

Canucks and British Add Weight to Paris Drive

Weather

Forecast: Partly cloudy tonight and Wednesday, with scattered thunder storms and showers in mountains. Little change in temperature. Temp. Highest yesterday — 78. Lowest this morning — 49.

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



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Thirty-ninth Year

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American Troops Receive Ovation in Rennes



French civilians of liberated Rennes, provisional capital of Brittany, give American armored columns a tumultuous ovation as they pour through the city in pursuit of swiftly retreating German occupation army which had held the people in bondage for four years. Photo by NEA-Acme staff photographer Andy Lopez for War Picture Pool.

JAPANESE TOLD COUNTRY FACING SERIOUS MENACE

By United Press

Premier Gen. Kuniaki Koiso warned the Japanese people today that Japan faced "difficulties of unprecedented seriousness" as further Allied progress was reported through the Pacific.

Koiso's message, broadcast by the Domei News Agency and recorded by the United Press in San Francisco, cited the American occupation of the Marianas as "an attempt to obtain a quick decision in the war and presents the appearance as if to strike at our homeland in a single blow."

Advance in Guam

On Guam, American forces with air support struck three miles northward in a day to squeeze Japanese defenders into a tiny area at the northern end. A communiqué from Admiral Chester W. Nimitz revealed that carrier aircraft bombed and strafed Japanese Sunday on Mount Santa Rosa, one of the last two remaining elevations on which the enemy could mount defense bastions.

Nimitz announced that navy and army Liberators continued attacks in the Carolines and nearby enemy bases Friday and Saturday.

In the southwest Pacific, the far eastern air force was believed to have successfully completed an intensive two-month campaign to neutralize Yap Island in the western Carolines. American forces continued counter-attacks against Japanese forces trapped on British New Guinea and the total enemy death toll in the campaign was estimated at nearly 6000.

Pvt. Stanley Morgan In Hawaii Hospital

Pvt. Stanley Clyde Morgan, wounded during the battle of Saipan in its latter stages, is now in an army hospital in Hawaii, according to information received by his grandmother, Mrs. Tessie Morgan, and a brother, Richard Morgan, of 850 King street. Pvt. Morgan has been awarded the Purple Heart medal. The serviceman has been in the army about a year and a half and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Morgan, Lakeview. He had been serving with a medical corps unit.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Boy ("Noah") Heckathorn busily at work constructing a boat in his Haven street home garage.

Medford Coach-Elect Al Simpson scouring the city in search of a domicile.

Annie Scripser almost but not quite making the sale of a well-viewed dress.

Giant, Armored Trucks Take British Into German Lines

With the British and Canadians Advancing Beyond Caen, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—The big bombers faded away in the dark and streams of colored tracer shells spurted across No-Man's Land. Then the British and Canadians rolled out their secret weapon—giant, armored lorries jam-packed with assault infantry. The big breakthrough was on. Down highways marked off on either side by streaks of brilliant tracers, the armored lorries smashed through the enemy lines, unloading their cargoes of tough fighting men deep inside the German positions to rip and disorganize the foe.

Surprise for Nazis

Engineers had been busy for days preparing the lorries and they came as a complete surprise to the Germans. A surprise also was the method of guiding them by tracers as pathfinders guide the big bombers in the air. The lorries followed the first wave of tanks. They swept up to the battlefield directly from the machine shops where they had been fitted with special armor, paused to take on their loads of infantrymen, and then rolled on across the bomb-pocked pathway carved by the bombers which had just dropped 6000 tons in the biggest tactical bombing of the war.

They came up to the front under heavy camouflage and the enemy could not have known about them until his machinegun and artillery shells were bouncing harmlessly off the plated monsters.

PACKING PLANTS OPEN NEXT WEEK

Packing plants of the city and valley are scheduled to start operations for the season next Tuesday, with most of them running by Thursday. Picking of Bartlett's will start next Monday in some orchards, and be general by mid-week. Clarence Pankey of the Reter Fruit company reports a fair crop, with good size and quality. He also states that as a result of a campaign waged by growers there is less scab than last year and the year before.

Wages in orchards and packing plants, under an OPA ruling, will be the same as last year, it is reported.

FLEEING GERMANS SCORCHING EARTH

Moscow, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—The Germans burned houses, farms and other installations along the East Prussian frontier today in the first application of the scorched earth policy to their "holy" soil as Red armies closed in along a 215-mile arc. Two more Russian armies—the 1st Baltic and 2nd White Russian—were revealed to have joined in the mounting battle for East Prussia as Gen. Ivan D. Cherniakhovsky's 3rd White Russian army bogged down five to 10 miles from the border in the face of heavy resistance from reinforced Nazi troops.

INTERVENTION IN TRUCKER STRIKE BELIEVED LIKELY

Roosevelt May Act to Halt Walkout of 50,000 Drivers and Freight Handlers.

By United Press

Presidential intervention was considered likely to be the next step today in a strike of an estimated 50,000 truck drivers and freight handlers in the Midwest as an army officer reported that the labor dispute was interfering with the movement of war materials at Omaha and Minneapolis.

The strikers, members of the General Drivers' Union (AFL), were protesting against the refusal of more than 100 motor freight companies to grant a 7-cent hourly wage increase ordered by the War Labor Board.

War Goods Bogged

The strikers, by agreement with the army, promised to keep vital war materials moving, but Major Alec Baxter, chief of the highway branch of the army transportation corps at Chicago, said the movement of war goods was "bogged down in the Omaha and Minneapolis sections" because operators did not want trucks to leave the terminals.

Meanwhile, at Philadelphia, two of four employees of the Philadelphia Transportation company, who were dismissed "for cause" during their alleged leadership of the six-day transit strike which ended there yesterday, faced military induction after cancellation of their occupational deferments. The other two are over military age, but all four are under bond imposed after their arrest during the strike.

Return Ordered

At Cleveland, the regional WLB directed the return to work of striking members of the United Automobile Workers' Union (CIO) at the National Supply company, Toledo, O. About 1400 workers have been on strike since last Friday.

At Montreal, the strike of 4000 tramway company employees entered its sixth day with no settlement in sight. An estimated 800 to 1000 workers failed to report for the day shift of two plants of the Wright Aeronautical corporation today at Paterson, N. J.

TIRED ADMIRAL TAKES OWN LIFE

Washington, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—Secretary of Navy James Forrestal announced today that Rear Admiral Don P. Moon, commander of a task force in the invasion of Normandy, committed suicide on Saturday, "apparently as a result of combat fatigue."

Moon, 50-year-old native of Kokomo, Ind., commanded naval forces on the east face of the Cherbourg peninsula in the invasion operation under Rear Admiral Alan G. Kirk. He carried out one of the most successful of the beachhead landings. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Sybil H. Moon, of Arlington, Va., and two children, Don P. Moon, Jr., and a daughter, Miss Meredith W. Moon.

LIEUT. BEASLEY LISTED MISSING

Second Lt. Harry M. Beasley, bombardier of a B-17, has been declared missing in action over enemy territory in Europe, according to information received by his wife, the former Barbara Schmidt, Riverside, Cal. and his parents-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Schmidt, 325 West Fourth street, Medford. Lt. Beasley had been in England since March and in the last letter from the officer, dated July 20, he stated that he had just returned from his fourth mission, with the plane full of flak holes and one dead motor.

Lt. Beasley had been in service since October of 1941, graduating as a bombardier from the Carlisle, N. M., field. He later trained at Alexandria, La., leaving there for England before entering the service he was employed by Fluhrer's bakery. Mrs. Beasley is employed at a post exchange at March Field, near Riverside.

NAZIS POUNDED BY BIG BOMBERS

London, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—More than 600 American heavy bombers pounded enemy troop concentrations in support of the all-out Allied offensive in the Caen sector today, while about 400 other Flying Fortresses and Liberators attacked enemy air-dromes and flying bomb installations in northern France. During the shattering aerial assault to flast a way for advancing Canadians south of Caen, the Americans dropped more than 20,000 100-pound fragmentation bombs on German troops who were still dazed from the 6000-ton RAF bomber command attack only 13 hours earlier.

POW's at Ft. Ord Forced to Refill 120-Foot Tunnel

Fort Ord, Calif., Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—An undetermined number of German prisoners of war attempted unsuccessfully to escape from the Fort Ord stockade by digging a tunnel from the recreational hall to a point outside the enclosure. Maj. Karl F. Biehler, commander of the camp, announced today.

The tunnel was discovered prior to its completion, and the prisoners of war who had dug it were assigned to refill it. Major Biehler said the prisoners had been working on the tunnel for "some time." Using a short-handle shovel and a hoe. The tunnel's total length was 120 feet, and it averaged two and one-half square feet. The dirt shaft was supported by lengths of rough lumber.

MCGNAIR SON ALSO DIES IN SERVICE

Washington, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—The War Department today sought further details of the death on Guam of Col. Douglas McNair, 37, son of the late Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair.

News of Col. McNair's death was received only a few days after the announcement that his father, who had just relinquished command of the army ground forces, had been killed by an American bomb in Normandy.

Santa Barbara, Cal., Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—Shocked at the double tragedy which struck the family during the past month, Mrs. Frieda McNair, widow of Col. Douglas McNair, remained in seclusion at her Hope ranch home today with her 10-month-old daughter, Bonnie Claire.

Washington, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—Close friends of Clare Huster McNair, who had to face the deaths of her husband and her only son in battle a few days apart, said today that she was taking the double loss "like the good soldier she is."

Mrs. McNair, who has been active in Red Cross and other home front war activities, was notified yesterday of the death of her son, Col. Douglas McNair, 37, in action on Guam.

Her husband, Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, was killed by an American bomb in Normandy two weeks ago.

TO BERLIN

The shortest distance to Berlin from advanced allied lines today:

Russia—328 miles (gain of two miles in one week.) Italy—604 miles (gain of three miles in one week.) France—623 miles (unchanged for week.)

American Blitz Toward Paris Reminds Of German Drive Which Took France

By Ralph Heinzen UP Staff Correspondent

Cincinnati, O., Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—There's a remarkable parallel between the smashing American blitz toward Paris and the German blitz of 1940 that tumbled France in 45 days. Indeed, it is the same thing in reverse.

Both are overwhelming tank operations in which the breakthrough permits a swift, deep penetration that plays havoc with the costliest and best laid defense.

There's a parallel, too, between the swift capture by the allies of key points behind Hitler's Atlantic wall which his Todt organization built in three years at a cost of \$30,000,000 out of the French taxpayers' pockets and the turning of the \$30,000,000 Maginot line by the Germans in 1940.

Too 43 Days

Forty-five days after the Germans broke into the tank country of north France in 1940, France surrendered. The Americans broke into tank country on July 25.

The terrain from Normandy, Brittany, or the Loire valley to Paris is perfect tank country. It's hilly, but smooth with rolling, green fields interspersed with forests and excellent national roads. It isn't greatly different from the Ardennes and Somme valley country where Heichenau's tanks smashed the

Caused It All



Pretty Jane Churchill, Kansas City, Mo., socialite and third countess of Britain's prime minister, sent Hollywood actor Jon Hall back to apartment of bandman Tommy Dorsey for her purse, which resulted in battle that sent Hall to hospital.

BLAZE DESTROYS SWINGLE SAWMILL

Fire early today destroyed the small sawmill of H. F. Swingle of Trail, but pumps from the Rogue River National Forest Service and the state forest patrol prevented its spread to nearby fields and forest land. Cause of the fire was unknown. The mill was located about six miles from Trail on the old Tiller-Trail road.

The blaze broke out about 8:15 a. m., shortly after workers had arrived to fire up for the day's run, and the forest pumps were summoned from Medford about 9 a. m. The mill was totally destroyed, but lumber and logs were saved, it was reported. It was thought that machinery could be salvaged.

Telephone connections to the mill were out and no figures on the loss were obtainable from Mr. Swingle.

At the Medford office of the Rogue River Forest Service it was said that three small fires, reported yesterday in the Union Creek district, were thought to be holdovers from the last electrical storm.

NAZIS HANG EIGHT RANKING OFFICERS FOR CONSPIRACY

Sentence Carried Out Two Hours After Court Confession in Murder Try.

London, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—Eight high German officers involved in the plot to assassinate Adolf Hitler on July 20 and overthrow his Nazi regime were hanged today only two hours after sentence of death had been passed on them by the provincial court in Berlin following a sensational two-day trial.

Berlin announced officially that the eight men were sentenced to death for "honorless ambition, for high treason and treachery."

Abrupt Ending

The trial came to an abrupt end today after the eight made a "confession" of their guilt and official German accounts indicated that the conspirators, including a field marshal and three generals, had been hanged publicly.

The condemned traitors were Field Marshal Erwin von Witzleben, who, according to some German accounts, directed the anti-Hitler conspiracy; Col. Gen. Hoepfner, Maj. Gen. Steff, Lt. Gen. von Hase, Lt. von Hagen, Lt. Col. Bernhardt, Capt. Friedrich Klaus, and Lt. Count York von Wartenburg.

The "confessions" came at the close of a carefully staged two-day trial in the plenary chamber of the provincial court in Berlin, where a hand-picked tribunal of Nazi judges and German general staff officers heard a damning indictment that charged the eight officers with attempting to murder Hitler on July 20 in order to take over the government and sue for peace with the allies.

In addition to the eight executed, the army court expelled the following from the army: General of Communications Troops Felgiebel, Maj. Gen. von Tresckow, Col. Hansen, Maj. Hayessen, Lt. (retired) Count von der Schulenburg.

The expulsion and death sentences were carried out at the same time, the Transocean news agency said.

The alleged testimony indicated that as far back as February, 1943, the plot against Hitler was brewing, and that by the end of that year negotiations were underway among the group to actually carry out the attempt on the fuhrer's life.

Soldiers customarily are executed by the firing squad and death by hanging is employed only for the lowest criminals.

Paris Blitz Toward Paris Reminds Of German Drive Which Took France

French army to bits and made the 45-day conquest of 1940 possible. The new battle for Paris really is being fought in western Normandy where four German panzer divisions counter-attacked yesterday. If we win that battle finally there should be no further difficulties in reaching Paris within a matter of weeks. There's really no defensible line between the present American positions and Paris.

Can Defend Paris

Paris can be defended if the Germans decide to risk the destruction of the city. In 1871 Paris resisted the besieging Prussian armies for many bitter and hungry months.

I remember the French government's last day in Paris, June 10, 1940. The previous evening Propaganda Minister Jean Prouvost, the owner of France's biggest daily newspaper, the Paris Soir, told the American correspondents: "Paris will be defended from house to house, from street to street, from roof to roof." It sounded nice, but we all knew Premier Paul Reynaud had assembled cars that very evening to take the whole government and the ministers and their wives and sweethearts to Tours.

Prouvost's good intentions really were bravado. Certainly they didn't make military sense because Generalissimo Maxime Weygand, as supreme allied commander, had told the government that Paris couldn't be defended even if every house was used to shelter snipers. Weygand told Reynaud that any army with a hundred bombers and a thousand tanks could capture Paris in 24 hours despite any defense but would destroy the city in doing so. That same formula stands today — 100 bombers and 1000 tanks and Paris lost in flames if it is defended.

Paris Rail Hub

Paris is militarily important, however, and beyond the morale building aspect of its recapture. All railroads have their terminals in Paris. None runs through. They are linked by a belt line which our bombers have cut often in past months. By taking Paris, the allies would immediately cut the five main French railroad systems. One of the most dramatic yet hopeless, costly, and futile phases of the war was the 1940 flight from Paris. I closed the United Press bureau and followed the government to Tours on June 10th, about 12 hours after the government fled. I drove 100 miles through roads packed solidly with humanity. All Paris fled the approaching Nazis, either afoot or in automobiles and on bicycles. The flight blocked the French army's retreat and permitted the Germans to capture more than a million French prisoners.

ARMORED FORCES CRASH DEEP INTO CAEN AREA LINES

Tremendous Rolling Barrage Precedes Attack; Yankees Converge on Le Mans.

Supreme Headquarters, AEP, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—Two Canadian and British armies, striking behind a tremendous rolling barrage of aerial bombs and artillery fire, crashed deep into the German battle lines below Caen in a full-scale drive on Paris today, while American flying columns from Brittany converged on Le Mans, little more than 100 miles from the French capital. At both ends of the twisting 100-mile front Allied armored forces were tearing to shreds the long-prepared German defenses barring the western and southwestern roads to Paris.

Left Flank Falters

The enemy's left flank already was disintegrating under the lightning thrusts of Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's American tanks and mechanized infantry, and the right flank below Caen appeared to have been gravely menaced by the new Canadian-British offensive.

The main Allied power apparently was concentrated on the Caen sector, where the Canadian first army pushed off shortly after midnight this morning and advanced almost four miles on both sides of the Caen-Falaise highway in the first few hours.

All initial objectives were taken in the opening phase of the attack, and front reports indicated the Canadians still were pounding ahead against strong enemy opposition.

Planes Add Havoc

Massed Canadian and British guns poured murderous shellfire into the German lines, while wave upon wave of Allied warplanes streaked in over the charging troops to spray the Nazi defenders with bombs and gunfire.

More than 600 American heavy bombers hit the enemy's front line positions shortly after mid-day, splintering 20,000 100-pound fragmentation lines across the three-mile-wide corridor through which the Canadians were attacking.

The RAF opened the bombardment at midnight, sending more than 1,000 four-engined bombers across the channel to unload 6,000 tons of bombs on the enemy just 15 minutes before the zero hour.

The Canadians officially were reported holding Gargelles, St. Aignan de Cremesnil, and Rocquencourt, all within a six-to-seven-mile arc southeast of Caen, after bypassing strong enemy positions at Tilly-La Campagne, May-sur-Orne, and Fontenay-Le Marmon.

Mop Up Mines

Infantrymen following up the armored thrust presumably were mopping up the screen of minefields, dug-in tanks, and antitank guns thrown up around those enemy strongholds.

British armored forces on the Canadian right flank battled to extend their bridgehead across the Orne north of Thury-Harcourt, while the Americans swept in on the Sarthe river line from the west at a pace that appeared to have demoralized the retreating Germans.

Only at the center of the battle line was the Allied advance on Paris imperiled, and front dispatches indicated that American troops were beating back four German tank divisions hurled into a desperate counter-attack that the Nazis hoped would drive through to the sea-coast at Avranches and split the Allied armies in two.

Peril On Flanks

The German panzers were fully committed to the counter-blow at the hinge of the American and British lines northwest of Mortain, and faced possible encirclement if their flanks to the north and south should give way.

No new developments were reported from the Brittany front, where Bradley's armored units were fighting in the outskirts of Best, St. Malo and Lorient. Part of the Lorient garrison was reported trying to quit in defiance of their commander's "stand-and-die" orders, and a German communiqué hinted the port may already have fallen.

Last Anchorage Restaurant Burns

Anchorage, Alaska, Aug. 8.—(U.P.)—A fire believed caused by a short circuit burned the roof off the one restaurant which has remained open for business during the strike of the Culinary Workers union, now in its fifth day.

Forced to close its doors because of the fire, not the strike, the owner estimated damage at several thousand dollars.