

THE WEATHER

FAIR, CONTINUED warm tonight; becoming partly cloudy, slightly cooler Friday. Low tonight, 54; high Friday, 84.

Capital Journal

HOME EDITION

62nd Year, No. 165

Entered as second class matter at Salem, Oregon

Salem, Oregon, Thursday, July 13, 1950

(24 Pages)

Price 5c

Medford Cops Capture Ex-Con In Gun Fight

Gerald Macomber, Burglar, Yegg, Horse Thief, Held in Hospital

Medford, July 13 (P)—A blazing gun battle in a dark alley finished another chapter in the criminal career of Gerald Macomber, 27, ex-convict sought by Albany and Lebanon police for burglary, safecracking and horse thieving.

Macomber was under police guard in a Medford hospital after shooting it out with, and wounding superficially, city patrolman Richard Korner.

State police had lost Macomber's trail after sighting him near Fairview in Linn county. Macomber had eluded police by taking to the brush and apparently going overland until he found a car.

Woman Also Held

Jailed without charge was Mrs. Wilma Nichols, about 40, into whose home Macomber had crawled when wounded.

The gun battle that brought the hunt to an end was the third in which Macomber had figured since early Saturday.

Police fired at him as he leaped from a stolen palomino horse at Bates park, five miles south of Lebanon, early Saturday morning and fled into the brush. A massed hunt was made for him then with a communications truck directing state and Linn county police from an improvised field headquarters.

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Audit Ordered Of Firms Using Heavy Trucks

State Thought Losing Money on Fees Paid For Operation

By JAMES D. OLSON
In the belief that the state of Oregon is losing many thousands of dollars in fees on commercial trucks, Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry Thursday ordered an audit of all firms operating such vehicles.

The audit is being made in co-operation with the public utilities commissioner, Newbry said, and resulted from the audit of one firm operating 12 trucks in which the declared weights under which the trucks were registered were substantially below the true weights.

In this one case, Newbry said, the weight of each truck registered was given at 4,470 pounds whereas the actual weight of each truck was found to be 17,030 pounds.

65,000 Owners Notified

Inasmuch as the commercial truck fees are based on 90 cents for each 100 pounds, the loss to the state in this one case was approximately \$1000.

A letter has been sent out by the secretary of state office to the owners of 65,000 licensed trucks requiring weight certificates from certified scales on every truck. Such certificates must be forwarded to the secretary of state's office immediately.

Newbry said that his audit division would then check the certificates with the declared weights given by truck owners when the trucks were registered to determine if true weights were given.

Newbry Explains Reasons
If not, steps will be taken by the secretary of state to recover the money due the state.

"After talking with A. F. Harvey of the public utilities commissioner's staff I am convinced that the state has lost a large sum of money in fees paid by truck owners," said Newbry. "I am determined that the rates prescribed by law be paid by these owners and therefore have ordered the audit to be made."

Strikes Slow Auto Industry

Detroit, July 13 (P)—Supplier strikes and a shortening of steel gave concern today for the booming production of the auto industry.

Two strikes already have slowed assembly lines in some plants. The steel supply problem, however, loomed as more serious. Heavy production in industry generally has cut into steel stocks. The auto industry itself has been producing at all-time record rates. President Truman was said to be considering a request to congress for stand-by power to allocate steel and other critical materials.

The Ford Motor Co. thought for a brief time yesterday it might have to eliminate Saturday overtime work because of reduced steel supplies. But after rechecking the problem, the company said it would continue overtime production at 10 of its 15 Ford assembly plants.

Grand Jury to Probe Local Pinball Operations

By DOUGLAS THOMAS

A general grand jury investigation into pinball operations in Marion county was promised Thursday by District Attorney E. O. Stadler as he predicted more arrests for "free game" payoffs could be expected.

The grand jury investigating plan came as two Scotts Mills women—Mrs. Corwin Logue and Mrs. Nellie Shanks—were cited on charges of promoting a lottery.

Mrs. Logue, identified by the Marion county sheriff's office as owner of the Scotts Mills Coffee shop, and her waitress, Mrs. Shanks, were cited when payoffs were made to plainclothes deputies from the sheriff's office. The citations were issued at approximately 3:30 p.m. Wednesday.

"Part of the time I was sitting at the counter," Deputy Leo Zahar said. "I was reading a front page story in the Capital Journal about results of a pinball game in court earlier in the day when the payoff was made. Then, I tossed by badge on the counter."



\$300,000 Fire Hits Oregon City

Oregon City, Ore., July 13 (P)—Fire wiped out the J. C. Penney company store and six other firms here today with loss estimated at more than \$300,000.

A taxi driver turned in the alarm at 5 a.m. when firemen arrived a short time later, they reported flames filling the entire basement of the L-shaped corner building that covered about a quarter of a block at 6th and Main street.

Ralph Metz, Penney store manager, said merchandise and fixtures worth about \$100,000 were destroyed.

The building, owned by Miss Mertie Stevens, was only a shell two hours after the fire was discovered. Replacement cost was estimated at \$200,000.

The six other business establishments had in comparison a small loss although there was no official estimate. Some material from them was saved.

House Votes for Security Firing

Washington, July 13 (P)—A bill giving 11 government agencies heads the power to fire outright any employees they consider risky to U. S. security was handed over to the senate today following top heavy approval in the house.

By a vote of 327 to 14, the house late yesterday enthusiastically endorsed the proposal. It means that employees deemed to be bad security risks could be booted out without appeal.

There are about 800,000 federal employees in the agencies affected. While some house members raised the cry of "dictatorship," an overwhelming majority shouted approval of giving most government department chiefs "absolute discretion" to fire civilian employees they consider dangerous to the national security.

The authority would apply to heads of the state, treasury, commerce, justice and defense departments; the army, navy, air force, atomic energy commission, the national security resources board and the national advisory committee for aeronautics.

Their determination of a bad security risk would be "conclusive and final," and the only review of a case would be by the agency head himself or someone designated by him.

Salem, Ore., Mayor in Salem, Mass.—On a visit to Salem Mass., Mayor Robert L. Elstrom of Salem, Ore., and received gifts in return. Mayor Elstrom, second from left, is here shown presenting small jars of maraschino cherries. The gentleman about to receive one of them is Myron R. Hutchinson, president of the Salem, Mass., Chamber of Commerce and president of the Salem Evening News. At extreme left in the picture is Mayor Francis X. Collins of the Massachusetts Salem. At the right are Daniel J. Foley, executive director of the chamber, and Ivan Martin, Mayor Elstrom's week-end host.

Salem, Mass. Welcomes Salem, Oregon Mayor

Even western hospitality may have been dwarfed by the rousing welcome Mayor Robert L. Elstrom of Oregon's Salem received when he visited Salem, Mass., Saturday.

The Salem (Mass.) Evening News tells about it with two pictures and a complete story of the day's program.

Mayor Elstrom, accompanied by his daughter Patricia and Miss Anne Forristel, arrived in the Massachusetts city Saturday afternoon. They left there Sunday for New York to meet Mrs. Elstrom, returning from a tour of Europe and Africa.

The visitors were officially welcomed by Mayor Francis X. Collins of Salem, Mass., and Ivan G. Martin, business executive who a year ago visited here on invitation of a Salem man of the same name, the late Ivan G. Martin, attorney, by Myron R. Hutchinson, president of Salem, Mass., Chamber of Commerce and president of the Evening News; Daniel J. Foley, executive director of the chamber; and Mrs. Hutchinson.

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Million Sign Peace Petition

Washington, July 13 (P)—The house Un-American activities committee wound up today for a blast at an organization which has talked an estimated 1,000,000 Americans into signing a petition for "peace."

While the committee was preparing to issue a statement dealing with the "campaign committee for the world peace appeal," two members of the house group said an investigation has disclosed that the organization is dominated by communists.

Rep. Kearney (R., N. Y.) said the objective is "to confuse and divide the American people and paralyze their resistance to communist aggression."

Rep. Velde (R., Ill.) said "the traitorous and insidious activities of the American communist party members are well revealed by this so-called peace offensive."

Kearney and Velde told reporters they estimate 1,000,000 Americans have signed petitions being circulated by the campaign committee. They expressed the opinion that most of the signers were loyal Americans who merely thought they were expressing a desire for peace.

Wednesday with 94 Hottest Day of Year

The Wednesday maximum temperature of 94 degrees tied the mark of the season to date, the same figure having been reached on June 3.

Continued fair weather is predicted for tonight but the weather bureau forecasts partly cloudy skies and slightly cooler temperatures for Friday. The Thursday minimum was fairly high at 56 degrees.

Rainfall for the month is below normal for the period, only .03 of an inch being recorded here as against .26 of an inch for the normal amount. Precipitation for the season, however, starting from September 1, is above normal, 43.69 inches being measured against 37.21 inches for the normal fall.

B-29s Aid North Korea Reds Strike South Koreans

Mighty Armada Of Superforts Blast Enemy

(By the Associated Press)
Tokyo, July 13 (P)—A mighty armada of nearly 50 B-29s struck North Korea today. Their daylight raid inaugurated precision bombing in the Korean campaign. Five hundred tons of bombs were dropped on the target.

Two groups of superforts—rushed to the far Pacific in just eight days from the time they first were alerted on the U. S. west coast—attacked a key railroad center north of the 38th parallel.

Veteran fliers of World War II in Europe manned the planes. One plane commander, Lt. James T. Patrick of Carnation, Wash., commented:

"This will make Uncle Joe sit up and take notice."

O'Donnell in Command

Directing this major assault was Maj. Gen. Emmett (Rosy) O'Donnell, far east bomber commander. He led the first World War II B-29 raid on Japan.

All the superforts returned safely.

Allied aircraft have been keeping the pressure on Allied communications. An Air Force communique reported 38 Red tanks and 82 trucks destroyed. There was no lull in the air war. Nearly fifty B-29 Superforts plastered a key North Korean military target today with 500 tons of bombs in the mightiest single air blow of the Korean war. The mission inaugurated mass precision bombing by two groups of superforts rushed to the Pacific theater from U. S. west coast bases.

Crews hardened in World War II flew the big bombers through rain and mist for the mass attack on a rail center north of the 38th parallel. All the planes and their crews returned safely.

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Speed Flow of Arms to Europe

Washington, July 13 (P)—Strong sentiment is developing within the administration to speed up the flow of American arms to western Europe as a result of the Korean crisis.

Some officials are talking of sharply increasing, perhaps doubling, the present rate of delivery of \$1,000,000,000 worth of guns, tanks and other equipment now being given to this country's Atlantic pact allies.

Behind the scenes discussions of the state of North Atlantic treaty defenses reflect a widespread concern over the total defensive strength of the non-communist world.

The tense world situation is generating new pressures inside the government for some degree of home front mobilization in order to increase armament production.

Another and more direct pressure for marshalling more of America's resources for war is said to arise from the mounting evidence that the United States is in for a long and costly struggle in Korea.

North Koreans Agree to End War Atrocities

Tokyo, July 13 (P)—The Pyongyang radio said tonight the North Korean government has agreed to observe the Geneva convention regarding treatment of prisoners of war.

Battlefield reports have said 18 captive American soldiers were bound and shot to death by the invading communists.

Foreign Minister Pak Hong Yong, the radio said, sent a message to United Nations Secretary-General Trygve Lie agreeing to comply with Lie's request to treat prisoners humanely.

No Second Draft Call Planned

Washington, July 13 (P)—The army said today there "is no present plan" to issue a second draft call. It asked last Monday for 20,000 draftees.

A spokesman denied there were plans for a second call when told there were published reports the army would ask for 80,000 more draftees.

At a Pentagon briefing session for newsmen, a navy spokesman said that one British naval unit yesterday silenced three out of four Red Korean 75mm guns with which it exchanged shots near Inchon on the west coast of Korea.

He said the British ship suffered no damage.

Inchon is the principal port for Seoul.

Briefing officers described the establishment of Eighth army headquarters in South Korea as "significant of the build-up of U. S. forces."

General MacArthur's headquarters announced last night that Lieut. Gen. Walton H. Walker had assumed command of American forces in South Korea. Army spokesman said here that this meant no reflection on Maj. Gen. William Dean, who went to South Korea with the first American army troops sent from Japan. Dean commanded the 24th infantry division in Japan.

Clamp Down on Shipping News

Washington, July 13 (P)—Secretary of Defense Johnson today ordered the Army, Navy and Air Force to clamp down on news about the movement of troops, ships and supplies to the Korean war front.

Johnson sent secretaries of the three services a "security guidance" memorandum laying down the rules to be followed in the release of information. He also included the restrictions imposed by Gen. Douglas MacArthur for the far east command.

These regulations apply only to the release of information by military sources. This is commonly referred to as censorship at the source. There is no legal restriction upon disseminating and publishing news obtained by direct news reporting from whatever source.

Yanks Dig in Behind Vital Kum River Line

Tokyo, July 13 (P)—U. S. air forces threw their first mass B-29 superfortress strike at North Korea today, blasting a rail center with 500 tons of bombs.

The raid was made in daylight against a rail center north of the 38th parallel by nearly 50 planes. All returned safely to their bases, it was reported.

On the ground, weary U. S. troops dug in behind the vital Kum river while three North Korean divisions massed to the north for an assault over this natural barrier.

Reds Attack South Koreans

Communist North Korean troops started two heavy attacks about 10 a.m. today (4 p.m. July 12 PST) with about two divisions against South Korean forces in the central peninsula area, a headquarters spokesman said.

Meanwhile the American sector was very quiet while the Red Koreans shifted their attack to the South Koreans on two flanks.

The spokesman said Australian and American planes worked over the new attack area from dawn to dusk and added they would renew their strikes at dawn tomorrow.

The South Koreans were forced to give up some ground "but not much," he said.

Chochiwon, abandoned by the Americans yesterday, was hit by B-29s carrying six tons of bombs late today. Their specific targets were Red tanks and a broad road junction in the town.

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North Korean Communiqué

Tokyo, July 13 (P)—The North Korean radio at Pyongyang today issued its shortest communiqué of the war.

The broadcast monitored here said North Korean forces were "continuing their gallant fighting." It also said its fighter planes shot down two American P-38's Tuesday.

There has been no announcement of P-38s being used in Korea. Presumably, the Reds mistook the F-82s for P-38s. The U. S. Far East air forces said it lost no planes Tuesday.

A later broadcast by the Red radio in Seoul, fallen capital of South Korea, said communist guerrillas in Cholla Namto province of southwest Korea had attacked police stations Saturday and Sunday. The broadcast said many weapons were captured.

This report was supported by a spokesman for American headquarters in Korea. He told correspondents guerrilla activity in the southwest had been "stepped up" recently.

The Seoul broadcast said 88,000 residents of the city had volunteered for service with North Korean forces and were "already moving to the front."

B-29 Shot Down Near Seoul, Korea

Washington, July 13 (P)—The Air Force said today it had received a report that a B-29 superfortress has been shot down by enemy fighters near Seoul, the first reported B-29 loss to enemy action.

An Air Force briefing officer at the Pentagon said the report came from the pilot of a U. S. A. F. F-80 fighter who had been in radio contact with the B-29.

Dispatches from Tokyo told of a strike by B-29 superfortresses plastering a key north Korean military target with 500 tons of bombs. Tokyo reported, however, that all of the planes and crew members returned safely from that raid without meeting opposition.

The Air Force gave no indication as to when or how the B-29 reported lost was downed.

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American Gun Crew in Action—Members of the crew of an American 105 field piece turn away from the terrific blast of the weapon as it is fired somewhere on the western front in South Korea. (AP Wirephoto via radio from Tokyo)

Weather Details

Conditions will be favorable for all farm work. Friday, Maximum yesterday, 84; minimum today, 54. Total 24-hour precipitation: 0; for month: .02; normal: .26. Sea-level precipitation: 43.69; normal: 37.21. River height: -1.6 feet. (Report by U. S. Weather Bureau.)