

Yankees Close Ring Around Nazi Troops In Coutances Area

London, July 28.—(U.P.)—The historic Polish fortress city of Brest Litovsk and the twin citadels of Przemyśl and Jaroslaw in lower Poland have fallen to the red army in new triumphs, boosting to nine its string of big German defense bases captured in two days, Moscow announced tonight.

By United Press
American forces in Normandy herded the remnants of seven German divisions towards the highway bottleneck of Coutances near the west coast today, while on the eastern front the rout of the Germans from the Baltic to the Carpathians grew with the fall of Brest Litovsk, admitted by the Nazi high command.

The Americans extended their Normandy breakthrough to a depth of 15 miles between St. Lo and Coutances.

The Germans were in general retreat in most sectors of the 40-mile American half of the front. The seven divisions of the 84th German army corps, about half of the Nazis facing the Americans, were in almost panicky withdrawal from the Periers-Lessay area above Coutances, putting up little more than rear guard resistance.

Nazis' Escape Chance Diminishing
The Germans pulled hastily out of Periers and Lessay to avoid being cut off by the Americans driving towards that town from the east, but the latter were approaching so rapidly that their chance of getting out intact dwindled hourly.

Among the threatened units were the 2nd and 17th elite armored divisions, prized by Adolf Hitler as among the best in the SS corps.

At the eastern end of the front around Caen the stalemate continued, with the British and Canadians holding firmly against repeated German counterattacks. Both the American and British armies were well supported by fighters, fighter bombers, and dive bombers which were breaking up German formations and causing much damage to tanks and vehicles. German losses in the American sector were particularly heavy.

Black Friday on Red Front

On the Russian front the red armies appeared likely to add a German black Friday to yesterday's black Thursday, on which the Russians scored the biggest single day's victories of the war with the capture of six of the strongest remaining enemy bastions.

The Germans reeled back under a succession of blows. To the north, one army cut the main escape routes of some 200,000 to 300,000 enemy troops in the Baltic states with the capture of the Lithuanian communications hub of Siauliai, on the railway from Riga to Koenigsberg, and also took Daugavpils (Dvinsk) in Latvia. Another army took the Latvian railway junction of Rzekne; a third captured Bialystok, 102 miles northeast of Warsaw, and a fourth occupied Lwow and Stanislawow, on the approaches to Czechoslovakia.

Today Russian forces were within 30 miles of Warsaw after the capture of Garvolin and were sweeping ahead at a pace that promised to carry the outer defenses of the Polish capital within a few days. A Stockholm report said the Germans were preparing to evacuate industrial plants from Warsaw in advance of a siege or of withdrawal from the city.

Last Deep Salient Wiped Out

The loss of Brest Litovsk, 115 miles east of Warsaw, wipes out the last deep salient still held by the Germans on what was once their Bug river line. The city had been almost surrounded and there was no indication in the German announcement of how much of its garrison had managed to escape.

The Berlin radio also reported fighting had broken out at Przemyśl, 60 miles west of Lwow, indicating that the Russians may have entered that city, which previously was under attack from three sides.

On the Italian front, the British Eighth army was within eight miles or less of Florence, and a German communiqué said an offensive had been opened on a wide front below the city. The allies were advancing slowly through strong defenses, strongly held.

At the western end of the battle line the American Fifth army moved into position for an assault on Pisa. There was a heavy exchange of artillery fire between the opposing forces, but the American shells were directed at the German positions in the hills north of Pisa and there was no indication that the city of the leaning tower itself was under fire.

American Bombers Busy

In the air war, an American fleet of nearly 2,000 heavy bombers and fighters struck deep into central Germany and radio Berlin reported the aircraft and chemical centers of Dessau, Halle and Merseburg were attacked.

During the night British heavy bombers hit the industrial and rail center of Stuttgart again and others from Italy bombed the Romanian oil center of Ploesti. Other targets in Germany also were attacked, as were the flying bomb installations in France. Robot bombs continued falling on London and southern England today.

1,400 MORE QUIT WAR PRODUCTION

By United Press
An additional strike was added to the American scene today when 1,400 employees producing Pratt-Whitney aircraft engines at Detroit's Chevrolet gear and axle division plant walked out protesting the institution of a production "speed-up," bringing the total of idle war production workers to approximately 12,000.

Also on strike at Detroit were 142 sheet metal workers at the main Dodge plant of Chrysler Corp., who walked out in protest over disciplinary action taken against a shop steward.

The Hotel Statler strike at Detroit entered its eighth day with the 700 members of 12 AFL unions adamant in their refusal to return to work after war labor board and union negotiations failed to settle a wage dispute. Union officials hinted the strike might spread to other large hotels.

SIDE GLANCES By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Erlene Norberg expressing grave concern for the welfare of two wrestlers exchanging savage blows, and declaring their varied facial expressions "interesting scientific studies in human psychology."

Emma Bigelow and Nettie Fry trying to locate a certain captain just returned home from overseas.

Louie Older demonstrating for a large gathering the proper technique of the Australian Crawl.

CAPTAIN A MAJOR WITHOUT KNOWING

Headquarters, 11th AAF, Alaska, July 28.—(U.P.)—"Captain" Henry E. Fleischer, New Albany, Ind., learned today that he had been a major for 20 months without knowing it.

The promotion was granted in November, 1942, just as Fleischer hurriedly left the states for the Aleutian area and the orders never reached him.

The 11th AAF decided last week he had been a captain long enough and wired Washington for information. That uncovered his mistake and today his secretary, Grace Calhoun of Hollywood, Cal., pinned on the gold oak leaves to bring his uniform up to date.

Eighty per cent of all plastics produced are for war purposes.

Dewey Whacks Hamilton Fish For Injecting Racial Issue

Albany, N. Y., July 28.—(U.P.)—Asserting that "anyone who injects a racial or religious issue into a political campaign is guilty of a disgraceful, un-American act," Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, republican presidential nominee, today repudiated the candidacy of Rep. Hamilton Fish, R., N. Y.

Dewey's statement, which was read to newsmen by his executive assistant, James C. Hagerty, was prompted by an interview with Fish printed in a New York City newspaper. The interview, Hagerty said, appeared in the New York Post and it quoted Fish as saying

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire
Thirty-ninth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1944. NO. 103.

Pat on the Back From Gen. Eisenhower



Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower has a friendly slap on the shoulder for Maj. Gen. Joseph L. Collins, American Seventh Corps commander in Normandy, after "like" had added an Oak Leaf Cluster to the Distinguished Service Medal already held by Gen. Collins. Looking on are Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley (left) and Maj. Gen. Leonard T. Gerow. American Fifth Corps commander, who received same awards. Photo by Bert Brandt. NEA-Acme photographer for War Picture Pool.

CORDON TO EYE TRUCK TIE-UPS ON COAST VISIT

Portland, Ore., July 28.—(U.P.) Home to feel the pulse of Oregon public opinion, Republican United States Senator Guy Cordon, said today he was determined to find out why trucks, busses and freight trucks were stalled on highways because of lack of rubber.

Cordon arrived in Portland by plane yesterday after stopping in Arizona and California for three days. He conferred immediately with a lumber authority on the critical truck tire situation.

The senator, appointed to fill out the term of the late Senator Charles L. McNary, said he was determined to get the true picture of conditions on the Pacific coast and what has been done by government agencies. He was advised that several trucks had been abandoned in Portland and other points in Oregon because they could not obtain the necessary tires and that one Interstate Trucking company vehicle was stranded with airplane parts and materials.

Cordon will remain in Portland until Sunday, then will go to his home in Clackamas to spend a few days before beginning his swing around the state.

22 Die in Fall of Ambulance Plane

London, July 28.—(U.P.)—Twenty-two persons aboard a troop-carrying ambulance plane were killed last night when the aircraft crashed into a cliff near the Mull of Galloway in Scotland, the Ninth Air Force announced today.

There were no survivors. After striking the cliff the plane crashed to the rocks below and burned. The victims included wounded American soldiers and one U. S. army nurse. The wounded were being returned home from Normandy battlefields.

TO BERLIN

The shortest distances to Berlin from advanced Allied lines today:

Russia—345 miles.
Italy—607 miles.
France—623 miles.

BASEBALL National Chicago R. H. E. Brooklyn 4 9 1 Chipman and Williams; Davis and Bragan.

SACRAMENTO IS OUT OF BOUNDS ACCOUNT BRAWL

Sacramento, July 28.—(U.P.)—City authorities and Lt. Col. Charles Steele of San Francisco, Western Defense Command northern sector provost marshal, were to meet today to discuss a Wednesday night street brawl between navy enlisted men and civilians which resulted in the wounding of a sailor by a military policeman.

Meanwhile, police reported quiet reigned last night.

Officers as well as enlisted men are subject to a 10 p. m. curfew. The navy has ordered Sacramento "out of bounds" and nearby army posts are not issuing leave passes to men under the grade of staff sergeant.

Charles R. Redifer, sailor, was wounded by a bullet which Leroy Clark, the MP, said was discharged accidentally when he scuffled with the brawling sailors. Redifer was apparently a bystander, not involved in the melee.

Polio Precaution Urged on Parents To Check Spread

Washington, July 28.—(U.P.)—Health authorities sought today to check an "alarming spread" of infantile paralysis by enlisting parents in a four-point program to protect children from the crippling disease.

Until the end of the so-called polio season in late September, officials of the U. S. Public Health Service and representatives of various medical associations advised, parents should take these precautions:

- 1.—Make constant checks for headaches, fever, nausea, soreness of the throat, and stiffness of the neck. If any of these symptoms arise, call a physician immediately and arrange for hospitalization if possible.
- 2.—Allow children to travel as little as possible; keep them off buses.
- 3.—Avoid crowds.
- 4.—Keep them away from swimming pools unless it can be determined that contacts there or in camps are no greater than normal contacts at home.

Fear Five Trapped By Mine Explosion

Ration, N. M., July 28.—(U.P.)—Officials of a mine near here said today that five men might possibly be trapped, following an explosion at noon in a small section of the mine.

A full crew nearby escaped from the mine.

Immediate details of the blast, which is being investigated, were not known.

The army ordnance "wasp" wagon, newest anti-aircraft weapon, has a cluster of four 50-caliber machine guns mounted atop a half-track.

JAPANESE DENY EXECUTING ANY B-29 CREWMEN

By United Press
Sadao Iguchi, spokesman for the Japanese information board, "flatly denied" today that any members of the crews of American B-29 superfortresses had been executed after being shot down and captured, a Japanese Domei agency dispatch said.

The dispatch, recorded by FCC monitors, said Iguchi made the denial in commenting on an American inquiry, filed through the Swiss legation in Tokyo to the Japanese foreign office, regarding a Singapore broadcast which purportedly said American airmen who raided Kyushu had been put to death.

Iguchi attributed the inquiry to a "twisted interpretation" of a Singapore broadcast which he quoted as saying in effect that the raiding B-29 bombers, by being shot down out of the skies of Japan, had thus come with a one-way ticket to hell.

Domei said Iguchi also pointed out that FCC monitors had reported that reception was not good on that day "and only a few excerpts in English were intelligible."

A bitter and bloody battle was impending on British New Guinea where the trapped Japanese 18th army made another unsuccessful attempt to break out of a trap but was believed preparing for a major counter-attack.

RATION AUTHORITY SQUABBLE BASIS

Washington, July 28.—(U.P.)—The capital's latest interagency squabble—the fight for rationing authority between the Office of Price Administration and the War Food Administration—simmered on today with the OPA apparently holding a momentary advantage.

The dispute, which may eventually have to be settled by War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes, began last week when the WFA ordered OPA to remove point values on commercial and utility grades of beef on Aug. 1 and to restore point values to pork loins and hams, now ration free. The OPA, jealous of its authority to set point values, balked on grounds the WFA order would hinder the most rationing program.

A long series of interagency consultations, in which stabilization director Fred W. Vinson took part, resulted yesterday in a "compromise" stipulating that July ration points would continue until Aug. 13. New point schedules usually are effective the first Sunday of each month.

21 AXIS SUPPLY SHIPS SUNK BY BRITISH SUBS

London, July 28.—(U.P.)—British submarines, intensifying operations against Japanese shipping in far eastern waters, recently destroyed 21 supply ships, including two medium sized vessels and a small tanker, the admiralty announced today.

The two medium sized vessels were hit by torpedoes, one near Port Blair and the other in the vicinity of Cape Nicobar, the admiralty said. The tanker was intercepted off the coast of Sumatra near Sabang and was attacked by gunfire, the admiralty reported.

Sqall Hits Rogue River District

10 VESSELS SLAM TO BOTTOM BY YANK PLANES

**Task Force Strikes Western
Carolines; Mop-up Con-
tinues on Guam, Tinian.**

Pearl Harbor, July 28.—(U.P.)—The emperor's garrison on Guam, fighting desperately to deny the use of the island to United States forces, lost an estimated 2,000 killed in a bloody early morning battle Tuesday, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

The communiqué said the American lines remained generally unchanged Wednesday on the basis of the latest reports from the former U. S. naval station 111 miles south of Saipan.

By United Press
A powerful U. S. task force was revealed today to have struck in the western Carolines as invasion forces continued their conquests of Guam and Tinian and a major battle appeared to be shaping up between American troops and trapped Japanese on British New Guinea.

Adm. Chester Nimitz revealed in a communiqué that carrier-based planes hit enemy bases on Palau, Yap, and Ulithi islands in the Carolines Monday and Tuesday, sinking 10 vessels and shooting down five planes and destroying 21 on the ground. Five American planes were lost.

Mop Up Tinian
Marines controlled one-third of Tinian island after six days of fighting and were making a bid for quick completion of the conquest. The communiqué said American casualties through Thursday were 159 dead, 441 wounded, and 32 missing against 2,089 enemy dead and 62 captured.

American Seabees and engineers have landed on Tinian to repair the captured 4,500 foot airstrip within bomber range of Tokyo, Nimitz said.

On Guam, marines and army troops continued their battle of annihilation against Japanese forces trapped on Orote peninsula.

A bitter and bloody battle was impending on British New Guinea where the trapped Japanese 18th army made another unsuccessful attempt to break out of a trap but was believed preparing for a major counter-attack.

Frances Farmer, Ex-Movie Star Jugged As Vag

Antioch, Cal., July 28.—(U.P.)—Blonde Frances Farmer, 30, former Hollywood movie star who recovered from a mental illness three weeks ago, was arrested on a vagrancy charge today after she hitch-hiked 200 miles from Reno, Nev., and was fined \$10 by a sympathetic justice of the peace who paid the money himself.

Miss Farmer, clad in blue jeans and a work shirt, declined an attorney and pleaded guilty during a brief appearance before Justice of the Peace Tom Milan—who coincidentally operates a restaurant.

"She was broke and on her uppers," Chief of Police Al Leroy said in explaining the arrest.

Justice Milan paid the \$10 fine from his own pocket as soon as he had levied it. He suspended a jail sentence, gave Miss Farmer a lunch at his restaurant, and then arranged to pay for a train ticket to Yerington, Nev., where Miss Farmer's aunt, Mrs. Edith Castling, lives.

21 INJURED WHEN STAGE OVERTURNS IN KLAMATH FALLS

Klamath Falls, Ore., July 28.—(U.P.)—Twenty-one persons—many of them from Oregon and Washington—today were receiving hospital treatment for injuries suffered when a south-bound stage overturned within the city limits here last night.

Chief of Police Earl Heuvel said V. J. Wigglesworth of Eugene was driver of the Portland-San Francisco Greyhound bus, which overturned after skidding on wet streets. Others among the 37 passengers suffered injuries not requiring hospital treatment.

Those receiving treatment included:

Marr B. Fabianing, San Francisco, knee laceration, possible broken knee cap.
Sam L. Fleming, San Francisco, shock.
Will Langford, Paradise, Cal., head lacerations.
Hugh Miller, Long Beach, Cal., head and back cuts, hip injury.
Mrs. John Vaupel, Denver, collarbone fracture, chest injuries.
Hal White, San Diego, Cal., ear cut.
Mrs. W. I. Langford, Paradise, Cal., cuts, possible rib fracture.

DRIVER ACQUITTED IN NURSE'S DEATH

Tried by a general court martial at Camp White Thursday, 2nd Lt. Wilbur P. Stender, 25 of Hackettstown, N. J., was acquitted of a charge of manslaughter involving the death in an automobile accident on Sept. 12, 1943 of Mrs. Adella I. Wood, 36, of 363 Byxbee street, San Francisco, the camp public relations office announced today.

Lt. Stender, who has been transferred to the Torney General hospital at Palm Springs, Calif., with the medical corps administration, was driver of the car which struck a concrete gatepost in front of the E. H. Lamport home a half mile north of Phoenix the night of Sept. 12. Mrs. Wood, a registered nurse, died later in the Camp White hospital.

Most Yanks in Europe to Go Home When Germany Falls, Says Senator

Washington, July 28.—(U.P.)—Sen. Elmer Thomas D., Okla., who fails to see how Germany can last through to the end of this year, said today there already appear to be sufficient U. S. forces in the Pacific to permit most European war veterans to return home immediately after Germany falls.

Thomas, who handles all war department appropriations in the senate and is normally well-informed on military matters, took care to emphasize that his views were his own and not based on any recent official information.

Nevertheless, he said, it is his opinion that the war with Japan will not require the shifting of

any great force of land troops from the European to the Pacific theaters after the defeat of Germany.

"I think that we will have to maintain an army of occupation in Europe until the allied leaders decide on a future policy for Germany and the occupied countries," Thomas said.

"But, I think it should be made up of those troops who wish to remain. I think that those who wish to volunteer for further action in the Japanese war also should be given that opportunity. But, I believe that those who want to come home also should be given that chance as soon as possible after Germany is beaten."

WIRES TORN DOWN, SHINGLES RIPPED BY SUDDEN GALE

**Twenty Fires Set In Rogue
National Forest; Heavy
Rain Follows Wind Storm**

A wind and rain storm, centered in the area between Rogue River and Savage Rapids dam and said to be the most severe of recent record in the county, last night took out power lines, ripped shingles from the roofs of houses and raised a wall of water in the Rogue River gorge above Grants Pass reported to be nearly seven feet high.

Trees fell on both the Rogue River and Applegate power lines of the California-Oregon Power company, leaving the entire Grants Pass and Rogue River areas without power for part of the night, and for a time stopping traffic on the Pacific highway.

20 Fires Set
Twenty fires were set in the Rogue River National forest by lightning which preceded the main fury of the storm and wires of both the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company and of the forest service were blown down. Main lines were restored quickly but forest service crews are still working on the forest lines.

The storm, climaxing a 14-day period of hot weather in the valley, began about 7 p. m. and lasted for some 40 minutes, terminating in a rain of cloud-burst proportions.

Medford and the immediate vicinity suffered less heavily from the wind and rain. Power interruptions were but momentary and damage to gardens and crops was thought to be slight. At the office of the county agent it was said orchardists reported some fruit blown from the trees, but that damage was thought to be minor. Weather bureau staff members reported wind of about 34 miles an hour recorded on the instruments there, and only a trace of rain.

Crews Work All Night

Officials of the California-Oregon Power company in Medford said that crews worked the entire night in the storm area. Power was restored to Grants Pass in the early morning hours and is gradually being restored today in the outlying districts.

State and county road crews reported all roads open this morning.

Thirteen of the forest fires were set in the Union Creek district, the majority being on the slopes of Elk Creek and Union Creek. In addition three were in the Applegate area, three in the Butte Falls district and one in the Lake o' Woods district. All were thought to be small but reports were slow in coming in due to telephone line damage.

At the weather bureau it was said this morning that no further thunder storms were anticipated for this immediate area, but possibly some might occur this afternoon or evening in the higher mountain areas. Cooler weather was forecast. Temperatures have been 90 degrees or higher every day since July 14.

FORTRESS BOMBS DROP ON YANKEES

Ninth Air Force Headquarters, Normandy, July 28.—(U.P.)—About 50 Flying Fortresses and medium bombers dropped bombs short of their assigned area and killed and wounded American soldiers during yesterday's record 3,000-plane bombardment of enemy lines west of St. Lo, Maj. Gen. Lewis Brereton acknowledged today.

Brereton, commander of the 9th air force, told correspondents that the American casualties were much fewer than had been feared and added that "you are practically certain to have some shorts when you have that many planes in the air and resulting smoke obscures the ground."

In the case of one group of Havoc bombers, he said, the bombing release mechanism on the lead plane went wrong and bombs plummeted down 10,000 yards short of the scheduled area. Other planes in the group immediately released their explosives.