

YANK TANKS STORM INTO BREST

Weather

Forecast: Partly cloudy west of Cascades Sunday Temp. Highest yesterday 77.5 Lowest this morning 57.4 Precipitation past 24 hrs. 0

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

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Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 1944

NO. 115.

PORT IS ENTERED
AFTER 140-MILE
DASH IN 5 DAYS

RED TROOPS DEAL STUNNING BLOW TO NAZI OIL SUPPLY

Capture Stryj in Southern Poland in 7-Mile Lunge; Prussia Invasion Near.

By Robert Musel
United Press Correspondent
London, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Russian troops dealing a crippling blow to Adolf Hitler's dwindling oil supply, today captured Stryj, an important Nazi base in the Carpathian foothills, and Berlin said that other Soviet forces had breached German lines near the East Prussian frontier station of Eydtkuhnen.

The capture of Stryj in the region of great Galician oil fields in southern Poland by Marshal Ivan S. Konev's 1st Ukrainian army was announced in an order of the day issued by Premier Josef Stalin—a victory celebrated by the firing of 12 salutes from 124 guns in Moscow tonight.

Seizing the town in a seven-mile advance, Konev's forces cut one of the two remaining railroads across the high Carpathians into Czechoslovakia, over which the Germans have been routing oil to their laboring war machines.

Stryj lies only 15 miles east of Drohobycz, great refining center for the extensive oil wells of Boryslaw. Advancing westward toward Drohobycz, the Russians were threatening to seize the oil center, only one other great oil producing region—the much-bombed Ploesti oil field in Romania—would remain to feed the insatiable war machines.

Konev's forces took Stryj after crossing the river of the same name, and as powerful elements smashed all German resistance in the city, other forces smashed southward along the railroad from Stryj to Mukachevo in Czechoslovakia, and drove to within 39 miles of the Beskid Pass border of that enslaved country.

Meanwhile, German broadcasts hinted that Russian troops already have invaded the German soil of east Prussia.

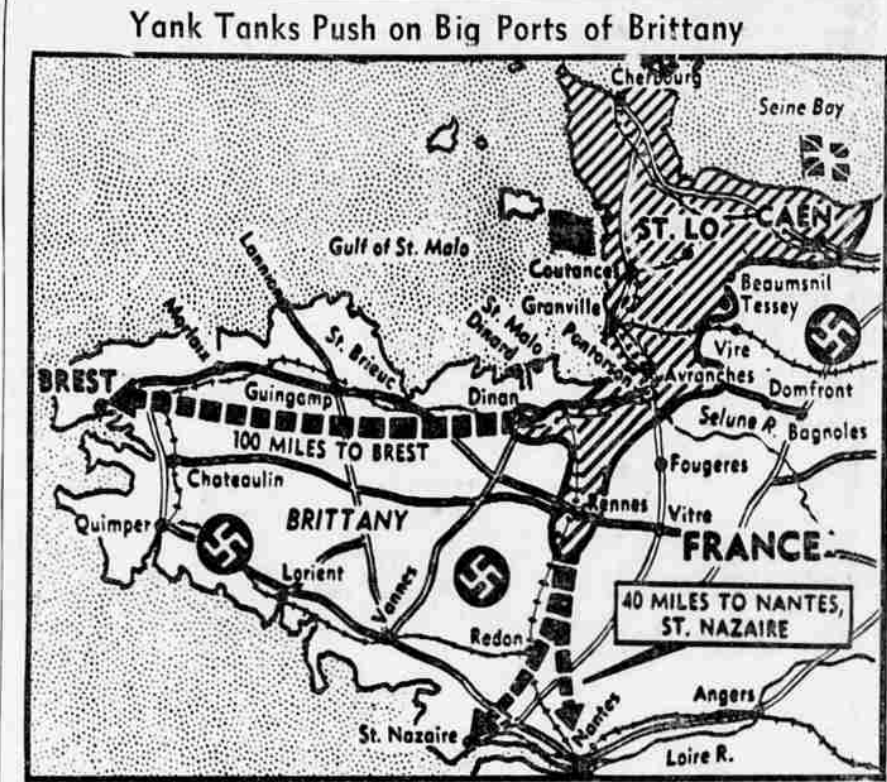
At the same time, erupting from the Vistula river bridgehead northeast of Krakow, other Soviet forces were less than 35 miles from the ancient capital of Poland as they raced toward the coalfields of German Silesia.

The Russians also were attacking west of the Lithuanian town of Kalvarija, 17 miles from the frontier, Berlin admitted, while the German High Command said that Gen. Ivan D. Cherniakhovsky's 3rd White Russian army was attempting to break through to the home of Junkerdom from Sakala, 25 miles north of Virobals and 10 miles from the border.

NO POINT HOLIDAY
ON LAMB, IS HINT

Portland, Ore., Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Paul Janney, national OPA meat expert here to study the northwest lamb situation, hinted in a press conference today that the OPA did not favor the 30-day point holiday still sought here as a means of relieving the glutted market.

Referring to a request made to the national office by OPA Administrator Charles R. Baird and Director Charles R. Baird, Janney said that he was to be fair to the whole nation it might be necessary to waste something of some product in every producing center from time to time.



American armor races virtually at will through Brittany to points 20 miles below Rennes, 81 from the south coast and 17 southwest of Dinan in multi-pronged fanout threatening to collapse last organized German resistance. Threatened are St. Nazaire, Brest and Nantes, three most important Nazi U-boat bases.

BRITISH OCCUPY SOUTH FLORENCE; FORD ARNO RIVER

Rome, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Eight army troops have occupied all Florence south of the Arno river against withering enemy artillery fire which the Germans, despite repeated claims that the great cultural center would be an open city, have massed along the river's northern bank within the city.

As dusty and battle-weary British, Dominion and Indian troops plunged to within two miles of the river on a 25-mile front on either side of the bitterly contested city, the Germans drew up artillery formations and rushed in crack paratroopers in a final effort to hold the Arno river line.

(The London radio, heard in New York, reported that Allied troops already have penetrated into northern Florence over temporary bridges thrown over the Arno. The Germans earlier were reported to have destroyed all but one of the six bridges spanning the river at this point.

Because of the tremendous historic, architectural and artistic value of the great Tuscan city, it seemed most likely that the Allies would hold off shelling the city until the last moment in the hope that the Germans would pull out without bitter and devastating street to street fighting.

It was feared, however, that the Germans would take advantage of this situation to bog down the Allies along the Arno river as they have at Pisa, the ancient Tyrrhenian city on the far western Allied flank.

New Deal "Incompetence" Is Charge of Governor Dewey

Pawling, N. Y., Aug. 5.—(U.P.) Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, completing a 2,350-mile trip through pivotal mid-western states, returned to his Pawling farm tonight after charging the Roosevelt administration has "failed to show a degree of competence" necessary to prepare the nation's war industries for peacetime induction.

The republican presidential nominee said he planned to get his first real rest since he began the trip which took him through Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri and Indiana. The governor retired to the seclusion of his Quaker Hill farm immediately after stepping from his special car at 7:37 p. m.

Dewey's latest attack on the New Deal came at a press conference, which was held aboard the train en route from St. Louis.

Nazi Casualties Set At 9,000,000 Since War Start

By United Press
The German army has lost 9,000,000 men killed, wounded or missing since the beginning of the war almost five years ago and is left with 4,000,000 troops to face the combined power of the United Nations, ABSIE, the American broadcasting station in Europe, said Saturday night.

The broadcast, recorded by CBS monitors, said the Wehrmacht numbered 3,000,000 men at the outbreak of the war in Sept. 1939, and added 2,000,000 men to this force in each of the five succeeding years.

ABSIE said 7,500,000 of the German casualties were inflicted by Russian armies. And asserted almost 1,000,000 of their total losses were suffered since the beginning of July in Russia, France and Italy. Those casualties, it said, prompted the recent German generals' revolt against the Nazi regime.

Spike Rumors Army To Occupy Hotels

San Francisco, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Rumors that the army service forces might take over five major San Francisco hotels were spiked tonight by Charles Lawrence, Jr., acting director of the President's committee for congested production areas in Washington, D. C.

He had been assured by representatives of the Army Service forces, Lawrence notified the San Francisco office of the CCPA that it is not planned at this time to take over any hotel accommodations in San Francisco.

Hollywood, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Actress Bette Davis was dazed for a short while on the sound stage today when two stagehands moving a barn door set accidentally clipped her on the head.

BATTLE INJURED UNHURT AS WRECK KILLS 45 NEGROES

Valdosta, Ga., Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Atlantic Coast Line railroad officials tonight blamed a broken rail for the wreck of a speeding passenger train near here last night which killed 45 Negro laborers and injured 38 others, but miraculously spared the lives of battle casualties from Normandy who were en route to an army hospital.

The railroad announced tonight that its earlier count of 48 dead had been revised downward following a careful check of the dead.

The Negroes, members of a railroad work gang homeward bound to Alabama for the weekend, were disgorged from a car which was torn open by the impact, and their bodies, broken and mangled, scattered over the ground.

In another car, bodies of the Negro workers were thrown together and "stacked like cordwood," according to Capt. Valentine Bay, provost marshal of the nearby Moody army air field who directed operations of military police dispatched to the scene.

It required four hours, Bay said, to extricate one of the men.

"But when we cut our way to him, he was able to walk away from the wreckage—the only walking wounded taken from the car," Bay said.

The wounded troops from the Normandy battlefields were riding in a Red Cross hospital car, last coach of the 14-car train.

The derailment occurred in a desolate, palm-tree-dotted section of southwest Georgia that was almost inaccessible to rescue parties. The train was en route from Savannah to Montgomery, Ala.

The scene was described by Turner Rockwell, editor of the Valdosta Times, as "a terrible, mangled mass of bodies and parts of bodies."

TRANSPORTATION STRIKE LEADERS TO BE ARRESTED

Violation Anti-Strike Law Is Charged in Warrants—Troops Back Ultimatum.

Philadelphia, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—U. S. Attorney Gerald A. Gleeson tonight authorized issuance of warrants for the arrest of James McMenamin and three other leaders of the Philadelphia Transportation company strike, charging them with violations of the Smith-Connally anti-strike law.

The others named were James Bixie, also known as James Dixon; Frank Carney and Frank Thompson, members of the strikers' executive committee.

The warrants were turned over to the U. S. marshal's office for service immediately, Gleeson said.

McMenamin and other leaders called the strike early last Tuesday and it was put into effect by the men reporting for duty, but saying they were "sick." The controversy started when the transportation company upgraded eight Negro employees to the position of operators. The strikers contended that the action threatened their seniority.

Hayes in his ultimatum tonight said that "he cannot wait while the employees of this company make up their minds whether they will come back to work or not."

"Federal troops are being brought to Philadelphia to see to it that operations are resumed in accordance with the provision of the president's executive order," he said.

"It is not my intention to replace by any soldier any civilian employee who is ready and willing to work. Soldiers will be used only to operate vehicles which otherwise would remain idle. Soldiers will ride as guards on every bus, trolley, subway or elevated train that runs over this system. These armed military guards will go on duty this evening. The soldier drivers will be assigned to transit operations as soon as they are available."

Deadline Set

The ultimatum directed all employees to report for the "first regular shift" on Monday beginning at 12:01 a. m., and that "steps will be taken at once to drop from the company's employment rolls all who do not report at the scheduled time or present a physician's certificate of illness."

He cautioned that those who report and later leave their jobs "will likewise be dropped from the rolls unless they present a doctor's certificate."

He read a ruling by Frank L. McNamee, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, which said that no other employer could hire an employee of the Philadelphia Transportation Co.

"I know that these are all drastic measures," he said, "but when we are fighting a war, our first consideration must be the advancement of the war effort."

"Every day these troops have to be kept here means a day's delay in getting them to the battle fronts. We cannot shell any Germans or Japs with troops who drive transit vehicles in Philadelphia."

OREGON FAR OVER WAR BOND QUOTA

Portland, Ore., Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Oregon's fifth war bond sales topped the quota by more than \$60,000,000. E. C. Sammons, state chairman of the Oregon War Finance committee, announced today.

Final tabulations from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco set Oregon's total at \$187,761,035 in comparison with the \$125,000,000 quota.

DRIVERS PETITION STATE AREA FOR SPECIAL SESSION

Seek Change in Absentee Voter's Law to Insure Count of Soldier Ballots.

Portland, Ore., Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Democratic party workers were circulating petitions in Multnomah county today calling for a special session of the state legislature to amend the absentee voters' law so that service men and women would be insured an opportunity to vote.

The petition is in accordance with a resolution passed by the Portland Lodge of the Elks which petitioned Gov. Earl Snell to "immediately" call a special session . . . for the purpose of enacting legislation to change the independent candidate filing date from Sept. 23 to Aug. 15 or some date thereafter, to give soldiers additional time to receive and return their ballots for the November election.

300 Too Late
The Elks asserted that approximately 300 ballots from soldiers from Multnomah county were returned too late to be counted in the May 19 primaries. Since that time, however, the army and navy have set up airmail service to handle the ballots for the general election.

After checking with clerks in all counties, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, Jr., said that the airmail service coupled with cooperation of clerks, would make it possible to receive ballots from all service men in plenty of time.

Gen. Hershey Will Speak at Launching

Portland, Ore., Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, national director of selective service, will be guest speaker at the launching of the tanker Beacon Rock at Swan Island shipyard here next Tuesday, and Mrs. Hershey will sponsor the vessel, it was announced today.

Gen. Hershey will visit Portland during the course of a national tour of selective service offices. Col. Elmer Wootton and Col. Walter Delong, selective service directors in Oregon and Washington, will accompany the general here.

He-Man Heroes Mussed in Series Of Hollywood Brawls

By Frederick C. Othman
United Press Hollywood Correspondent

Hollywood, Aug. 5.—(U.P.)—The rip-roaring series of movie fights yet, in which nobody got paid for their fistie endeavors, left half a dozen top flight picture heroes dribbling blood tonight from their hands and noses.

They included Jon Hall, whose wife, Frances Langford, was overseas with Bob Hope while Hall was wounded in the neck on the home front; Edward Norris, the he-man of many a movie; Tommy Dorsey, the horn tooter; Pat Dane, his beautiful wife; Charles Bickford, who usually tangles with lions; Barney Oldfield, the race driver; Mike Ramonoff, the bogus prince and restaurant proprietor, and several others yet to be identified.

The bloodiest of the brawls was at the home of Dorsey in the Sunset Plaza apartments, where he threw a party for numerous movie beauties and their escorts. The party broke up in fervent thanks and emotional goodbyes at dawn; a few minutes later Norris and Hall returned to pick up a purse left by a feminine guest whose name they wouldn't reveal.

Miss Dane opened the door, according to witnesses, Hall threw his arms around her, and she bopped him in the nose with the purse. This, the goggle-eyed bystanders said, made Dorsey unhappy and he took a poke at his erstwhile guest.

Then, as if movie doubles had

Trolley Stretcher



Guam's rugged terrain prevented stretcher bearers from carrying casualties down this steep cliff so they rigged up this stretcher-trolley that swiftly and comfortably lowered wounded to waiting ambulances, Marine Corps photo

GERMANS RESUME ROBOT BARRAGES

London, Sunday, Aug. 6.—(U.P.)—The Nazis early today resumed their flying bomb barrage against the British civilian front in London and southern England following Saturday's relatively light attack by the blind missiles.

The sharp reduction in casualties and damage from explosions of the robot bombs yesterday was attributed to a concentrated three-day rain of Allied blockbusters over the flying bomb installations of northern France.

Royal Air Force and American heavy bombers, out again today with their loads of one and two-ton bombs, wound up three days of attack against the bomb launching platforms along the French coast of Pas de Calais to Dippe last night and reconnaissance pilots said it appeared that the Germans had abandoned the sites.

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Penetration of St. Nazaire Believed Near — Paris Drive Looms Next Move.

By Edward W. Beattie
United Press War Correspondent
London, Sunday, Aug. 6.—(U.P.)—Triumphant American tank forces smashed into the famed World War port of Brest Saturday after a sensational 140-mile dash in five days to the tip of the Breton peninsula, and simultaneously sealed off the whole vast cape by reaching the mouth of the Loire near Nantes.

Unofficial reports here said that Nantes, and possibly St. Nazaire as well, had been invested by the Americans, whose advance had thrown a net around four depleted German divisions whose strength might total 25,000 men.

Adding to a day of stunning triumphs, the Yanks also tore 29 miles eastward from the base of the cape, captured Mayenne and crossed the Mayenne river in a powerful new drive on Paris, made possible now that the big entry port of Brest is within our grasp.

British troops, following up an abrupt German withdrawal from the Odon river salient southwest of Caen, seized the enemy's erstwhile anchor positions at Villers-Bocage and Aunay-sur-Odon. Breaking into rolling tank terrain from the confining hills and hedges of the Bocage country, the British applied tremendous pressure and the German retreat was believed continuing beyond the Orne.

Near Nantes

In their advance to the Loire river mouth, the Yanks captured Redon, Allied headquarters announced, and smashed on 30 miles to reach the river at a "point to the southeast," which would put them in the immediate vicinity of Nantes.

The Loire estuary is several miles wide along its 25-mile east-west course from Nantes to the sea and by reaching the river the Americans sealed off the peninsula as effectively as if they had first struck to the Atlantic at St. Nazaire, just north of the estuary.

Robert C. Miller of the United Press reported in a dispatch filed from France at 8:15 p. m. (2:15 EDT) that it had been announced "elements of American armor are within the city limits of Brest."

He also reported that an American force had driven across the Mayenne river, which runs 40 miles east of Rennes, in an apparent drive toward Paris, 120 miles beyond the stream.

The eastward drive was launched from newly captured Avranches, 25 miles southeast of Fougères, and involved a one-day smash of 27 miles to the Mayenne river at a point two miles below the city of Mayenne.

Defense Crumbling

Another spearhead plunged several miles below St. Gildes De Bois, itself only 18 miles northeast of St. Nazaire, as the doughboys ran roughshod in all directions against disintegrating enemy defenses in the Brittany area.

It was just a little over 27 years ago that the Americans began landing at Brest, making it the main debarkation port of the first AEF. More than 300,000 troops eventually were landed there along with 250,000 horses.

This time they came from a different direction and in a far different manner, rumbling overland in a tide of tankpower to climax one of the stupendous drives of the war. As they approached, more than 100 RAF heavy bombers blasted Brest harbor to forestall the escape of Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz's main U-boat fleet.

The last previously reported position of the two Brest-bound columns had been approximately 100 miles east of the port and they thus appeared to have covered that distance in about 48 hours—a speed of 30 miles a day.

British troops crashing through in the wake of the retreat captured the deserted but heavily mined fortress of Villers-Bocage, the strongholds of Evrecy and Esquay and more than a score of other key points as the enemy fell back across the Orne on an eight-mile front, abandoning an area totaling altogether about 50 square miles.

To cover the withdrawal, the enemy launched a furious counter-attack from recaptured Vire in the center, but the British held their lines and were being joined late Saturday by an American column