

Weather

Forecast: Fair today and Monday. Little change in temperature.
 Highest yesterday 81
 Lowest this morning 51
 Precipitation past 24 hrs. 0

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, JULY 9, 1944

United Press—Full Leased Wire

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 MAIL TRIBUNE
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Thirty-ninth Year

NO. 91.

NAZIS READY TO ABANDON CAEN

BRITISH TROOPS TAKE KEY FORTS, NEAR INNER CITY

Berlin Hints Withdrawal—Montgomery Masters Foe In Vital Action.

London, July 8.—(U.P.)—The Berlin Transocean news agency front line correspondent, Guenther Weber, reported today from Field Marshal Guenther Von Kluge's headquarters that it is "not improbable the Germans may shorten their lines by withdrawing them beyond Caen."

A late United Press front dispatch said heavy German traffic was observed on several roads leading out of Caen and that Allied field guns and warships were bombarding the highways. An official commentator here meanwhile warned against the danger of heavy German armored counterattacks.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, Sunday, July 9.—(U.P.)—British troops smashed into Caen Saturday, sweeping through 12 suburban forts in a juggernaut offensive to within half a mile of the center of the city, and Berlin hinted that the Germans were abandoning the burning and battered bastion on the road to Paris.

Patrols may already have penetrated the inner city, and it appeared that Gen. Sir B. L. Montgomery's British Second Army had met and mastered the main German force facing the French beachhead in a battle that may go down as one of the decisive actions of the war.

Yankees Gain
 American troops at their end of the 120-mile offensive front swept into La Haye Du Puits for the fourth time and on their east flank captured St. Jean De Daye, drilling a deep hole near the center of the German front.

Hundreds of German prisoners were taken as the British hacked through stone villages in Caen's western, northern and northeastern outskirts where German resistance, fierce when the attack started before dawn, wilted late in the day under the overpowering assaults.

There were signs that German heavy guns and tanks were withdrawing to a new line below Caen and the Berlin radio, pessimistic throughout the day on the battle for the city, said last night that "it is not improbable we may shorten our lines by withdrawing them beyond Caen."

Caen, with a population of 50,000, is as big as Cherbourg, and ranks as France's seventh port. It lies nine miles from the sea but has a large floating basin and huge docking space with outlets to the coast through the Orne river and canal, making it a valuable addition to the Allies' conquests in France.

The 11:30 p. m. Allied communiqué reported steady gains were made Saturday on all active portions of the front, with the Americans back in La Haye and holding all high ground in the area.

Paris In Sight
 After capturing St. Jean seven miles southeast of Caen, the Yanks linked two spearheads in the central sector and plunged on south toward important Pont-Hébert through a hail of fire from 88-millimeter and nebelwerfer rocket shells, leaving the enemy's main forts behind.

But the flaming focal point of the entire battle area was Caen, where the British were slashing away at the buckle of the German front in fighting which an official commentator said might change the course of the war.

Paris itself lies only 120 miles beyond Caen and if Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's main armored force can be smashed in the present battle the distance to the French capital may be covered far more swiftly than has been anticipated, it was said.

BULLETIN

Seattle 0 5 3
 Portland 1 7 0
 Elliot and Smeke; Heiser and Adams

War Bulletins

Chungking, July 8.—(U.P.)—Reinforced Chinese troops are pressing their four-day-old surprise counter-offensive successfully from three sides of Hengyang, a Chinese commune said today, and a supply line has been reopened through the city's west gate, captured when the ring of encirclement was broken Tuesday morning.

Japanese planes have dropped new loads of incendiaries on the center of Hengyang, front dispatches acknowledged, but added that this constitutes no threat to Chinese possession of the key Hunan province city.

Southeast Asia Command, Kandy, Ceylon, July 8.—(U.P.)—Triumphant British imperials have dislodged Japanese invasion remnants from positions northeast, southeast and southwest of liberated Imphal in India's Manipur state, an Allied communiqué said today, bringing to 11,000 the number of Japanese killed since their abortive invasion began March 12.

MILITARY HEADS JOIN OPPOSITION TO WPB PROGRAM

Current Lag In War Production Held Detrimental To All-Out War.

Washington, July 8.—(U.P.)—The joint chiefs of staff—the nation's military high command—tonight joined the opposition to War Production Chairman Donald M. Nelson's program for starting reconversion now with the warning that if the current lag in war output continued it "may necessitate revision in strategic plans which could prolong the war."

"In view of the major offensive operations under way on every front," the chiefs of staff said in a letter to Nelson, "it is essential at this time that there be no relaxation in war production and that deficits in deliveries be made up at the earliest possible date."

The letter was signed for the joint chiefs of staff by Admiral William D. Leahy, chief of staff to President Roosevelt.

Nelson's plan, outlined before the senate Truman war investigating committee on June 19, proposed a gradual reconversion to civilian manufacture by plants in which war work has definitely ceased and in areas where manpower is not needed for war production. The WPB chairman, who is convalescing from pneumonia, had informed the Truman committee he would issue orders effectuating the plan on July 1, but he has not yet done so.

The joint chiefs of staff wrote him that "the issuance of orders at this time which will affect our ability to produce war materials is not consistent with the all-out prosecution of the war."

LIQUOR SLICKER A CAMERA THIEF

Santa Cruz, Cal., July 8.—(U.P.)—Ed Hart was arrested Friday and booked on charges of camera theft in San Jose.

But today police here learned that "Hart's" true identity was Earl Harrison, former Oakland tavern manager wanted in the San Francisco East Bay region on charges he collected \$15,000 from saloonkeepers on unfilled promises to deliver whisky.

Police found \$7500 in sealed envelopes Harrison had left for safekeeping with Santa Cruz establishments. He was returned to Oakland by police this afternoon.

LEAPS TO SAFETY

Santa Rosa, Cal., July 8.—(U.P.)—2nd Lt. George F. Stephens, of Huntington, Indiana, parachuted to safety when his twin-engine fighter plane crashed this afternoon near Potati, Cal.

'DEAR ALBEN' MAY NAME ROOSEVELT FOR FOURTH TERM

Vice President Choice Is Thorn; Word From Wallace Awaited.

Washington, July 8.—(U.P.)—Democratic circles, in the throes of fresh speculation over vice presidential prospects at the party's national convention, circulated a report tonight that Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley, Ky., would make the speech nominating President Roosevelt for a fourth term.

There were some who believed that the president would insist on the renomination of Vice President Henry A. Wallace. But there were others who felt that Mr. Roosevelt would not remain adamant if opposition threatened to destroy convention unity. All, however, eagerly awaited Wallace's radio address from Seattle tomorrow in the hope that he might drop some hint as to his own future plans.

Meanwhile, new names were listed as added starters in the vice presidential speculative sweepstakes—a game that was being played by democrats and republicans alike. These were War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes and Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas. Others previously mentioned include House Speaker Sam Rayburn, Tex., Sen. Harry S. Truman, Mo., and Barkley.

Barkley was at his home in Paducah, Ky., and was not readily available for comment in the report that he would take the convention lead in calling for a fourth term. Democratic national committee officials here professed to have no knowledge of Barkley's plans, but at least one of them said he "wouldn't be surprised" if the report were true that the Kentuckian would place Mr. Roosevelt in nomination.

Such an act by Barkley would be final proof of his full reconciliation with the president following the majority leader's angry reaction to the tax bill veto.

DEGAULLE ENDS BUSINESS TALKS, HARMONY RULES

Washington, July 8.—(U.P.)—Gen. Charles De Gaulle today concluded business talks with President Roosevelt and other American officials, convinced that "the flame of France burns more brightly" than ever.

De Gaulle spent one hour with the president today, and at the conclusion of the talks, the second since yesterday both French and American officials were hopeful that the upshot would be speedy U. S. approval of the tentative British-French agreements for the civil administration of France.

Diplomats and officials of all categories were pleased—and a little amazed—by the harmony which has prevailed ever since De Gaulle's arrival on Thursday. The head of the French committee of national liberation had been painted in this capital as a stiff-necked, stubborn man who would never give up a position once taken.

There had been fear that the discussions would break down on the rock of De Gaulle's insistence that his committee be recognized as the provisional government of France. President Roosevelt, however, made it clear at the outset that he would not discuss this question—on the grounds that only the people of France can pick a government—and De Gaulle gracefully acquiesced.

SCOUT LEADER PASSES

Los Angeles, July 8.—(U.P.)—Raymond O. Hanson, 57, executive of the 12th region, Boy Scouts of America, died today after a lengthy illness.

Once Too Often

Portland, Ore., July 8.—(U.P.)—Alfred L. Overton's favorite joke resulted in his death today.

The 42-year-old isolation hospital guard was in the habit of putting his pistol into his mouth and pretending to pull the trigger. This time the gun discharged.

Harry R. Gauman, a friend, who was with Overton at the time of the accident, told Deputy Sheriff George Larson that Overton apparently believed the gun unloaded or that the cartridges were not in a position to fire when he pulled the trigger.

BLOODIEST FRAY OF ITALY DRIVE TAKES HIGH TOLL

Main Outposts of "Gothic Line" Stormed—Savage Resistance Encountered.

Rome, July 8.—(U.P.)—American and French troops closed, on Livorno (Leghorn) and Florence today after storming through three of the four main outposts of the German "Gothic line" in one of the bloodiest battles of the Italian campaign.

A wide-open tank and infantry fight raged all along the 40-odd-mile 5th army front from the Tyrrhenian seacoast to the rolling hills above Siena in western Italy as Allied armored spearheads knifed forward to within 11 miles or less of Livorno and about 23 miles of Florence.

Headquarters spokesmen said the Nazis were waging a savage withdrawal, and that casualties were running high on both sides. (A BBC broadcast recorded by CBS said street fighting was reported to have broken out inside Livorno, presumably between Italian partisans and Nazi troops, and that the city's fascist chiefs had fled to escape the advancing Allies.)

Rosignano, keystone of the Germans' coastal defenses 12 miles below Livorno, and Castellina, five miles to the east, were taken by Americans yesterday while French colonial troops bombed and bayoneted the Nazis from Colle Di Val D'Elsa, 35 miles inland on the road to Florence.

Volterra, the fourth and last enemy stronghold on this line, was still in German hands last night but front dispatches said American tanks and riflemen had launched a powerful assault on the city, which lies about midway between Rosignano and Colle Di Val.

BOMBERS BATTER NORMANDY FRONT

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, Sunday, July 9.—(U.P.)—More than 4,000 Allied warplanes roared over the flaming Normandy battlefronts yesterday and laid a shattering barrage across the German front lines around Caen, while a mighty sky fleet of well over 1,000 Italian bombers raided Nazi oil refineries and airfields in Austria and Hungary.

Headquarters announced that the overall number of sorties would total more than 4,000, including 1,200 flown from Normandy airfields in close support of American and British ground attacks.

Headquarters announced that Normandy-based fighters shot down two German planes against a loss of one. Spitfires of the air defense of Great Britain meanwhile set fire to a wireless station at Combourg, 20 miles southeast of St. Malo, and strafed various targets from Brittany to Laon.

FUMES STRIKE GIRLS

Pomona, Cal., July 8.—(U.P.)—Ten school girls, whose vacation trip became a near tragedy when an exhaust line in a bus loaded with 40 children came loose and poured fumes inside, recovered tonight after they were overcome by carbon monoxide gas.

GOEBBELS TELLS GERMANS REICH IN GRAVE PERIL

People Warned If Nation Loses, Chance to Renew Struggle Lost.

London, July 8.—(U.P.)—Nazi Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels told the German people today that the Reich is in "grave danger" and that if it is destroyed Germany "will not have a chance to repeat this struggle for another 10, 20 or 50 years," the DNB news agency reported.

Goebbels' warning, coming almost immediately after Adolf Hitler's admission to German industrialists that the Reich's industries were being far outstripped by the Allies, was directed to a mass meeting of 200,000 Germans at an unidentified town "in the east" and broadcast for German consumption.

In an apparent attempt to frighten the German people into working and fighting with the energy of desperation, Goebbels said:

"Our enemies have made it cynically clear what fate awaits the nation in the event of the defeat they hope and strain for. Our enemies will not be satisfied with destroying our industries, paralyzing our economic life, transporting our soldiers and workers to Siberia and slashing our country to pieces. No, they wish on their own testimony to destroy the German nation in its national substance."

Goebbels said that while former wars were fought for territory, strategic frontiers or commercial interests, "today the existence of whole nations is at stake."

TRAPPED JAPS ON SAIPAN COUNTER ATTACK, REPELLED

Pearl Harbor, July 8.—(U.P.)—Desperate Japanese troops cornered on the northwestern rim of Saipan counter-attacked U. S. forces before dawn Thursday morning and gained three-fourths of a mile in several hours of bloody fighting in which 1500 of the enemy were killed and numerous American casualties were incurred, it was announced today.

American marines and soldiers fell back 2,000 yards before the vicious counter-offensive but rallied their forces before noon and smashed forward again to regain 800 of the lost yards. The Japanese drive was concentrated against the American left flank, and at one point it moved to the edge of Tanapag town.

The Japanese opened a short-lived artillery attack on Isely airfield from Tinian island and air-raided American positions ineffectually simultaneous with the ground counter-offensive in the north.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz' Pacific fleet headquarters communiqué disclosed a total of 66 Japanese planes were destroyed and 96 damaged in the previously-announced carrier attacks on Chichi and Hah islands in the Bonins group 650 miles from Tokyo.

It was obvious now that the Japanese, trapped on a narrow strand by the inexorable advance of leathernecks and soldiers, will try to sell Saipan as fanatically and dearly as possible.

The right flank of the United States forces continued to advance and reached a point slightly more than a mile from the uncompleted airfield at Marpi Point at the extreme northern end of the 15 mile long island.

Ver Nuys, Calif., July 8.—(U.P.)—An unidentified man was the sole casualty when a P-38 fighter plane crashed into a Van Nuys street today.



Powerful Russian Armies pound on toward Latvia and Lithuania at pace that may reach both of Baltic republics in days, Berlin, in a communiqué that admitted "Germans fought their way further back," acknowledged loss of Kovel, last strong point east of its Bug River defense lines.

WOMAN PILOT OF ARMY PLANE DIES IN TRAIL CRASH

Miss Paula R. Lopp, 26, of Manchester, Okla., a women's auxiliary service pilot, was killed late Friday afternoon when the single-engine BT-13-B army training plane she was piloting crashed in the mountains near the Umpqua Divide about 30 miles north of Medford and four miles off the Tillamook highway in the Railroad Gap district.

The crash started a fire in the forest which was discovered at 3:30 p. m. by Lowell Ash, fire guard stationed at Trail. Ash cut out the fire and notified the Rogue River National Forest Service. Army and forest service men went to the scene at 7:30 and removed Miss Lopp's body to Camp White.

According to Capt. G. E. Moultrie, commanding officer of the Medford army air field, said that Miss Lopp was on a ferrying flight from the south to Seattle, and had landed here. Cause of the crash will be investigated by an army board, Capt. Moultrie said.

Miss Lopp had been a member of the WASPs since June of 1943. Next of kin is her mother, Nettie A. Lopp, who has been notified.

FIFTH WAR LOAN OVER IN NATION

Washington, July 8.—(U.P.)—The \$16,000,000,000 goal of the Fifth War Loan was surpassed today by more than \$650,000,000, Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., announced, although sales to individuals were \$1,750,000,000 short of their goal of \$6,900,000,000 at the last accounting.

It was indicated, however, that by the end of July with all sales from payroll deduction reported, the individual goal will be reached and over-all sales will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000,000,000.

The Fifth War Loan drive was the largest single financing ever undertaken by the United States or any other country. It exceeded by \$500,000,000 the goal of the Fourth War Loan.

CIGARETTE STARTS FIRE

The fire department was called to extinguish a minor fire in the basement of the Casino club on South Front at 10:15 p. m. Saturday. A carelessly tossed cigarette was probably the cause of the fire, according to Fire Chief Roy Elliott.

SEN. BYRD URGES TWO-THIRD RULE, WALLACE PLAYED

Roanoke, Va., July 8.—(U.P.)—Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D., Va., today called upon the Democratic party to return to "the greatest Democratic declaration in existence"—the party's 1932 platform—and to reinstate the two-thirds vote in national conventions.

In a surprise address before the Virginia state Democratic convention, Byrd said that disunity is threatening the Democratic party as never before, and that a "return to sound principles of government" would do much to reassure the American people.

The delegates, later in the day, adopted an unanimous resolution to oppose a renomination of Henry A. Wallace as vice president at the forthcoming national convention in Chicago.

The resolution asserted that Wallace "has become a convert to doctrines and ideologies foreign to the faith and traditions of Virginia."

GERMANS RESUME ROBOT BOMBINGS

London, Sunday, July 9.—(U.P.)—Robot bombs thumped down into the southern counties and the London area during the night, causing damage and casualties and ending one of the longest respite since the launching of Hitler's ersatz blitz.

It was stated authoritatively that there was nothing to report during the greater part of Saturday's daylight hours but the bombardment resumed during the evening.

The London Daily Herald said observers of last night's attack reported that the Germans apparently had switched to new launching sites on the Belgian coast following yesterday's intense pounding of coastal France.

Grass Fire In Gold Hill Area Quelled

A state forest patrol crew was last night mopping up a grass and brush fire that burned over approximately 120 acres just north of Gold Hill. The blaze, which started about 10:45 a. m. Saturday just inside the city limits, was brought under control the middle of the afternoon by volunteer Gold Hill residents, cement plant workers and the forest patrol crew. The fire, of undetermined origin, swept up Nugget Butte almost to the beacon over dry grass and brush.

RUSSIANS CROSS LITHUANIA LINE, WILNO FALL DUE

Red Army Within 95 Miles of East Prussia, Imperial Nazi Bastion.

London, Sunday, July 9.—(U.P.)—Soviet tanks and infantry broke into the streets of Wilno, capital of Soviet Lithuania, yesterday in a headlong 27-mile advance over the Lithuanian borders, while to the south other Russian troops captured Baranowicz, clearing the way for a mighty, three-pronged Red army assault on the fortress city of Brest Litovsk.

Gen. Cherniakhovsky's 3rd White Russian army, plunging to within 95 miles of East Prussia after driving 225 miles in 16 days, drove the Nazis from house to house in Wilno, an ancient city of 20,000 pre-war population. London observers expected the city to fall within the next 24 hours.

Gen. Cherniakhovsky's forces severed its communications with Daugavpils, in Latvia, cutting the Leningrad-Warsaw rail trunk line and thus depriving the German Gen. Lindemann's Baltic divisions—totalling possibly 30—off their main escape route through Poland.

Far to the south of the blazing 350-mile front in Lithuania and Poland, Russian troops drove to within 24 miles of Pinsk, and in a three-way drive on the rail junction of Luninets smashed forward to within 17 miles of that town.

The imminent fall of Wilno and the capture of Baranowicz collapsed the whole German intermediate defense line protecting the central Polish plains, the Baltic states and East Prussia.

More than 800 towns and settlements were swept up as the Red army surged forward on all fronts in a giant offensive toward Warsaw and Berlin.

As the German hold on Wilno was being shaken loose by the onrushing 3rd White Russian army, Baranowicz fell to the troops of Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's 1st White Russian army and cleared the way for a great Soviet push against Brest Litovsk, 120 miles southwest, and Bialystok, 117 miles west.

Brest Litovsk is historically one of the bastions of the Reich itself and London observers regarded the battle for the city now as underway, with a three-pronged offensive from Kovel, Baranowicz and Stolin, south of Luninets and 34 miles south-east of Pinsk.

CONG. ELLSWORTH IS BACK IN OREGON

Eugene, Ore., July 8.—(U.P.)—After visiting here with his mother, Mrs. Eva C. Ellsworth, Harris Ellsworth, Rep., Ore., today was on the way to his home in Roseburg.

He will be in Oregon two months, traveling around the Fourth District which he represents in congress and handling matters which could not be taken care of by correspondence from Washington.

Washington, July 8.—(U.P.)—Yugoslav Ambassador Constantin Fotitch tonight created another major diplomatic problem for the United Nations by refusing to recognize the new Yugoslav government—which excludes all representatives of Gen. Draja Mihailovich and includes two of Marshal Tito's men—as unrepresentative of the great majority of Yugoslav people.

Sales to date in the Fifth War Loan Drive —	
\$2,588,232	
"E" Sales	\$488,362
Quota	\$600,000
Total Quota for County	\$2,262,000