

Weather

Forecast: Continued partly cloudy Monday with little change in temperature. Temp. Highest yesterday 70. Lowest this morning 49. Precipitation past 24 hrs. - 1.

MEDFORD

United Press—Full Leased Wire



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MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1944

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NO. 150.

GERMANS IN RETREAT TO RHINE

REICH INVASION PROCEEDS ALONG 100-MILE FRONT

Americans Within 25 Miles Of Cologne — Siegfried Line Pierced.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, London, Sunday, Sept. 17.—(U.P.) American troops, fanning out over Germany from at least five gaping breaches in the Siegfried line, smashed Saturday to within 25 miles of Cologne and sent the battered German armies of the west in retreat to the storied Rhine for a last-ditch defense of the Reich.

(A Berlin broadcast heard by Blue Network Saturday said that "the west wall no longer exists as an active defense line.") The invasion of Germany now was progressing along an unbroken 100-mile front, extending the full length of the country's frontiers with completely liberated Belgium and Luxembourg, and penetrations as deep as 15 miles had been made. New border crossings Saturday resulted in the capture of the German villages of Kaltenberg, eight miles south of Roetgen, and Eschfeld and Luetzkamp, across from the Luxembourg frontier.

Street fighting raged in the southeastern and southwestern outskirts of encircled Aachen after patrols entered the main city only to retire under heavy enemy fire. An American column which had by-passed Aachen spearheaded more than 12 miles east of the town, reaching within about 25 miles of the Rhine at Cologne.

To the north, another U. S. column which Berlin identified as part of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's new Ninth army crossed the Maas river in force north of Aachen and put the Yanks' north flank on German soil.

Field dispatches said that Adolf Hitler was reported to have restored Field Marshal Karl Gerd von Rundstedt to command of the western front armies for the battle of the Rhine as the Allies ground forward everywhere on a 500-mile front from Holland to the Swiss frontier.

American troops fought through the two defense belts of the Siegfried line at three points in their drive from Luxembourg and blasted a fourth breach in an unspecified sector, making a total of five complete penetrations of what had been regarded as the most formidable fortification system in the world. The line was pierced in the brief span of 45 hours at what appeared to be an incredibly light cost in American lives.

Allied pilots reported a sudden surge of enemy traffic eastward from the Siegfried forts from Strasbourg to the Aachen area, with the Germans apparently intending to abandon the entire line where it passes west of the Rhine in order to reform behind the river for their battle.

On the U. S. First army's front east of Luxembourg, however, the Germans were reported throwing every available man, from Elite Guard troops to convalescents, into a desperate effort to hold the central sector of the Siegfried line as a pivot for the withdrawals on either end.

To the south, the fierce battle of the Moselle valley drew to a climax as American armor battered its way to a point due east of the big bastion of Metz, where a German garrison now was virtually surrounded as another column of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third army by-passed the city on the north.

East Oregon Roads Good, Baldock Says

Salem, Ore., Sept. 16.—(U.P.) Highways in eastern and central Oregon—particularly the main thoroughfares—are in excellent condition, considering war-time traffic and impossibility of new construction, State Highway Engineer R. H. Baldock reported today upon return from a four-day tour with the highway commission.

Yanks on Road to Aachen



(Acme Radio-Telephoto) Troops of Gen. Hodges First Army march into Aachen on road to Aachen, the first Yanks to fight on Nazi "holy soil," as assault are was closed on three sides of city. This first picture of American troops in Germany was made by Andrew Lopez, NEA-Acme staff photographer for War Picture Pool, transmitted by Signal Corps radio-telephoto.

MONOPOLY CLAIM OF NEW DEALERS RAPPED BY DEWEY

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, pledging cabinet representation for the west if he is elected president, charged tonight that the Roosevelt administration would block post-war industrial expansion if it continued in office.

Dewey hurled the charge during a press conference when asked to comment on reports that Democratic National Chairman Robert E. Hannegan and Sen. Claude Pepper, D. Fla., have been spreading the word throughout the northwest that the Republican presidential candidate is allied with eastern monopolists.

"That is a most astonishing statement to come from an administration committed to the very policies to which they now charge to us," Dewey said.

"For the New Deal to suddenly discover the west after 12 years without cabinet representation is a little late. I have been convinced for years that there is unlimited opportunity for economic development in the west but it can come only under a Republican administration which is committed to expansion of the west and full opportunities for employment which will be needed after the war."

Dewey recalled that President Roosevelt declared several years ago that the American industrial machine is built and the job now is one of equitable distribution of the proceeds.

It was the second press conference of the day in which Dewey stressed his views on economic expansion of the west. (See Editorial Page Story)

FORD PLANS WAGE BOOST WHEN ABLE

Washington, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Henry Ford, long a non-conformist among industrial leaders, announced tonight that he intended to raise wages as soon as the government will let him.

Thus in effect he joined the leaders of organized labor in asking a revision of wartime wage ceilings in the face of the almost unanimous opposition of industry spokesmen.

Ford's announcement was released here as government labor and stabilization officials were wrestling with labor demands for a relaxation of wage controls and the prospective impact of reconversion developments on existing wage policy.

FOREMAN BACK ON JOB CAUSES CIO DEFENSE WALKOUT

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—The night shift of 600 men, employed making artillery shell casings for the army at the General Motors Corporation here, struck again tonight, the second time in three days.

It was explained by the UAW-CIO local that the night shift struck because the company returned a foreman to his job.

The strike Thursday night reportedly was caused by the company dismissal of an employee who had engaged in a fight with the foreman two days earlier. The employee's dismissal was announced Thursday.

It was understood a meeting was to be held late tonight in an attempt to break the deadlock.

Chicago, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Two railroad brotherhoods announced today that membership of two railroads will strike at 4 a. m. Monday to enforce long-standing demands for a nine-cent hourly wage boost.

Union officials of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers said their members will strike against the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee road and the Aurora & Elgin line.

ALASKANS OPPOSE INDIANS' CLAIMS

Hydaburg, Alaska, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—The first lap of Indian hearings on ancestral claims involving Alaska's valuable fishing, mining and lumber industries was over today after white representatives of the industries testified at initial sessions here yesterday and Friday that the department of the interior had no "legal authority" to call the sessions.

Declaring Alaska's \$50,000,000 fishing industry would be tied up if "Ickes turns Alaska into an Indian reservation," W. C. Arnold, spokesman for the canneries, termed the hearings "unfair" to the whites in the territory and asked that they be dismissed.

Los Angeles, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Two children were believed buried in a landslide at an abandoned sand pit in the Lomita district, sheriff's deputies reported tonight.

UNDECLARED WAR RAGES AS NAZIS SABOTAGE FINNS

Berlin Defiant of Orders to Move, Ignore Agreement Open Attack.

London, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Undeclared war raged between Finland and Germany tonight as the Nazis began sabotaging Finnish harbors and mining lanes, precipitating scores of clashes.

Berlin defiantly announced that its troops, ordered out of Finland by Sept. 15 under the agreement which ended Russo-Finnish hostilities, needed more time to evacuate and would now fight their way from the country.

A Finnish declaration of war—third against Germany by its former satellite partner—appeared imminent. Both Finnish and Russian forces were reported in action against the seven or eight German divisions still in Finland. The Finns crushed a German attempt to invade strategic Suursaari island in the Gulf of Finland and Stockholm dispatches reported another Nazi invasion fleet was moving toward Porkkala, 25 miles southwest of Helsinki.

Moscow dispatches said that should formal war break out between Finland and Germany it naturally would produce an atmosphere "more favorable" to the Finns who now have a delegation in Moscow discussing armistice terms.

(The Swedish radio said that the Finnish interior minister, Haario Henrik Hillila, had announced there had been a police round-up of German military men in southern Finland and that Finnish police were searching all Helsinki hotels for Germans.)

The Berlin high command, in a special communique, meanwhile said that on Sept. 2 Finland "surprisingly" sent a demand for Germany to withdraw by Sept. 15 its divisions as provided in the Russo-Finnish agreement.

The Nazi bulletin said that at the time the Germans "defending" central Finland under the leadership of Gen. Lothar Rendulic were about 250 miles from the Gulf of Bothnia harbors and 375 from the northern Finnish-Norwegian border.

ROBOMBS LOOSED AT SEA BY NAZIS FALL ON LONDON

London, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Sirens wailed here just before dawn today for the first time in 15 days and shortly afterward flying bombs, apparently launched from Heinkel HE-11 bombers far out in the North Sea, droned over London and southern England.

The persistent screech of the sirens sent many Londoners hurrying to shelters in the chilly early morning hours and followed pronounced warnings by British officials that Hitler's attacks on the metropolis still were possible.

Lord Woolton, reconstruction minister, asserted yesterday that evacuees should remain where they were until an official all-clear was issued.

This morning's flying bomb attack was met by Allied fighter patrols and the air ministry announced that numerous successes were scored. One pilot shot down two of the missiles on one short patrol.

LEADERS HONORED Quebec, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Degrees of doctor of laws "honoris causa" were conferred upon Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt today by McGill University in a colorful ceremony on the citadel terrace overlooking the St. Lawrence river.

BULLET

Night Gar
Hollywood 0 0
Sacramento 4 3
Blanton and Y
Steiner, Powers (4),
Beasley, (6) and
Washington, 6—(U.P.)—
Boston staged a night when they were trailing one run to put over eight runs and take a commanding lead Roger Wolff and Mike Ryba had been having a pitchers' battle till the Sox fell on Wolff in the eighth to win, 11 to 5.

SIEGFRIED LINE HAD EVERYTHING BUT NOT ENOUGH

Troops Think of Berlin as They Hang Socks On Vaunted Line.

Behind the Siegfried Line, Sept. 16, 5:30 p. m.—(U.P.)—We're handing up our wash on the Siegfried line tonight and the G. I.'s are starting to think about Berlin.

The British coined the Siegfried laundry song back in the days of the "phony war" but it was the Yanks who made it come true, actually hanging up their socks inside the vaunted west wall.

We're more than ten miles into the Reich—right through and beyond the innermost pillboxes of the line—and hear only a sprinkling of small arms fire as a reminder that Germans still stand between us and the Rhine.

As I left the regimental command post after spending a day with them I noticed one of our officers pouring over a series of new maps. I looked over his shoulder and saw a map labelled "city plan of Berlin." I guess it can't be long now.

The west wall as I saw it today consisted of a series of fortified zones rather than a consecutive line. There were endless rows of famous dragon's teeth backed by cast iron road blocks, long prepared anti-tank ditches and barbed wire trench works.

There were dozens of bunkers and pillboxes to the left and right of us, some times so well hidden we could have walked right up to them and not known of their presence. They were everything the Germans had boasted they were. They were cleverly distributed on hillsides in such a way as to command every yard of the winding highway. Nevertheless, our infantry went through them with ease this morning and in many cases found the fortifications unmanned.

NATIONAL LEGION SESSION STARTS

Chicago, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—A vanguard of Legionnaires, including National Commander Warren H. Atherton, laid the groundwork tonight for the 26th annual convention of the American Legion, which opens a three-day session Monday.

Selection of Atherton's successor and consideration of more than 700 resolutions were the principal orders of business facing delegates who will open formal meetings at 9 a. m. Monday.

John Steele, McLeansboro, Ill., who served as chairman of Atherton's special committee on the G. I. bill of rights for veterans of World War II, and Edward N. Scheiberling, Albany, N. Y., were leading candidates for the national commander post.

SAM HAYES MARRIED San Diego, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Stewart "Sam" Hayes, radio announcer and commentator, was married today in Tijuana, Mexico, to Rosamond Frances Hubbard, of Grothom, Conn., now a film cutter at Universal Studio in Hollywood.

Eugene, Ore., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—A 20-minute train stop will permit Gov. Thomas Dewey, the republican presidential nominee, to address several thousand Eugene citizens next Wednesday afternoon.

POINT VALUES OF PROCESSED FOODS BOOSTED BY OPA

Move To Absorb Excess Points Effective Today—No Changes on Meats.

Washington, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—The office of price administration tonight sharply increased point values of virtually all processed foods which will still be rationed this week-end in order to absorb the excess of points in consumer hands when 17 additional foods go off the ration list tomorrow.

From tomorrow through September 30, canned tomatoes will be 20 points instead of five; pineapple juice will have a new value of 50 points, an increase of 25, and canned peaches, pears and pineapple will be up to 80 points a can from 43.

Tomato catsup jumps 20 points to 50 while tomato juice goes to 20 points from six.

Sunday also will mark the beginning of the end for the more than 1,000,000,000 blue tokens which have been circulating as rationing change-makers since last February. They will be retired on October 1, but until then will not be given as change and will be acceptable only in units of 10.

None of the rationing changes effective tomorrow apply to rationed meats which will keep their present point values throughout September.

OPA said the new point value increases will not cut into the amount of still-rationed processed foods the consumer can buy. This will, however, prevent depletion of stocks from overbuying by point-wealthy consumers. Only processed food items which will remain under rationing after tonight will be canned fruits, grape, pineapple and tomato juice, canned tomatoes, tomato catsup and chile sauce.

STOCKHOLM SAYS HITLER OFFERED RUSSIANS PEACE

Stockholm, Sunday, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—The newspaper Morgontidningen, in a dispatch purportedly emanating from Berlin, said today that Adolf Hitler extended a peace offer to Russia recently through Hiroshi Oshima, Japanese ambassador to Berlin, who was asked to forward the proposal to Moscow.

The offer reportedly carried a German renunciation of all German interests east of the 1939 demarcation line in Poland, Germany, the reports said, also renounced all political interests in Finland and the Baltics and in the Balkans except for Hungary.

Simultaneously, Morgontidningen said, Tokyo was reported to have asked the Russians to mediate peace between Japan and the Anglo-Americans.

DEWEY BROADCAST ON KMED TUESDAY

Portland, Ore., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—The Portland speech of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey next Tuesday night will be broadcast by many Oregon stations, it was revealed tonight.

In addition to the National Broadcasting company network, the speech will be heard over KOIN and KALE in Portland; KMED here, and all state stations.

Los Angeles, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Voluntary action on the part of offending industrial plants to abate smoke and fumes in the area was urged tonight by the Altadena Property Owners' league.

PETERSON REALTY HEAD Gearhart, Ore., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—The Oregon Association of Real Estate Boards today chose Earl H. Peterson of Eugene as president at the end of a two-day convention.

War Bulletins

London, Sunday, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—RAF heavy bombers in strength roared out toward the east coast of Germany last night, beginning at 10 p. m.

By United Press The Brazzaville radio, quoting a Paris broadcast, said Saturday that the German garrison at Brest had capitulated. The broadcast heard by CBS, said that 12,000 Germans had been made prisoner. There was no official confirmation.

Allied Supreme Headquarters London, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Fighters of the 8th U. S. Air Force dive-bombed and strafed German transport to within 160 miles of Berlin today, further hampering the enemy's already badly snarled lines of communications around Frankfurt and Bremen.

London, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Yugoslav Partisans, sweeping the Germans from the four main Dalmatian islands below the key Adriatic port of Skopje, have captured Korcula, Milet, and Hvar after previously liberating Brac, Marshal Tito announced tonight in a broadcast communique.

RUSSIANS ENTER SOFIA; SHUT OFF GREECE TEUTONS

Warsaw Encirclement Opens —Contact Balkan Patriots—Bulgars Gay.

London, Sunday, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—Russian troops yesterday entered Sofia, capital of Bulgaria, and drove westward toward Yugoslavia in an apparent drive to isolate some 200,000 Nazi troops in Greece and the Aegean islands, while other Red army forces moved into positions for an encirclement of Warsaw.

The Soviet entry into Sofia, 16 days after Red army forces marched into Bucharest, the first formerly pro-Nazi Balkan capital to be liberated by the Russians, indicated the effect of occupation of most of Bulgaria, presently negotiating for an armistice with the Soviet units.

The Red army, driving through Romania, in control of Bulgaria and reportedly in contact with patriot forces both in Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, rapidly was sealing the fate of Adolf Hitler's Balkan empire and that of German forces remaining in the southern Balkans.

Sofia is one of the most important communication centers in the Balkans. A five-way rail junction on the Berlin-Bagdad railroad it controls one of the two possible German escape routes from Greece. It also is only 57 miles from the Athens-Berlin railroad, the most important trunk line out of the southern Balkans reportedly already cut by Marshal Tito's partisans, and 80 miles from the big Yugoslav rail junction of Nis.

Soviet forces in Sofia also were only 29 miles from the Yugoslav border below the Danube river. North of the Danube, 135 miles northwest of Sofia, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2nd Ukrainian army stands at the Yugoslav border at Turnu Severin.

DEVERS RITES SET Portland, Ore., Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Funeral arrangements were pending today for Arthur H. Devers, prominent Portland business man who helped organize the Oregon Manufacturers association. He died Friday night.

SMOKE BAN ASKED Los Angeles, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Voluntary action on the part of offending industrial plants to abate smoke and fumes in the area was urged tonight by the Altadena Property Owners' league.

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Washington, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—With the defeat of Germany, U. S. war production will be cut back at least 40 per cent and some 4,000,000 workers will have to find new jobs, but responsible officials were confident tonight that industry will be able to take in stride the reconversion and reemployment problems thus posed.

MARINES CAPTURE PELELIU AIRBASE; FOE QUITS DAVAO

Japs Fear American Drive On South Philippines — Fierce Fray Rages.

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—Marine veterans of Guadalcanal have captured the 4200-foot Peleliu airdrome in advances of 1,500 yards against stubborn resistance, beating off several strong counter-attacks and taking a toll of more than 1,400 Japanese dead, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced tonight.

The excellent figure-four shape airdrome fell during bitter fighting Friday (west longitude time) after the leathernecks clamped a three-way pincer on the airdrome in a drive aided by the blazing guns of field artillery, tanks, warships and carrier aircraft.

The American troops have extended their beachhead to two and one-quarter miles and occupy the entire southern end of the island with the exception of two small bulges on the extreme tip. The biggest penetration was 2,000 yards, while gains along the entire front ranged from 200 to 1,000 yards in the 24-hour period covered in the communique, indicating the tough resistance being encountered.

The Japanese launched several strong counter-attacks against the U. S. positions, but were thrown back each time, Nimitz' communique said, and the marines opened their drive on the field Friday morning.

Determined to take the vital airstrip—main objective of the Peleliu invasion—the marines drove steadily ahead through well-organized defenses in depth. Warships hurled heavy shells into enemy positions and aircraft bombed and strafed the Japanese while tanks paced the drive which broke through the defenses and overran the airdrome.

By nightfall, the communique said, the marines had counted more than 1,400 enemy dead. Several Japanese tanks were destroyed in the day-long battle, which came after the marines cut across the narrow neck of Peleliu, by-passing Japanese forces in the southern sector.

Severe fighting still raged on the island while carrier planes bombed airdrome installations at Babelthauap island, northernmost of the Palau group, apparently aiming at preventing any Japanese air attacks against the marines forces.

The capture of the airdrome was announced as Japanese broadcasts indicated increased fear of an American drive into the southern Philippines. Tokyo radio announced that the city of Davao on Mindanao was being evacuated by civilians and turned into a fortress. Peleliu airdrome is only 590 miles east of Davao.

The communique reported continued strikes against enemy bases in the Kuriles and Marianas. Pannamshuru was bombed Sept. 12 and again Sept. 14, while Pagan in the Marianas was hit Sept. 14.

Dublon and Moen islands in the by-passed Truk atoll far to the east of Palau was hit with 72 tons of bombs Sept. 14 and bombers hit other scattered targets in the central Carolines and the Marshalls.

The Peleliu battle appeared still far from won, with heavy fighting in prospect against the Japanese defenders.

4 MILLION IDLE WHEN HUNS QUIT

Washington, Sept. 16.—(U.P.)—With the defeat of Germany, U. S. war production will be cut back at least 40 per cent and some 4,000,000 workers will have to find new jobs, but responsible officials were confident tonight that industry will be able to take in stride the reconversion and reemployment problems thus posed.