

Capital Journal



Salem's Airport

is fast becoming one of the best in the west. What use is made of it depends on Salem and its enterprise in promoting utilization of the port. Join the army of airport boosters.

Weather

Occasional showers today, becoming fair Sunday afternoon. Temperatures slightly below normal. Friday max. 71, min. 50. Rain 0. River 1 ft.

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Saturday, June 21, 1941

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On Trains and News Stands—Five Cents

Crew of Submarine Dead on Ocean Floor

Close All Italian Consulates

Damascus Evacuated by French Forces

Heavy Allied Pressure Drives Vichy Troops to Positions Outside City

Beirut, June 21 (U.P.)—French troops have evacuated Damascus, it was announced officially tonight. The announcement said that Vichy troops were ordered to evacuate the ancient city because of heavy enemy pressure and in order to avoid fighting in the narrow streets and bazaars of the oriental metropolis.

The announcement said that French troops fell back to positions outside the city.

An allied column has been fighting just outside Damascus for several days and late yesterday opened fire on the city with artillery batteries, starting a number of fires.

Vichy Report

(A Vichy report said that the British had renewed their attacks on Damascus, virtually surrounding the city and that Gen. Henri Dentz, Syrian high commissioner, had reported that the situation there was "dangerous".)

Damascus is believed to be the oldest inhabited city in the world. Its principal thoroughfare—"The Street that is called Straight"—was famous before the time of Christ and is mentioned in Biblical passages. The city also is a Holy center for the Moslems.

Along with the evacuation of Damascus, authorities announced that another British column is driving into Syria. This is a motorized column, advancing on ancient Palmyra from the Iraq frontier.

Drive on Palmyra

Palmyra is about 100 miles from the nearest point of the Iraq frontier and lies about 140 miles east of Tripoli, terminus of the Syrian branch of the pipeline from the Mosul oil fields.

The announcement did not indicate exactly how far inside Syria the British column has advanced.

(Turkish sources have persistently reported that a British motorized force is advancing into Syria from Iraq but there has been no official confirmation from London or Cairo.)

Cairo, June 21 (U.P.)—The RAF middle east command announced today that the British fleet's air arm had attacked shipping in the harbor of Beirut, Lebanon, scoring four direct hits on a large jetty and hitting "a ship believed to have been a submarine."

The attack was yesterday, the RAF said, and came while RAF fighters were attacking armored fighting vehicles on the Damascus-Beirut road, destroying "a considerable number" of vehicles.

Axis War Economy Held Strengthened

Rome, June 21 (U.P.)—Authoritative sources said today the war economy of both Italy and Germany had been strengthened in agreements reached in Berlin which put "armed forces in position to meet new tasks."

The agreement, they said, was reached by committees which met in the past fortnight. Details were kept secret except for the disclosure that they were largely concerned with war supplies.

Economic, financial and monetary problems connected with the Italian-German occupation of Yugoslavia and Greece also were solved, an informant said.

Yugoslav King Arrives in England

London, June 21 (U.P.)—Accompanied by his prime minister and other ministers, 17-year-old King Peter II of conquered Yugoslavia arrived in England at 4:45 a. m. today and it was understood the Yugoslav government in exile would be established in London.

The party, traveling by plane, was greeted by the Duke of Kent, brother of King George VI of England.

British Stage Great Raid on Invasion Ports

RAF Offensive Continues in Waves—24 Nazi Fighting Planes Downed

London, June 21 (U.P.)—The air ministry announced tonight that at least 24 German fighter planes had been shot down during two RAF offensive sweeps over northern France today.

The British acknowledged the loss of one bomber and three of their own fighters in the day's operations, which began early and continued late in the evening of this longest day of the year.

In the big attacks British fighters accompanied heavy bombers in attacks on the "invasion ports" of the German-held French coast, the attacking planes roaring out over the channel in waves and their bombs exploding on enemy targets with earth-shattering reverberations felt on the English side.

Raid Objectives

The forays have twin objectives, informed sources said:

1. To continue pounding German-held bases and ports in northern Europe.

2. A campaign of attrition against the Luftwaffe which they said was highly successful, with a record of 48 planes shot down in a week—10 of them in today's sweeps alone.

Observers said British planes filled the skies over the channel in what appeared to be a non-stop assault on the Nazi-held "invasion coast line of France."

Explosions Heard

Two British planes were said to be missing from the combined bomber and fighter squadrons—one a bomber and the other a fighter whose pilot was saved.

Bomb explosions could be heard clearly across the mist-shrouded strait as the British bombers sandwiched between a strong escort of fighters carried out an evidently intense assault.

PGE to Purchase Butte Light Co.

Washington, June 21 (U.P.)—Request has been made by the Portland General Electric company of the federal power commission for authority to buy the Butte Light and Power company, Scotts Mills, Ore., for \$20,000, subject to certain adjustments.

The Butte company operates in Marion and Clackamas counties, in and around the community of Scotts Mills. It serves about 200 customers, the application said, and buys about 85 per cent of its electric energy from Portland General Electric.

The application states that customers will receive a substantial reduction in rates if the merger is approved.

The proposed merger has been approved by the Oregon public utilities commissioner in accordance with terms of a purchase agreement of May 15.

Turkey Bound to Neutrality in War

London, June 21 (U.P.)—A reliable foreign source said today the German-Turkey treaty contained a secret clause binding Turkey to benevolent neutrality in the event of war between Germany and soviet Russia.

The clause, which would bar the Dardanelles to Russian war or supply ships if the soviet union fought Germany, was said by this source to have been forced on Turkey by "terrific German pressure like the rest of the declaration of German-Turkish friendship."

This source said he was told by well-placed informants that Germany insisted on the Turkish pact as a prelude to what he called "big moves" in eastern Europe involving Russia.

These moves were said to be regarded by the Germans as necessary to insure their eastern frontiers against trouble and leave them free



Aboard Sub—Elneg M. P. Wangness (top), San Diego, Calif., and Lieut. Howard J. Abbott (bottom), Osceola, Iowa, commanding officer, were aboard the missing submarine O-9, the navy department announced in Washington. — Associated Press Photo.

Fascist Agencies Ousted Except Italian Embassy

All American Officials in Axis Lands to be Returned to United States

Washington, June 21 (U.P.)—The United States today ordered all Italian consulates in the United States closed and all Italian consular officers removed from American territory before July 15.

Undersecretary Welles, at the same time, announced that the United States embassies in Berlin and in Rome have been instructed to make arrangements for the return to this country of all American consular officials in those two countries, but at the same time to categorically reject allegations made against them by the Nazi and fascist governments.

All Agencies Closed

In addition to Italian consular officials, Undersecretary Welles announced that the Italian government had been requested to remove all agencies and organizations of the fascist government, with the exception of the Italian embassy here.

All German consulates in this country were ordered closed last Monday, and Berlin and Rome immediately retaliated by ordering United States consuls out of Germany, Italy and occupied countries. Italian consulates at Detroit and Newark were ordered closed several months ago, on charges by the state department that they had engaged in improper activities.

Inimical Activities

The German consular officials and employees were directed to leave for activities inimical to the welfare of the United States. Welles in a note to Prince Colonna, the Italian ambassador, said that "the continued functioning of Italian consular establishments in the territory of the United States would serve no desirable purpose."

After French Somaliland

Vichy, Unoccupied France, June 21 (U.P.)—The French said today that the British had sent an ultimatum to French Somaliland demanding that the colony join the de Gaulle movement and fight on the British side or be starved out by blockade.

Vichy sources had told earlier of increasing British and de Gaulle pressure against the east African colony on the Gulf of Aden—Surrendered by the British conquered Italian colony of Eritrea, British Somaliland and Ethiopia, now virtually free of Italian rule.

(Britain, too, holds sea supremacy in that area, strategically important because French Somaliland's capital and principal port, Djibuti, is linked by rail with the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.)

The French in a double protest to the British through their Madrid embassy and to the American government through their embassy in Washington, declared:

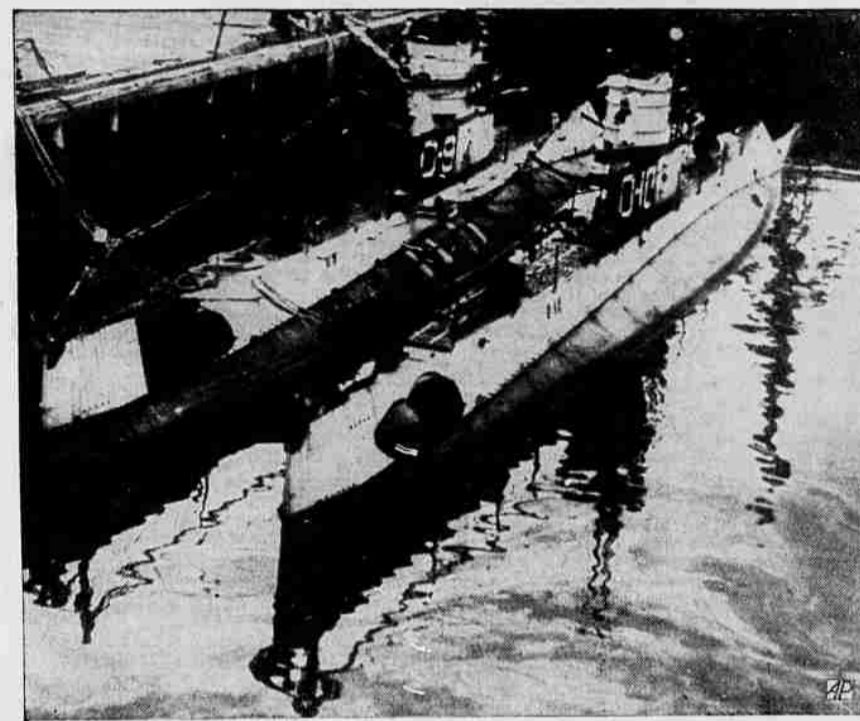
"This ultimatum, without precedent in history, means condemnation to a slow death by famine of a population, living in a land totally uncultivated, with the intention of forcing it to declare a rebellion against the fatherland."

Moscow Women And Children Leave

Helsinki, Finland, June 21 (U.P.)—Dispatches in the Finnish press from Russia indicated today that women and children perhaps are being evacuated to some extent from Moscow and other large cities as well as from some Lithuanian towns.

(An Associated Press dispatch from Moscow yesterday said all was quiet there.)

(The Vichy correspondent of a Swiss newspaper, Tribune de Geneve, quoted Swedish sources as saying that reported evacuation of children from Russian cities was explained officially as summer vacations.)



Missing O-9 and Sister Ship—The United States submarine O-9 lies at its pier in Boston navy yard with its sister ship O-10. The navy reported to O-9, recently recommissioned after lying idle for 10 years, was overdue after a test dive off the Isle of Shoals off Portsmouth, N. H. — Associated Press Photo.

FDR's Message Given Germany

Washington, June 21 (U.P.)—Sumner Welles, undersecretary of state, announced today that he had transmitted to the German government a copy of President Roosevelt's message to congress branding the sinking of the S. S. Robin Moor "the act of an international outlaw."

Hot Weather Rules in East

(By the Associated Press) The almanac listed the official arrival of summer today but folks in the sweltering eastern two-thirds of the nation vowed it had sneaked in with a full head of steam some time Wednesday.

Fans and ice cube freezers did extra duty from the Dakotas to the Atlantic where temperatures in the 90s were general yesterday.

And "more, but hotter" was all the Chicago weather bureau could offer. Forecasters said the spell would stay on for two more days and grow in severity.

A cooler mass, the bureau said, was expected to move in from the north Pacific coast or western Canada early next week, bringing scattered showers. Some showers and thunderstorms were expected today in North Dakota and parts of the central plains.

In the south where the air was heavy with moisture, heavy showers developed yesterday. Brownsville, Tex., had a fall of 2.28 inches in 12 hours. Amounts were heavy at other points along the Gulf coast, in Florida and scattered inland regions.

The mercury surged to 105 in Phoenix, Ariz., the highest in the nation yesterday. Yuma, Ariz., had 104 and other highs included 95 at St. Louis, 93 at Chicago, Cleveland Memphis and Albuquerque, N. M.; 92 at Boston, Philadelphia, Washington and Kansas City, and 91 at New York, Oklahoma City and Minneapolis and St. Paul.

More British Ships Sunk by U-Boats

Berlin, June 21 (U.P.)—Six British merchantmen and a catapult plane-equipped auxiliary cruiser—all together 52,900 tons of shipping—were sunk by submarines recently in the north Atlantic, the German high command declared today.

It reported that bombers, attacking last night off the Humber estuary, sank a 6,000 ton freighter and damaged two other large merchant vessels.

Draft Objector Quits Faculty

Newberg, Ore., June 21 (U.P.)—Edwin A. Sanders, serving a sentence at the federal road camp at Fort Lewis for refusing to register for the draft, has mailed to Pacific College his resignation as professor of English and German.

President Emmet Gulley of the Quaker institution said today the resignation doubtless would be accepted by the college board.

440 Feet of Water Crumples Vessel's Shell

Probably Impossible to Salvage Diver Which Will be Grave for 33

Portsmouth, N. H., June 21 (U.P.)—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox signified the "probability" today that the 33 officers and men who "died in line of duty out there"—aboard the pressure-crushed submarine O-9—would make their graves under the 440 feet of water where they now lie.

Returning to the Portsmouth navy yard after an inspection aboard the submarine rescue ship Falcon, 18 miles off shore, Knox declared:

"I would say that at that depth it is highly improbable that a salvage attempt would be undertaken."

He spoke even as an intrepid navy diver, George Crocker, was still below in the deepest emergency dive ever undertaken in the North Atlantic. Crocker faced the possibility of three hours below, and five hours in a decompression chamber, for the sake of five minutes of work on the deck of the sunken O-9.

No One Left Alive Knox said, in response to questions, that the accident to the 23-year-old O-9, which lay idle for ten years before it was recommissioned on June 1, would not affect the future use by the navy of the old type of undersea craft.

"There is every probability that there is no one alive down there," he added. "These men died—and I assume that they are dead—in a hazardous line of duty."

Knox said that if it was decided that salvage was impossible "some form of service" would be performed over the watery grave.

Knox had voiced almost similar thoughts before leaving for the scene this morning.

"At that depth," he said, "it is impossible for divers to conduct salvage operations so far as we now know."

"A Terrible Thing" Knox added, "It is a terrible thing," Knox added, "but everything that can be done will be done. I will go to the scene if there is anything I can do to help."

In Washington, simultaneously, navy men said they thought an attempt would be made to salvage the 23-year-old O-9, recently recommissioned. (Continued on page 7, column 4)

Prinz Eugen Hit In Sea Battle

London, June 21 (U.P.)—The 10,000-ton German cruiser Prinz Eugen was hit and badly damaged by a salvo from the 14 inch guns of the British battleship Prince of Wales before it escaped to Brest in the great naval battle in which the German battleship Bismarck was sunk, it was learned today.

The salvo was said to have set the new German cruiser, raiding partner of the 35,000 ton Bismarck, afire "like a ruddy fireworks show."

It was the battle baptism of the Prince of Wales, 35,000-ton British dreadnaught and sistership of the new King George V.

A cruiser of Germany's Hipper class, believed to be the Prinz Eugen, has been reported by the British at Brest with the 26,000-ton German battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst. All have been targets of repeated British air assaults on the Nazi-occupied French port.

Senator Harrison Growing Weaker

Washington, June 21 (U.P.)—Aides of Senator Pat Harrison (D., Miss.) gravely ill in emergency hospital, reported today that he was growing weaker.

Latest word was that his temperature was abnormally high and that he was unable to take nourishment.

Dr. Sterling Ruffin, the senator's physician, said shortly before noon: "The senator appears to be losing ground. He is not as well today as he was yesterday."

Harrison, president pro tempore of the senate and chairman of the finance committee, has been in a critical condition since an operation Monday for an intestinal obstruction.

Experts Will Discuss Needs of Airport Here

Qualified authorities on question of governmental control, requirements for army air bases and facilities needed to secure air mail and passenger service, will be the principal speakers at a public luncheon to be held at the Chamber of Commerce for the discussion of Salem's airport problems and the prospects of obtaining an army air corps cantonment here.

Assurances have been received from the district offices of the Civil Aeronautics Authority and the air corps that representatives of those branches of the federal service will be on hand to speak and answer questions concerning desirable developments here, with particular emphasis on the land needs for an adequate field.

United Air Lines, which has an application pending before the CAA for establishment of passenger and mail service here, will be represented at the meeting by E. S. Maroney, manager of operations for the company at Portland.