

CAPTURE OF CAEN IS REPORTED

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First Allied Assault Waves Establish Beachhead on Normandy Coast



Swarming ashore from thousands of landing craft, these Allied invaders head for French beach on Norman peninsula. Heavy surf and other difficulties made the operation hazardous, but American, British and Canadian assault forces firmly held pockets of undisturbed size and locations along 50-mile stretch between Cherbourg and the Seine were expanding their grasp on them in heavy fighting. Photo by Bert Brandt, NEA-Acme staff photographer, for War Picture Pool, radioed from London.

BIG BLOW KNOCKS FRUIT OFF TREES IN SACTO SECTOR

Sacramento, June 8—(U.P.)—The strongest June wind in more than 50 years ranging up to an estimated 60 miles an hour today damaged crops and buildings in northern California and contributed to an accident in which seven farm laborers were injured.

The state department of agriculture said it was expected that some fruit would be blown from trees and others would be bruised. Fruit crops where damage was expected included cherries, peaches, pears, plums, apricots, prunes, almonds and walnuts.

Yolo county farmers reported serious damage to the barley crop now ripening and about to be harvested. The wind was thrashing the headed grain. In the Winters area apricots were blown from trees and some trees were uprooted.

Similar damage was reported in the Sutter county "peach bowl" area.

One section of a warehouse was leveled in Woodland and property damage also was reported in Marysville. Velocity of the wind was estimated at 60 miles an hour in Marysville and 50 miles an hour in Woodland.

RACIAL STRIFE TIES UP PLANT

Lockland, Ohio, June 8—(U.P.)—The Wright Aeronautical corporation, warning that striking employees who do not return to their jobs by midnight Friday face dismissal today appealed to the more than 12,000 who had walked out to forget racial prejudice and resume production at the \$155,000,000 plant where not an airplane engine has been turned out since invasion day. The workers left their jobs in protest against the transfer of seven Negroes to engine cylinder shop in which only whites were employed.

CAR LOADINGS DROP
Washington, June 8—(U.P.)—Loadings of revenue freight in the week ended June 3 totaled 810,772 cars, a decrease of 59,088 cars from the previous week but an increase of 143,163 cars over the corresponding 1943 week, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

SIDE GLANCES

Charles Hansen finishing up his 16th year of service on a newspaper route at the age of 81 and still "going strong."
Rosie Rosenbaum reporting his car as "lost, strayed or l'en" and then being very mortified when the police found it at a service station where it had left it to be greased. Friends attributing his lapse to his decision to ride on an airplane for the first time.

Vaunted West Wall A Myth In One Area Says Famous United Press War Writer

(Editor's note:—In this dispatch written for the combined allied press, Richard D. McMillan, famous United Press war correspondent, reports that a tour of at least one French coastal area convinced him that the vaunted German "west wall" was a myth.)

By Richard D. McMillan
United Press Correspondent
(Representing the combined Allied Press)

With the Allied invading forces, France, June 8—(U.P.)—Our tanks are rapidly widening a great bulge inside the Atlantic wall.

I have just completed a tour of the front line covering nearly 30 miles. We have captured towns and villages and the whole countryside is beflagged with Union Jacks, the Stars and Stripes, and the French tricolor.

Crowds Cheer
Crowds are cheering the British and other allied troops, shouting "Bravo Tommies, we knew you would come. We have been waiting for you. Now we will kill these hated Germans."

When I entered Bayeux the inhabitants were crazy with joy. As we reached the town, a squadron of our medium

bombers flew over low. Crowds pointed upwards, waving their hands as if the airmen could see them.

"That is what frightened the Germans most," the French said. "They hurried underground like rabbits when ever your fliers came over. During the last few days before the invasion, your air attacks were terrific. We could read fear on the faces of the Germans."

Line Biggest Bluff
What surprised me most was the weakness of the German defense line. I examined with great care the so-called Atlantic wall along this coast. It constitutes the biggest bluff of the whole war for it simply does not exist. Some prisoners told me that the Germans had been frantically trying to complete defenses but that the task had been too vast for them.

Although we have pushed far inland without encountering serious opposition, it must not be imagined that the Germans will not react as soon as they have grouped their Panzer forces. They have armored division elements and some tanks from another Panzer unit in the area.

They tried to hold us in the region of Caen and Bayeux but

our tanks were in greater force. We have thrown into battle British and American tanks and self-propelled guns.

Some of these actions have been responsible for demoralizing the enemy. It is a fact that all the French people with whom I talked spoke of the Nazi loss of courage. They may not be beaten but they are near to it.

Prisoners also said that the defeats in Russia and Italy are known to the rank and file and they realize it is all up with their cause.

Absence of enemy air activity was another major surprise of the battle of the Lecher. We must have pounded enemy airfields so systematically that they were unable to get their air force into the skies. They had a wonderful target during the first two days, as offshore there were thousands of ships of all sizes, loaded with troops, armor, and munitions, while smaller craft kept up a ferry service to and from the bigger vessels and shore. I did not see a single ship hit.

The opening of the western front was a flawless operation. It showed all the signs of a master mind. The vast machine worked without a real hitch.

PORTER J. NEFF DELEGATE FROM FOURTH DISTRICT

Salem, Ore., June 8—(U.P.)—Complete but unofficial figures for the Democratic delegation to the national convention were released today by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr.

The figures are official except for Multnomah county, where death of the county clerk delayed certification of the vote to Farrell. However, by adding the Multnomah figures as tabulated in Portland, Farrell was able to reach totals which undoubtedly will become the official returns in a few days.

The six delegates at large elected, and their totals, were: State Senator Thomas Mahoney, Portland, 55,276; Henry O. Hess, La Grande, 50,465; Douglas B. Anderson, Portland, 48,352; Charles T. McPherson, Portland, 44,725; W. A. Delzell, Portland, 44,173; and Nels Peterson, Portland, 41,154.

Unsuccessful were Harry Winkler, Portland, 41,047; James W. Eckerley, Oswego, 39,292; Nathalie E. Panek, Portland 36,230; Harry D. Boivin, Klamath Falls, 29,829 and Bruce Bevans, Portland, 19,779.

The congressional district winners are: First district, Charles J. Officer, Oak Grove, and J. F. Ulrich, Salem, unopposed. Second district, Henry C. Aiken, Heppner, and E. P. Ivory, Klamath Falls, unopposed. Third district (Multnomah county and technically unofficial), Robert A. Freeman and John J. Beckman, both Portland. Fourth district, Porter J. Neff, Medford, and Stephenson S. Smith, Eugene.

The delegation will organize July 8 and go to the July 19 convention in Chicago pledged to renominate President Roosevelt.

ALLIES CAPTURE HEIGHT IN INDIA

By United Press
Allied troops have occupied Aradura Spur, strategic mountain height south of Kohima in India, and captured Mokmer airfield on Biak Island, 900 miles south of the Philippines, communiques from the Pacific war theatres announced today.

British imperials captured the Aradura spur at dawn yesterday to gain control of the main highway to Imphal below Kohima, and left a Japanese garrison trapped in a small pocket facing certain liquidation.

Chinese and American troops made new advances into Myitkyna in northern Burma. American forces captured the upper end of the north Myitkyna airfield, while the Chinese made two 200-yard advances in the western and southern sections of the city.

There were no new allied reports of the fighting in central China.

DESPERATE NAZIS LEAVE FIRE WAKE IN ITALY FLIGHT

Retreat From Rome Rapidly Becoming Disorganized Rout; Allied Planes Active

Allied Headquarters, Naples, June 8—(U.P.)—Four powerful Allied columns swept 15 to 40 miles beyond Rome in headlong pursuit of the beaten German 14th army today, and front dispatches indicated that the Nazi retreat was degenerating rapidly into a disorganized rout.

Harried every step of the way by the onrushing American and British columns, the Nazis were reported putting the torch to everything in their way, blowing up bridges and highway junctions in a desperate attempt to escape.

Planes Gun Foe
Low-flying Allied warplanes machine-gunned the fleeing enemy, while a force of almost 500 American Flying Fortresses and Liberators swung out over the Riviera to blast their supply and reinforcement lines leading into France.

One Allied force drove up the west coast to capture Civitavecchia, 40 miles northwest of Rome. A second advanced along the Claudian way through Bracciano, 22 miles above the capital, and a third column raced 25 miles up the main Rome-Florence highway to the outskirts of Civita Castellana, capturing Nazi Field Marshal Albert Kesselring's former headquarters three miles below that town.

Simultaneously, British 8th army tanks and infantry, joining in the chase, surged northward along the east bank of the Tiber to seize Monte Rotondo, Sant' Angelo Romano, Guidonia, and Mentana, all about 15 miles beyond Rome.

FARLEY SEVERS LAST DEMO TIE

New York, June 8—(U.P.)—James A. Farley, chairman of the New York State Democratic committee, resigned today, severing the last official tie of a national political career that started with his managing Franklin D. Roosevelt to the presidency in 1932.

Farley announced his resignation at a press conference. His stepping down was viewed as one result of the virtual collapse of a drive against a fourth term for President Roosevelt, which Farley was known to oppose even more bitterly than he fought a third term in 1940. The resignation meant that Farley was bowing out of politics, temporarily at least, almost on the eve of the Democratic convention which was expected to renominate the president with little or no opposition.

In a statement at the press conference Farley said he was resigning for "business reasons."

Mrs. H. S. Hinman Resigns MarKade Club Leadership

Mrs. H. S. Hinman has resigned as director of the MarKade recreation center for servicemen located in the building of St. Mark's Episcopal church on North Oakdale avenue. She has been succeeded by Mrs. Ruth Holmes Boyd, who for the past several weeks has been serving as chairman of the Volunteer Service corps, committee through which girls and women of the district volunteer for hostess work in connection with recreation activities planned for servicemen. Mrs. Hinman had served as director of the center since its opening last June.

Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Hinman will leave for Long Beach, Calif., where they will visit their son, Lt. Robert Hinman, USN, and his wife and small daughter. En route home the Hinmans will stop in San Francisco.

Fighting More Savage As Germans Throw In More Armored Forces

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, June 8—(U.P.)—Allied armies have "completed successfully" the first phase of the invasion of France, it was announced officially today, and have swung into the battle to destroy German mobile reserves moved into the assault areas.

The United Nations radio at Algiers reported that the Allies had captured Caen, key transport hub nine miles inside Normandy and 17 miles southeast of occupied Bayeux, but confirmation was lacking.

The fighting in Normandy now is spreading, and is especially savage in many sectors as the Germans throw in more and more armor, the latest word at Allied supreme headquarters revealed.

Famous Panzers Back In War
Germany's famous 21st panzer division, which the Allies destroyed several times in North Africa and the Mediterranean theater, only to find it reformed, now is opposing the invasion forces in the Bayeux-Caen area of Normandy.

The Allies were striking out beyond captured Bayeux in an apparent attempt to isolate the Cherbourg peninsula and win the big port at its tip, one of the best in northwestern France. Air sources revealed that Allied planes already have begun to operate on airstrips in the assault area, big transports moving in supplies and evacuating casualties.

The completed first phase of the fighting was described officially as the securing of a foothold on the continent and the defeat of the German coastal troops in the assault areas.

Second Phase Now In Progress
The second, now in progress, is the elimination of German mobile reserves brought into the battle zone. The third, still to be fought, is the battle against the Nazis' strategic reserves which may be moved in to counter the invasion forces.

Engagement of the German strategic reserves "is necessary before a material advance can be hoped for," an official summary of the situation said.

The battle in France was revealed to have expanded markedly from the original combat area as the Germans threw in masses of tanks and crack infantry in an effort to stem the Allied advance before the beachhead becomes a major base and Cherbourg is cut off.

With the 21st panzer division already in action, fighter-bomber pilots reported that Mark VI Tiger tanks were moving up to the front.

Air Forces Keep Steady Pressure
Allied air forces maintained strong and steady pressure all day in support of the American, British, and Canadian land armies. Some 1,000 Flying Fortresses and Liberators paced the thousands of planes in action, hammering bridges, rail targets, and airdromes far out beyond the beachhead. American Marauders and Havocs hit rail targets in the Cherbourg peninsula, and Thunderbolts dive-bombed Nazi armor and traffic.

Spokesmen emphasized that until considerably larger forces on both sides have been engaged in decisive fighting, it will be impossible to gauge the success of phase two—the elimination of mobile reserves.

At present some phases of the invasion are ahead of schedule, some even with it and some behind, it was said.

The Germans already have switched some air reserves to fields near the battle area. Geographically they have the big advantage of a large number of airdromes within 100 miles of Bayeux and Caen. But it was questionable how many planes the strained German air force would be able to commit to the operation until the Allied overall plan becomes more apparent.



Big fleets of Allied aerial troop carriers, including a skytrain 50 miles long, pour reinforcements into France while landing ships send large forces ashore near Carentan, Isigny and Caen. Arrows designate chief points reinforced.

EASTERN FRONT GENERALLY QUIET

London, June 8—(U.P.)—Russian and German broadcasts agreed tonight that the eastern front was generally quiet, indicating that Red army attacks in Romania as reported earlier by both sources were small scale and brief.

"There were no important changes on the fronts," a broadcast Soviet communique said, and Lt. Col. Alfred von Olbert, Berlin radio commentator, said there was no large scale attacks in the east.

HOUSES OF CAEN BLOWN TO ATOMS

U. S. Fighter Bomber Base, June 8—(U.P.)—One minute the houses of Caen were sitting side by side, and the next minute there weren't any houses in the center of the town at all. There was nothing but flames, rubble and flying dust. Capt. James F. McCarthy, 26, Massachusetts, Thunderbolt pilot, told about it today.

"I have never seen anything in my life which frightened me more," he said. "I have never seen such devastation, such sudden destruction."

DENMAN NAMED TO GAME GROUP

Kenneth Denman, Medford attorney and president of the Rogue River Sportsmen's association, has been named a member pro tem of the state game commission by Governor Earl Snell. Denman will serve in place of Kenneth Martin, Grants Pass, member for this area, now going into the navy. The appointment will last until Martin's return.

The commission is composed of two members from east of the Cascades, two from the west section and a member-at-large, and Mr. Denman will represent the southwest area. He leaves tonight for Portland, where he will attend closed and open sessions of the commission the public session being scheduled for Saturday afternoon. At this meeting bag limits and season dates for the coming months will be set.