

Weather

Forecast: Fair Sunday, continued warm. Temp. Highest yesterday 100. Lowest this morning 55. Precipitation past 24 hrs. 0.

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Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 1944

NO. 121.

YANK GHOST ARMY FOOLS NAZIS

FOE BEWILDERED BY ALLIED BLOWS, REEL INTO TRAP

Junction at Argentan Near; Berlin Says Gen. Patton Leads Mystery Force.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, Sunday, Aug. 13.—An American "ghost" army and Anglo-Canadian columns today were reported within 15 miles of a junction near Argentan that would snap shut a trap around possibly 100,000 Germans reeling back in retreat under a bewildering succession of Allied blows.

More than 200 American Ma-rauder and Havoc bombers, answering a direct call for aid from the converging ground forces, drenched the last few miles of the escape gap with high explosives and fragmentation bombs late Saturday, concentrating on the area just west of Argentan.

In the first official indication of the whereabouts of the American "ghost army" since it left Le Mans five days ago, Ninth Air Force Headquarters said that German forces were trying to withdraw in the Argentan area "under the pressure of American advances from the south."

Doughboys cashing in on the withdrawal swept back into the embattled Mortain and Soudréval, anchors of the German salient below Vire. To the east, British and Canadian columns joined forces 10 miles below Caen and wiped out another salient in the forest of Cinglais—dubbed the "forest of the dead" for its heaps of German corpses.

Gains up to five miles were scored on both sectors and indirectly responsible were the sweeping operations across the German rear by American flying columns which have not been officially pin-pointed since they left Le Mans five days ago.

The whereabouts of these Yanks, who Berlin insists are led by Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., obviously is the key to the entire situation and for exactly that reason the situation beyond Le Mans "must remain obscure for security reasons," it was announced.

For two days, the Germans have been trying desperately to determine the direction of the main attacks and the strength employed, first suggesting that they had driven close to Chateaudun and Chartres on the road to Paris, then switching Saturday to a report that they were beyond Alencon.

This would represent a 30-mile jaunt north of Le Mans and put the Americans within 35 air-line miles of the Canadians driving on Falaise, with the bulk of the German Seventh army now apparently beginning to withdraw through the narrowing gap.

The blackout of official news is typical of any major offensive, particularly when the stakes are so great. Wild reports putting the Americans anywhere off in the blue beyond Le Mans to the outskirts of Paris itself are completely lacking in official sanction.

It can only be said that the American offensive is progressing with a success that still has many observers groggy and every hour that the Germans remain in the Vire and Coen areas their peril grows. The Germans have proven masters of withdrawal but it appeared they would require one of their greatest disengaging jobs yet to get out of their present predicament.

BEND TEST MILL OPEN SIX WEEKS

Bend, Ore., Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—Operation of the Western Pine association's pilot plant in Bend will begin in about six weeks, according to C. A. Rasmussen, engineer in charge.

Airmen Strike Triple Blow Against Japs



B-29 Super-Fortresses strike at Nagasaki, on Japan's home island of Kyushu, while others of the giant bombers hammer Palembang oil center on Sumatra. Gen. MacArthur sends planes to pound Davao, in first Philippines raid since fall of Iloilo to Japan.

CALIFORNIA DEMOS GLORIFY BUREAUS TO WIN ELECTION

Sacramento, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—Concluding two days of deliberations and speech making, the Democrats elected William M. Malone of San Francisco as state party chairman and completed organization for the campaign for party nominees.

Malone declared that the "bureaus and agencies of the Democratic administration" are responsible for production of war goods which has made victory possible. He scored Republican policies he charged were responsible for the present war and said that continued Democratic leadership was needed to "win the peace."

Other speakers emphasized that the Democrats should shoot for victory in 1946 state elections as well as in this year's national voting.

"We are laying the framework for return of the Democrats to power in California in 1946," Attorney General Robert W. Kenny declared.

Edwin W. Pauley, democratic national committeeman for the state, said that a ticket headed by Mr. Roosevelt had "licked the Republicans" three times in a row and would do it again. With Kenny, he predicted that some Republicans would aid the numerically superior Democrats in winning the November election.

RAIL EQUIPMENT OF AXIS BLASTED

By United Press
Eighth Air Force fighter bombers, in one of their most successful days over northern France flew more than 1,000 sorties up to 7 p. m. They were reported officially to have destroyed or damaged 325 locomotives, and 2,860 railway cars, including 359 laden with fuel and 172 with ammunition.

War Bulletins

London, Sunday, Aug. 13.—(U.P.)—The RAF in great strength attacked the German cities of Brunswick and Ruseleins last night, it was learned today, while other planes attacked targets in north France.

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JAP SHIPPING IN SOUTHWEST AREA GETS BOMB BLITZ

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Sunday, August 13.—(U.P.)—Medium Mitchell bombers, in a blitz bombing of the Japanese-held island of Halmahera, sank a 1,000-ton freighter, seriously damaged another of 3,000 tons, five coastal vessels and 28 barges, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

The Allied air force also sank 10 seaplanes and hit 31 parked Japanese planes, MacArthur's communique added.

Boston bombers, sweeping the Vogelkop peninsula on Dutch New Guinea, sank three 1,000-ton freighters, seriously damaged another and destroyed or damaged five coastal vessels and eight barges, the communique said.

A single Liberator bombed the Davao waterfront on the Philippine island of Mindanao Friday night.

Forces in the Aitape area on New Guinea reported an additional 1057 Japanese have been killed and 18 captured in a final mopping up. This made a total of 8064 enemy killed and 95 captured in operations on that sector through Friday, the communique added.

HUNGARY REFUSES TO YIELD YANKS

Ankara, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—The Hungarian government has refused a German demand to surrender 570 captive Anglo-American pilots, diplomatic circles reported today.

The refusal resulted in a riot yesterday in the Budapest Mogacz theater, the report said, and many persons were wounded when pro-Nazis tried to break up a meeting of the government party.

FR's Timetable

Bremerton, Wash., Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—The latest timetable on President Roosevelt's current trip:

July 13—Left Washington.
July 19—Arrived San Diego.
July 20—Accepted fourth term nomination from San Diego.
July 21—Departed by cruiser for Pearl Harbor.
July 26—Arrived Pearl Harbor.
July 29—Left Pearl Harbor by cruiser.
Aug. 3—Arrived Adak.
Aug. 12—Arrived Bremerton aboard destroyer.

REDS AIM WEDGE TO FLANK WARSAW, CHOP UP BAL TIC

Smash Deep Into Estonia and Latvia; Nazis Driven Back to Dvina.

London, Sunday, Aug. 13.—(U.P.)—Two mighty Soviet armies, yesterday began hammering a great wedge between East Prussia and embattled Warsaw while other Russian troops smashed deeper into Estonia and Latvia in a drive to chop up Germany's trapped Baltic armies.

Hurling the Germans back from powerfully fortified defense lines, the 1st and 2nd White Russian armies commanded by Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky and Gen. Ma vel Zakharov linked forces astride the vital Bialystok-Warsaw railroad and smashed forward in an attempt to outflank Warsaw to the north and East Prussia to the south.

At the same time, three Soviet armies in Latvia and Estonia extended their breakthrough south-west of Lake Pskov, drove the grimly-fighting Nazis back against the Dvina river south-east of Riga and struck out toward the Baltic Port of Lelpaja (Libau).

At Szepetowo, the combined armies were three miles south of the big highway junction of Wysokie Mazowieckie, and had flung a semi-circular arc of steel around the town of Zakharov's capture of the rail station of Wnory, five miles northeast.

Meanwhile, Zakharov's army raced to within 20 miles of the great rail and highway junction of Lomza, a southern bastion of East Prussia by the capture of Kyrtylo.

Simultaneously, the northern wing of Zakharov's army was driving toward the big East Prussian rail junction of Lyck, and advancing along the Bialystok-Lyck railroad, captured Monki, 35 miles southeast of the German town.

Routing the enemy from two intermediate defense lines, Zakharov's troops flung back German counter-attacks and captured Kiliwanka, two miles from the Auguston canal, as they drew level with the German defense line along the canal and the Biebrza river along a 28-mile front.

ENEMY SHIPS IN NORWAY BLASTED

By United Press
In the third blow in three days against German sea communications, British carrier-based planes yesterday smashed enemy shipping, shore installations and airdromes in the Norwegian Leads. Two of three armed vessels attacked were set afire, seven grounded planes were destroyed or damaged and considerable havoc caused among hangars, radio stations, gun positions and oil depots, the admiralty announced. Two British planes were reported missing.

BULLETINS

Sacramento, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—Ray Prim, veteran Los Angeles mountaineer, got out of a sick bed to pitch the Angels to a 3-1 victory over the Sacramento Solons here tonight in a Pacific Coast League baseball game.

The victory extended the Angels' lead in the league standings to 7 games, as the San Francisco Seals dropped their fifth in a row to Portland and slipped to third place as the Hollywood Stars climbed to second spot. The win was the fifth in six starts for the south-easters over the Seals in the current series.

FLORENCE FALLS TO ALL ARMS, NAZI JOVE OUT

A.M.G. Takes Over City—Masse German Fire Gains Village.

Rome, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—Allied forces have occupied all of Florence, center of Italian Renaissance art, and AMG officials already are taking over. It was announced today, but the Allies have been forced from the village of Can Colombano, five miles to the west, by massed German fire from the Gothic line.

The Germans, who for weeks took advantage of Allied hesitancy to shell Florence's art and architectural treasures, withdrew at 5 a. m. yesterday, and within an hour Allied military government personnel had crossed the Arno and entered the heart of the city.

Greeted enthusiastically by Italians, the AMG men found that the Germans had blown up the railway station and buildings along the water front and the ancient Via Porta Santa Maria which intersects the river at the historic Vecchio bridge. German snipers still remained in the city.

Italians told AMG officers that Italian women and children were shot by snipers as they went through the streets, seeking food and water.

The Nazis, since the Allied entry into southern Florence, had imposed a 24-hour curfew on all males, front reports said, and in recent days had entered and searched private homes, confiscating watches, cameras and any other valuables attracting them.

Meanwhile, sharp fighting broke out west of Florence as the Germans battled furiously to hold the three shallow pockets south of the Arno in that sector.

In the first pocket, the Allies were blasted by an intense barrage from heavy German guns, some of which fired from forward positions in their brilliant Gothic line, the next Nazi fixed defense in the path of the advancing Eighth army.

DEWEY TO DEBATE TITLE USE BY F.R.

Pawling, N. Y., Aug. 12.—(U.P.) Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, Republican presidential candidate, worked on campaign speeches tonight in the seclusion of his Quaker Hill farm.

The governor began dictating "the first drafts" of the speeches to Miss Lillian Rosse, his personal secretary, after spending most of the day disposing of state affairs. The topics of the campaign speeches were closely guarded. But it was indicated that President Roosevelt's use of the commander-in-chief title may be slated for an early discussion.

METHODISTS MAP PLAN FOR EUROPE

Durham, N. C., Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—Bishop Paul N. Garber, who recently was selected to head the Methodist church's reconstruction work in nine European countries, said tonight some \$25,000,000 would be spent in rebuilding churches, restoring property and meeting the needs of war-torn European peoples.

Dr. Garber disclosed he would go shortly to north Africa to begin his work and later make his headquarters at Geneva.

CRASH CAUSES FIRE
Salinas, Cal., Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—State forest fire control crews from Carmel and King City today battled a brush fire, believed to have been started when a P-70 night fighter plane crashed yesterday, killing its pilot.

FDR Greets Pacific Wounded



One of the most moving incidents on President Roosevelt's Hawaiian visit occurred when he greeted wounded men at an airfield after their removal from transport, which had flown them from Saipan. Here he chats with a wounded soldier whose face is cropped out by censors. U. S. Navy photo.

MIDNIGHT TABOO FOR SERVICEMEN IRKS GUAM HERO

Portland, Ore., Aug. 12.—(U.P.) Chief Radioman George Ray Tweed, who played hide and seek with the Japs on Guam for 31 months, ran up against the midnight ruling for servicemen last night—and he didn't like it a bit.

When he paid his check at a Portland nightclub at 11:55 p. m., the cashier warned him that he had only 45 more minutes "because you are in uniform."

Tweed left, but when talking to friends later he questioned why a man in uniform of his country, indicating that he was ready and willing to die for it, should be made to leave public places two hours before civilians.

He resented the ruling that servicemen cannot enjoy social privileges with civilians and wants to know why a person in uniform who behaves himself should have his fun cut short. "If he does not behave he will get into trouble regardless of the hour and clothes he wears," Tweed asserted.

The 42-year-old seaman, who managed to elude the Japs on Guam from December 10, 1941, until July 10, 1944, when he was rescued, is now visiting in Portland before he returns to active duty.

San Diego, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—If it had not been for native help George R. Tweed, the "ghost of Guam," who escaped after 31 months on the island, would have starved to death, his wife, Mrs. Mary Tweed, said tonight. "He lived off deer he killed and food the natives brought him," Mrs. Tweed said. "He used the leather from the deer to make shoes."

After the war, Mrs. Tweed said she and her husband plan to return to Guam and go into business.

EXAM DENIED

New York, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—Mrs. Velva Dickinson, who is confined in the women's house of detention pending sentencing on Monday for violation of censorship regulations, today was denied permission to be examined by her personal physician for an alleged heart condition.

GIGANTIC MURDER PLANT OF HITLER AT MAIDAN FOUND

Roman Karmen
Soviet War Correspondent
(Written for United Press)
Lublin, Poland, Aug. 12.—(U.P.) In the course of all my travels into liberated territory I have never seen a more abominable sight than "Maidan" near Lublin, Hitler's notorious vernichtungslager—extermination camp—where more than half a million men, women and children were massacred.

"Baby Yar," the Kiev graveyard of some 100,000 civilians, was a country cemetery compared with Maidan. Even now when SS guards no longer call to each other from the watchtowers and there are no more barking dogs, I cannot believe my own eyes walking through Maidan officially known as Dachau concentration camp No. 2. This was not a concentration camp; it was a gigantic murder plant.

Save for 1000 living corpses the Red army found when it entered, no inmate escaped from here alive. Yet full trains daily brought thousands here from all parts of Europe to be coldly, brutally massacred.

In the center of the camp stands a huge stone building with a factory chimney—the world's biggest crematorium. The Germans attempted to burn the crematorium but most of it still stands—a bronze monument to the Third Reich.

Groups of 100 people would be brought here to be burned almost alive. They already had been stripped and then chlorinated in special gas chambers containing some 250 persons at one time. They were closely packed in a standing position so that after they suffocated from the chlorine they still remained standing.

Executioners then would enter, remove the suffocated victims, some of whom still stirred feebly and place the bodies in special carts. The carts were dumped into a roaring furnace heated to 1,500 degrees centigrade. The whole thing was organized with diabolical efficiency.

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Sacramento, Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—The California campaign for reelection of President Roosevelt was officially under way tonight, based on claims the national Democratic administration is responsible for war and production successes.

PRESIDENT ASKS QUARANTINE FOR POST-WAR JAPAN

Undisputed Control of Pacific Area Held American Need, in Bremerton Talk.

Bremerton, Wash., Aug. 12.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt returning to home waters after a lengthy cruise to Pacific war bases, today proposed a virtual postwar quarantine of Japan until "years of proof" have shown that the Japanese will cooperate in maintaining permanent peace.

Speaking from the deck of a destroyer in the Puget Sound Navy Yard shortly after arriving from Alaskan waters, the chief executive told a nationwide radio audience that "the word of honor of Japan cannot be trusted," thus creating the need for an elaborate network of forward bases nearer to Japan in the years to come.

Fresh from a first hand view of powerful bases at Pearl Harbor and Adak and Kodiak in the Aleutians, the president charted the need for "undisputed control" by this country of the great circle course for sea and air navigation from Puget Sound to Siberia and northern China.

Mr. Roosevelt came home after an absence from Washington since July 13 more confident than ever of victory, but he declined to forecast or even hint at when an end to the war either in Europe or the Pacific would come.

Urges Public Support

He followed his reference to his inability to predict an end to the war by appealing for continued, full-strength public support of the war effort, saying the conflict would end sooner if the people maintained a continued production of "necessary supplies and ships and planes."

Mr. Roosevelt's address was largely devoted to a survey of the high points of his trip which took him to Pearl Harbor and the Aleutians, referring particularly to his conferences with "my old friend, Gen. Douglas MacArthur."

He warned, however, that a proper view of the Pacific war effort must take into consideration "the enormous size" of the Pacific, pointing out that the Hawaiian Islands, for example, no longer can be regarded as an outpost.

As to the future defense of the Pacific against aggressive attacks by nations such as Japan, Mr. Roosevelt said it was "essential" that "our control" of a sea and air navigation line extending from Puget Sound to northern China must be "undisputed" after the war.

"You who live in the Pacific northwest," he said "have realized that a line for sea and air navigation following the great circle course from Puget Sound to Siberia and northern China passes very close to the Alaskan coast and thence westward along the line of the Aleutian Islands."

Control Sea Route
"Front the point of national defense, therefore, it is essential that our control of this route shall be undisputed."

He went on to say that "everybody in Siberia and China" knows "we have no ambitions to acquire land on the continent of Asia," but that despite our opposition to aggression the American people were "insistent" that other nations must not in the "foreseeable future" be allowed to commit "sneak attacks."

"Therefore," he added, "it is essential that we be fully prepared to prevent them for all time to come. The word and honor of Japan cannot be trusted."

Mr. Roosevelt followed this theme by declaring the necessity of new defense bases for this country—bases nearer to Japan. He spoke, too, of the defensive need for some of the hundreds of islands in the Pacific which nominally are territories of other United Nations.

"We have no desire to ask for any possession of the United Nations," he said, "but the United Nations who are working so

(Continued on Page Six)