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Weather

Forecast: Continued fair with little change in temperature tonight and Friday.
Temp. Highest yesterday 100
Lowest this morning 58
Precipitation past 24 hrs. 0

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MEDFORD, OREGON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1944.

NO. 142.

SIEGFRIED LINE UNDER YANK FIRE

ARMORED FORCES STORM ARDENNES FOREST, MOSELLE

Metz Resistance Stubborn;
Enemy In Retreat Badly
Battered.

By United Press
American forces pounded towards the Siegfried line and the German border today, with the 1st army driving deep into the Ardennes forest beyond the Meuse river to the area of Thilly and the 3rd army advancing against the increasingly stiff enemy opposition along a 30-mile Moselle valley front.

Rome announced that a general offensive against German lines of communications in Yugoslavia had been launched by the Allied 15th air force and Adriatic Allied land forces. The Berlin radio reported that Russian troops had slashed through Bulgaria to the Greek border.

Supreme Headquarters, AEF, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—A dispatch from Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley's 12th army group headquarters said tonight American forces had advanced 30 miles or more in some sectors of the western front yesterday, and that the Siegfried line fortifications likely would be under artillery fire soon.

Powerful American armored forces today were storming through the Ardennes forest and across the Moselle river toward the Reich frontiers less than 35 miles distant, driving back battered German forces seeking refuge behind the Siegfried line. United Press War Correspondent Joseph W. Grigg reported from 12th army group headquarters.

Both the 1st and 3rd armies were on the move again today, Grigg said. He reported "substantial progress" throughout yesterday by armored spearheads, with the main forces following closely. For security reasons the location and direction of the gains were not disclosed.

One of the toughest blocks of Nazi resistance appeared to be around Metz, as well as along the Moselle where the Americans had to fight hard to get across against German troops dug in along the wooded banks.

The intense Nazi opposition along the 30-mile Moselle battlefield between Metz and Nancy—both of which the Germans appeared to hold—seemed designed to act as a breakwater against the American onrush until the main enemy forces reach the Siegfried line.

Supreme headquarters reported that Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges had driven a 1st army spearhead from the Aachen crossing of the Meuse "well into" the rugged Ardennes forest to the area of Thilly, nine miles northeast of Charleville near the Franco-Belgian frontier.

Robert C. Richards, United Press correspondent with Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's 3rd army, said American assault forces were hammering ahead in the Moselle valley between Nancy and Metz in a crunching assault on the steel and concrete fortifications before the Siegfried line.

Supreme headquarters disclosed that Patton's army massing in the Moselle valley including the American 5th infantry division, whose troops were the first of the United States army to go overseas in this war. The division landed in September, 1941, and has not been home since.

The 35th infantry and 4th and 7th armored divisions also were revealed to be taking part in the 3rd army drive now menacing Germany proper.

Nazi Prisoners Dig for Gestapo Victims



Under the baleful eyes of their French citizen army guards, these German prisoners dig for bodies of more than 60 men, women and children executed by the German Gestapo during occupation of Grenoble. Note the legend on rude cross in foreground—"To the victims of the Gestapo." Signal Corps radio-telephoto

SCHOENFELD AND OSC GROUP VISIT VALLEY STATIONS

Dean William Schoenfeld, heading a group of Experiment Station experts from Oregon State college, arrived here at noon today after inspecting stations at Corvallis and Grants Pass.

This afternoon and tomorrow the group will inspect local experiment stations, federal and county, and leave Saturday to make similar inspection and survey in the Klamath Falls area. Such surveys are made from time to time by the division of extension and agriculture at O. S. C. A dinner will be held tonight at a local hotel in honor of the visitors, a no-host affair arranged by R. G. Fowler, local agricultural agent, and his co-workers.

The group will be accompanied by two members of the experiment station committee of the Board of Higher Education, Mac Hoke of Pendleton, chairman, and Dr. R. E. Kelinsorge of Silverton. Robert W. Ruhl of Medford, also a member of this committee, is joining the party here and continuing the trip to Klamath.

BULGARIA QUILTS NAZI RELATIONS; REPORTS CONFUSE

London, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—The Berlin radio reported today, and later retracted its own report, that Bulgaria had declared war against Germany in an about-face by the erstwhile Balkan satellite of the Nazis.

The Transocean News Agency an hour after reporting the Bulgarian declaration, put out an "official correction" saying that the Bulgars had "only broken off relations with Germany. A declaration of war has not occurred."

The report gained currency in some other unofficial quarters as the Nazi broadcasters floundered through their contradictory accounts of the situation in the troubled Balkans.

Despite the inability of the Nazi propagandists to make up their mind, responsible sources here believed that Bulgaria was in effect a belligerent against Germany, and trying to make peace with the United States, Britain and Russia.

Diplomatic sources understood Bulgaria had informed Russia that she regarded herself as at war with Germany, in line with Soviet demands. Moscow declared war against Bulgaria when the demands were ignored.

BRITISH LAUNCH ALL-OUT ATTACK ADRIATIC FRONT

Bottleneck At Rimini Halts Allied Advance To Po Valley.

Rome, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—The British 8th army launched an all-out offensive with the aid of sea and air forces today in an effort to eliminate a bottleneck at Rimini which has prevented the Allies from pouring into the plains leading to Bologna and the Po valley beyond.

Fighter planes and bombers of the desert air force blasted German gun positions around Coriano, four miles inland from the Adriatic, while six warships ranged a few miles off the coast and pumped shells into enemy positions around Rimini. British and Canadian tank and infantry units, meanwhile, assaulted the strongly dug-in German emplacements near the vital sea coast town.

The Germans rushed up reinforcements for their crack 1st parachute division, which held the town and at one point counter-attacked to drive the British back several miles. There were growing signs that the Germans intended to try to hold Rimini at all costs to prevent the Allies from flanking the entire Gothic line.

Along the central and western sector of the Italian front, however, the Germans were withdrawing to new positions north of the Gothic line's strong steel and concrete fortifications.

Directly in the path of the advancing Allied armies in the west lay the second largest tunnel in the world—the \$100,000,000 double-track railway tunnel extending 11 miles under the Apennine mountain range on the 71-mile rail connection between Florence and Bologna.

STRINGENT LABOR CONTROL REMOVED

Washington, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt said today that the more stringent labor controls will be removed after the defeat of Germany and indicated he did not think it would be necessary to invoke penalties in the meantime to enforce manpower regulations.

The WMC's management-labor policy committee had asked McNutt to clarify manpower policy and allay fears that labor controls might be continued after wartime necessity had passed.

GRAND JURY WILL CONSIDER MURDER CASE NEXT WEEK

The Jackson county grand jury will be summoned early next week to consider evidence in the case of Fred Bailey, 27, escaped convict from California who is charged with the first degree murder of Ira Clyde Carman, 45-year-old Medford mill worker, Circuit Judge H. K. Hanna said today. An early trial is expected.

Report of an autopsy performed on Carman late yesterday said that he died of an extensive skull fracture and shock. Bailey has allegedly confessed to having beaten Carman over the head with an automobile jack and tossed him out of a car four miles north of Central Point early Sunday morning.

Private funeral services will be held for the victim in the Conger-Morris chapel Saturday afternoon, with the Rev. Harry Hansen officiating. Interment will be in Siskiyou Memorial park.

Survivors are his mother, Mrs. Sarah Carman, Ross Lane, and two brothers and eight sisters, Everett C. Carman of Medford and Alvin Carman of eastern Oregon, and Mrs. Claude Shelby, Medford; Mrs. Glen Sloan and Mrs. Bessie Dorsey, both of Hood River; Mrs. Harry Kellogg, Sacramento; Mrs. Eva Storeleander, Tacoma, Wash.; Mrs. Margaret Brown, Los Angeles; Mrs. Dorothy Lenderman, Klamath Falls and Mrs. Cecil Barker, Medford.

JAP CASUALTIES NOW NUMBER 140

Washington, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Nearly 140 Japanese-American soldiers whose families live in relocation centers throughout the country have been reported as casualties, Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes said today.

Pointing out that most of the 140 were volunteers Ickes said casualties included 45 killed, 92 wounded and two missing. The Japanese-Americans participated in such "hard fought" battles as Cassino, Volturno and Belvedere in Italy, Ickes said.

Parents of the dead soldiers, Ickes said, feel that their sons "died for two causes—for their country and to win acceptance as Americans from all other Americans."

MIKADO, PREMIER WARN JAPS YANK INVASION NEARS

Diet Told War at Decisive Stage — Koiso Bolsters Morale.

By United Press
Emperor Hirohito and his premier, Gen. Kuniaki Koiso—the highest authorities in Japan—told the Japanese diet today that the country faced a grave crisis and had reached "the decisive stage of the war."

The emperor's acknowledgment of the situation was contained in an imperial rescript to the 85th extraordinary session of the diet, while Koiso personally addressed the body to warn of the possibility of an American invasion of the homeland in which he said, the life or death of the nation would be at stake.

Hirohito's rescript and Koiso's address were broadcast by Tokyo radio and recorded by United Press at San Francisco.

Tokyo radio said Hirohito was present at the session but did not say whether he addressed the body or had his rescript read to it.

The emperor called on members to "rouse yourself afresh" to meet the war crisis and "wreck the inordinate ambitions of the enemy countries." He said he had ordered the ministers of state to present to the diet "bills of special and grave urgency connected with the current situation."

While he claimed that the work of constructing greater East Asia was progressing "with great rapidity" and Japanese troops were "smashing the formidable enemy everywhere," Hirohito noted that "A further increase is seen in the violence of the enemy's resistance."

"Day by day there is an addition to the urgency of the critical war situation," he added. "The opportunity for Japan to engineer a victorious settlement... is indeed at this stage."

Hirohito's message was tempered when compared to that of Koiso who addressed the diet for the first time since he succeeded Gen. Hideki Tojo as premier two months ago.

Japan has reached the point where she must turn from the defensive to the offensive, Koiso said, and in an apparent attempt to bolster morale, claimed Japanese forces "are poised resolutely for action to crush the United States and Britain soon."

However, he quickly added, the full resources of the entire empire would have to be mustered and all military and internal functions completely integrated.

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London, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Powerful Russian forces were reported today to be swarming across the Danube river into Yugoslavia and striking westward for Belgrade to link up with Marshal Josip Tito's partisan armies and forge a great trap around some 250,000 to 375,000 Germans in the Balkans.

At the same time, Soviet tanks and riflemen widened their wedge in Nazi lines north of Warsaw in a double-edged threat to both the Polish capital and the German homeland province of East Prussia.

ARMY LOSS HALF WHAT ESTIMATED; NAZIS WEAKENED

Bulk of Hitler's Armies Is Destroyed Or Crippled, Stimson Says.

Washington, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—The bulk of the German armies in western Europe have been destroyed or crippled to an extent that they "seem insufficient to maintain prolonged defenses of Germany," Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson declared today.

In contrast, Stimson disclosed that American army casualties during the first 25 days of the invasion of northern France, were about one-half of the losses which had been expected.

While German forces are shrinking, Allied forces are growing and their advance is speeding up, Stimson added.

He told his press conference, however, that supplies must catch up with the advancing armies before they can administer a death blow to the Nazis.

"The war won't be won until Allied troops are in Berlin," he said.

Stimson said that from D-day on June 6 through June 30, the army suffered approximately 42,000 casualties of all types in France. Pre-invasion estimates had set the figure at about 81,000, he revealed. Of the 42,000, the secretary said 33,933 were battle casualties.

Stimson also announced that American army casualties in all theaters through Aug. 21 totaled 305,795, including 57,677 killed, 156,933 wounded, 45,967 missing and 45,218 prisoners of war. Of the wounded, he said 63,986 have been returned to duty.

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Word of the climactic red army invasion of Yugoslavia came from Tito's partisan radio, which reported that the Soviets forced a crossing of the Danube yesterday and pushed on to Kladovo, opposite Turnseverin and barely 100 miles west of Belgrade.

The crossing apparently was made at some distance below Turnseverin, where the Danube swirls through the iron gate bottleneck at a speed that makes the stream almost impassable.

The Yugoslav broadcast indicated that partisan units had joined the Russians in the Kladovo area and were marching with them on the capital. An advance of less than 80 miles would cut the Athens-Belgrade-Berlin railway, the last trunk line of escape still open to an estimated 25 German divisions in Bulgaria, southern Yugoslavia, Greece and the Aegean Islands.

War Bulletins

Southeast Asia Headquarters, Kandy, Ceylon, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Troops of the 14th army, after advancing almost unopposed for 114 miles along the Tiddim road from Imphal, encountered strong Japanese rear guards yesterday for the first time this month, it was revealed today.

Stockholm, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—A Finnish delegation headed by Premier Antti Hackel was en route to Moscow today to open formal peace negotiations with the Russian government.

CHURCHILL TALKS WITH ROOSEVELT IN QUEBEC SOON

Leaders Will Discuss Peace Problems On Informal Basis.

By Virgil Pinkley
United Press Staff Correspondent
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London, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill were believed likely to meet somewhere in North America soon, with Quebec the most likely site, to discuss the war situation throughout the world.

The Roosevelt-Churchill talks were expected to be largely informal, and conducted on a smaller and more quiet scale than those at Casablanca, Cairo, and Tehran, or even the earlier Quebec conference.

The conversations probably will last some time. They will be almost entirely devoid of state functions and conducted on a man-to-man basis.

Churchill was expected to emphasize the eagerness of Britain and the empire to make full contributions and present the hard facts of men, ships, planes and other material to be assigned.

The question of how Germany will be occupied after capitulation as terms of the armistice or peace are worked out looms large on the agenda.

Under one plan a line would be drawn roughly north and south through Berlin, with Russia occupying all parts of the Reich east of the line and possibly some other sections west of it.

Another line would be drawn west from Berlin, with the British generally controlling portions north of it and west of Berlin, and the Americans handling portions south of the line, including Bavaria and southwestern Germany.

WILLKIE TO HAVE REST, CHECK-UP

New York, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Wendell L. Willkie has entered a hospital "for a rest and a check up," his physician Dr. Benjamin Salzer, said today.

Salzer's office said that Willkie had had a "stomach attack" while in Indiana recently. Salzer urged him to go to a hospital, and his condition there is "excellent."

By United Press
The American broadcasting station in Europe said today that since the allied landings in France, the Germans had lost 600,000 men killed or captured, 300,000 in each category.

Another 100,000 to 200,000 face annihilation or capture in the pockets behind the front, the broadcast in the German language said.

GOV. DEWEY OPENS CAMPAIGN TONITE AT PHILADELPHIA

New Deal Record Held Issue — Churchill's Visit Is an "Amazing Coincidence".

(Gov. Dewey's speech will be broadcast over three networks, 7 p.m. local time.)

Philadelphia, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey said today he will open his campaign as Republican presidential nominee tonight with a speech covering the "fundamental issues of the campaign"—which he termed a healthy domestic economy in peace time.

Dewey, in Philadelphia on the first leg of a 6,700-mile cross-country campaign trip, told a press conference that the question before the voters in November is whether they want "to go back to their (the new deal) 10,000,000 to 12,000,000 unemployed or go ahead."

"The question before the people is whether they want to elect an administration which will be largely, if not wholly, a peace time government which believes in this country, or one which proved for eight straight years it couldn't solve its problems and didn't believe in it," Dewey said.

"The new deal tried for eight straight years, from 1933 to 1940, to solve the depression with more power and more money than any administration in 150 years, yet it failed."

Dewey told reporters in effect that he was confident of his election in November.

When asked whether he thought that the way the war now is going should be favorable to the present administration, Dewey replied:

"I believe the people will change their administration next January."

In response to a question on whether he had any recent reassurances regarding the large Pennsylvania vote in November, Dewey said that he had "in the last half hour."

He referred to his ride from a railroad station to the hotel with Governor Edward Martin of Pennsylvania.

In response to other questions, Dewey said that a visit to this country by British Prime Minister Winston Churchill for a conference with President Roosevelt, his opponent, reportedly scheduled in the near future, "would be an amazing coincidence."

He did not elaborate, however on the question, prompted by the fact that the fourth term campaign has been pitched largely on a "commander-in-chief" theme.

When asked for his attitude on post-war military training, as suggested recently by President Roosevelt with little emphasis on the military phase of youth training, Dewey said "I am not for another CCC (civilian conservation corps) as a substitute for jobs. I would not put anybody in the army unless they are needed for the defense of the United States."

By Tribune Reporters
Ernie Scott sprucing himself all up to give the Ashland Elks in the "southern suburb" an extra special treat.

Jim Collins expounding uncompromising opinions about a certain national organization.

Gloria Ann Jones wondering what to do about a little kitten that followed her home and then kept her awake into the wee hours with its meowing.

New York, Sept. 7.—(U.P.)—Cotton futures opened 2 points lower to 2 points higher today.