached him in the darkness.

He jumped and shouted: "Who dat?"

At the same time he reached for his rifle and started firing. That brought 20 more Germans tumbling from the hedges. They had been waiting all around him and debating whether to surrender. His random shots convinced them.

The Negro shouted for help and got it.

Berlin Radio Silence Causes Speculation

LONDON, July 28—(AP)—Communications between Berlin and neutral countries were cut off last night under circumstances similar to those which preceded the announcement of an abortive attempt on Hitler's life, and today there still was no immediate explanation of the cause.

Formerly communications were broken between Berlin and the outside world during air attacks but recently during Mosquito bomber attacks there has been no such isolation of the city.

Reichsmarshal Paul Joseph Goebbels, meanwhile, cracked down on the German people with two "total war" orders, forbidding all vacations for front line troops and directing that front line troops do the manual work of bridge and road repairing formerly done by the total labor organization.

As a result of this intelligence, Riess wrote in his book, "The Nazis Go Underground," published today by Doubleday, Dorn, German industry was able to acquire many American dollars at an extremely favorable exchange rate for billions of French francs that had been transferred to Africa from France proper.

"When we landed in Africa we found there quite a sizeable group of Frenchmen who usually did not reside in that part of the world," Riess wrote. "We also found bul-

Southern Gains Made; 4,000 Germans Taken

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, July 28—(AP)—American armor fought into the outskirts of Coutances today after a 15-mile advance from west of St. Lo, field dispatches said, and slammed shut the bolt on remnants of the 84th German army corps caught to the north in a pocket against the sea.

Another spearhead, part of a flood tide of tanks and infantry 20 miles wide pouring through a gap blasted in German lines in a three-day offensive, stabbed 13 miles south from the starting point and captured Tessy-sur-Vire, half way from St. Lo to Vire, old capital of Normandy.

More than 4,000 prisoners had been taken so far.

Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's spearheads, slashing more than 11 miles deep since the start of the armored push Wednesday and spreading out behind the enemy flanks, had cut the 84th German army corps into little knots of resistance.

But many of the corps apparently had escaped already from the Coutances pocket, where British newspapers estimated 50,000 to 70,000 of the enemy were being pressed against the sea.

Like Africa Retreat

With allied fliers reporting scenes of chaotic retreat rivaling Marshal Erwin Rommel's retreat in Africa, six spearheads reached at least to within three miles of Coutances from the northeast, supreme headquarters said. Field dispatches said the Americans held heights overlooking the town.

To the north a column wending through booby-trapped Lessay pressed down upon the withdrawing enemy for a gain of two miles to Marguerin, and another ticked off a four-mile gain from Periers to Corbucourt. Corbucourt is seven miles north of Coutances.

(A German broadcast said the Americans already had crossed the Soules river running through Coutances, a potential defense line.)

(To the home front the Germans spoke casually of the evident American intention of driving to the big center of Avranches, 30 miles south of St. Lo, and Vire, 20 miles southeast of St. Lo—a possible hint that the German army might have written them off.)

Three Nazi Divisions

Supreme headquarters said there were three German armored divisions on the American front.

The Germans still were holding six armored divisions to confront Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's British and Canadian forces below Caen, on the allied east flank where the only activity was the turning back of various small-scale enemy counterattacks.

Field dispatches said there was growing nervousness among enemy troops there, and much speculation among correspondents as to when Gen. Montgomery might let loose another of his blows.

Reports from advanced air bases in Normandy said more than 40 German tanks were destroyed, many of them 60-ton Tigers, and more than 65 damaged yesterday by fighter bombers. Much of the enemy armor had been driven off the roads and forced to divide into groups in the woods.

German air operations, headquarters said, have been confined to an average of 70 to 80 planes a night, with 110 of them shot down since the invasion.

Mercury Again at 94

For the second time this year, the thermometer climbed to 94 degrees for Thursday's maximum, this being the high mark to date this season. During the warm spell earlier in the month, the mercury registered 94 degrees also. Indications were Friday and Saturday night might be cooler, judging from the forecast, but Friday started out with a comparatively warm minimum, 53 degrees.

The government message promised a letter of information to follow, but gave no details beyond the above statement.

Author Charges German Bankers Were Told About Allied Invasion

NEW YORK, July 28—(AP)—Months before the Americans invaded French North Africa on Nov. 7, 1942, Hjalmar Schacht and other German bankers and industrialists had been told of the allies' secret plans to invade, Curt Riess, German refugee author, charged today.

As a result of this intelligence, Riess wrote in his book, "The Nazis Go Underground," published today by Doubleday, Dorn, German industry was able to acquire many American dollars at an extremely favorable exchange rate for billions of French francs that had been transferred to Africa from France proper.

"When we landed in Africa we found there quite a sizeable group of Frenchmen who usually did not reside in that part of the world," Riess wrote. "We also found bul-



GOP NOMINEES CONFER AT ALBANY—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey (left) and Gov. John W. Bricker, G.O.P. presidential and vice presidential nominees, meet on front porch of state executive mansion, Albany, N. Y., as they prepared for conference on issues in forthcoming campaign.

21 Injured As Bus Turns Over At K.F. Eugene Driver Unhurt

KLAMATH FALLS, July 28—(AP)—A southbound Portland-San Francisco Greyhound bus skidded and turned on its side here last night, sending 21 of its 37 passengers to local hospitals for the night and inflicting minor injuries to a number of passengers not hospitalized.

Going out of control on rain-wet pavement just inside the north entrance of the city, the big bus careened for two blocks and overturned in the front yard of a house at a turn. Rear end of the bus cracked the corner of the house.

V. G. Wigglesworth, Eugene, driver of the bus, said he was caught by surprise by the slippery pavement. He shifted into lower gear but the bus seemed to gain momentum on the gentle decline and Wigglesworth said he dared not apply the brakes in full force.

As the weaving vehicle approached the curve, the rear end swung around and the bus overturned as the wheels on one side crashed against a curb.

Passengers were hurled from their seats and the dark interior of the bus became a tangle of arms and legs. The driver got the emergency door open on the upper side and J. V. Kindig and Jack Pule, Klamath men who heard the crash, kicked in the windshield.

Passengers were removed in ambulances and taxicabs to hospitals. Physicians said several were seriously injured, but none was believed in a critical condition.

Four of the hospitalized were Oregonians: Mrs. Earl Gooch, Albany, wrist and rib injuries; Bruce Hood, Portland, lacerations; Bernice Graf, Portland, head and arm injuries; John B. Yarbrough, Salem, head lacerations, broken hand.

Re-election of Fish Opposed By Dewey

ALBANY, N. Y., July 28—(AP)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey announced opposition today to the reelection of Rep. Hamilton Fish, republican, who is running in the 20th New York congressional district, on the ground Fish had raised "racial and religious issues."

In a statement dictated to reporters by James C. Hagerty, Dewey's press secretary, the GOP presidential nominee said:

"Two years ago I publicly opposed the nomination and election of Congressman Fish. Statements attributed to him confirm my judgment expressed at that time."

"Anyone who injects a racial or religious issue into a political campaign is guilty of a disgraceful, un-American act."

"I have always fought that kind of thing all my life and always will regardless of partisan consideration. I have never accepted the support of any such individual and I never shall."

Fish, who announced recently he would support the national republican ticket, was quoted by Hagerty as having been interviewed by the New York Post and having told a reporter for that paper that "The Jews are more or less for the new deal, unfortunately."

Advised in New York of Dewey's statement, Fish issued this statement:

"I have never been anti-semitic. What I stated was just the plain truth—that the Jewish voters are largely for the new deal and President Roosevelt."

"The people in my district will choose their own candidate in the primary on Aug. 1, regardless of outside interference from Mr. Dewey or anybody else."

Greeks Charge 250 Women, Children Burned

LONDON, July 28—(AP)—Two hundred fifty Greek women and children were burned to death in the village of Kleisoura, district of Kastoria, when German troops set the locality afire recently in reprisal for guerrilla activity, the Greek information office charged today.

Following a clash between Greek guerrillas and a German patrol in which two German motorcyclists were killed, the information office said, the male population of Kleisoura took to the mountains, leaving the women and children in the belief that the Germans would not harm them.

Baseball

NATIONAL

Chicago . . . 000 300 001—4 9 0

Brooklyn . . . 000 000 001—1 7 1

AMERICAN

Boston . . . 301 051 230—15 15 1

Detroit . . . 200 100 200—5 9 3

O'Neill and Wagner; Trout, Moity (5) Eaton (7) and Swift.

Allies Near Florence; Fire Across Arno

ROME, July 28—(AP)—The British 8th army, advancing yard by yard through bitter enemy resistance, stormed to within 7 miles or less of Florence today while American and German forces to the west massed for the battle of Pisa and exchanged heavy artillery and mortar fire across the Arno river.

New Zealand tanks an infantrymen spearheaded the frontal drive on Florence, slugging directly up highway two against fanatically resisting Nazi troops and shock units who fought to the death from a network of hill positions and machinegun nests covering the southern approaches to the city.

The New Zealanders pushed their lines forward about a mile yesterday, capturing the strongly fortified town of San Casciano and moving on four miles to the northwest to Cerbaia. In the Cerbaia sector and just north of San Casciano the 8th army was barely seven miles from Florence last night, well within artillery range of that ancient center of commerce and culture.

On their left flank, a second British armored column hammered out substantial gains in an enveloping sweep apparently aimed at cutting the Arno river line around Empoli, 20 miles west of Florence. The British advanced as much as four miles, capturing Vallecchio, and Cambiano, nine and 11½ miles west of San Casciano, and driving to within three miles of the Arno.

At the western end of the battle line, American units of the allied 5th army moved into position for an assault on Pisa, under heavy fire from German guns studding the heights north of the city.

American artillery countered heavily, but there was no immediate indication that Pisa itself was under fire, despite warnings from 5th army spokesmen that the ancient city would be shelled if the Germans continued using its famous leaning tower and other buildings as artillery observation posts.

(German broadcasts yesterday said a large allied fleet had been sighted off the west coast of Italy, apparently maneuvering for an amphibious assault on Genoa or La Spezia. There was no allied confirmation.)

Henry Ford Denies Financial Promise

WASHINGTON, July 28—(AP)—Motor magnate Henry Ford has issued a vigorous denial that he promised financial support to a plan to "alter the course of American history in the next two to four years," a plan outlined in a letter which has been introduced in evidence in the mass sedition trial.

The letter, purportedly written in 1941 by William Dudley Pelley, a defendant, to Maj. Gen. George V. Horn Moseley, of the U. S. army, retired, said the writer wanted to share his information with Ford, Charles A. Lindbergh, Senator Burton K. Wheeler (D-Mont.), and Moseley. It said that "Mr. Ford is definitely interested in the preliminary material . . . and has implied that he would put a million dollars behind our gesture . . ."

Outside the courtroom yesterday, a Ford spokesman charged that the statement of the writer, as concerned Ford, was a "malicious lie" and that Ford "has never seen Pelley or Moseley and the former was thrown out of the office building at Dearborn when he attempted to obtain funds."

The letter gave no other details.

NOTICE

Carriers will start collecting for July paper deliveries Saturday. If you will have your 75c ready when he calls it will be a big help to these little fellows.

Don't make more than one month advance payments to the carrier. If you wish to pay more than one month in advance mail or bring your money to the Register-Guard office. You can save 15% on your investment and the bother of paying each month. The carrier will get his credit just the same.

McNAIR KILLED — Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, recently relieved of his command as chief of army ground forces to take assignment overseas, reported killed by enemy fire in Normandy.



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Cordon Investigates Truck Tire Shortage

PORTLAND, Ore., July 28—(AP)—Home to feel the pulse of Oregon public opinion, Republican United States Senator Guy Cordon, said today he was determined to find out why trucks, busses and freight trucks were stalled on highways because of lack of rubber.

Cordon arrived in Portland by plane yesterday after stopping in Arizona and California for three days. He conferred immediately with a lumber authority on the critical truck tire situation.

The senator, appointed to fill out the term of the late Senator Charles L. McNary, said he was determined to get the true picture of conditions on the Pacific coast and what has been done by the government agencies. He was advised that several trucks had been abandoned in Portland and other points in Oregon because they could not obtain the necessary tires and that one interstate trucking company vehicle was stranded with airplane parts and materials.

Cordon will remain in Portland until Sunday, then will go to his home in Clackamas to spend a few days before beginning his swing around the state.

40-Minute Storm Sweeps Grants Pass

GRANTS PASS, Ore., July 28—(AP)—Power was gradually being restored in the Grants Pass area today after a 40-minute wind and rain storm swept through the Rogue river gorge Thursday night shearing roofs from houses, and uprooting trees.

Power companies, not yet recovered from a similar storm the previous night, were still repairing installations in the outlying districts today although power facilities had been completely resumed in Grants Pass.

Traffic was halted for a time because of heavy trees which blocked the Pacific highway, but the highway is now open, according to the Josephine county sheriff's office.

The storm, reported as worst in this area in recent years, raised a wall of water in the river nearly seven feet high in the Rogue river gorge above Grants Pass, the California-Oregon Power company reported.

Dalles Fire Burns Over 10,000 Acres

THE DALLES, Ore., July 28—(AP)—A grass fire that burned across 10,000 acres of grassland in the Deschutes canyon area southwest of here yesterday, was fought today by crews as it threatened homes and ripening grain.

The blaze started 20 miles southeast of here, and roared across nearly 20 miles of the grazing lands, H. R. Robinson, fire marshal, said. Fire fighters said if the wind died down there was a good chance of stopping the blaze.

Forest service crews were aided by farmers, harvest workers, employees of the Pacific Power and Light Co. and other volunteers.

An advance fire line was built far in advance of the flames in the Haynes canyon.

Weather

Weather Bureau Forecast: Partly cloudy this afternoon; scattered thunderstorms; high mountains; clear Saturday but fog on the Willamette valley, on river state.

Forecast: Minimum temperature, 53 degrees; maximum temperature, 64 degrees; stage of river in Eugene at 7:00 a.m. at 7:00 p.m.

Sunset (PWT): 5:54 a.m. and 8:41 p.m.; sunrise (PWT): 5:07 a.m. and 8:40 p.m.

Barometer (PWT): 30.1 a.m. and 30.1 p.m.; 30.2 a.m. and 30.2 p.m.