

FINAL ASSAULT ON TRAPPED NIPPONS IS BELIEVED NEAR

20,000 Believed Pinned in Lae Area—300 Casualties Estimated Up to Tuesday.

(By United Press)

Allied forces in New Guinea appeared nearly ready today for the final assault on the big Japanese force trapped at Lae.

Australian troops, bolstered steadily by reinforcements, were only two miles east of the enemy base and within 500 yards of one of its major air-dromes.

A combined American-Australian force on the west had cut through stiff resistance at three plantation strongpoints and were approaching a fourth only five miles outside Lae.

Third Column Drive From the south still a third column, pursuing remnants of the defeated Salamaua garrison, had rushed 10 miles to within some 11 to 12 miles of Lae.

Earlier reports from the southwest Pacific said nearly 20,000 enemy troops probably were pinned in the area. A spokesman's estimate placed the Japanese casualties at Lae alone at about 300 up to Tuesday.

Allied aircraft were pounding the areas ahead of the advancing Allies and sweeping nearby coasts to prevent an escape of reinforcements for the Japanese.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique reported that from 23 to 31 enemy planes were destroyed during heavy week-end raids on Bougainville, in the northern Solomons, and three more when Allied fighters beat off a force of raiders over Vella Lavella island.

WHISKY OUTLOOK WILL GET WORSE

Washington, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Prospect of a further cut in supplies of whisky and gin arose today following a war production board decision denying permission to the distilled spirits industry to produce beverage alcohol for the remainder of 1943.

The industry has been producing industrial alcohol solely since October, 1942, under WPB orders. While industry spokesmen maintained that they had asked no concessions, there has been agitation for a brief "holiday" so that the distillers could replenish dwindling stocks.

NEW NAVY BOMBER TO JOIN WAR ON U-BOATS

Washington, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Another type land-based bomber equipped with a potent new weapon will soon join the navy's war against the submarine, it was learned today.

The plane is the North American Mitchell medium-bomber, which will bear the navy designation PB-1. Its special anti-submarine armament will remain a secret until it goes into action.

This will be the third land-based multi-engined plane adapted to navy use. The others are the Vega Ventura and the PB-4Y.

Closing time for Sunday Too Late to Classify. 5:30 Saturday afternoon. Please remember.

Service Women Catch Fish



WACS, WAVES and SPARS stationed in Seattle, Wash., were guests of the Seattle Pogue Club for a day of fishing on a Puget Sound island. Here they display their salmon catch.

Clark Takes Command at Salerno



As his American Fifth Army troops battle to save their beachhead at Salerno, Italy, Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, left, and Vice Adm. H. K. Hewitt, commander of U. S. Mediterranean naval forces, study maps aboard the vessel that took Clark to Salerno, where he took personal command. Photo by Acme Newspictures Photographer Charles Corie for War Picture Pool transmitted by Signal Corps Radio-Telephoto.

AXIS DUE FOR NEW INCREASING BLOWS

Mexico City, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Predicting new and harder blows against Germany and Japan, Gen. George C. Marshall, U. S. army chief of staff, said last night that Nazi resistance in Italy is "just delaying things, but we will soon give them hell."

The general, speaking at a reception in the American embassy after his arrival aboard an army transport plane, said allied bombing of Germany has been very effective, shattering utilities and "badly disorganizing the population." And, he added, these air attacks "will get worse."

Marshall pointed out that the Japanese are having a hard time in the Pacific, but they "will have a harder time."

Columbus, O., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Ervo M. Beckett, Seattle Wash., chairman of the Washington liquor commission, was elected president of the National Alcoholic Beverage Control association at its convention today, succeeding M. L. Curtis, Des Moines, Ia.

Study Postponement of Father Draft



As Senator Burton K. Wheeler, right, of Montana, prepares to rush his bill for postponement of induction of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers, he is shown conferring with Senator Robert Reynolds, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

down over Rangdon on Sept. 10. Another Lightning was destroyed about 90 miles northeast of Rangdon Sept. 13, the broadcast said.

A Japanese base in French Indo-China reported, according to Tokyo, that three of five Liberators raiding Haiphong were shot down and the other two fled "in disorder." The raid occurred yesterday, Tokyo said.

INFORMER'S SUIT ASKS \$2 MILLION FROM WRIGHT CO.

Cincinnati, O., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—An informer's suit seeking \$2,000,000 was filed against the Wright Aeronautical Corp., Lockland, O., in U. S. district court today, based on the alleged manufacture of faulty airplane engines for the armed services by the company.

The petition was filed by W. T. Hall of Leesburg, Fla. Aubrey M. Folles, Cincinnati attorney, said he had received the petition by mail from Hall's attorneys in Florida, with instructions to file it in federal court here.

The petition alleged that 2000 engines were "defective and not suitable" to perform the work for which they were built.

The claims in the petition followed closely charges made by the senate Truman committee investigating war activities.

GENERAL'S WIVES IN WAR FACTORIES

New York, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—The wives of two United States generals in the Pacific and far eastern theaters are hard at work in war industries, it was learned today.

Brigadier General Caleb V. Haynes in dispatches from New Delhi, India, disclosed his wife was working for the Sperry corporation in Garden City, N. Y., "making the same equipment I am using."

It was also disclosed that Mrs. Constance Gibson, wife of Brigadier General Herbert D. Gibson of the Hawaiian command, is in charge of accounts of one of Sperry's largest sub-contractors. She went to production control school when the war started, saying she wanted to "speed the weapons."

All County Schools Open After Monday

All the public schools of the county will be open after next Monday, according to the records of the county school superintendent's office. The Medford, Talent, Jacksonville, Central Point and Phoenix high schools opening next week are the last. A majority of the rural areas schools started either September 13 or 20, with a few starting the first Monday of the month.

AERIAL ACTIVITY SEEN OVER CHINA

By United Press Increased allied air activity over the China theater was indicated today in Japanese broadcasts.

Radio Tokyo, heard by United Press at San Francisco, said a Lightning interceptor was shot

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LOCALS

Fines Levied—Charged with violation of the basic rule, Mrs. F. M. Curtis and Ruth E. Nelson were each fined \$10 in city police court today. Mrs. R. E. Patterson posted \$5 bail on a charge of driving a car without an operator's license.

To Remodel—L. L. Rentz applied at the city building inspector's office yesterday for a permit to remodel a residence at 702 Sherman street at a stated cost of \$200. C. L. Reaney applied for a permit to rebuild a private garage at 703 Sherman street at a stated cost of \$185. V. B. Jones of 420 Boardman street applied for a permit to construct a screen porch at a stated cost of \$50.

Plan Party—The Young People's group of the First Christian church of Medford is sponsoring a "Back to School" party at the church, Ninth and Oakdale Ave., tomorrow at 8 p. m. Advisors for the affair are the Rev. and Mrs. Ward A. Rice and committees in charge are Treva Rice and Derva Sater, publicity; Vera Smith and Shirley Morrow, decorations; Virginia Long and Betty Curry entertainment; Arleen Troxell, refreshments. All young people are invited.

Bishop To Be Here—The Rt. Rev. Benjamin D. Dagwell, bishop of the diocese of Oregon for the Episcopal church, will be in Medford Sunday to visit St. Mark's church. The bishop will preside at the communion service at 8 a. m. Sunday, will visit the church school at 9:45 a. m. and will occupy the pulpit for the morning service at 11 o'clock. St. Mark's church is temporarily without a rector, the Rev. Herald G. Gardner having left for his new work as dean of the cathedral in Salt Lake City.

New Manager—The Mutual Benefit Health and Accident Association and United Benefit Life Insurance company territory comprising Jackson and Josephine counties is now under the management of R. N. (Bob) High, whose office is in room 410, Medford Center building. Mr. High, who has been with the company for a number of years, has succeeded Marshall Reeves, who retired recently because of ill health. Announcement of the change was made

Membership in Bund Slaps Constitution

Chicago, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—A ruling by Federal Judge William J. Campbell today upheld the government's contention that membership in the German-American Bund was contrary to the principles of the constitution.

The ruling was a victory for the government in its denaturalization case against nine bund leaders and members. Campbell ruled in effect that the government had established through evidence a connection between the bund and the Nazi party in Germany.

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by E. J. Coffey, agency supervisor with headquarters in Omaha, Neb.

MEXICANS PLAN MUSIC PROGRAM IN PARK TONIGHT

The approximately 300 Mexican Nationals helping in the pear harvest here took the day off today in observance of Mexico's Independence Day, which was proclaimed on this date in 1810 and effected in 1821.

In celebration, the Mexican Nationals will feast on goat meat in the mess hall at Camp Prescott this evening. They were given their choice of anything they wanted to eat, and chose this delicacy.

At 7 p. m. a musical program will be held in city park, with many of their own number singing and playing musical instruments along with a group of Camp White entertainers and Camp Eve Prentice's accordion band.

Manager of the Farm Labor Center at Camp Prescott is Glen Thomas, who helped in arranging the program and goat feed.

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ALLIED SOLDIER 4 TO 1 BETTER THAN JAPANESE

Sydney, Australia, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Japanese morale is beginning to crack in the southwest Pacific and the Allied soldier is four to one the better man in battle, Maj. Gen. Horace H. Fuller, commander of the U. S. 41st division, said today.

Fuller, whose division distinguished itself in some of the hardest fighting in New Guinea, said the Japanese still have some fight left but now could never expect to win in New Guinea and the Solomons.

"Man to man I would put the American and Australian in New Guinea as four to one a better soldier than the Jap," he said. "Our men have a greater flexibility of mind. They're more resourceful and more ingenious."

Besides that, he said, Allied equipment and gunnery is better. The idea that the Japanese soldier is some mysterious kind of superman has been banished completely, he added.

Aviation Student Sit-Up Champion

Logan, Utah, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Kenneth A. Reid, aviation student of the 318th college training detachment at the Utah State Agricultural college, today claimed the national record for consecutive sit-ups after a two-hour and ten minute session in which he performed 2500 of the exercises.

The new record, exceeded by 1300 the old record set up last week by Second Lieut. Victor S. Wraslowski, engineering officer at the Mountain Home Airbase in Idaho.

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TONIGHT AND FRIDAY 8 O'CLOCK

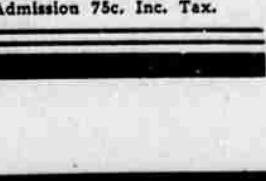
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