

Yanks Speed to Block Off Entire Peninsula

ST. NAZAIRE AND
NANTES CAPTURE
EXPECTED SOON

Bradley's Armored Columns
Race Virtually at Will Be-
low Rennes in Push.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—The French city of Rennes, ancient Norman capital, has been occupied by Allied troops but the enemy continues to put up some resistance, it was announced today.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—American mobile forces sped at least 20 miles southward beyond Rennes in Brittany today, and informed quarters here expected them to capture the great French ports of St. Nazaire and Nantes within 24 hours, blocking off the entire Breton peninsula for a quick mop-up.

At supreme headquarters the occupation of the whole peninsula by Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's flying columns careening through it at lightning speed seemed to be a matter of days—and a few days at that.

Race At Will

Responsible sources said this evening it would not be surprising if Bradley's advanced elements already had reached the German positions covering St. Nazaire and Nantes on the Loire estuary.

Front dispatches revealed that United States armored columns had raced virtually at will to points 20 miles below Rennes, 31 miles from the south coast, and 17 miles southwest of Dinan in a many-pronged push threatening to collapse the last organized German resistance on the peninsula.

Only in the area of Rennes, ancient Norman capital which Washington said yesterday had been captured, was any formidable German resistance reported. By-passing elements already were speeding far on beyond that knot of opposition both to the south and the west.

Drive On St. Malo
Bradley's westbound right wing swept along the coast toward Brest and opened a frontal push against St. Malo, which was bypassed by a column striking through Dinan to Broons, 17 miles to the southwest and 31 miles northwest of Rennes.

At headquarters it was believed the elements of four German divisions believed to be in Brittany might undertake one stubborn stand somewhere in the Breton hills. But if so it was regarded as foredoomed.

The distance of the American vanguard from their goals on the south coast was measured best not in miles but in terms of the resistance ahead of it and the speed with which it could be supplied with food, fuel and ammunition.

The only definite news here this evening was that the hard riding tankmen were well beyond Rennes and pushing strongly along the north coast beyond Dinan.

Supply Strained
Airmen who flew over the battle area below Avranches said the roads were packed with supply vehicles and reinforcements, sharply contrasting with the deserted highways on the German side.

Injecting a note of caution, however, observers pointed out that the spectacular speed of the American armored advance in the last 10 days would strain any supply service, and difficulties were increasing with every mile of advance.

As in the German sweep through France in 1940, the enemy had been broken on the Breton front, his communications ripped asunder, his available reinforcements exhausted and his entire campaign plan thrown into disruption.

SIDE GLANCES
By
TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Sarah and Harold Tolle sitting out on the hillside to enjoy the evening scenery and give the mosquitoes a treat.

Traffic Cop Dick Balze exhibiting a regular "rogue's gallery" of himself in the form of photographs taken at a sidewalk stand.

Lt. Tinsley saying goodbye with suspicious fervor to newspaper men who had pestered him for news during his tour of duty as camp PRO.

Elva Jennings thinking up embarrassing questions to ask a certain frequent visitor at the courthouse.

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 4, 1944



TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Weather

Forecast: Clear and warmer to-
night and Saturday.
Temp.
Highest yesterday 89
Lowest this morning 58

NO. 114.

Violence Flares in Philadelphia Trolley Strike



Police stand guard outside this Philadelphia building, damaged in racial outbreaks that followed strike of city's 5800 transportation workers. The city, center of vital war industries, awaits federal intervention as final move to end paralyzing tieup which started over resentment at company announcement that Negroes would be trained as motormen.

8TH ARMY DRIVES NAZIS BACK INTO FLORENCE HEART

Rome, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—British Eighth army forces broke into the southern section of Florence today after a swift four-mile advance that routed the Germans from their main hill defenses below the Arno river and drove them back across the stream into the heart of the historic city.

Official reports said fast-rolling South African patrols thrust into the city from the south today and found that five of the six bridges crossing the Arno into northern Florence had been destroyed by the retreating enemy.

It was indicated the Germans had withdrawn their main forces into Florence or beyond the city to their Gothic line defenses in the mountains farther north.

(German broadcasts recently had hinted that Florence would not be defended, asserting that the Nazi troops had made it an open city to prevent destruction of its art treasures.)

LAST JAP DIES IN MYITKYINA SIEGE

By United Press
Allied forces captured Myitkyina in northern Burma today clearing the last Japanese obstacle to reopening an overland supply route from China to India.

Myitkyina was occupied by American, British, and Chinese forces after they had killed almost the last man of a 3,000 enemy garrison which had defended the city against siege since last May 17.

The fall of Myitkyina gives Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's forces a jumping off place for contacting Chinese troops advancing into Burma from the Salween river area of Yunnan province.

Joining of the two forces would form the first link between China and Burma since the fall of the old Burma road to the Japanese.

Envoy to Vatican Quits Nazi Cause

Vatican City, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—Baron Ernst von Weizsaecker, German ambassador to the Vatican, has deserted the Nazi cause and informed the Holy See that he will no longer represent the existing German government, authoritative Vatican sources revealed today.

The German ambassador's break with Berlin was understood to have been precipitated by the abortive revolt inside Germany, and came into the open last Saturday when Karl Gustav Wolleweber, first secretary of the embassy, attempted take over the embassy.

Striking Trolley Operators Reject Appeals From Army

Philadelphia, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—The executive committee of the striking Philadelphia Transportation company employees again this afternoon rejected the plea of army officials that they return to work.

JACKIE COOPER IN WILD HOTEL PARTY SAYS PROSECUTOR

South Bend, Ind., Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—Jackie Cooper, former film star and a naval V-12 trainee at Notre Dame, was charged today with contributing to the delinquency of a 15-year-old South Bend girl by furnishing her intoxicating liquor and inducing her to remain overnight in a hotel room he had rented.

Prosecutor Arthur F. Scher filed six affidavits against four persons, including 22-year-old Cooper, charging them with the delinquency count. He said the charges came from an investigation of a "wild party" thrown at a South Bend hotel July 22.

The others were Pauline Frederick, 19, South Bend, described as Cooper's companion; George Bender, also a V-12 trainee at the Notre Dame naval training school, and Olive Lowery, a negro waiter at the hotel.

Scher said warrants had been issued for arrest of the four. Cooper was unavailable for comment.

Miss Frederick was charged in the affidavits with contributing to the delinquency of the 15-year-old girl and another 16-year-old girl, and having immoral relations with her, and the waiter with serving the minors intoxicating liquor.

The last picture Cooper made before entering the navy, "Where Are My Children," dealt with juvenile delinquency and was made at the request of the United States government.

28 In Crash Of Army Transport

Bruning Army Air Field, Neb., Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—A C-47 transport plane, carrying an estimated complement of 28 men, crashed near Nager, Neb., last night, it was announced today by Col. C. McAllister, base commander.

The majority of the crew are believed to be dead, McAllister said. The plane had left Bruning Field for Pierre, S. D.

Names were withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Plenty of Rubber But Labor Lacking To Produce Tires

Los Angeles, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—There is rubber to burn, but 40 per cent of the tire making machinery in this area is out of production because of manpower shortages, President Leonard Firestone of the Firestone Rubber Corp. of California said today.

Los Angeles ranks second only to Akron, O., in tire manufacture.

Keynoting a conference of top men in the industry seeking to ease the critical tire situation, Firestone said use of German prisoners of war was being considered.

Despite an average paycheck of \$72.80 a week to a typical worker, the personnel problem is acute, said L. C. Smith, Firestone plant manager.

TO BERLIN By United Press

The shortest distances to Berlin from advanced Allied lines today:

Russia—328 miles.
Italy—604 miles.
France—623 miles.

FUEHRER ORDERS RUTHLESS PURGE

HITLERITES FLEE EAST PRUSSIA AS REDS DRIVE NEAR

Frightened Populace Scatter
While Russians Swing
Out to Flank Warsaw.

London, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—A Moscow communique reported tonight that the Red army captured more than 100 localities in a drive steadily widening its bridgehead across the Vistula in the area of Staszow, 115 miles south of Warsaw, from which Soviet forces were swinging northwest in a flanking drive against the capital.

Moscow, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—Panicked German civilians have begun evacuating East Prussia as the Red army massed at the frontier for the first thrust onto Reich soil, Izvestia reported today as other Soviet forces swung northwest beyond the Vistula in a grand scale flanking drive against Warsaw.

Izvestia said the roads of East Prussia were jammed with non-descript transport carrying civilians and property westward from the Soviet-menaced region of the fatherland, while fierce air battles raged overhead.

Praga Stormed
While Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's vanguard stormed the Praga outposts of Warsaw, his left wing veered up toward the city from the Vistula crossings, which had driven a wedge within less than 100 miles of German Silesia, to reduce the capital's defenses from the south if the frontal onslaught were held up.

(The German DNB News Agency said the Red army maintained heavy pressure "in the area of Warsaw" from the east, northeast and southeast.)

(DNB said that in the Augustow and Wilkovichki areas before East Prussia, the Soviets penetrated five miles westward, indicating they now were at or within a few thousand yards of the frontier.)

(A Polish underground communique said more than 25,000 Polish patriots battling the Germans in the streets of Warsaw had seized many strong points scattered throughout the city, and "the initiative is ours, but the fight is bitter.")

TEXANS SIZZLE IN 112 DEGREES

By United Press
That heat wave that swept the country yesterday, with new high records established in dozens of cities, was just a rehearsal for today.

Today, it will be hot, the weatherman at Chicago predicted, with the mercury soaring over the 100-degree mark in many parts of the south and southwest.

Yesterday's high was 112 degrees at Quanah, Tex., where 114 degrees has been reported twice within the current 10-day heat wave gripping Texas, although an unofficial recording of 117 degrees was reported from Memphis, Tex.

The mercury soared to 98 degrees at Chicago yesterday, reminding residents of the warm spell during the republican national convention in June.

Test Tube Start of Human Growth Done by Savants

Washington, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—John Rock of Harvard university and Miriam E. Menkin of the Brookline, Mass., Free Hospital for Women have succeeded in fertilizing human ova in a test tube, according to a report in the current issue of the Magazine Science.

Although similar experiments have been carried out with rabbit and monkey eggs, the "first stages in the cleavage of the fertilized human egg have, as far as we know, never been reported" before, the researchers said.

Employment Ceilings Ordered For Non-Essential Industries To Hold War Workers on Jobs

Washington, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes today ordered employment ceilings placed on non-essential industries in labor shortage areas in order to hold war workers at their jobs and to free 200,000 workers for vital war work.

Byrnes authorized all government agencies to apply any sanctions necessary—such as choking off materials, transportation, fuel, and power—to enforce the new regulations.

Need Big Push

The new orders were prompted by the armed services' pleas for more production for the imminent climactic phase of the war.

"We have the enemy on the ropes; he is dazed and his knees are buckling," Byrnes told a press conference. "This is no time to take a holiday and give him time to recover."

Byrnes said that under the new program the responsibility for providing the necessary manpower for vital war programs rests with the local communities.

"Those at home must work as hard as those abroad are fighting," he said. "The responsibility for manning our war plants is clear and unmistakable and it rests with the communities. The communities must meet the responsibility if we are able to finish the war without enacting a universal service law."

Areas Empowered

Byrnes issued a directive giving area production urgency committees in all Group I and II labor areas—areas of actual or threatened labor shortages—the power to clamp employment ceilings on less essential industries in order to channel the surplus labor to nearby war plants.

These committees are empowered to set manpower priorities and take any other measure to insure full utilization of existing manpower.

In case of conflict with the war manpower commission, the urgency committee's decision will take precedence.

BOMBERS SPREAD RUIN IN GERMANY

London, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—A sky-filling parade of 2,200 or more American heavy bombers and fighters spread a trail of ruin across 200 miles of northern Germany today, smashing at dozens of Nazi military targets and secret enemy experimental stations at Peenemunde on the Baltic sea.

Streaming out across the Reich under brilliant sunshine that permitted visual bombing of all their targets, more than 1,200 U. S. 8th Air Force Flying Fortresses and Liberators spewed a great weight of high explosives and fire bombs on Bremen, Kiel, Rostock, Anklam and Peenemunde.

Another 1,000 Mustang, Lightning, and Thunderbolt fighters covered the widespread assault against what Berlin described as furious resistance from the Luftwaffe.

Negro Convicted Of Firing Hotel

San Francisco, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—George Holman, 49 year old negro cafe owner, today stood convicted on 22 counts of murder as the pyromaniac who set the New Amsterdam hotel fire that claimed 22 lives last March 27 in San Francisco's worst disaster since the 1906 earthquake and fire.

A superior court jury of seven men and five women returned the multiple conviction late last night after deliberating for 7½ hours, and recommended that Judge E. P. Murphy sentence Holman to life imprisonment.

RAILROADERS SEE NEW LABOR DRAFT EFFECT

Washington, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—The weekly newspaper Labor, published by 15 railway unions, said today that "military brass hats have raised a scare about a production lag and letdown on the home front" to revive agitation for a national labor draft.

The newspaper cited war production board, labor department and war manpower commission sources to combat the statement by Lt. Gen. Brehon B. Somervell that absenteeism and turnover are increasing among workers in war industries.

London, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—The London Times made newspaper history today when it published a complete 10-page air mail edition on India paper for overseas distribution.

COURT OF HONOR TO ROOT OUT FOES OF NAZI REGIME

24 Ranking Officers Named
as Executed, Suicides,
Deserters or Expelled.

London, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—Berlin reported today that Adolf Hitler had ordered a "ruthless purge" of the German army as a result of the attempt on his life last month and named 24 ranking army officers as executed, suicides, deserters, or expelled in connection with the plot.

For the first time the Nazis acknowledged the sweeping scope and gravity of the anti-Nazi rebellion highlighted by the attempted assassination of Hitler, and revealed that a "court of honor" had been set up to carry out the purge and try to root out the last of the suspects.

General Deserts

Gen. George Lindemann, German army high commander in the Baltics, was reported by the DNB agency to have deserted to the Russians in the first high defection of that category in the Nazi military ranks. A Major Kuhn also was described as a deserter to the Soviets.

Two officers—Colonel von Quirnhelm and Lieutenant-Col. von Haefen—were revealed to have been executed, in addition to Gen. Friedrich Olbricht, former second in command of the home army, and Col. Claus von Stauffenberg, whose name had been announced earlier.

Five Suicides

Five more were described by DNB as having committed suicide. They were Col. Gen. Ludwig Beck, former chief of staff, who had been reported executed; Artillery General Wagner; Col. Freytag, General Loring-Hoven, and Lieutenant Colonel Schrader.

The "court of honor" met today and Hitler approved proposals to expel from the army Marshal von Witzleben, General Fellgiebel, Lt. Gen. von Hase, Maj. Gen. Steff, Major-Gen. von Reschow, Col. Hansen, Lt. Col. Berthard, Major Hayensen, Captain Klausling, Lt. von der Schulenberg, Lt. von Hagen and Lt. Graf York von Wartenburg.

All will be handed over to the German people's court "for sentence," DNB said.

Discrediting persistent Nazi propaganda claims that the rebellion was squelched within a few hours after the bomb exploded, slightly wounding Hitler, the Germans now acknowledged that the court of high army officers was going into action in an attempt to ferret out the elements of the plot patently rooted deep in the Nazi military structure.

SEN. MEAD APPOINTED TRUMAN'S SUCCESSOR

Washington, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—Sen. James M. Mead, D. N. Y., today was named chairman of the senate's war investigating committee succeeding Senator Harry S. Truman, D., Mo., Democratic vice presidential nominee.

GOP Governors Say New Deal Fosters Industrial Strife

St. Louis, Aug. 4.—(U.P.)—The republican governor's conference concluded its work today with final reports charging the New Deal with chaotic administration of welfare agencies and arbitrary handling of labor problems in a manner tending to promote industrial strife.

Under leadership of Thomas E. Dewey, republican presidential candidate, the governors submitted the last of their bill of particulars challenging the Roosevelt administration in the form of five reports and a statement of conclusions. Dewey said the action of himself, Gov. John W. Bricker, vice presidential candidate, and the 24 other G.O.P. executives was unanimous in all instances.

With the conference out of the way, Dewey began today a series of conferences with Missouri politicians and representatives of other groups. He will entrain for New York this evening, ending a one-week, three-state campaign organization tour which led through Pennsylvania and Illinois to the banks of the Mississippi.

The five reports today completed the conference agenda of 14 domestic issues in which the G.O.P. cited conflict between state and federal interests in a broad field of governmental relationships and demanded greater scope and responsibility for local government.

Charging the administration with inefficient and arbitrary approaches to labor problems, the governors demanded "an immediate and drastic change in the spirit and methods of administration of these (labor) laws."