

Tokyo Claims U. S. Navy Losses Heavy in Marianas Fight

FIERCE BATTLE
IN PROGRESS IS
BROADCAST WORD

Navy Secretary Disclaims
Definite Information Of
Fleets In Contact.

Pearl Harbor, June 21.—(U.P.) American carrier-based aircraft attacked the Japanese fleet between the Marianas and the Philippines Monday in what may have been the opening round of a great showdown battle between the contesting navies of the Pacific, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

An afternoon communique disclosed that the U. S. Fifth fleet, commanded by Admiral Raymond A. Spruance, was closing in on the Japanese navy between the Marianas chain and Luzon, principal island of the Philippines archipelago.

Nimitz did not disclose whether American or Japanese losses in the Monday sea-air engagement.

It was indicated that the Monday evening action occurred about 850 miles west of the American beachhead on Saipan, in a great expanse of "no man's ocean."

By United Press

Tokyo radio broadcast today specific claims of heavy American naval losses in the area of the Marianas islands where Japanese broadcasts had reported a "fierce" naval battle between large American and Japanese fleets.

Apparently engaged in a propaganda war to goad the United States navy into premature disclosures of the situation in the Marianas, Tokyo radio broadcast a statement of Admiral Kinsuke Takahashi that "the enemy's landing operations on Saipan have offered us a golden opportunity to smash him with staggering effect. The enemy on Saipan is dependent on his communications and will meet with a serious crisis before the full force of our counter-offensive."

Admiral Losses
A home broadcast of Tokyo radio was heard acknowledging that the Japanese fleet had "suffered considerable losses of ships and planes."

Tokyo broadcast a Dornier dispatch claiming that a 45,000-ton battleship of the Iowa class was "sent to the bottom instantly" near Guam Friday morning.

The enemy also claimed two battleships, including one of the 35,000-ton North Carolina class, and four aircraft carriers, including three of the 24,000-ton Essex class and one of the 10,000 Independence class, were damaged.

The Japanese listed one heavy and one light cruiser sunk, and three heavy and one light cruisers damaged.

Washington, June 21.—(U.P.)—The U. S. Pacific fleet "may have succeeded in catching up" with all or a portion of the Japanese fleet west of Saipan in the Marianas yesterday, Secretary of the Navy James Forrestal said today.

He told newsmen that the enemy fleet had been sighted at various times in the last few days, "milling around" from 500 to 800 miles westward of Saipan.

Radio Silence
He said there was no definite information that battle had been joined, but only "some indication" that our forces have caught up with the enemy armada. He pointed out that the U. S. forces are under strict radio silence.

Admiral Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the U. S. fleet, who has just returned from a visit to the French beachhead and conferences with allies in Britain, was present at Forrestal's conference and said that he was "not worried about the outcome" of the current Pacific operations.

FOUR BREAK JAIL
Denver, Colo., June 21.—(U.P.) Four prisoners escaped from the Denver county jail today after overpowering the jail's physician, sawing the bars from an upstairs window and lowering themselves 45 feet by rope.

SIDE GLANCES
By TRIBUNE REPORTERS
Dave Rees trying to borrow a coat from a neighbor to cushion a circus chair.

Clyde Moffitt observing the antics of a circus goer and suggesting that she be added to the cast.

Bob McCarty, missing the circus because of a touch of poison oak.

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire
Medford, Oregon, Wednesday, June 21, 1944
Thirty-ninth Year
Press—Full Leased Wire

Weather
Forecast: showers this afternoon and tonight and Thursday. Little change in temperature.
Highest yesterday 73
Lowest this morning 54
Precipitation past 24 hrs. .15

CHERBOURG CAPTURE NEAR



COLONEL JOHN R. YOUNG

Colonel John R. Young Succeeds Gen. Thomas As Camp White Chief

Camp White, June 21.—Brigadier General Amos Thomas, who has commanded this post during most of its two-year history, announced his retirement today, and Colonel John R. Young assumed command.

Col. Young has been in command of the Western Personnel Reassignment Center here under General Thomas since that installation was activated in February.

Coming to Camp White in October, 1942, General Thomas directed the activities of the post during a period when thousands of troops, including two infantry divisions, trained here.

He succeeded Colonel Owen R. Meredith, the first commanding officer.

To Santa Barbara
The general said that he would spend some time in Santa Barbara, Calif., where his family has been living during his tour of duty on the west coast, before returning to his home in Omaha, Neb., where he had practiced law for 30 years prior to being recalled to active military service. He has not yet decided whether or not he will resume his law practice.

Colonel Young was commanding officer of Vancouver Barracks, Wash., before coming here to take charge of the Western Personnel Reassignment Center, one of three installations of its kind in the United States. He will continue as commander of that establishment, which is a part of SCU 1913.

Young Is Veteran
The new Camp White commander is a regular army man, enlisting in the cavalry as a private in 1910. Serving in World War I, he advanced to the rank of captain. After the war he was commissioned in the infantry, later was transferred to the field artillery. In 1940 he received the permanent rank of lieutenant colonel, and became a colonel in February, 1942.

General Thomas, though Wisconsin-born, claims Nebraska as his home. After receiving his degree from the University of Nebraska, he practiced law in Omaha until this country entered World War I. He served in France with the 88th Division (currently in battle in Italy) rising rapidly through the ranks of captain, major and lieutenant colonel. Returning to Nebraska after the war, he remained active in military circles, joining the National Guard.

In Legislature
He served six years in the Nebraska state legislature. In addition he has been chairman of the Omaha Municipal Airport and has also served on the executive committee of the Omaha American Legion post, now the largest in the country.

Maintaining his close army ties, he attended Army War College, 1925, and received his appointment as brigadier general in 1932.

In World War II General Thomas served at Camp Robinson, Ark.; Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.; Ft. Douglas, Utah; and as commanding general of the Southern Defense area at Victorville, Calif., before coming to Camp White.

YANKEE BOMBERS SHELLACK BERLIN
London, June 21.—(U.P.)—American Flying Fortresses and Liberators were reported by German radios to have carried out a "heavy" attack on Berlin today for the first time since May 24, when 1000 of the four-engine bombers hit the Nazi capital.

The enemy broadcasts, which described the Berlin attack as a "terror raid," said the American formations were engaged in violent air battles throughout northern Germany.

The German radios had reported the big bombers over the Reich from the northwest to the pre-war Polish border, where partial formations were said to be flying east and southeast, apparently into Poland.

Although the attack on Berlin by heavy bombers would be the first since the invasion of the Nazi capital has been hit four times by RAF Mosquitoes since Allied troops landed in France.

REDS SPEED PAST CAPTURED VIIPURI
Moscow, June 21.—(U.P.)—Triumphant Red army troops struck out from newly-captured Viipuri today in pursuit of disorganized Finnish columns retreating toward Helsinki under a hail of fire from Russian bombers and fighters.

Marshal Leonid A. Govorov's Leningrad army stormed into the ancient fortress city yesterday to complete a rapid 11-day campaign through Finland's strongest defenses in the Karelian Isthmus and bring the Soviet forces within 135 miles east of Helsinki, Finland's capital.

MUNICIPAL POOL LEFT TO VOTERS BY CITY COUNCIL

Special Election On Tax Levy To Raise \$62,500 Decided After Petition Presented.

Medford voters will go to the polls in a special election sometime before July 15 to decide whether the city shall construct a municipal swimming pool at an estimated cost of \$62,500, the money to be raised by a serial tax levy of three mills for the next two years.

This was decided by the city council last night after it was presented a petition, sponsored by the Medford Lions club and endorsed by 15 other civic, school and religious organizations with a total membership of approximately 3,500, asking that the election be held.

To Set Date

The motion that the election be held was made by Councilman J. C. Collins and was passed unanimously. An adjourned meeting was called for next Monday night, June 26, at which time date for the election will be set. It was pointed out that unless the election is held before July 15, and the tax levy voted, it cannot be certified for the tax roll this fall.

Earl Miller, president of the Lions club, read the petition to the council. It asked for a thoroughly modern class A pool not less than 50 by 100 feet in dimension, with suitable filtration, chlorination and heating plant, under-water lighting, bath house and administration building, and with all necessary sanitary features for pool cleaning and handling the bathing traffic.

The petition suggested the pool be located in the city playground south of Main street and east of Bear creek because of its central location and available parking facilities. Miller said that "estimates we have made show that such a pool should cost about \$62,500 complete with bathhouse, piping, fencing and parking, and that a survey indicates the pool could be self-sustaining by charging children 10 cents and adults 25 cents for its use."

Would Pay Own Way
E. H. Hedrick, city school superintendent who has made an extensive survey of construction and maintenance costs of swimming pools, told the council he was certain the pool would pay its own way, after construction, with intelligent management. His offer to manage the proposed pool for the first year was accepted by the council.

Organizations endorsing the Lions club petition were the Business and Professional Women's club, Jackson County League of Women Voters, city council of the Parent-Teachers associations, Zonta club, Rotary club, Lady Lions, Kiwanis club, Federated Church Women, Y.M.C.A., Girls' Community club and the Washington, Roosevelt, Lincoln and junior high school P.T.A.'s.

(Also see Council story on page 3)

Soup Ladle Helps Victim of Cave-in
Tacoma, Wash., June 21.—(U.P.) Pierce county deputy sheriffs today revealed how a Tacoma man, half buried when a well caved in, dug himself out with a soup ladle.

Deputies, responding to an emergency call, found Roy L. Stephens, 56, buried up to his hips in the tightly packed earth that avalanched down upon him while he was cleaning the well.

Fearing that a shovel would cause further cave-ins, the deputies dropped a soup ladle to the imprisoned man. Armed only with the kitchen utensil, Stephens dug himself free after nearly an hour's work.

FEDERAL HELP IN POSTWAR JOBS IS NEED, SAYS SNELL

Governor For Acceptance Of Aid, He Informs Federation Of Labor Convention

Eugene, Ore., June 21.—(U.P.)—Oregon should accept federal aid in providing post-war employment because it cannot handle the problem alone Governor Earl Snell told the annual convention of the Oregon State Federation of Labor here Tuesday night.

In accepting the aid the state must not lose its sovereignty, he added.

Nickerson Speaks

In discussing the theme of the session, preparedness for after the war, D. E. Nickerson, executive secretary of the organization, said, "No other element is so important in assuring post-war prosperity as that of collective bargaining."

He asserted that the goal of full employment is not unattainable. In the post-war period, labor means by full employment "the opportunity for every worker to find and hold a job for such time as he wishes, and the opportunity to change to another employer or to remove to another location without a long period of unemployment," he explained.

Morse Tells Goal

Wayne L. Morse, Republican nominee for United States senator, said the goal of labor and management should be to get government out of handling labor's affairs.

Among other resolutions introduced to the convention and referred to committees were resolutions requesting legislation for deportation of all Japanese not United States citizens and other nationals loyal to other countries and one requesting that proceedings of congress be broadcast on the radio.

Teamwork between labor, private capital and the federal government can provide the combination that will make possible a continued high level of production and employment in the post-war period. Paul J. Raver, Bonneville power administrator, said today in an address before the convention of Oregon State Federation of Labor here.

Fifth Bond Drive One-Sixth of Way
Washington, June 21.—(U.P.)—Sales of bonds to individuals in the first seven days of the Fifth War Loan totaled \$964,000,000, or nearly one-sixth of the individual goal of \$6,000,000,000, the treasury announced today. The overall goal is \$16,000,000,000.

Today's report covered the seven days of the drive through June 19, leaving seven days to raise the individual quota.

BASEBALL
American
Washington 3 8 0
New York 4 12 0
Haefer and Ferrell; Donald, Johnson, Turner and Hensley.

The only known quadruped redwood tree is in Lilley's Grove, Mendocino county.

Dewey Support Recognized By GOP Platform Drafters
Chicago, June 21.—(U.P.)—The "Draft Dewey" movement received prompt recognition here today as the republican national convention resolutions committee met to draft the 1944 platform and elected as vice-chairman Miss Mary Donlon, one of New York's two committee members.

Albany, N. Y., June 21.—(U.P.) Gov. Thomas E. Dewey said today he had been in touch with New York Republican leaders at Chicago for the party's national convention, but declined to comment on what he had said to them or on efforts to draft him for the presidential nomination.

Dewey said he talked with Herbert Brownell, his 1940 campaign manager.

bers. Sen. Robert A. Taft, Rep. O. was elected chairman.

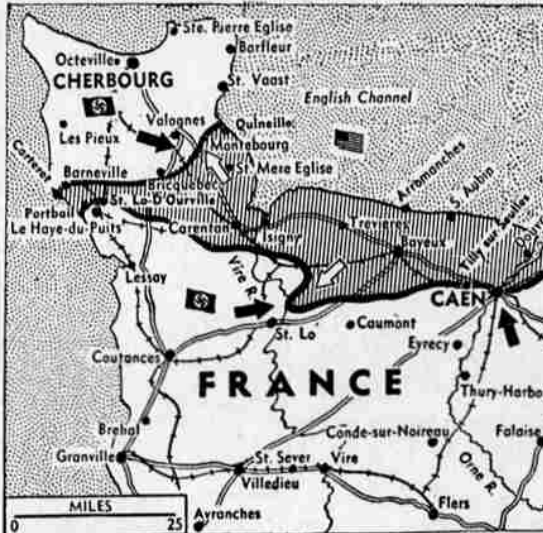
The committee convened shortly after 2 p. m. following a four-hour postponement of a scheduled morning meeting. Taft immediately proposed open hearings for anyone with ideas to present, and said the Mackinac conference resolutions would be presented day after tomorrow.

Miss Donlon's election as vice-chairman was considered significant especially in view of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's statement that his ideas on postwar foreign relations would be laid before the committee.

Meantime, the convention credentials committee met this afternoon at the Blackstone hotel to consider half a dozen delegation contests. The republican national committee met briefly in the morning to authorize the contest hearing.

The preliminaries opened with certain diversions in disputes involving former President Herbert C. Hoover, Wendell L. Willkie, and Rep. Clare Booth Luce, R., Conn., the GOP pin-up girl.

Yanks Widen Cherbourg Corridor



American troops expand and reinforce their corridor across Normandy Peninsula, trapping some 30,000 Germans in the Cherbourg area. New gains toward Valognes in frontal push against the big Normandy port.

PARK STAFF GOES TO HEADQUARTERS FOR SEASON STAY

Crater Lake National Park staff today moved its offices from the federal building here to park headquarters for the summer season. E. P. Leavitt, superintendent, states that the Medford office will be closed for the summer season.

Weather at the park has been unfavorable for the past several days with snow, rain and hail falling daily, he said. While travel to the lake is not encouraged, Mr. Leavitt stated that anyone planning to make the trip should wait until clear weather since on other days the lake is often not visible. A few carloads of visitors were at the park Sunday, Mr. Leavitt reported, the cars mostly bearing out-of-state licenses.

The superintendent stated that the road to the rim from park headquarters is in good condition, but that the road around the lake rim is still blocked by heavy snow drifts.

Mail intended for the park staff members should be addressed to Ft. Klamath, Mr. Leavitt stated, and the phone connection is also by way of that town.

NEAR CLOUDBURST IN PHOENIX AREA

Rain continued to fall in the valley yesterday, with a downpour of almost cloudburst proportions reported in the Talent and Phoenix districts in the late afternoon and general rainfall in the rest of the valley during the evening and night.

From the Southern Oregon Experiment Station at Talent it was reported that 1.10 inches fell yesterday afternoon and last night. About half an inch fell in half an hour, beginning about 4:15. It is reported that damage to a considerable quantity of hay down may be extensive, but damage to fruit is thought to be light as yet.

At the federal weather bureau at the airport rainfall measured .15 for the past 24 hours and the forecast for this vicinity was for continued cloudy weather and showers.

DINER COOK MUST DIE FOR MURDER
Salem, Ore., June 21.—(U.P.)—Robert E. Lee Folkes, 21, negro dining car cook convicted of the "Lower 13" sleeping car knife murder of Martha Virginia James, today lost his fight to escape the Oregon lethal gas chamber when the state supreme court affirmed the lower court death penalty.

The supreme court justices voted 5 to 2 to uphold the findings of the Linn county court.

Folkes, of Los Angeles, was convicted last summer of the murder of the young woman aboard a Southern Pacific train in January, 1943. During his trial at Albany, he repudiated a confession in which he had related how he stole upon the sleeping woman and thrust a kitchen knife into her throat when, upon waking to find the negro astride her, she refused to submit to his advances.

BUS TRAVELERS STYMIED NORTH
Seattle, June 21.—(U.P.)—W. H. Somers, traffic manager of the North Coast Transportation company, reported scores of bus travelers were turning back from Portland because of inability to get transportation south of there.

He said that bus tickets were now being sold in Portland under the provision they would not be used for four days after sale. Also, he said, heavy week-end pleasure travel had made it necessary to switch coastwise troop movements by bus to mid-week days.

NAZI EVACUATION NOW UNDER WAY UNOFFICIAL WORD

Americans Clamp Arc Of Steel About City; Wheel Up Weapons For Finale.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, June 21.—(U.P.)—The fall of Cherbourg was expected hourly today as American forces clamped an arc of steel against the city and wheeled up their heavy weapons for the final assault on the beleaguered French port.

The defense of Cherbourg by the German garrison was described at supreme headquarters as in its final hours, and field dispatches said the Nazis were speeding up their demolitions and were reported unofficially to have begun evacuating the city.

Demolish Docks
In view of the imminence of the fall of Cherbourg to the American invasion forces, the Germans were believed blowing up harbor installations and trying to sink whatever ships were available to block the mouth of the harbor.

A spokesman at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters said the fighting on the Cherbourg peninsula was comparatively light because the speed of the American advance kept the Germans reeling back constantly.

"The area held by the enemy is steadily diminishing," the spokesman said this evening.

RAIN SLOWS DRIVE NORTH IN ITALY
Rome, June 21.—(U.P.)—British 8th army troops have cleared the Germans from Perugia and advanced three to four miles beyond the town, a communique said today, while French and American units of the Allied 5th army on the British left flank pushed slowly northward against bitter enemy opposition.

Driving rains slowed the Allied armies all along the central battlefield and desperate Nazi rear guards were putting up a fierce delaying fight everywhere, but there was no indication that the main German forces had been sent into action.

AXIS CARRIER HIT IN GENOA HARBOR
Rome, June 21.—(U.P.)—American Thunderbolt fighter-bombers attacked and seriously damaged an enemy aircraft carrier in Genoa harbor, believed to be the 20,000-ton Italian carrier Regola which was seized by the Germans last September. It was announced today.

A formation of Thunderbolts led by Lt. Gordon A. C. Moody of Coldwater, Mich., scored five direct hits on the warship.

The Regola was believed to have been damaged previously and taken to Genoa for repairs and refitting.

The attack was carried out without loss to the American planes.

Sales to date in the Fifth War Loan Drive —

\$945,164

"E" Sales \$188,725

Quota \$600,000

Total Quota for County \$2,262,000