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MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1943.

NO. 149.

ALLIES SEAL GAP AT SALERNO

News Behind The News by Paul Mallon

Washington, Sept. 14.—Wendell Willkie has given some signs of becoming a slightly altered man since his long sit-and-talk sessions on the Ellwood rail fence with the Hoosier Republicans.

Little wisps of unplayed statements from him lately show him denying the Wallace kind of globaloney represents his "one world" views; also announcing he will campaign for the Republican party candidate for lieutenant governor of New York.

The Hoosier homefolk politicians and the 27 national committeemen who visited him in Indiana, are being given credit within the party for having inspired these developments. The politicians talked gently to Willkie because they were not sure how strong he is, but made little secret of their current opposition to him.

THEY know he has a powerful organization and many friends and they, like everyone else, always want to be with the winner. But they told Willkie he must do two things if he is to get more than a minority of his ex-home state delegation to the Republican convention.

First: He must prove by actions that he is actually a Republican, drop his individualistic rule and do something to help the party and other people in it.

Second: He must show also that his policies are not a rubber stamp of the New Deal in international affairs.

Willkie came back at them trying to justify his position. Victory next year he said rested less upon party ties than upon getting the big independent vote. He also said he had nothing in mind like Wallace, and would make the difference clear.

What he has done since is in line with these Hoosier conferees.

(Continued on Page Six)

MUSSOLINI SHOT TO DEATH, CLAIM

Madrid, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Unconfirmed reports from Rome said today that Benito Mussolini had been shot to death during Sunday's clash between German paratroopers seeking to free him and Italian carabinieri.

(The German radio had reported that Mussolini's guards had orders to kill him rather than let him out of their hands but the paratroopers had surprised and overpowered the guards and taken Mussolini alive.)

PRISONS GET AWARDS
Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—The war production board said today that 15 state prisons have been awarded the national service pennant for outstanding achievement in war materials and food production and that 41 other institutions are due to receive the award shortly.

Lake Titicaca, South America, is 12,644 feet high—highest navigable lake in the world.

SIDE GLANCES By TRIBUNE REPORTER

Delphine Hinck admitting that she was quite unable to master the technique of riding a bicycle

John Mann making certain his old friend, Maj. "Red" McDonold, was being sent the Mail Tribune.

Frank VanDyke wishing that "sideglances" could show a little more sense of humor occasionally.

SEE-SAW BATTLE RAGES FIERCELY ON NAPLES BEACH

Anglo-American Forces
Slowly Gain With Arrival
New Air, Land Strength.

London, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Military observers reported tonight that Allied reinforcements were pouring into the Salerno beachhead in Italy.

By Michael Chinigo
Representing the Combined
U. S. Press.

(Distributed by United Press)

With Fifth Army in Italy—(U.P.)—The allies have sealed a gap separating them since the day of the landings in the Salerno area, appreciably improving their beachhead positions and relieving the supply strain.

These achievements resulted from a two-pronged envelopment, while further help arrived from the sea, greatly bolstering Anglo-American infantry and artillery strength.

Solidification of the front lines and the freshly arrived forces open new horizons for combating the enemy fire power.

Hun Attacks Fall

Since the zero hour the Nazi command, once it had identified the several allied toeholds, has attacked in strength again and again to attempt to destroy them in turn.

It shuttled forces from the Britons to the Americans and back again, seeking a soft spot for the initial kill, but never found it. Our lines were sometimes bent, but never broken. The Tommies and doughboys dug in and held when it counted most, when we were short of artillery and air support.

Now things are slowly changing. Our fighters are pasting the Nazi bombers and fighters. The battle still rages with intense ferocity, the enemy contesting every inch.

As I write the shells are bursting all around. Our artillery is replying in kind. The Germans are launching the large scale tank-infantry attack, bunching forces in hope of delivering smashing blows, which they couldn't do while we were separated.

Bari Falls

By Richard D. McMillan

United Press Staff Correspondent

Allied Headquarters, North Africa, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—The U. S. Fifth army has reeled back under heavy German counterattacks in the bloody see-saw fighting below Naples, a communique announced today, but another Allied column has seized the railroad junction and port of Bari in a 65-mile push up the Italian coast from Brindisi.

The Germans threw elements of three divisions—the 15th and 16th panzer and the Hermann Goering infantry—into a desperate effort to dislodge the American and British invaders from their 24-mile bridgehead on the Gulf of Salerno, some 30 miles south of Naples, and drive them into the sea.

The weight of the German counterattacks, backed by withering artillery barrages and swarms of dive-bombers, wrested some hard-won territory from the Fifth army, the communique acknowledged, but only at heavy cost.

A front dispatch from Reynolds Packard, United Press correspondent with the Fifth army, indicated that the Germans were concentrating on the central sector of the front in an apparent effort to split the Allied bridgehead. Other reports said Salerno itself had changed hands several times.

At least 40 German tanks, mostly Mark Vs, have been destroyed so far in the battle of Salerno Bay.

Italian troops who joined the allied invaders have turned artillery on the Germans.

Over the battle area, violent dogfights raged as allied and German planes tangled in a battle for mastery of the skies. At least 10 enemy aircraft were shot down by allied fighters yesterday.

Admiral Turns Fleet Over to Allies



(Acme Radio-Telephone)

NO COMMENT BY PRESIDENT UPON FATHER DRAFTING

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt declined today to answer directly questions on his attitude toward the father draft, but he indicated he felt those of draft age should be inducted if they are not performing any essential service to the war effort.

Mr. Roosevelt said at a news conference that he discussed the question of drafting fathers with congressional leaders in a conference immediately preceding his meeting with the reporters.

He added that Gen. George C. Marshall, army chief of staff, and Admiral Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the United States fleet, would testify before congressional committees about manpower needs.

The president said that under present selective service regulations a father employed in essential industry would not be drafted. But, he added, there are a good many fathers laying around neither in the army nor in the navy nor performing any essential service.

Mr. Roosevelt was asked whether his statement about fathers in non-essential services meant flatly that he believed they should be used for military service. He answered the question obliquely by saying he knew of a great many in this category; then he added that he knew of a great many in this category in Washington.

TURKEY HINTS AT ISLAND INVASION

Istanbul, Sept. 13.—(Delayed)

(U.P.)—Some diplomatic quarters believed today that an allied move against the islands of the northeastern Mediterranean—at least the Italian Dodecanese and possible Greek island as well—was imminent.

Except for the Dodecanese, all islands are garrisoned by Germans, it was reported. Their seizure would put the allies in position for a pincers drive on the Balkans, one arm from Italy and the other from the islands.

FIRST LADY ENDS ANTIPODES TRIP

Somewhere in Australia, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has left Australia for the United States after an 11-day whirlwind tour of army, navy and Red Cross installations during which she met Mrs. Douglas MacArthur informally.

London, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Spot and futures bar silver were unchanged.

NAZIS EVACUATE BRYANSK; SOVIET GAINS IN UKRAINE

London, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—The Germans reported today that their troops had evacuated Bryansk, key Nazi base linking the central and southern fronts, but the regular communique of the red army failed to report its capture.

The Soviet high command, breaking its custom of promptly confirming German confessions of losing important objectives merely reported "offensive battles" in the Bryansk sector.

Moscow dispatches, however, said the Russians had forced the Desna river, on the western bank of which Bryansk lies, and were storming the city.

Berlin said the Germans had withdrawn from the city, implying that they did so to avoid a threat of encirclement.

The Moscow communique said more than 250 towns and villages were captured by Red army units advancing in all the main sectors southward from Bryansk to the Sea of Azov.

In the lower Ukraine the Russians drove nine miles along the Azov coast to capture Yalta, 16 miles beyond Mariupol, and 20 other places.

London, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—A Russian communique reported tonight Red army advances of 12½ to 15½ miles in the southern Ukraine and the capture of more than 150 towns and villages.

Soviet forces pushing nine miles along the Sea of Azov coast captured Yalta, 16 miles beyond Mariupol, and a score of other places, the communique said.

ROOSEVELT PLANS MESSAGE ON WAR

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt announced following a meeting with congressional leaders today that he plans to send a message to congress on Friday dealing chiefly with the progress of the war.

The president revealed his plans at a press and radio conference just after the conclusion of the meeting. Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley, D., Ky., had told reporters that the decision to send a message had been made at the meeting.

It was made clear that the message would not deal at all with the manpower problem or other domestic issues.

NAZI SHIP SUNK

London, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—British light coastal forces scored a torpedo hit on a German patrol ship off Ijmuiden, Holland, last night the admiralty announced today.

Deepest sea in the world is the Mediterranean, at 14,450 feet.

JAPAN KEEPS UP TALK TO INDUCE CHINESE TO QUIT

Minister Soong Reports No
Chance—Nips Retreat in
New Guinea.

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Chinese Foreign Minister T. V. Soong said today that Japan is continuing its efforts to persuade China to withdraw from the war and join in a crusade against the occidental powers.

He added, however, that "no responsible political elements in China" support such proposals.

Soong told a press conference that the Japanese began peace overtures immediately after Pearl Harbor. They were willing to get out of China "if the Chinese would go along with them," he said, but he added that there had been no offer which would restore Manchukuo, which was taken from China in 1932.

It had previously been known that Japan was seeking to get China out of the war to release her troops tied up there but Soong's was the first word that this effort is continuing.

FINAL BLOW NEAR

(By United Press)

The Allied victory at Salamaua sent a disorganized Japanese force retreating toward the besieged base at Lae today and Gen. Douglas MacArthur's troops prepared to make a final assault against 20,000 enemy soldiers trapped on the New Guinea coast.

A communique announced that bomb-riddled Salamaua, which the Japanese established more than 17 months ago as an important naval and air base, had fallen Sunday to American and Australian troops.

The Japanese fled after their airbase was seized, and left behind big quantities of war material. The Allied troops began at once to turn the base to their own use to complete the offensive which was bidding to chop off 50 or more miles of New Guinea coastline.

Allied air forces hit the Lae area with 49 more tons of bombs, softening it for the attack. In another attack Saturday night, Liberators ranged 2,600 miles to hit the enemy base at Macassar in the Celebes with 27 tons of bombs, damaging oil facilities.

LABOR READY TO HELP HOTTENTOTS

New York, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Robert J. Watt, international representative of the American Federation of Labor, said today that American workers "are ready to help raise the standards of living in other nations but are determined to avoid any needless destruction of their own standards."

"We would rather spend large sums of money each year to deliver milk to the hottentots than to expend tens of thousands of lives periodically delivering explosive eggs to free the hottentots from aggressor nations in quest of world domination," Watt said in an address at a forum on "Our Future World."

IRAN NOW MEMBER UNITED NATIONS

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—The middle eastern state of Iran became the thirty-third member of the United Nations group today when Iranian Minister Mohammed Shavesteh signed the original United Nations agreement at ceremonies in the state department presided over by Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

FABER WAREHOUSE DESTROYED; LOSS ESTIMATED \$5,500

Origin of Fire at Central
Point Unknown—Smoke
Damages Stock.

Central Point, Sept. 14.—(Sp) Fire early this morning totally destroyed the grocery warehouse portion of Faber's Market in Central Point, causing damage to the building and to stored supplies estimated at between \$5500 and \$8500, according to Everett A. Faber.

The blaze, of undetermined origin, was discovered about 5:30 a. m. by E. C. Harris, employee of the Pacific Fruit and Produce company in Medford, who was en route to work. He turned in the alarm and the Central Point fire department and volunteers fought the conflagration for almost two hours before it could be brought under control.

Declared by Faber to be a total loss were large stocks of canned vegetables and fruits, along with the store's allotment of school supplies. Smoke, which rolled into the grocery store at the front of the building, caused an unestimated amount of damage to stock on the shelves.

Faber said the entire warehouse portion of the building would have to be rebuilt and that new rafters would have to be placed throughout the store. He said the refrigeration equipment, which is practically irreplaceable at the present time, was fortunately apparently not damaged.

Merchandise destroyed was partially covered by insurance, Faber stated.

CONGRESS EFFORT TO OUST THREE ASSAILED BY F. R.

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt today assailed a congressional rider aimed at ousting three allegedly subversive government workers, as an unconstitutional and unwarranted encroachment on executive and judicial authority. He declared it was not binding upon them.

In his first message to the convened congress, he once again made emphatic his disapproval of the legislative practice of attaching riders to "must legislation" to circumvent a presidential veto.

He has repeatedly criticized the practice as a device for thwarting proper exercise of the executive function and has more than once appealed for remedial legislation. His most recent attack was against the rider repealing the \$25,000 salary limit, which was attached to vital debt limit legislation.

The officials involved are Robert Morris Lovett, secretary of the Virgin Islands, and two employees of the federal communications commission, William E. Dodd, Jr., and Goodwin B. Watson. All were charged by the Dies committee with having radical leanings.

KURILES ATTACK COSTS 10 PLANES

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox agreed today that the latest American air raid on Paramushiro, Japanese naval base in the Kurile islands, was a comparatively costly one in U. S. aircraft lost but added that "nobody's invented a safe war."

He told his news conference that only four of 10 planes missing may have been lost by enemy action.

Actor Slain



(Acme Telephone)

Movie Actor David Gaspar G. Bacon, above, socially prominent Bostonian and son of a former lieutenant governor of Massachusetts, stabbed in the back, bled to death in a cabbage patch on the outskirts of Los Angeles after driving his car off the road into a field. Police searched for a black-haired man in a dark coat, whom a witness said he had seen jump from Bacon's slow-moving auto.

Hollywood, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—A complete death of clues and suspects in the "masked marvel" slaying of David Gaspar G. Bacon, handsome actor and scion of a wealthy Back Bay New England family, today left detectives mystified and hopelessly muddled.

The only possible clue to the stabbing, committed Sunday in the broadest California daylight, was Bacon's swollen right fist.

Police believe it indicated the 28-year-old actor attempted to battle his assailant shortly before a knife was driven into his back as he drove down the highway.

FONDA FORMALLY
DENIES HE'S DAD

Hollywood, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Lanky Screen Star Henry Fonda formally denied today that he is the father of Barbara Thompson's three-month-old baby and said he knows nothing about it.

The denial, filed in superior court, was contained in an answer to Miss Thompson's paternity suit. She charged the actor, now a quartermaster third class in the navy, seduced her in an El Centro, Cal., hotel room last fall while he was on a movie location.

Fonda said in his suit, however, that the pretty, twice-married divorcee "has frequently been arrested by Long Beach police on charges of drunkenness and immorality."

He added that she is known under numerous and sundry aliases.

DOWNY ASKS FOR LABOR BATTALION

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Sen. Sheridan Downey, D., Cal., today recommended that a mobile civilian battalion of 50,000 men be formed on the Pacific coast to help meet any "vital lack of manpower."

In a report on the west coast labor shortage filed with the senate military affairs committee, Downey said war production on the coast is now "demoralized and not meeting its quota." He headed a military subcommittee which recently investigated west coast manpower problems.

FR'S LEGAL ADVISER

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt announced today that Judge Samuel I. Rosenman of the New York state supreme court is leaving the bench to become his—Mr. Roosevelt's—legal adviser.

ACTRESS DIVORCED

Las Vegas, Nev., Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Screen Actress Ava Gardner was granted a divorce from her pint-sized film star husband, Mickey Rooney, yesterday after she testified "he went home to mother," it was learned today.

MAY BILL WOULD LEAVE DAD DRAFT UP TO CONGRESS

Hearings to Start This Week
—Calls For Discharge of
Fathers.

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Chairman Andrew J. May, D., Ky., of the house military affairs committee today introduced a bill to defer all fathers from induction in the armed forces "until congress shall declare otherwise."

The senate, meanwhile, postponed action on the Wheeler bill to defer drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers pending testimony of high ranking army and navy officials on manpower needs before the senate military committee.

May's bill would defer fathers of children conceived either before or after Dec. 7, 1941, and would authorize the secretaries of war and navy departments to release "as soon as practicable" any father who had one or more children at the time of induction, or has become a father since induction and requests honorable discharge.

May indicated his committee would start hearings on the bill this week.

Another bill, providing deferment only of fathers of one or more children conceived prior to Pearl Harbor, was introduced by Rep. Chester Gross, R., Pa.

Gross' bill would amend existing law to authorize deferment of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers until all prisoners between the ages of 17 and 45, now deferred, have been inducted. It would provide that imprisonment for any crime shall not be considered a bar to military service.

Washington, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—Top officials of the army and navy today were summoned to present to a senate committee this week their views on drafting of fathers, as the senate leadership temporarily sidetracked consideration of the Wheeler bill for deferment of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

Senate Democratic leader Alben W. Barkley, D., Ky., said the senate military affairs committee had agreed to call up Gen. George C. Marshall and Admiral Ernest J. King to testify on manpower needs in the light of latest military developments.

NAZI TRICK WITH P-38, DOWNS FORT

Los Angeles, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—How a masquerading P-38 type Nazi plane sneaked into an American bombing formation over the Mediterranean and shot down a Flying Fortress was revealed today by Maj. Robert J. Duval, 23, home on leave.

It would have been the squadron's 136th mission without a fatality.

"We were doing all right on that one until a plane resembling a P-38 with American markings slipped into our formation in escort flight without offensive action," he said. "It looked O. K. to us."

"Suddenly it peeled off to within 35 feet of a wing Fortress, blasting with all guns. Both the Fortress pilot and co-pilot were killed and the ship crashed into the Mediterranean. Three of the crew were rescued."

CASENZA FALLS

London, Sept. 14.—(U.P.)—An Allied communique broadcast by Radio Algiers today said the British Eighth army had captured Casenza in southern Italy.

Parchment gets its name from the ancient city of Pergamum, in Mysia, Asia Minor.

Sales in the Third Victory

Loan drive to date —

\$522,867.25