



Buy War Bonds

Capital Journal



Keep 'Em Flying

54th Year, No. 203

Entered as second class matter at Salem, Oregon

Salem, Oregon

Wednesday

August 26, 1942

Price Five Cents

6 More Jap Ships Hit in Solomon's Battle

Roosevelt to Make 3 Major Radio Speeches

Anti-Inflation Address Scheduled for Labor Day

Washington, Aug. 26 (AP)—President Roosevelt today scheduled two additional major radio addresses, one of which, on September 3, will be addressed to the youth of the entire world.

The other, to be delivered August 31, will be made at the dedication of the new navy medical center in suburban Bethesda, Md., on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the navy's bureau of medicine and surgery.

The White House disclosed also that a forthcoming presidential speech centering on the problem of spiraling living costs and inflation probably would be on Labor day. Mr. Roosevelt had said yesterday he expected, on, before or after Labor day to send congress a message and make a radio address to the country on a plan now being evolved to combat inflation.

World Wide Broadcast
The September 3 speech will take place at 9:30 a. m., Pacific war time, and the immediate audience will be an assembly of the international students service here, including students from all of the United Nations.

Stephen Early, presidential secretary, said: "The president will speak through this assembly to the youth of the world everywhere, in United Nations and enemy countries, too, if they can be reached, emphasizing the duties, responsibilities and opportunities of youth in the days of war and in the days of peace that will follow."

Ships to Tune In
Early said an effort would be made through the army, navy and office of war information, to complete arrangements for men on naval and coast guard vessels and men in military camps, wherever they may be, to hear the chief executive's talk.

The August 31 address, which will be about 10 minutes long, Early said, is set for about 1:30 p. m. Pacific war time. The navy will arrange for the program to reach navy units and hospitals at stations all over the world where representatives of the bureau of medicine and surgery are on duty.

(Concluded on page 12, column 4)

Secret Weapon To Blast Nazis

London, Aug. 26 (AP)—The head of the United States army ordnance mission said today the British and Americans both were producing a secret weapon which would prove "a great surprise" to the Germans.

The ordnance chief is Brig. Gen. G. M. Barnes. Speaking after a tour of British munitions factories, he declared that United States and British armament production was sufficient both in quality and quantity for "the support of a full-sized army in any enterprise."

General Barnes said some of the new British weapons now in production were "real eye-openers." The general, 56, is chief of the U. S. war department design section and an expert on the design and manufacture of heavy ordnance, particularly anti-aircraft guns. He arrived in London recently at the head of a technical mission to work with the British in correlating allied fighting material.

He pointed out that the nature of his work, concerned chiefly with developing advanced types of munitions, must be secret, but declared neither the British nor Americans had to concede "any superiority to the Germans in qualitative weapons."



Duke of Kent

Axis Base at Dakar, Africa

(By the United Press)
A sudden spurge of axis propaganda interest in Dakar today aroused suspicion that Germany may be taking the first moves in a campaign to bring the vital West African base under nazi control.

Both the Berlin and Rome radios broadcast a series of rumors that American or allied action against Dakar is imminent. Other propaganda dispatches claimed that an invasion of Tunisia or a move against French Guiana is in prospect. The propaganda drive was keyed to Brazil's entry into the war and axis sources repeatedly noted that Dakar lies only 1,715 sea miles across the south Atlantic from the Brazilian bulge.

The first feelers came from Germany Tuesday, with the Dakar action "report." The United Press reported from Vichy today that such rumors had been current for 24 hours, but authorized Vichy sources said that "we have absolutely no knowledge here of any such attack," adding that weather in West Africa is unfavorable at present.

Italians Fear Southern Front

Bern, Switzerland, Aug. 26 (AP)—The Rome correspondent of the Tribune De Geneve said today that reports of allied concentrations of transports and warships at Gibraltar and west African ports were current in Italy, where they were interpreted as possible preparations for opening a second front.

The correspondent said that "these considerable concentrations," according to views held in Rome, might be intended as reinforcements for Atlantic convoys, "but it is also thought possible that they are destined for use in a surprise attack in the Mediterranean basin similar to that at Dieppe."

The correspondent said Italians are pointing to French Tunisia as "the most exposed point" in the Mediterranean and asserting that "Anglo-Saxon enterprises against French possessions have succeeded very well." (The reference presumably is to the occupation of Syria.)

Pickers Still Needed In Parts of Valley

Unless conditions change radically within the next few days, it is probable it will not be necessary to call upon a wholesale exodus from the city into the bean and hop yards, W. H. Baillie, manager of the local U. S. employment service stated today, although admitting that there is still room for pickers in all parts of the central valley.

"We have not been behind the eight ball at any time and prospects are right now that we will not be during the present harvest season," Baillie added. He spoke highly of the cooperation received from growers and from citizens of Salem and other communities who have responded to the call for harvest hands. The turn to cooler weather has slowed the growth of the beans somewhat, permitting the pickers to pull up even with the situation."

Britain Mourns Duke of Kent's Death in Crash

Brother of King Killed in Smash of Flying Boat in Scotland Hills

London, Aug. 26 (AP)—All Britain, where the grievous message "killed on active service" has darkened countless households, offered understanding sympathy today to the royal family, bereaved by the death of the Duke of Kent, King George's youngest brother, on a wartime mission.

The Duke, fifth in order of succession to the throne, died in the line of duty yesterday when the Sunderland flying boat which was taking him to Iceland for the RAF crashed in northern Scotland.

Circumstances surrounding the crash of the four-engined, 20-ton flying boat were held in strict secrecy but an authoritative source said it was in no way due to enemy action.

Crashes Mountain
The plane was believed to have crashed against a mountain.

The lord chamberlain announced that by command of the king the court would remain in mourning four weeks. The funeral is expected to be private. Fourteen of the persons in the plane were killed, and their bodies recovered. The only survivor was the rear gunner.

Among those in the plane was Michael Strutt, the Duke's aide and son of Lord Belper. The body of the Duke, who was the first member of the British royal family to be killed in an airplane and its first to become a fatality of war in a century, was to be brought to London later.

Investigation Launched
An air ministry investigation has been launched into the crash, which occurred in desolate country about 60 miles from the takeoff. Press reports said it was in an area where other planes have been wrecked. Semi-official sources emphasized that the pilot was one of the most capable in the RAF.

The 39-year-old youngest son of Queen Mary and the late King George VI was the most air-minded of all the royal family.

The marriage of the Duke of Kent to beautiful Princess Marina of Greece in 1934 was one of the most resplendent royal occasions of the century. They had three children, Prince Edward, 6; Princess Alexandra, 5, and Prince George, who was born last July 4 and bears the name of Franklin for President Roosevelt, his godfather.

Relatives Notified
As soon as news of Kent's death was telephoned to King George and Queen Elizabeth at one of their summer palaces, the king sent a special messenger to break it to the duchess at her simple Buckinghamshire house. (Concluded on page 12, column 8)



Ambassador Grew Returns from Tokyo—U. S. Ambassador Joseph C. Grew (right, center), home from Tokyo, was surrounded by newsmen as he left the diplomatic exchange ship Gripsholm at Jersey City, N. J., shortly after the ship ended its trip from East Africa, where the Americans were exchanged for Japs. — Associated Press Photo.

Prison Flax Fire Held Incendiary

Fire that late yesterday destroyed the second flax shed in five days at the state penitentiary, together with 900 tons of flax straw, was followed by an order from the state board of control today for a complete investigation into the two fires. The first fire, last Friday, burned a shed and about 25 tons of straw. The combined loss in the two fires is estimated at \$66,500, or \$6,500 in the first and \$60,000 in the second.

Claim Japanese Supremacy Lost

London, Aug. 26 (AP)—The London Star reported from Sydney today that reports from the Solomon Islands battle "show very clearly that Japan has finally lost naval supremacy in the southwest Pacific."

The Star reported that it could be assumed that the main fleets of both the United States and Japan are massing for a decisive showdown in the Solomons area. The battle, it suggested, may be "so big that the future may show it to have been another Jutland."

The German radio carried a report, heard here, that an American cruiser had been lost in the Solomons and that a Japanese cruiser had suffered damage but still was in action.

British Attack Axis in Desert

Cairo, Aug. 26 (AP)—The British imperial army broke the long lull in desert fighting west of El Alamein today with a heavy attack on the center of the line that followed an intense artillery barrage.

The attack, which may be the opening blow in the new battle for Egypt and the Suez, was spearheaded by New Zealand Maoris whose charge terrified the Italians of the Bologna division, holding the center of the axis line.

Cairo, Aug. 26 (AP)—Tension in the western desert was reported growing today with movement of German armored forces in the southern sector noted by British observers.

British sources believed that at any moment Marshal Erwin Rommel may launch a new offensive against the British desert lines.

In the northern area of the front, observers spotted Italian troops concentrating and apparently carrying out similar tactical preparations to those which occurred before the last axis push started.

Air action was reported increasing steadily with German night air attacks in the battle area having resumed.

One Junkers 88 was shot down by a New Zealand pilot, bringing the bag of his squadron to 288.

Chinese Attack Chuhsien Base

Chungking, Aug. 26 (AP)—The counter-attacking Chinese have occupied a point four and one half miles from Chuhsien and now are developing a "concerted attack" on that strategic Chekiang provincial city from which Japan could be bombed, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

Chuhsien is the site of the biggest air field in China, built by the labor of 200,000 coolies. The Chinese attack upon it extends the Chinese grasp upon the Chekiang-Kiangsi railway to about 165 miles, 40 of them in coastal Chekiang in a thrust from the west, the remainder in Kiangsi in drives from both east and west.

At one point in the present campaign the Japanese held the entire railway briefly. The Japanese today were reported to be still drawing their forces toward Nanchang, their big invasion base in northern Kiangsi province, following Chinese recapture of Tungtsiang, 50 miles to the southeast.

Tungtsiang, which Chinese reports said was recaptured Monday, became the 11th important point in east China regained by the Chinese in the one week since the invasion tide began receding in that area.

Like Shanghai, the first to be wrenched from Japanese control, Tungtsiang is a railroad center.

Local Will Forego Labor Day Lay-off

Aberdeen, Wash., Aug. 26 (AP)—A decision to forego the Labor day holiday this year because of the war was announced yesterday by TWA Local No. 2 through its president, Jack Wintrip.

The theory that the fires were started with matches or burning cigarettes by a convict momentarily out of sight of guards was considered most plausible. The mystery was deepened by the fact that both fires started 15 or 20 minutes after the gun gangs had been returned to their cells.

American Nurses Club in London

London, Aug. 26 (AP)—The first of seven clubs for United States army nurses on leave in London was opened today with a speech by Mrs. Winston Churchill, who expressed hope that "the furnace of war will forge a strong, live friendship" between Brits and the United States.

The club, which was organized largely through the efforts of Mrs. Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, wife of the United States envoy to several of the exiled allied governments in London, was accepted formally on behalf of the army by the chief surgeon in the European theatre, Colonel Paul R. Hawley, College Corners, Ohio.

3 Nazi Panzers Closing in On Stalingrad

Approaching City from 3 Directions—One Drive Halted—Menace Grows

London, Aug. 26 (AP)—The Moscow radio tonight reported that Soviet troops have broken through German defense positions in the Kalinin sector northwest of Moscow.

Moscow, Aug. 26 (AP)—A German battle force of 750,000 men, spearheaded by an estimated 25 armored divisions, was reported today closing in on Stalingrad from three directions, despite fierce Soviet resistance.

Soviet reports placed nazi advance guards less than 40 miles from Stalingrad due west of the vital Volga river industrial and communications center.

Front-line dispatches said the Germans are approaching Stalingrad from the northwest, west and southwest with crushing pressure that is crowding the Soviet defenders into an ever-narrowing defensive front.

One of the dangerous nazi thrusts—that moving down on Stalingrad from the northwest—was said to have been checked, at least temporarily, but there was an indication that the German push was losing any of its momentum.

The Germans were placed at about 75 miles northwest of Stalingrad, and 85 miles southwest of the city, in addition to the deep penetration due west of Stalingrad.

Fighting was said to be raging over a rectangular front area about 105 miles long and 40 miles wide between the Don, the Stalingrad-Novorossisk railroad and the Volga.

The task of the forces defending Stalingrad, it was said, was made more difficult by the lack of good communications. Three railroads radiating from Stalingrad have been cut, and traffic on the remaining lines is hampered by German air attacks.

The situation grew more grave by the hour. German planes bombed Stalingrad, a city of 290,000 people, in waves, trying to reduce it to the rubble and ashes in which they had left the Crimean fortress city of Sevastopol.

Claim City Burning
(The Italian radio said Stalingrad was burning after the heaviest German air attacks. "Numerous buildings in the city have been destroyed after repeated hits and are fiercely burning," it said. "The central railway station is aflame.")

German losses were fearful, but it was not doubted that they would pour more men, more tanks, and more planes across the great bend of the river Don in an effort to take one of Adolf Hitler's most coveted objectives.

The Soviet noon communique gave few details of the critical fighting.

Results So Far Encouraging To Americans

Total of 13 Jap Ships and 33 Warplanes Smashed—One Force Withdrawn

Washington, Aug. 26 (AP)—The navy announced today that American airmen had raised to 13 the number of Japanese ships hit in the renewed battle of the Solomon Islands and that one of the attacking enemy forces was forced to withdraw.

Revealing that six more Japanese ships—two destroyers and four unidentified vessels—had been hit, the navy also said that 12 more Nipponese planes had been shot down. This raised the enemy's aircraft losses to 33.

Explaining that it was still too early to estimate the outcome of the battle in which the Japanese are attempting to retake the islands, the navy said the results "are encouraging so far" for the Americans.

Guadalcanal Base
The communique revealed that American fighter planes were stationed at Guadalcanal, apparently making use of Japanese facilities which were on the island when it was seized by American leathernecks.

The navy stressed that while it was "still too early" to estimate the probable outcome of the big engagement "the results, to date, of the battle for retention of our foothold in the southeastern Solomons are encouraging."

No mention was made of possible large enemy air reinforcements, such as had been reported by the German radio today, and from the tone of the communique it appeared plain that the Americans were giving a superior performance in the air.

Text of Navy Communique
No. 112, at 2 p. m. EWT today: "South Pacific."

"1. It is still too early to estimate the outcome of the battle at sea being fought off the Solomon Islands, but reports to date reveal that our forces at Guadalcanal are holding their positions in the face of strong enemy thrusts and in each action have inflicted heavy damage on the attacking Japanese forces.

"2. During the previously reported shelling of Guadalcanal island on the night of August 23-24 (Washington date) our dive bombers damaged an enemy destroyer."

(Concluded on page 11, column 8)

Repatriates Being Quizzed

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 26 (AP)—Government officials announced today that about 150 passengers among the more than 1,400 repatriates aboard the diplomatic liner Gripsholm had been taken to Ellis Island for questioning.

While there was no official comment on the reason for this, ostensibly it was because officials had found their papers unsatisfactory or wished to question them more intensively.

The U. S. immigration station is on Ellis Island and it is there that enemy alien hearings are conducted. There was the possibility that some might have been transferred there because of illness, since there is also a government hospital on the island.

Until last midnight about 300 passengers—including all of the American diplomats—had been disembarked, but by 10 a. m. today only about four or five more had left the ship and a customs official said it would take several more days to clear all the passengers who were brought here from the Orient in exchange for Japanese and Thai nationals in this country.

Shattering Attacks By MacArthur's Fliers

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Australia, Aug. 26 (AP)—Allied planes of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's command, in a blazing day of action 700 miles west of the southern Solomons, have made shattering attacks on a Japanese convoy and three big enemy bases, it was announced today.

Sighting the enemy reinforcement convoy, apparently including troop carriers off the tiny Tobriand islands, 210 miles east of the new Japanese base in the Gona-Buna area of New Guinea, allied bombers sank one gunboat by direct bomb hits and heavily damaged two transports with gun fire.

Forcing their way over the dangerous Owen Stanley mountains of New Guinea through sleet-like rain, allied fighter planes made two surprise attacks on the Gona-Buna base.