



# Capital Journal

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54th Year, No. 188 Entered as second class matter at Salem, Oregon Two S 16 pages Salem, Oregon Saturday, August 8, 1942 ★ ★ Price Five Cents

## Six of Eight German Saboteurs Executed

### American Naval Forces Attack Japs at Kiska

Bombard Ships at Shore Bases—Also Join Assault on Solomon Islands

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—Heavy attacks by United States naval forces on Japanese installations in the Solomon islands in the southwest Pacific and in the Aleutian islands off Alaska were announced today by the navy.

Air and surface forces joined in the assault on the enemy in the southeastern part of the Solomon islands. The navy emphasized that the attack was in "force" and that the battle was continuing.

Referring to the Aleutians where the Japanese have landed on three islands the navy said its forces bombarded enemy ships and shore establishments at Kiska.

#### Ships Played Part

In this engagement also surface units played a major part. Besides Kiska, the Japanese are on Attu and Agattu islands. The navy's communique, number 101, follows:

"North and south Pacific areas:

"1. U. S. naval and other forces have attacked enemy installations in the southern part of the Solomon islands in force and the attacks are continuing.

"2. Simultaneously, U. S. naval forces bombarded enemy ships and shore establishments at Kiska.

"3. No additional information is available at the present."

The Solomon islands are located between the New Hebrides and the Bismarck archipelago, extending over an area 600 miles long in a northwest and southeast direction and up to 100 miles wide.

Just what islands in the group were attacked, a navy official said, was not known in Washington.

The Solomons last were mentioned in the south Pacific campaign on June 12 when the navy told the story of the battle of the Coral sea. At that time it was reported that army reconnaissance planes had sighted the enemy with transports and supporting forces preparing to advance into the Solomon and Louisiade islands in April.

The following month the advances actually were made and bases for land planes in the Solomon and Louisiade group were seized by the Japanese. From those bases enemy shore-based aircraft operated prior to the Coral sea engagement.

### American Pilot Hero of Battle

London, Aug. 8 (AP)—Sergeant Pilot C. O. Snell, a Minnesotan, was rescued from the English channel after a 90-mile flight across water in a burning RAF Spitfire which ended when he bailed out, the air minister news service reported today.

Snell had been attacking shipping off the French coast with other RAF fighter pilots when an anti-aircraft shell explosion bounced his plane on the water. Snell pulled up quickly and, with machine gun fire, killed the German gunner firing at his flight commander, but the wing of his plane hit a ship's mast.

Anti-air port holes in the hood, wings, fuselage and gasoline tanks of his plane and Snell headed for home. His engine caught fire four times, but each time he extinguished the flames by side-slipping.

With his own clothing soaked with gasoline, he bailed out when the engine caught fire for the fifth time. He came down close to the English coast and was picked up by a fishing boat 20 minutes later.



Commander—Col. Robert T. Frederick (above), has been named to command an American-Canadian force of super-commandos training at Helena, Mont., and made parachute and marine landings of picked specialists in Aug. — Associated Press Photo.

### Ration System Contemplated

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—Uncle Sam was paving the way today for possible inauguration of a universal rationing system under which the government could determine the war-time allotments of all citizens for scarce commodities and articles.

The office of price administration disclosed it was preparing a general ration book, applicable to any article, which would enable the start of rationing "almost overnight."

Paul M. O'Leary, deputy OPA administrator in charge of rationing, explained the plan was designed to put rationing into operation immediately after the need arose. He said machinery was being set up for rationing many commodities "in which there is no present need for rationing."

"We're like the fire department," O'Leary said. "It gets its fire fighting equipment ahead of time so that when the alarm sounds they don't have to go shopping for a fire engine in order to go to a fire."

OPA said the general ration books were being designed "experimentally" at the government printing office.

"If it can be made workable, we would have in our hands an instrument that would enable us to start a rationing program almost overnight, instead of having to take six to 10 weeks as in the past when we have had to let the emergencies wait while we got scores of millions of coupon books printed," O'Leary said.

New Postmaster  
Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—President Roosevelt has sent to the senate the following Oregon postmaster nominations:

Cloverdale, Clifford O. Dougherty; Dallas, Tracy Savery; Silvertown, Henry Alm; Stayton, Grace E. Neibert.

### Say Japs and Reds Already at War

Seattle, Aug. 8 (AP)—Japan and Russia have been at war for some time and the Japanese have already sunk several Russian ships in the Pacific, according to "common knowledge" in Washington, D. C., Representative Warren G. Magnuson (D., Wash.) said yesterday.

Magnuson, a member of the house naval affairs committee, who until recently was on active duty as a lieutenant-commander in the U. S. navy, arrived from the national capital en route to Alaska to inspect territorial defenses.

The Japanese justify their sinking of Russian ships on the ground the Soviet vessels were carrying American materials, Magnuson said.

"War between Japan and Russia started," Magnuson told interviewers, "when the Japs began strengthening their forces in Manchuria and when they

### Indian Congress Adopts Gandhi's Plan in Total

Mahatma to Delay Civil Disobedience Campaign To Negotiate

New Delhi, Aug. 8 (AP)—The government of India tonight declined to negotiate with the All-India congress party on the basis of the party's Bombay resolution calling for immediate independence under threat of a civil disobedience campaign.

Bombay, Aug. 8 (AP)—The full working committee of the all-India congress today approved by an overwhelming vote Mohandas K. Gandhi's call for mass passive resistance, but Gandhi said the start of the campaign would be delayed until he has conferred with the British viceroy of India.

Thirteen of the committee's 360 members voted against the resolution.

"We shall make every effort to see the viceroy before starting our movement," Gandhi said.

Receives Somewhat  
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, influential congress member who introduced the resolution yesterday, said it was "not a threat" to Britain.

Ending discussion which preceded the vote, Nehru said the resolution was a question of co-operation in the war effort conditioned on India's independence.

Gandhi was reported to have receded from his plan to deliver a seven-day ultimatum to the British government on independence and to have drafted a most conciliatory letter to the viceroy in a last-minute bid for negotiations.

But quarters close to Gandhi who is delegated to lead the disobedience campaign, said he not only would act "step by step" so that an all-embracing campaign would not be started at once, but that in a letter already drafted he addressed the viceroy in "most conciliatory, most friendly and pleading terms."

It was expected the resolution would be passed today or tomorrow and Gandhi planned to send his letter Monday.

At first he proposed to enclose with it the resolution calling for disobedience as an alternative to independence now.

But well informed sources said today he now planned merely to send the letter so there would be no "impression of a threat, or even intimation, of a struggle."

To Avoid Break  
"It is a letter from a sincere friend to a sincere friend," an informant said, and added it was intended to avoid a catastrophe in event the viceroy's reply was unsatisfactory.

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They Shot Down Japs at Wake Island—Here is the crew of the army flying fortress which shot down four out of six Jap fighters over Japanese-held Wake island. They told the story of the fight at an interview at the Hawaiian air force headquarters. Standing (left to right): Bombardier Sgt. C. B. Phillips, Oneda, Tenn.; Lieut. C. B. Walker, Portland, Ore.; Major G. B. Glover, San Angelo, Tex.; Lieut. H. W. Smith, Bangor, Me.; Asst. Radioman J. F. Lillis, Williamsburg, Ia. Kneeling (L-R): Engineer R. A. Freis, Chambersburg, Pa.; Gunner E. H. Caton, New Bedford, Mass.; Gunner Sgt. J. T. Sanford, Long Island, N.Y.; Radioman R. L. Holliday, Milwaukee, Wis.; and Engineer Sgt. H. R. Inman, Scranton, Pa. This photo radioed from Honolulu to San Francisco. — Associated Press Photo.

### U.S. Airmen Raid Canton Airdrome

Chungking, Aug. 8 (AP)—United States army warplanes raided the Canton area again early this morning, shot down two Japanese planes and destroyed several more on the ground, Lieut. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's headquarters announced today. Still another enemy aircraft was listed as probably shot down in combat, though its destruction could not be confirmed.

The raid was the second on the Japanese air base at Canton in three days. Thursday American fliers were credited officially with destroying 10 grounded enemy planes in a surprise assault without loss to themselves.

(The Japanese in a broadcast from Tokyo reported that five American bombers accompanied by fighting planes were chased away from the Canton airfield this morning. The Japanese statement claimed two American bombers were shot down over Samsui, 30 miles west of Canton, and other planes, unable to reach their objectives, dropped their bombs haphazardly near Lungtan.)

Stilwell's communique said extensive damage was done to the "White Cloud" airdrome as well as to docks and harbor buildings in this morning's raid, in which the American bombers operated with a fighter escort.

At least nine Japanese fighters rose to challenge the raiders, but only after they had dropped their cargoes of high explosives in the target area.

Capt. Charles Sawyer was credited with shooting down one of the enemy fighters and Lieutenant Patrick H. Daniels another—both new type planes.

Aerial Gunner Cooney, a rear gunner in one of our bombers hit and probably destroyed a third Japanese fighter," the communique said.

Axis Subs Sink 3 More Ships  
(By the United Press)  
The sinking of three more merchant ships has been revealed, raising the total lost to Axis submarines and mines in the western Atlantic since January to 438.

One sinking was of a medium-sized Panamanian vessel, torpedoed and shelled in the Gulf of Mexico in June. One man was lost.

Another June sinking was of a medium-sized Norwegian ship, sunk by an Italian submarine in the Atlantic off the northern coast of South America. Four were missing.

A dispatch from Hamilton, Bermuda, revealed a German submarine torpedoed the neutral Uruguayan ship Maldonado on August 1, while it was enroute to Montevideo to New York, and kidnapped the captain. Thirteen survivors were brought to Bermuda by an American naval vessel. Thirty-five more were missing.

Sen. McNary said the plant would have one electric furnace with a capacity of 30,000 tons of steel annually and that a second furnace eventually would be added.

### Allied Convoy Sunk Say Nazis

Berlin (from German broadcasts), Aug. 8 (AP)—The German high command announced in a special communique today that an American destroyer and seven ships, totalling 49,000 tons, had been sunk from a convoy in the North Atlantic.

The North Atlantic action was described as a "difficult attack on a strongly escorted convoy," the special communique said.

Eight other ships were sunk in mid-Atlantic, in American waters and off the harbors of the West African coast, the communique said. These ships totalled 54,181 tons.

(There has been no confirmation of these reported sinkings from any allied source.)

"Among the ships sunk (elsewhere than in the North Atlantic) was a large vessel carrying munitions and another ship laden with tanks and aircraft bound for Alexandria," the communique said.

The communique said German submarines in sinking the 15 cargo vessels listed in the communique, had struck a "severe blow" to American supply shipping.

Ex-Premier of Burma Dies

Tokyo (from Japanese broadcasts), Aug. 8 (AP)—A Miyako dispatch quoting the Italian News Agency Stefani said today that U. Saw, former premier of Burma who was arrested by the British several months ago while en route home from England, had died in prison in Egypt.

Stalingrad Front  
On the Stalingrad front, the soviet command conceded fresh

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### 15 Tons of Bombs Dropped on Rabaul

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Australia, Aug. 8 (AP)—Striking their mightiest blow yet at Japanese-held Rabaul, allied airmen unloaded 15 tons of bombs on that New Britain invasion base yesterday and churned up destruction at Lae, New Guinea, with 2,000-pound demolition bombs.

Seven of 20 challenging Japanese Zero fighters were reported shot down over Rabaul at a cost of only one allied plane, although other raiders were damaged and there were some casualties.

This daring and destructive assault, by heavy bombers in daylight, was aimed at Vunakanau airdrome, the main enemy air base in New Britain. An allied communique said every one of the bombs hit the target area.

Medium bombers carried out

### Germans Strike At Approaches Of Oil Fields

Major Break Through Defenses of Maikop—Edge Close to Stalingrad

(By the Associated Press)  
Adolf Hitler's drive for the black gold of the Caucasus reached its first major goal today as the Germans smashed at the approaches of the Maikop oil fields, 10 miles south of Rostov, while in the north the invaders edged closer to the great steel city of Stalingrad.

"The situation is very tense," soviet dispatches said referring to the Caucasus.

For the first time, the Russians acknowledged that the Germans had lunged far down the west side of the Caucasus land bridge to the middle east after a major break through red army defenses.

Russian Admissions  
Dispatches to Red Star, the Russian army newspaper, said Marshal Semeon Timoshenko's armies had made a heroic but unsuccessful attempt to stem the nazi onslaught in the loop of the Kuban river above Maikop, in the Armavir sector, 160 miles south of Rostov, and east of Krasnodar.

The German high command said yesterday that nazi troops had advanced within 30 miles of the Maikop walls, which produce seven per cent of Russia's oil.

With the invaders so near, soviet demolition engineers presumably were ready to blow up the big field.

Tanks and Planes Used  
DNE, the official German news agency, said nazi troops had captured Kurgannaya, 30 miles east of Maikop. The town is midway between Armavir and Maikop.

Masses of German tanks were reported thundering into action across the sun-parched steppes, while clouds of dive-bombers hammered the soviet defenders.

British military sources said the Germans were throwing two panzer armies and two infantry armies of 10 divisions each into the drive. The two armored armies totalled between 10 and 15 divisions with about 4,000 tanks, while the infantry armies totalled approximately 300,000 troops.

Bulk of Axis Army  
"There is little doubt that the bulk of the German armored force in Russia is concentrated on this (Caucasus) front," military experts said.

Red army headquarters said the Russians fell back in the Armavir sector after inflicting bloody losses on the nazis. In one sector alone, the Russians said, 40 German tanks were destroyed and 1,000 Germans left dead on the battlefield.

Stalingrad Front  
On the Stalingrad front, the soviet command conceded fresh

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### Other 2 Given Life, 30 Year Prison Terms

Burger and Dasch Spared Because of Assistance To Government

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—The White House announced today that six of eight nazi saboteurs had been executed today, the first going to death by the electric chair at noon.

The two saboteurs spared were Ernest P. Burger, who was given a life prison sentence at hard labor and George John Dasch, sentenced to 30 years at hard labor.

These a White House statement said, had prison terms granted them rather than death sentences "because of their assistance to the government of the United States in the apprehension and conviction of the others."

Electrocuted in Jail  
The six who paid the death penalty for coming to the United States in nazi U-boats to burn and blast vital war installations were electrocuted in the District of Columbia jail.

The executions were carried out a month to the day after a military commission began trying them on espionage and sabotage charges. The eight men came equipped with explosives and materials for incendiaryism, four landing in Florida and four on Long Island.

The text of the White House announcement:

"The president completed his review on the finding and sentences of the military commission appointed by him on July 2, 1942, which tried the eight nazi saboteurs.

President's Statement  
"The president approved the judgment of the military commission that all of the prisoners were guilty and that they be given the death sentence by electrocution.

"However, there was a unanimous recommendation by the commission, concurred in by the attorney general and the judge advocate general of the army, that the sentence of two of the prisoners be commuted to life imprisonment because of their

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### Kaiser Starts Work on Planes

Washington, Aug. 8 (AP)—Henry J. Kaiser, west coast "miracle" shipbuilder, today began laying the groundwork for an organization to construct 5,000 giant, cargo-carrying flying boats to transport men and supplies into battle with the axis.

Having received a promise of full support from War Production Director Donald M. Nelson, Kaiser apparently was unworried by navy department reluctance to give its final approval.

Although the WPB chairman declined to comment, it was learned that the navy—which would use Kaiser's projected flying boats—has balked at signing a letter of intent for their construction. Nelson, it was said, is prepared personally to commit the government to back the program if the navy remains adamant.

The west coast builder last night left for New York, where he will await the arrival of his son, Edgar, from the west coast for a discussion on organizational details of the program. He received Nelson's assurance of full cooperation in an hour-long conference yesterday.

Nelson was represented as feeling that the program should be pushed through even if he must exercise the full authority of his directive from President Roosevelt giving him power to order the signing of contracts. His only proviso was that production of combat planes should not be interrupted.