

JAPANESE MAINLAND BOMBED BY YANK SUPER-FORTRESSES

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

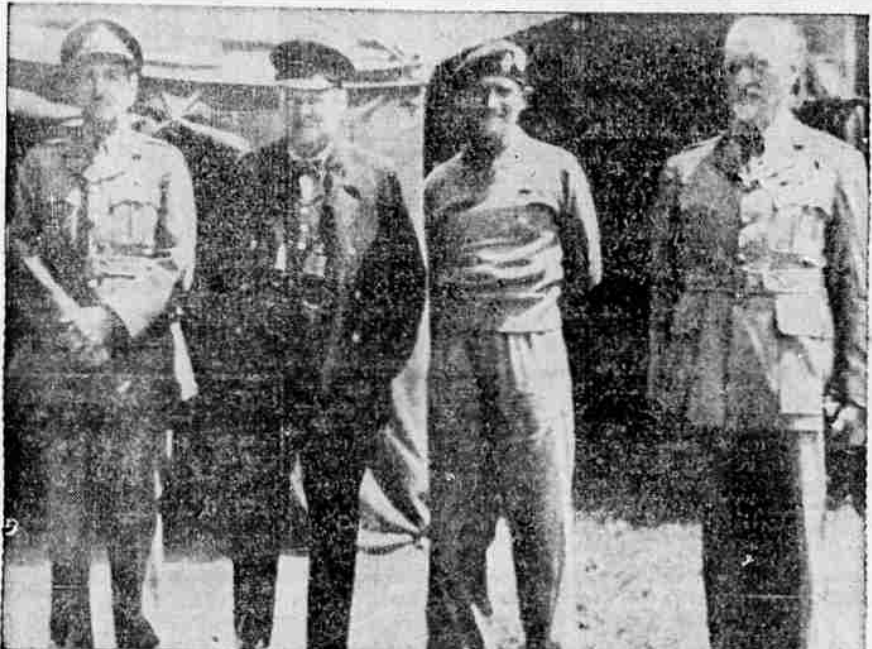
United Press—Full Leased Wire

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Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1944.

NO. 72.



LEADERS VISIT BEACHHEAD — Top-ranking military leaders of Great Britain visit Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's headquarters in France to get first-hand view of invasion operations. Left to right: Sir Alan Brooke, chief of British general staff; Prime Minister Winston Churchill; General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, Premier Jan C. Smuts of South Africa.

Medford Tank Commander Has Role In Flaming Battle Against Japs On Biak

Graphic descriptions of two flaming battles on Biak island in the southwest Pacific in which 25-year-old Capt. Richard Thierolf, tank commander from Medford, participated, has been told in press dispatches from United States Sixth Army headquarters.

In one engagement, according to the dispatches, American Sherman tanks knocked out eight Japanese medium tanks in a head-on clash during a fierce enemy counter-attack launched the day after Yank infantrymen landed on the island.

Advance Ordered
Capt. Thierolf, at the microphone in the control tank, gave his command—"Hiball!"—and the deadly steel monsters under his command roared forward. A large calibre enemy gun concealed in a cave in a cliff was silenced as Capt. Thierolf turned his squadron in line to smash at the cliff face with a barrage of high explosives.

After knocking out all the Jap guns the American tanks

withdrew for a fresh supply of ammunition, but a short time later enemy tanks were sighted coming down a road. The American tanks, reloaded, let them have it and the Japs turned tail and fled without firing a shot.

Another dispatch told of how U. S. tanks, after decisively defeating Jap tanks, had withdrawn to a rear position to rest and make ready for the next day's battling. Hot, dirty and exhausted, the crews had just dropped off to sleep at night when Japanese artillery located the concentration.

Guns Outraged
Desperately the tankmen jumped into their vehicles and began returning the Jap fire with their 75's, which were no match for the heavier enemy guns. For three hours the cluster of tanks fought through the uneven battle, trying in vain to locate the distant enemy guns. Finally, after American infantrymen, fanning out to protect the tanks, had suffered heavy casualties, Capt. Thierolf requested and was granted permission to withdraw his tanks, and also the infantry.

The withdrawal began but it didn't get far before it was stopped by road blocks set up by Japanese infiltration troops. As the line of tanks stalled Jap artillery once more got their range, setting one tank afire.

Jap Suicidists Busy
Soon after, fanatical Jap suicidists ran toward the American tanks with sticks of dynamite and tank mines in their hands. One big Jap, a large mine tied to his back, ran to within 15 feet of one tank before American machine-guns blew up

the mine and the Jap with a bulls-eye hit.

The tanks, however, finally fought their way clear and withdrew to safety after the night of horror.

Capt. Thierolf, unmarried, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Thierolf of 907 South Oakdale avenue. He was graduated from Medford high in 1937 and from the University of Oregon in the spring of 1941, and immediately entered the army.

He received his basic training at Ft. Ord, Calif., and from there was sent to the cavalry school at Ft. Riley, Kan. From Ft. Riley he was sent to Ft. Bliss, Tex., where he transferred to the tank corps and received special training. He was sent overseas in the summer of 1943 and has been in the southwest Pacific since.

SECOND FINN LINE BROKEN BY REDS

London, June 15.—(U.P.)—A Moscow communique reported tonight that Gen. Leonid A. Govorov's Red army had broken through a second strongly fortified Finnish defense zone in the advances on the Karelian isthmus.

In six days of the offensive aimed at knocking Finland out of the war, the Russians were reported tonight to have smashed through two strong Finnish lines advancing 25 miles and widening the breakthrough area to 45 miles.

Knockout for Germany by Jan. 1 Is Hope of U. S. Military Leaders

Washington, June 15.—(U.P.)—Acting shortly after announcement that American super-bombers had raided Japan, the house today passed and sent to the senate a \$49,109,922,795 bill to finance the army's worldwide operations during the fiscal year starting July 1.

Washington, June 15.—(U.P.)—The nation's military leadership now holds the "hope" that Germany will be knocked out of the war by Jan. 1, Rep. J. Buell Snyder, D., Pa., revealed today. He spoke to the house in his capacity as chairman of an army appropriations subcommittee to urge passage of a \$49,109,922,795 supply bill to meet war department expenditures for the fiscal year starting July 1.

"This bill," he said, "provides Gen. Eisenhower with his knockout punch. The first round started June 6. The day of the last round we just cannot predict, but we can fervently hope that it will come before snow flies again."

"It is the hope of our military leadership," he added, "that Germany will be out of the war before another year begins." Snyder referred to the measure as the "Hitler doom bill" and as one which "will soften Tojo for his doom that shortly will follow."

Lt. Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, deputy army chief of staff, warned the committee recently that the scale of coming battles would be "beyond anything heretofore experienced."

Cherbourg Isolation Near

YANK ARTILLERY WITHIN RANGE OF LAST LIFELINES

2½ Miles Gain in Few Hours Puts Invaders Within 4½ Miles of Roads.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, June 15.—(U.P.)—American troops partially isolated Cherbourg today by driving to within 4½ miles of the last German transport lines out of the great French port and bringing them under artillery fire and aerial bombardment.

The Americans last were reported seven miles from the Cherbourg escape lines in their drive across the waist of the peninsula and the new positions represented gains of 2½ miles within a few hours against mounting resistance as the Nazis struggled to protect their escape alley out of Cherbourg.

Yanks Fan Out
The United States assault forces were fanning out through Normandy in three directions, rolling up steady gains above Montebourg, below Carentan, and westward across the waist of the peninsula, and threatening to seal off completely the Cherbourg port, the richest primary prize of the invasion campaign.

Striking westward on a nine-mile front, the Americans were 4½ to slightly more than seven miles from the west coast railroad and highways at a number of points and already were pounding those vital Nazi arteries with their artillery.

Near St. Sauveur
West and northwest of Pont l'Abe the Americans were within 4½ to five miles of St. Sauveur-Le Vicomte, through which run the main west peninsula highway and railroad from Cherbourg, as well as the biggest canal on the peninsula.

The front running northwest from Carentan was a little over seven miles from La Haye-Du Puits, through which the highway and railroad also pass.

German resistance became steadily more intense as the Americans approached the transport lines. The Nazis poured in reserves in an attempt to hold the tip of the peninsula or keep open an escape route for the evacuation of the Cherbourg garrison.

Supreme headquarters disclosed that Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's expeditionary force was expanding its gains above Montebourg, 14 miles from Cherbourg, west of Carentan where a six-mile advance had been reported previously, and to the southwest in the same sector.

Heavy Fighting
While the Americans slugged their way forward against violent German resistance in some sectors, heavy but inconclusive fighting raged all along the remainder of the 105-mile front.

Field dispatches from France said Marshal Erwin Rommel was throwing fresh infantry and panzer divisions from all parts of France into a counterattack of mounting intensity which the German high command said was "moving toward its climax."

Savage street fighting still raged in Montebourg for the third straight day as the Nazis battled to block the American drive toward Cherbourg, striking on north and northeast and stabbing toward Valognes, 10 miles southeast of the big port. The Allies got another weather break, and combined fleets of fighters, fighter-bombers and medium bombers blasted and raked the Germans along and immediately behind the battle lines.

How The French Pronounce 'Em

By United Press

Here is how the French pronounce the names of the towns the allies are fighting for today:

Tilly Sur Seules—"Tee-lee Suhr Sir-ye"
Caen—"Kahn"
St. Lo—"San Loh"
Carentan—"Kahr-ohn-tahn"
Montebourg—"Moh-ni-boorg"
Valognes—"Vahl-oy-ni-a"

F.D.R. OUTLINES INTERNATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL

Washington, June 15.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt today for the first time outlined this government's plans for an international post-war security organization to be built around "a council, annually elected by the fully representative body of all nations."

In a statement issued shortly after he met with Secretary of State Cordell Hull and post-war planning experts of the state department, the president said this government proposed that the council concern itself "with peaceful settlement of international disputes and with the prevention of threats of the peace or breaches of the peace."

Court of Justice
"There would also be an international court of justice to deal primarily with justifiable disputes," the president said.

"We are not thinking of a super-state with its own police forces and other paraphernalia of coercive power," the president said in the first authoritative, public outline to come from this government.

"We are seeking effective agreements and arrangements through which the nations would maintain, according to their capacities, adequate forces to meet the needs of preventing war and of making impossible deliberate preparation for war, and to have such forces available for joint action when necessary."

CHINDITS CAPTURE BIG BURMA DUMP

Southeast Asia Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, June 15.—(U.P.)—British Chindit forces broke into the outskirts of the Japanese stronghold of Mogauing, in northern Burma, and captured an ammunition dump containing 200 carloads of arms and munitions, it was announced today. Striking suddenly out of the jungles east of Mogauing, the Chindits overwhelmed the surprised enemy garrison and seized the entire arms cache, believed to be the principal supply depot for the encircled remnants of the Japanese 18th division at Mogauing and Kamaing.

Oklahoma Governor Is Demo Keynoter

Chicago, June 15.—(U.P.)—Gov. Robert S. Kerr, of Oklahoma, a staunch administration supporter, was selected today to deliver the keynote address at the Democratic national convention which opens in Chicago July 19.

Kerr, who was among the first to advocate a fourth term for President Roosevelt, was picked as temporary convention chairman and keynoter by a unanimous vote of the convention arrangements committee.

GRANGERS URGED TO VOTE AGAINST SALES TAX PLAN

State Convention Hears Reports From Committees; Favor Bank Stock Change

Grants Pass, June 15.—Membership of the Oregon State Grange was urged by the State Grange interim legislative committee Wednesday to defeat the sales tax proposal which will be on the November ballot as convention committees made their reports to the 71st annual state session being held in Grants Pass. The committee followed a long-standing Grange policy in urging that the sales tax be defeated.

Support of the proposed constitutional amendment to discontinue the double liability requirements on stock of state chartered banks was recommended by the committee, as was the Burke wine bill, which was passed by the last session of the legislature and which has been referred to the people by referendum petition. The bill would require that all fortified wines and liquors be sold only through state operated liquor stores.

The State Grange agricultural committee recommended, among other things, that the sale of economic size farm units be discouraged and that farmers liquidate their debts in order to be free of debt when post-war readjustment takes place.

Garden Need Stressed
The committee report also stressed the need for continuance and expansion of the Victory Garden program, both for farmers and urban residents, in order to forestall food shortages which might become acute at a future date.

Among resolutions passed were those recommending that money used in post-war building should finance public work projects of lasting benefit, that the state game commission set aside annually a portion of license fees to finance feeding of deer reported starving in eastern Oregon and that a real dirt farmer serve on the peace council.

Harvest Bright
J. Ralph Beck, state supervisor of the Emergency Farm Labor Board, told the session that the outlook was very bright for the successful harvesting of Oregon crops. With the help of women, children, business men and Mexican laborers crops will be harvested on time weather permitting, he said.

Two points were stressed by Beck, namely, that farmers ordering harvest help must transport them to the fields, and that the labor he gets is not a replacement, but only a substitute. E. L. Peterson state director of agriculture, said the principle of subsidies is wrong and opined the need does not exist. He listed the government agencies that are vitally affecting the conduct of agricultural activities as the OPA, ODT, War Foods Administration, War Production Board and the War Manpower commission.

BASEBALL

National
Pittsburgh.....1 4 1
Cincinnati.....0 8 0
Butcher and Camelli; DeLacruiz and Mueller.

American
Philadelphia.....1 6 1
Boston.....5 6 0
Harris and Hayes; Hughton and Conroy.

U. S. wine drinkers consumed an estimated total of 93,560,000 gallons in 1943.

Attack Marks Opening Of New-Type Offensive Gen. Marshall Reveals

Washington, June 15.—(U.P.)—Rep. Joe Starnes, D., Ala., told the house today that the super-Fortresses in their attack on Japan today "successfully bombed Tokyo in a very heavy raid."

Washington, June 15.—(U.P.)—American "Super-Fortress" B-29 bombers today attacked Japan proper in what Gen. George C. Marshall hailed as the opening step in a new-type offensive against the Japanese.

The raid on the enemy's homeland—the first carried out by American airmen since the famed Doolittle raid of 1942—was announced by the war department in a brief statement which gave no details but said merely:

"B-29 Super-Fortresses of the United States army air forces 20th bomber command bombed Japan today."

Mariana Landing Also Raid
This first announced raid by the new B-29's came at a time when U. S. forces were pushing back the enemy throughout the Pacific. Only today the Japanese radio reported that American forces had landed in the Marianas Islands—only 1,500 miles from Japan and a doorstep to American re-entry into the Philippines.

The Super-Fortresses hit Japan from distant bases somewhere in the China-Burma-India theater, the war department disclosed. The China-Burma-India theater is a vast territory covering millions of square miles. But Marshall pointed out that the B-29's are capable of striking from "remote bases" and indicated that they might have flown from almost any part of that theater.

The department's announcement disclosed for the first time the existence of the 20th air force, a new organization which will have jurisdiction over all Super-Fortress activities.

New Super-Fortress Hugo
It was the first time the huge new "Super-Fortresses" were revealed to have been in action, although their existence has been known for some time.

Information made public coincidental with announcement of their attack revealed that they could have dropped their bombs from a height of more than 30,000 feet; that they could have cruised toward their objective at more than 300 miles an hour, and that they are half again as large as Flying Fortresses and Liberators.

Gen. Marshall said since the power of the new bombers is so great, the 20th air force would not be confined to a single theater. The new organization will remain under a central control of the joint chiefs of staff, with Gen. Henry H. Arnold, chief of the army air forces, directing B-29 operations throughout the world.

Major Task Force
"The planes will be treated as a major task force in the same manner as the naval task forces are directed against specific objectives," Marshall said.

Arnold said the use of the ships in combat "brings actuality to an air force's plan made years in advance for truly global aerial warfare." He hailed the B-29 as "a highly complicated and most deadly airplane, capable of delivering the heaviest blows yet known through air power."

"I assume the heavy responsibility for its employment under the joint chiefs of staff with full confidence in its potential use," he said.

Doolittle First

The first raid on the Pacific enemy's homeland was on April 18, 1942, when 16 B-25 Mitchell medium bombers commanded by then Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle—now a lieutenant-general—took off from the deck of the U. S. aircraft carrier Hornet and bombed Tokyo and four other cities.

That raid resulted in considerable destruction, but was costly to the United States in that all but one of the 16 planes crashed in China. The one exception landed in Russia, where its crew was interned.

B-29 SUPER PLANE

Washington, June 15.—(U.P.)—Here are the known features of the new Boeing B-29 bombers which bombed Japan today:

Construction—All-metal monoplane.
Size—98 feet long, 27 feet high, with 141.2-foot wingspan, half again as large as the Fortress or Liberator.

Power—Four 2,000-horsepower Wright cyclone engines, nearly twice the power of the Fortress.

Bomb capacity—Carries a greater bombload farther, faster, and higher than any other airplane in existence.

Speed—300 miles per hour, plus.
Ceiling—Well over 30,000 feet.

Armament—Multiple-gun power turrets, .50 caliber machine guns and 20 mm. cannon.
Weight and range—"Very heavy and very long."

Before wartime restrictions, Americans were eating twice as much ice cream as they did 20 years ago.

SAIPAN LANDING IS CLOSEST YET TO NIPPON LAND

Pearl Harbor, June 15.—(U.P.)

—United States assault troops have landed on Saipan Island, Japanese base in the Marianas, and are fighting against strong opposition in an invasion that moved our ground forces to within 1449 statute miles of Tokyo, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

The landings were carried out by strong American forces after a U. S. Pacific fleet laid down an intensive preparatory bombardment on Saipan, nearby Tinian, Pagan, Guam and Rota Islands in the Marianas chain.

Sea Force Aids

Carrier planes and a "portion of the battleships, cruisers and destroyers of the Pacific fleet," laid down the protective barrage for the American foot troops going in at the beaches, Admiral Nimitz said.

Initial reports from the invasion front indicated our casualties were moderate. The communique did not mention landings at Tinian, which previously had been mentioned by Tokyo radio.

1000-Mile Step

(Tokyo radio, beginning early this morning, issued a series of Domei News agency bulletins describing two "attempted" landings during a heavy fog Thursday morning.)

The invasion of Saipan represented a 1,000-mile amphibious leap for American forces driving toward Tokyo. It pounded a big wedge through Japan's island empire.

The landing was a bold bid for a strategic air and naval base which would put our war planes within five hours' flying time either of Japan proper or the Philippines.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

City Cop Walter Reinking calling Grants Pass long distance and getting Klamath Falls.

Navy Recruiter Herb Crain pleaded no end as what the Japs are currently receiving from the Yanks.

Charley Clay reminding citizens that war bond headquarters is not so rushed but that additional business can be cared for.

Sales to date in the Fifth War Loan Drive—

\$413,170.75

"E" Sales\$77,093.75

Quota\$600,000

Total Quota for County\$2,262,000