

Weather

Forecast: Partly cloudy with rain showers tonight and Friday. Cooler temperatures.

Temp. — 90
Highest yesterday — 90
Lowest this morning — 53
Precipitation past 24 hrs. — 0

Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, AUGUST 31, 1944

Use The
MAIL TRIBUNE
Want Ad Way

Quick Results
At Small Cost

NO. 137.

HUN BATTLE LINE IN WEST SPLIT

AMERICAN TANKS AND TROOPS POUR THROUGH BREACH

Drive For Sedan Underway; Patton's Army Chase Nazis Near Belgium.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—The German battle screen west of the Rhine broke wide open tonight and front dispatches said American tanks and infantrymen were pouring through the great breach, almost at the borders of Belgium.

In a blazing 37-mile advance from the Aisne river line at Neufchatel, powerful armored columns of the American 1st army burst across the Meuse river below Sedan and swung up toward that historic city at the entrance to the Ardennes forest.

It was through the Ardennes forest that the German armies of 1940 swept to turn the Maginot line and overrun France.

At the same time, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's American 3rd army forces were reported to have surged far east of Chalors-Sur-Marne, apparently pushing into the Argonne forest in a headlong drive toward Verdun.

Patton's men are riding down hundreds of fleeing Nazis and United Press War Correspondent Henry T. Gorrell reported that the battle had degenerated into a race to see whether the Germans or Americans would reach the borders of the reich first.

The battle of the Meuse on the U. S. 1st army front began and ended in a matter of hours, with the enemy scattering back into the Ardennes forest in complete disorder.

At one point, an American battle group captured 400 prisoners representing 64 different German units, indicating the enemy no longer was fighting as an organized army.

The exact point of the Meuse crossing was not given, but Gorrell said the Americans were pounding on Sedan and the Ardennes and it was intimated they might already have reached the Belgian border.

Equally chaotic scenes were reported from the blazing Somme battlefield above Paris where the Canadian 1st army, the British 2nd army and units of the American 1st were tearing apart the German defenses guarding the robot bomb coast.

Thousands of Germans were bypassed and facing death or capture in the channel port of Le Havre as the British captured Amiens in a powerful thrust across the Somme river line and swept on toward Boulogne, Calais and Dunkerque.

"It is now no longer a drive against armed opposition but a chase of the thoroughly demoralized and confused German armies in France, an authoritative spokesman told Gorrell at the front.

"The battle of France is rapidly drawing to a close tonight," Gorrell wrote.

On the northern front, all indications were that the robot bomb coast might be overrun by the allied armies within 72 hours.

AIR OPPOSITION IN SOUTH LIGHT

Rome, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Pilots from the carrier USS Tulagi saw only six German planes during their operations covering the invasion of the southern coast of France and shot down every one of them, the U. S. navy disclosed today.

Ensign Richard V. Yentzer, Route 2, Sheridan, Wyo., downed a Junker-52, while credit for downing a Heinkel was shared by Ensign Advide Robinson of Chicago and Lt. Cmdr. John H. Sander, 811 W. 11th St., Walsenburg, Colo.

The Lone Yank Came Back—With 946 Prisoners!



Milling about in a 45th Division prisoner of war camp in southern France are the 946 Germans, including 17 officers, who surrendered to Lieutenant Clarence E. Coggins (right) of Potomac, Okla., whom they had captured a short time before. The fast-talking, 24-year-old Oklahoman persuaded the Nazi commander to "give up" by telling him that his men were surrounded, then took the surrender offer over to Allied headquarters to make arrangements for the Germans to lay down their arms and come in their own vehicles.



(Acme Radio-Telephoto)

BUCHAREST FALLS INTO RED HANDS; PLOESTI ABLAZE

Russians Near Bulgarian Border — Moscow Fires Victory Guns.

London, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—The Soviet 2nd Ukrainian army drove southward from the blazing oil fields of Ploesti and entered Bucharest today, liquidating the German forces in the northern suburbs who had been fighting their former Romanian allies for possession of the capital.

Premier Josef Stalin's order of the day announcing the achievement significantly did not claim the capture of the Romanian capital, which has been held by the Romanians virtually ever since their king's declaration of war on Germany, but said that the Russians had removed the "German threat to Bucharest from the north."

The order also directed 24 salutes of Moscow's 324 victory guns for the troops "who ensured the safety of the Romanian capital."

Prior to Stalin's announcement, Bucharest was reported in the hands of Romanian troops loyal to King Michael, who surrendered Romania to the Soviets last week and declared war on the country's former ally, Germany.

In the drive down the eastern Romanian plains, other Soviet columns further east reached the border of Bulgarian-annexed Dobruja and threatened to cross the prewar frontier of Bulgaria itself.

Behind them the Soviet troops left chemical units working feverishly along side Romanian engineers to extinguish the blazing Ploesti oil fields. Moscow dispatches said the area for dozens of miles from the city was enveloped in thick clouds of smoke and flames and that hardly a street of the city itself was untouched by fire.

The same sources said the Russians made their drive on Ploesti with unprecedented speed in an attempt to envelop the city before the Germans completed destruction of the oil fields. They arrived in time to help Romanian troops and the civilian population reduce and confine the conflagration, Moscow reports said.

SIDE GLANCES

By TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Ruth Renken performing her daily good deed.

T. Victor Williams pleased that his endeavors to have the Ft. Baker road called by its true name of Camp Baker road are finally becoming effective.

Assistant Fire Chief Ed Canose reclining lazily in a draped position over a fire truck fender after a hard afternoon's work.

ALEUTIAN BASED LIBERATORS HIT JAP NAVAL BASE

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Aleutians based Liberator bombers and Ventura search planes struck at installations on the big Japanese base on Paramushiro on Sunday, rounding out a series of three attacks that day on the northern Kurile island, the navy announced today.

Only meager anti-aircraft fire was encountered and all of the attacking aircraft returned to base.

Meanwhile, the American aerial offensive against Japanese bases in the central Pacific continued without letup on Monday and Tuesday.

Single Liberator bombers struck at Yap and Woleai islands in the western Carolines on both Monday and Tuesday. Anti-aircraft fire was described as meager.

Mitchell medium bombers hit the airfield at Nauru Island, on the southern fringe of the Gilberts on Tuesday, following up a night attack by a Catalina search plane.

Marine dive-bombers and fighters raked Mill, one of the holdout enemy bases in the eastern Marshalls.

During the night of Monday-Tuesday, Liberators again hit two Jima in the Volcano Islands, north of the Marianas, where on the same night Pagan Island was bombed. The following day Pagan was hit again and fires were started amid gun positions and storage facilities.

Patterson's announcements brought to 349,523 the number of casualties thus far announced here for all services since Pearl Harbor. Navy figures for today show 58,353 navy, marine and coast guard casualties including 23,544 dead, 20,701 wounded, 9,642 missing, and 4,466 prisoners of war.

Of the army total, Patterson listed 53,101 as killed, 142,686 wounded, 44,643 missing and 44,408 prisoners of war. Of the wounded, 60,314 have been returned to duty.

Patterson revealed that in both northern and southern France, Allied forces thus far have taken more than 235,000 prisoners.

"Enemy dead and wounded must greatly expand this figure," he added.

In southeastern Asia operations since January more than 50,000 Japanese have been killed, Patterson said, and "Japanese mortality from sickness and other casualties must far exceed that figure."

Japanese dead counted in central and south Pacific operations now total more than 113,000, Patterson said.

Broken Lock Causes 5,000 To Quit Work

Cleveland, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Production of aircraft bearings was halted completely today when 5,000 employees of the Cleveland Graphite Bronze company struck in protest against the discharge of one worker for breaking a 75-cent lock in the plant's locker room.

The strike, latest of a series of work stoppages at the plant over minor grievances, brought Matthew Smith, international president of the Mechanics Educational Society of America here from Detroit by plane.

New York, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Cotton futures opened 5 to 9 points lower today.

JULY'S FIGHTING CAUSES GAIN IN CASUALTY TOTAL

Heavy Fighting In France Reason—All Services Total 349,523.

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Late July's heavy fighting in northern France caused a sharp increase in U. S. army casualties, Acting Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson disclosed today, swelling the total for all theaters to 284,838 through Aug. 23.

This represented an increase of 23,249 over the total reported a week ago, and Patterson said the increase was "largely reflected in the period of heaviest fighting in northern France near the end of July."

Patterson also disclosed that the fighting in southern France, from the landings on Aug. 15 through Aug. 24, had cost the Americans 1,242 killed or missing and 5,090 wounded—relatively light losses which he said illustrated German weakness in that area.

Patterson's announcements brought to 349,523 the number of casualties thus far announced here for all services since Pearl Harbor. Navy figures for today show 58,353 navy, marine and coast guard casualties including 23,544 dead, 20,701 wounded, 9,642 missing, and 4,466 prisoners of war.

Of the army total, Patterson listed 53,101 as killed, 142,686 wounded, 44,643 missing and 44,408 prisoners of war. Of the wounded, 60,314 have been returned to duty.

Patterson revealed that in both northern and southern France, Allied forces thus far have taken more than 235,000 prisoners.

"Enemy dead and wounded must greatly expand this figure," he added.

In southeastern Asia operations since January more than 50,000 Japanese have been killed, Patterson said, and "Japanese mortality from sickness and other casualties must far exceed that figure."

Japanese dead counted in central and south Pacific operations now total more than 113,000, Patterson said.

Broken Lock Causes 5,000 To Quit Work

Cleveland, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Production of aircraft bearings was halted completely today when 5,000 employees of the Cleveland Graphite Bronze company struck in protest against the discharge of one worker for breaking a 75-cent lock in the plant's locker room.

The strike, latest of a series of work stoppages at the plant over minor grievances, brought Matthew Smith, international president of the Mechanics Educational Society of America here from Detroit by plane.

New York, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Cotton futures opened 5 to 9 points lower today.

TRUMAN ALL SET FOR CEREMONIAL SPEECH TONIGHT

Joplin, Mo., Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Sen. Harry S. Truman, democratic vice-presidential nominee, referring to the possible damage to his party's chances should the war end before November, said he did not care what happens along that line.

"I want the war to end as quickly as possible. I'm thinking about those boys who are doing the fighting," he said.

The Missourian held a press conference here shortly before he was due to receive formal notification of his candidacy to night at nearby Lamar, Mo., his birthplace.

Unemployment, which would accompany the end of the war, he said, "always hurts the party in power."

Truman, whose speech of acceptance tonight was awaited by political observers as a probable outline of his party's strategy for the fourth term campaign, said that plans should be made immediately to combat unemployment.

He said he would stick to the facts in his acceptance speech and added that the facts would bear out his contention that Mr. Roosevelt should be returned to Washington. Truman said he would "do a little hell-raising" in his address, to be broadcast by the four national networks.

The notification party arrived in flag-bedecked Lamar this afternoon. Half a dozen bands were on hand from western Missouri and eastern Kansas towns to add their music to the carnival atmosphere which enveloped this town of 3,000.

DEMobilIZATION BILL TO SENATE

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—The house today passed the restricted ways and means committee version of the George demobilization bill after beating down all attempts to liberalize unemployment benefits and broaden other provisions.

Passage was by voice vote. The bill now will be sent to conference with the senate, inasmuch as the house eliminated senate provisions to authorize unemployment benefits for federal employees and to set up re-employment and retraining machinery.

HONOR NAVY MEDICO

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Undersecretary of Navy Ralph A. Bard today presented the distinguished service medal to Comdr. James J. Saper, medical corps, for his development of malarial control methods in the south Pacific which "drastically reduced" incidence of the disease.

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Loadings of revenue freight for the week ended Aug. 26 rose 12,278 cars to 905,724 cars.

BRITISH CAPTURE AMIENS, EN ROUTE TO ROBOT COAST

Verdun Reported Evacuated — Tanks Cross Somme As Nazis Reel.

(United Press)

The clandestine radio station Atlantic said the Germans were evacuating the fortress city of Verdun, 32 miles from the Luxembourg border and less than 50 miles from the German frontier.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Powerful British armored forces broke across the Somme river line today, captured Amiens and plunged on toward Boulogne, Calais, and the beaches of Dunkerque in a fast-rolling offensive that threatened to overrun the robot bomb coast within 72 hours.

Far to the east, two American tank armies fanned out beyond the shattered Aisne and Marne river lines at top speed in twin drives that unofficial reports said had carried to within 26 miles of the Belgian border and little more than 80 miles from Germany.

Battle-hungry British Tommies, spurred by the prospect of lifting the "rocket-siege" of London within a matter of days, swept across the Somme in a burst of power that sent the Nazis fleeing in disorder from Amiens.

Vanguards of the British 2nd army spearheaded the city early this morning and at mid-day the main force rode through in pursuit of the enemy.

Tanks, guns, and troops were reported pouring across the Somme in an increasing tide and headquarters spokesmen said the new bridgehead on the north bank was firmly established early this afternoon.

Simultaneously, Canadian 1st army troops lunged into the Seine river port of Rouen and thrust across the Dieppe highway nine miles above Rouen in a drive to seal off the channel town, where a host of Canadians found death and glory in the great commando raid two years ago.

"The all-onquering Nazi hosts are now shattered, hounded by day and night, and they have lost all semblance of an effective fighting force," United Press War Correspondent Richard D. McMillan reported from the British field headquarters.

"They have only one idea—to drag themselves somehow out of the clutches of their fast-moving British pursuers."

ENGLE BILL HITS ROWDY TULE JAPS

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Rep. Clair Engle, D., Cal., introduced a bill today calling for the deportation after the war of all alien Japanese and disloyal Americans of Japanese descent.

Engle said his bill was directed particularly at handling alien and disloyal Japanese held in the Tule Lake segregation center in his district.

"There is nothing in the law at the present time which sets up the procedure for getting rid of these Japanese who because of their dangerous and disloyal attitude have been segregated and kept in the Tule Lake camp," he said. "If the war should end tomorrow there is nothing now in the law which would require or authorize the federal government to remove them permanently from this country—that is the purpose of the bill."

CIO CHIEFS QUIT

Woonsocket, R. I., Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Nine members of the Political Action Committee of the Industrial Trades Union of Woonsocket have resigned on the grounds that the PAC's policy is "detrimental to the best interests of labor."

War Bulletins

Moscow, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Donald M. Nelson, War Production Board chairman, and Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Hurley, reached Moscow today, en route to China as personal emissaries of President Roosevelt.

They said they planned to spend several days here in conferences before continuing the trip to China.

San Francisco, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—The submarine U. S. S. Trigger today flew a presidential unit citation flag presented for "outstanding performance in combat during the submarine's fifth, sixth and seventh war patrols against the enemy."

London, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—The Czechoslovak government in London announced today that almost all Slovakia now is in the hands of Czech patriot forces.

The news was received by a radio message from the field commander of the Czech forces.

NAZI RESISTANCE IN SOUTH FRANCE IS FADING FAST

Yanks Herd Foe Up Rhone, French Near Spain; Nice Captured.

Rome, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—French armored columns, in a spectacular 82-mile sweep around the Gulf of Lions, captured Monteleone, Beziers and Narbonne and drove forward unopposed to within less than 50 miles of the Spanish frontier today, while American troops herded the remnants of the German 19th army northward through the Rhone valley into the Lyon area.

Nazi resistance all along the Mediterranean coastline vanished almost completely, and American forces at the eastern end of the long invasion front captured the famous resort town of Nice without a struggle.

Only in the Rhone valley, historic invasion route to central France and the Rhineland, were the Allied armies meeting serious opposition, and it came there from suicidal rear-guard units fighting to cover the retreat of the shattered 19th army.

U. S. 7th army troops drove more than 11 miles up the east bank of the Rhone, chopping down Nazi stragglers in their advance, and captured the important road junction of Valence. A second column was converging on the town from Chabeuil, six miles to the southeast.

The fall of Valence carried the American vanguards within 57 miles of Lyon, rallying point for the scattered remnants of the enemy's southern garrisons.

BOWLES ASSERTS OPA PROGRESSES

Denver, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—OPA Administrator Chester Bowles asserted today in Denver that "the pinnacle of the pressure group movement" ended last spring, but pointed out that there may be a resurgence of it during the reconversion period.

There was a surge of businessmen to Washington opposing various phases of price controls and rationing, but OPA has succeeded in its program generally, he said. What the reconversion period will bring, Bowles explained, is "anybody's guess now."

Most of the nation's citizens, he said, now are informed on the need for rationing and price control measures, and that during the last two weeks on a tour of OPA field offices and local boards, he found "very little dissatisfaction with the program in general."

Washington, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt today nominated Benjamin J. McKinney for reappointment as U. S. marshal for Arizona.

GERMANS SUFFER 400,000 SOLDIER LOSS IN 81 DAYS

Allied Armies Are Five Days Ahead of Schedule, Report Reveals.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme allied commander, disclosed today that his armies were more than five days ahead of schedule in their march across western Europe and reiterated that Germany could be defeated this year if all on the home and war fronts did their duty.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme allied commander, disclosed today that his armies were more than five days ahead of schedule in their march across western Europe and reiterated that Germany could be defeated this year if all on the home and war fronts did their duty.

In an official report submitted to the joint Anglo-American chiefs of staff, Eisenhower said his allied invasion forces have met and defeated the cream of the German armies and inflicted a "fearful beating on the Nazi Luftwaffe."

The equivalent of five German armored divisions and 20 infantry divisions have been destroyed, and another six panzer and 12 infantry divisions have been "badly cut up," his report disclosed.

It listed the staggering total of 1300 enemy tanks, 2000 guns, and more than 20,000 motor vehicles destroyed or captured between D-day, June 6, and Aug. 25, along with 3,545 enemy planes destroyed in air battles or on ground.

Among the enemy casualties in the period, he said, were more than 200,000 prisoners.

(The over-all German casualty figures for the battle of northern France contrasted with an official announcement in Washington that U. S. army losses for all theaters from the beginning of the war through Aug. 13 totaled 284,838 killed, wounded, and missing.)

He said 2,378 German aircraft have been destroyed in the air and 1,167 on the ground. In addition, 270 aircraft were probably destroyed and 1,028 were damaged in the air.

Enemy naval losses amounted to some 300 vessels of all classes sunk or heavily damaged by Allied action. In addition, a number of enemy merchant ships were sunk and the Germans themselves scuttled numerous naval and mercantile craft.

"The equivalent of five panzer divisions have been destroyed and a further sixth severely mauled, including one panzer grenadier division," his statement said. "The equivalent of 20 infantry divisions have been eliminated and a further 12 very badly cut up and have suffered severe losses. Included in this total of infantry divisions are three of the enemy's crack parachute divisions."

These divisions are in addition to one parachute division and two infantry divisions marooned in Brittany ports and another infantry division in the Channel Islands.

Of the German casualties, over 200,000 were prisoners, including 135,000 captured since July 25.

"The German 7th army and the newly-formed 5th panzer army have been decisively defeated and into this defeat has been drawn the bulk of the fighting strength of the 1st and 15th armies," the statement said. "Three field marshals and one army commander have either been dismissed or incapacitated by wounds. One army commander, three corps commanders, 15 divisional commanders, and one fortress commander have been either killed or captured."

CIO MEET OPENS

Los Angeles, Aug. 31.—(U.P.)—The Seventh Annual State Convention of the California CIO opened today with addresses by State CIO Director Harry Bridges and Steelworker James G. Thimmes, state president.