

Big Battle Near Mount Etna In Prospect

Nippon Task Unit in Solomons Blasted by U. S. Bombardiers

3 Nippon Ships Sent to Bottom Of Deep Pacific

Attempts of Japanese to Build Up Base at Vila Thwarted by Yank Fliers

By Brydon C. Taves
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Allied headquarters, Southwest Pacific, July 21 (UP)—U. S. bombers sank three and probably four warships yesterday to smash the largest-scale Japanese attempt yet to reinforce their base at Vila in the central Solomons, a communique announced today.

One light cruiser and two and probably three destroyers were blasted to the bottom and another destroyed. The surviving vessels of the 11-ship convoy fled northward out of the range of American bombers.

It was the first time since the start of the allied offensive that the Japanese have used transports in their attempts to build up Vila, on the southeastern coast of Kolombangara island, to replace Munda as their main base in the central Solomons. The garrison there already numbers at least 5,000 men.

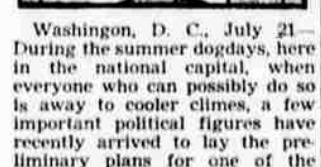
Munda Surrounded
Munda, on New Georgia island southeast of Vila, virtually has been surrounded, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique said, and its capture is believed only a matter of time.

"Tightening investment at Munda now has rendered supply and reinforcement to the enemy dangerous and difficult," the communique said. "Slow, but constant, deterioration of his beleaguered garrison can be expected unless our blockading ring can be broken."

Night prowling American planes spotted the Vila-bound convoy early yesterday trying to sneak down the west coast of Kolombangara under cover of darkness. Sprawled out on the inky sea below were three light cruisers, six destroyers and two transports.

An alarm was sent back to headquarters and forces of four-

(Continued on Page 5)



Washington, D. C., July 21—During the summer dogdays, here in the national capital, when everyone who can possibly do so is away to cooler climes, a few important political figures have recently arrived to lay the preliminary plans for one of the biggest political purges ever attempted. This same group recently held a meeting in Philadelphia and it was decided to hold another meeting here, where some astute political minds could be engaged to help formulate this ambitious program. This group of political hatchet men is made up of big shots from AFL, CIO, Railroad Brotherhoods and several other independent labor unions.

(Continued on Page 4)

Major Steps in the March on Munda



Here is how thousands of American soldiers and marines, ably assisted by the navy, are closing in, by land, sea and air in a campaign aimed at the capture of the bomb-shattered Jap base at Munda, in the central Solomons. Today's big news from the south Pacific was that three or four more Jap battleships have been sunk near Vila.

Parents Warned Of Pool Danger

Swimming is proving to be the most popular activity in warm summer days at Harmon playground, according to the directors. Yesterday afternoon an estimated 175 children were at the pool at one time.

The directors again warn parents that the pool is not safe for beginners or non-swimmers of any age. Parents should not allow their children to come to the pool unless they can swim.

At least five non-swimmers have been rescued in the past two weeks when they got too far out into the pool, the directors report. "Cooperation of parents, as well as older persons using the pool, is needed if serious accidents are to be avoided," they added.

Hours Are Set
Swimming hours at the pool are from 2 to 5 o'clock in the afternoon and 7 to 9 o'clock in the evening, Monday through Saturday. Only at these hours are life guards on duty and the pool under supervision. It is illegal for civilians to use the pool at any other time.

In the morning hours and between 5 and 7 p. m. the pool is reserved for soldiers, either from Camp Abbot or from maneuver bases.

OPA Refers Rent Complaints To Committee Set Up in Bend

Several complaints made by Bend renters have been referred by the Portland OPA office to the Bend fair rents committee, according to D. H. Peoples, who acts as secretary of the local committee.

(Continued on Page 4)

Salem 'Wolves' May Face Loss Of Gas Rations

Salem, July 21 (UP)—Salem's "WOHE"—Wolves of the Home Front—had something to howl about today.

Chief of Police Frank Minto checked license numbers of 25 adhesive tape stripped cars carrying the "wolves" as they circled a downtown block challenging a high school boys' organization to fight last week.

Names obtained from checking the plate numbers will be turned over to the Salem ration board and OPA for action and possible curtailment of gasoline to members of the "WOHE" Minto said.

One member of the group Reginald Alford, 20-year-old Portland shipfitter, is serving a 90-day jail sentence on a disorderly conduct charge.

Sicily Invasion May Scare Japs

Allied Headquarters, North Africa, July 20 (Delayed) (UP)—The Sicilian invasion plainly showed allied ability to mass overwhelming pressure any place and any time and undoubtedly damaged Japanese morale as well as that of the Germans and Italians, Lt. Gen. A. G. L. McNaughton, Canadian army commander, said today.

Complaints on rent prices are from the property of only a small minority of Bend landlords, according to Peoples, with the rest abiding by the agreement.

Complaints by tenants of unjustified rent increases should be reported to Peoples at the chamber of commerce office and will be referred to him by the committee for investigation.

Landlords who believe they have a fair reason to increase a rent charge, or persons who are renting property for the first time, should consult the committee for an appraisal of what they should charge.

\$100,000 Fire Hits Coast City

Astoria, Ore., July 21 (UP)—Damage estimated today at more than \$100,000 was caused Tuesday night when fire destroyed a hotel, a large rooming house and eight residences in the Finnish district of Astoria.

More than 200 persons, mostly cannery workers, fishermen and navy personnel were left homeless as a result of the blaze. Firefighters reported no deaths and only minor injuries, but a complete loss of all personal properties.

Two hundred fire-fighters from navy and coast guard establishments in the area and municipal fire companies of Astoria, Seaside and Ilwaco, Wash., across the Columbia river, answered the call and prevented the fire from spreading over the entire district.

Origin of the fire still was undetermined today.

Flier Loses Life At Redmond Base

Redmond, July 21—One member of a bomber crew was killed and several others slightly injured about 3:30 p. m. Sunday when their plane crashed on its return to the Redmond air base after a routine training mission, according to a release late Tuesday afternoon by Lt. Marion Killian, commanding officer at the base.

The name of the dead flier and the names of the injured, as well as the details of the crash-up, will be released as soon as next of kin have been notified, Lt. Killian said.

Kiska Japs Target For Surface Ships

Washington, July 21 (UP)—Two light U. S. surface ships shelled Japanese positions on Kiska yesterday, continuing the series of air and sea attacks designed to soften the island's defenses.

(Continued on Page 4)

Soviet Troops Only Five Miles From Foe Base

Nazi Evacuation Route From Orel Practically Immobilized, Reds Assert

Moscow, July 21 (UP)—Russian troops drove in behind Orel to within less than five miles of the Bryansk railroad today, practically immobilizing the only line for evacuation or reinforcement of hard-pressed German base.

Striking southward from captured Studenkovo, five miles above the Orel-Bryansk railway, the Russians brought it within easy gunshot range and left the threatened German garrison to the east without a feeder line, field dispatches revealed.

At the same time the red army stepped up its attacks along a 450-mile front running south from Orel, consolidating and expanding new gains which had carried spearheads across both the Donets and Mius rivers.

Battles Acknowledged
(The German high command acknowledged fierce defensive battles in the Orel salient and along the Donets and Mius rivers and conceded "local penetrations" by powerful soviet formations, but claimed the wedges were "cordoned off.")

(The London radio reported that Russian forces driving toward Orel from the east were less than seven miles from the city.)

Soviet military reports said the red army was advancing in all key sectors of the southern front winding down from the breached Orel salient to the sea of Azov in the Taganrog area. They described the Russian drive as a series of encircling movements reminiscent of the last great winter campaign which swept the German westward from Stalingrad.

Squeeze Tightened
The concentric squeeze on Orel was described as tightening swiftly, threatening the keystone city midway between Moscow and Kharkov not only with direct assault but with isolation for reduction of the German garrison in the manner made famous at Stalingrad.

Synchronized with the drive down into the base of the Orel salient from the north were intensified attacks on the sagging rim of the bulge from both south and east—attacks which yesterday netted 50 towns and villages.

Immunization Need Stressed

"Diphtheria immunization is of extreme importance for the protection of all children beyond the age of six months," Dr. Frederick P. Rogers, county health officer, said today in connection with the first of a series of weekly immunization clinics to be held Thursday from 9:30 a. m. to 11 a. m. in the courthouse offices of the county public health unit.

"Anyone beyond eight years old who has not been immunized, nor has had diphtheria," the health officer pointed out, "should be Schick tested to see whether he has natural immunity. If the test is positive, that is, shows no immunity, then he should be immunized. If negative, it illustrates natural resistance to the disease and no immunization is necessary."

Adults Susceptible
As non-immune adults are as susceptible to the disease as non-immune children, the county public health unit has set no age limit for the clinics. "Susceptible adults should receive protection," Dr. Rogers stated. "Diphtheria is in no ways foreign to Deschutes county. The increase in population increases the threat of the disease—consequently more attention should be paid to immunization. This service can be obtained from any practicing physician or from the county health unit."

SALEM RECORDS
Salem, July 21 (UP)—Incorporations: None.

Certificate of amendment: The Shevlin-Hixon Company a Delaware corporation, adds new articles and sets forth further duties of board of directors, company, 900 First National Bank Building, Minneapolis, Minn.

(Continued on Page 4)

Hitler, Mussolini Meeting In Italy Called Significant

Fascist Leader Believed to Have Notified Partner Military Help Needed in Southland

By Reynolds Packard
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Allied Headquarters, North Africa, July 21 (UP)—The reported meeting of Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini in northern Italy on Monday appears to be connected closely with the possibility of an Italian collapse.

The crumbling of axis defenses in Sicily undoubtedly prompted the meeting, which certainly could not have been a pleasant one with all the recriminations the two axis partners must have exchanged.

2nd July Quota Of Men Called

Group Leaves for Center in Portland; Transfers Are Listed in Big Unit

Deschutes county's second selective service group for July left this morning by bus for the induction center at Portland to enter the various branches of the service.

James E. Cochran was leader of the group and Darrell M. Ferns, assistant.

Those leaving were: Kenneth W. Mathers, Chester E. Kingsbury, Francis LeRoy Chitwood, Richard C. Davidson, Edward J. Williams, LeRoy Davis Halley, Lauren Paul, Alzman, Melville D. Sexton, Robert J. Campbell, Rollin Henry Thompson, Duane Allen Dawson.

List Continued
Harold Oliver Emrickin, Robert S. Fisher, Harry A. Peterson, Adelbert A. Skaggs, David C. Graham, Edward J. West, Robert L. Toney, Evan A. Sturza, Jay D. Weaver, Kenneth E. Eagles, James C. Cochran, Francis E. Opydyke, Walter J. Connolly, Roger E. Goodwin, Darrell M. Ferns, Lester Leroy Wickens.

Transfers Named
Vern L. Vasey and Fay L. Fillmore, transfers from other boards, left with the local group. William F. Bembry, George LeRoy Doramus, Edward Buhman, Arturo Monoz Molina and James S. Robertson were transferred to other boards for induction.

NIGHT CALL ANSWERED
The fire department answered a general alarm to The Brooks-Scanlon Lumber Company Inc. plant at 11:45 p. m. yesterday. A hog fuel bin at mill A had caught fire, resulting in slight damage to the bin.

Yesterday afternoon the department answered a still alarm to Greenwood and East Third street, where a grass fire was in progress.

Rome Again Bombed, Neutral Sources Assert; Foe Claims Allied Landing in Italy Repulsed

London, July 21 (UP)—Several incendiary and light bombs were dropped in the Rome suburbs during a 65-minute air alarm today, a Bern dispatch reported, but no planes appeared over the city itself.

A neutral source, cut off at 12:03 p. m. while telephoning Rome from Bern, later re-established contact with the fascist capital and was informed that the alarm ended shortly after 1 p. m., a United Press dispatch said.

There were no allied reports of a raid on Rome or its environs. A nazi broadcast said coast defense guns in southeastern Italy had beaten off the first allied attempt to land on the Italian mainland.

The alarm sounded only a little more than 48 hours after more than 500 American bombers subjected the Italian capital to its first air raid in history Monday. An alert also was sounded Monday night but no raid developed.

Allied Armies Capture Enna, Blast Catania

Yanks and Canadians Join to Take Important City Near Center of Isle

By Virgil IPakley
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Allied Headquarters, North Africa, July 21 (UP)—The axis is bringing in reinforcements for a last ditch stand around volcanic Mount Etna on the northeastern tip of Sicily, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower indicated today as allied armies stormed through the main enemy communications of Enna and slugged furiously at Catania on the east coast.

Americans and Canadians converged in a pincers with the aid of French Moroccan troops to capture Enna and occupy approximately one-half of Sicily's 10,000 square miles, cutting off axis rear guards and forcing the main enemy divisions back toward the northeastern peninsula opposite the toe of Italy's boot.

Hard Fighting Looms
Eisenhower said "the enemy apparently plans to make a stand along a line at the base of the northeastern peninsula, including Mount Etna." He predicted bitter fighting and slow advances in the final stages of the conquest of Sicily.

(Radio Algiers said Catania was being attacked from all sides and might fall at any moment.)

The fall of Enna, a town of 27,000 on a high horseshoe-shaped hill in mid-Sicily, cut off German and Italian rear guard troops and gave the allies control of a network of roads leading to all corners of the island. French Goumiers, native Moroccan troops, participated in the allied advance.

Canadians Close In
The Canadians closed in on Enna from the southeast, breaking through the German lines.

(Continued on Page 5)

Nine Lightning Fires Spotted

Nine lightning fires in the Deschutes woods resulted from storms that spread over Central Oregon early this week.

The fires, resulting from lightning strikes, were reported through the Deschutes national forest lookout system Monday evening and yesterday and men from the protective agencies on whose land they occurred were dispatched to control them.

One of the fires was on Tumalo creek, another near Lava island and three west of Benham falls. One was south of Sheridan mountain, two others near Pringle falls and another in the Fort Rock district.

All of the blazes were brought under control before they could spread.

A large grass fire on the east side of Horse ridge was reported to be under control this morning after spreading over many hundreds of acres of range land, under the jurisdiction of the federal grazing service. Lightning is believed to have caused the fire, which started about six or seven miles west of Millican.

Baseball
(By United Press)
AMERICAN
First Game—
Chicago . . . 011 000 000—2 11 0
Boston . . . 000 000 03x—3 9 0
Dietrich and Tresh; Hughson, Brown (9) and Conroy, Patee (9).
St. Louis . . . 000 000 000—1 5 1
New York . . . 000 000 000—0 9 1
Sundra, Hollingsworth (10) and Hayes; Wensloff and Dickey.

(Continued on Page 4)