

Weather

Forecast: Fair and warm Sunday. Highest yesterday 76. Lowest this morning 51. Precip. past 24 hours Trace

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Thirty-ninth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1944

NO. 180

TACLOBAN FALLS TO AMERICANS

FLAME THROWERS DRIVE JAPS OUT OF HOLES IN HILLS

Two Airdromes Taken In Infantry and Tank Advance.

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Leyte, Sunday, Oct. 22.—The city of Tacloban, capital of Leyte, and the 6,000-foot Tacloban airdrome were in American hands tonight as hard-charging U. S. infantry swept inland along a 20-mile front with the blazing support of tanks, artillery and flame-throwers.

The capture of Tacloban, a city of 30,000, was announced in a communique broadcast from Leyte soon after front dispatches had reported that American troops and tanks were battling in the city's outskirts.

MacArthur, in a front-line tour, had announced that he expected to be in Tacloban soon.

The Japanese broke and fled before the U. S. advance on the city and took refuge in the hills where they were harrying American units but flame-throwers and tanks were assaulting defenses and burning the Japanese out.

Tacloban airfield was the second to be taken by the Americans. United Press War Correspondent William Wilson reported that the Dulag airfield and the town had been captured on the southern beachhead.

Tacloban city fell to dismounted troops of the 1st cavalry division who earlier stormed across the airfield, four miles to the northwest. Bulldozers and graders already were at work on the Tacloban field, preparing it for the use of fighters which were expected to be in operation there soon. Medium bombers, however, cannot operate on the field until considerable work has been done, earlier reports said.

Enemy planes attacked U. S. beachheads on Leyte at dusk and dawn as the Americans drove ahead, causing damage and casualties to one of the American ships and personnel on the beachheads.

Richard Johnston, United Press correspondent with the 24th division, reported that unit racing toward Palo. He said the Japanese were observed reinforcing the city Friday night but later "committed tactical suicide" by pushing down the Palo river toward the city instead of digging in to defend the town.

With Tacloban and two airfields already in U. S. hands, the Americans were apparently aiming at cutting south of Tacloban in order to win more airdromes in that sector.

MacArthur said today that progress of the American operations "couldn't be better." Earlier, he went to within a mile of Tacloban as troops fought in the outskirts and announced that the town would soon be taken.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Headquarters, Leyte, Philippines, Sunday, Oct. 22.—Gen. Douglas MacArthur today issued a warning to the Japanese military leaders in the Philippines that, as commander in chief of U. S. invasion forces, he will hold enemy leaders immediately responsible for any failure to accord prisoners and internees proper treatment to which they are entitled.

MacArthur addressed his warning to the commander in chief of the Japanese military forces in the Philippines, Field Marshal Count Terauchi.

PHILIPPINE HERO GETS GREETINGS

Washington, Oct. 21.—The White House tonight announced the receipt of a message from Gen. Douglas MacArthur in reply to President Roosevelt's statement Thursday congratulating MacArthur's return to the Philippines.



Back to Philippines? Tokyo reports that American relaxation of Philippines and Leyte with drive into Guilt or Leyte and possible landing on city areas of Luzon at mouth of Guilt. At true, this means would cut Philippines in two as well as providing base for air attacks on entire archipelago.

GOV. DEWEY WILL GIVE FARM TALK AT MINNEAPOLIS

Albany, Oct. 21.—Gov. Dewey tonight began working on a major farm speech which he will deliver on a whirlwind campaign through the middle west next week. Dewey, who returned to the New York capital after a campaign speech in Pittsburgh last night, started work on the farm address with Elliott Bell, his chief advisor. They planned to devote most of the weekend to whipping out of the material the GOP nominee obtained at conferences with farmers in all sections of the country.

VANPORT NOT TO BE GHOST TOWN

Portland, Ore., Oct. 21.—Chester A. Moores, chairman of the Federal Housing Authority, today announced a plan to convert the 790 acres in Vanport City and East Vanport into a model industrial center, and expelled all hobos of it turning into a ghost town. Moores pointed out that as long as homes are needed by workers in the area, no steps will be taken to demolish the buildings; but said that an orderly plan should be developed by experts to lay out the acreage to attract industries.

OREGON WACS ON MOVE IN FRANCE

With the Wacs in France, Oct. 21.—Several hundred Wacs, members of the ninth bomber command Wac detachment, are on the move with the ninth air force in France, it was reported today. Members of the detachment include: Captain Margaret Simmons, Bend; Staff Sgt. Irene E. Gumm, Portland.

NO DECISION BY WILLKIE ON VOTE HIS WIDOW SAYS

Rushville, Ind., Oct. 21.—Mrs. Wendell L. Willkie said today in a formal statement that the 1940 republican presidential nominee had not made a decision at the time of his death as to how he intended to vote in the November presidential election. Mrs. Willkie asked that since "no one could speak for him while he was living, out of respect for his memory, no one should attempt to speak for him now." The statement, apparently ending speculation as to how the candidate four years ago would have voted this time, said: "I am distressed because many people are saying that they knew how Wendell Willkie intended to vote in the coming election. He had not made his decision. No one could speak for him while he was living; and I ask, out of respect for his memory, that no one should attempt to speak for him now."

FOREST SERVICE PRAISES YOUTHS

Portland, Ore., Oct. 21.—The United States forest service today congratulated the "blister rust brigade," a band of some 1,750 high school boys who helped hold down the forest fire menace in the Pacific northwest last summer. Perry A. Thompson, chief of the fire control division of the forest service, said the boys had done valuable work filling in for regular forest guards now in the armed services or in war plants.

MEDFORD SOLDIER LISTED WOUNDED

Washington, Oct. 21.—The war department today announced the names of 2229 U. S. soldiers wounded in action in the European area, including: Johnson, Pvt. Charles P., Jr., Mrs. C. P. Johnson, mother, 109 Geneva St., Medford.

Germans Retreat to Roer River Line

RUSSIAN TROOPS PIERCE PRUSSIA, BERLIN REPORTS

Reopen Offensive to Win Budapest—Austria Menaced In New Drive.

London, Sunday, Oct. 22.—Red army troops, in a 20-mile advance, yesterday reached the Danube river 84 miles south of Budapest and reopened a great offensive to win the Hungarian capital, while Berlin admitted that massive Russian tank columns had driven 20 miles inside East Prussia to within 15 miles of the great German rail hub of Insterburg.

In the deepest allied penetration of German soil, soviet armor reached the Gumbinnen-Goldap highway some 67 miles east of Königsberg, the capital of the Junkers stronghold, and appeared from German reports to have seized perhaps 100 German villages and a few towns. Enemy reports of "white-hot" tank battles and the deep soviet breakthrough of nazi defenses in East Prussia remained unconfirmed by Moscow.

The soviet war bulletins, however, told of forging a new encirclement around thousands of German troops hopelessly fighting on the west bank of the Danube between captured Bergrade and the southern border of Hungary, and of a powerful 24-mile advance by Russian troops from Debrecen, the third city of Hungary, toward Czechoslovakia.

Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky's 2nd Ukrainian army reached the Danube river south of Budapest at the strategic crossing town of Baja, pinning an unestimated number of Germans back against the Danube in a pocket 100 miles long with a maximum depth of 30 miles.

These trapped nazi forces were being hurled back onto the Danube by soviet forces that secured control of three-quarters of the strategic King-Parter anal, linking Crvena and Sibac, the later 13 miles from the seven-way rail hub of Sombor on the Danube's east bank.

Reaching the Danube, Malinovsky's forces were in position to force the broad stream and burst into Trans-Danubian Hungary in a threat to Budapest's rear communications and to Austria, the back door of the reich.

Hungarian rail, Dutch gun bases of axis bombed. London, Oct. 21.—Some 250 Italy-based American heavy bombers, cooperating with Russian armies driving on Budapest, bombed the Győr and Szombathely rail yards in western Hungary today, while RAF Lancasters blasted German gun positions around Vlissingen (Flushing) Holland, in support of allied forces on the IJswydzmbito Antwerp.

Rome dispatches said that anti-aircraft fire but no German fighters met the U. S. Liberators at Győr, 66 miles northwest of Budapest and at Szombathely, 115 miles west. Rail lines through the cities are western supply arteries for the axis defenders of Budapest. Preliminary reports indicated good bombing results.

Escorting American fighters strafed ground targets as far north has the border of Czechoslovakia, 40 miles beyond Budapest, the airfield at Szombathely was attacked Friday night. The RAF Lancasters directed their bombs against German 105-mm guns nested in cupolas or casemates along the south shore of Waicheran island.

DR. CLANCY HELD GUILTY BY JURY ON DRUG CHARGE

Authority, Granted by People, Held Vital to World Council—Hits Isolationist.

Jurors who heard the trial of Dr. R. W. Clancy, violator of the federal narcotics statutes, found him guilty Friday on four of the eleven counts set forth in his indictment. They had previously been ordered by Judge James Alger Fee to return a verdict of not guilty on the second count of the indictment. Federal court will start the trial of Dr. A. F. W. Kresse, second Medford doctor facing a similar charge, Monday morning.

The jury returned the verdict about 5:45 p. m. after deliberating from 2:45 until approximately 5 p. m. when they indicated a decision had been reached. Judge Fee heard the verdict and then put the doctor in the custody of United States deputy marshals who confined him to the county jail. Dr. Clancy's attorneys, Neff & Frohnmayer, appeared before the judge Saturday morning and asked for his release under bond, but the judge stated that this was not customary. An appeal may be filed with the United States Circuit Court of Appeals after Judge Fee has pronounced sentence which will be done after a pre-sentence investigation is concluded by a federal probation officer. Maximum sentence, according to federal attorneys, is five years in the penitentiary, or a fine of \$5000, or both, on each count.

The four counts on which convictions were returned involved purchases of morphine by prescriptions written by Dr. Clancy. In his instructions, Judge Fee informed the jury that they should decide whether the evidence proved beyond a reasonable doubt that the doctor had dispensed drugs only in the course of proper practice or had dispensed them merely to satisfy the cravings of drug addiction. Commenting on the testimony offered by character witnesses, he stated that even persons of good reputation had been known to commit crimes.

Otto Frohnmayer delivered the defense argument to the jury, pointed out what he termed weaknesses in the prosecution's case, stating that the doctor could have had no motive for committing these crimes charged and calling attention to his past reputation of good standing and his age. United States assistant prosecuting attorney, urged the jury to lay aside sympathy and consider the case only on evidence.

SEN. BALL PLANS NEW STATEMENT

Washington, Oct. 21.—Sen. Joseph H. Ball, R., Minn., said tonight he would issue a statement Monday setting forth his views concerning the foreign policy platforms as adopted by the republican and democratic parties.

A staunch internationalist, Ball has refused thus far to support the republican presidential nominee, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York, due to his foreign policy beliefs. This back by the midwestern senator has played a large part in the bringing of emphasis on foreign policy in the late stages of the campaign—on both GOP and the democratic sides of the fence.

Portland, Ore., Oct. 21.—Matthew Gleason Dutton, 9, has a bicycle with which he would not part for any amount of money, even though it has a bullet hole in the handlebar, and two flat tires. Young Matthew got the bike from his uncle, Lieut. Cmdr. Warren E. Page, who got it in Guam for the comparatively cheap price of one Japanese soldier—dead.

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NAZIS MASS NEW FORCES, GUNS TO RETAIN BOLOGNE

Fifth Army Faces Stiff Resistance In Mountains—Poles Gain.

Rome, Oct. 21.—Fifth army troops fought bitterly in the mountains south of Bologna today against ever-increasing German reinforcements and a record concentration of heavy artillery, while on the Adriatic sector 8th army forces moved along the coastline to capture Cesenatico and drove the Germans from all but the fringes of Cesena.

(A BBC broadcast reported that 100,000 German troops massed below Bologna in an effort to keep the American units from capturing the important industrial city. Another BBC report from the Adriatic sector said that Polish troops had launched a new attack in the mountains on the western edge of the 8th army front.)

Among reinforcements recently shipped into the Bolona sector, allied headquarters announced, was a detachment of Austrians, of whom two-thirds were Nazi party officials too old for active combat duty. Captured Germans said that when the detachment left Austria on Sept. 30, prisoners painted "V-2" on their equipment and a bystander shouted: "Old moneys are the new weapons."

Air force units, flying approximately 2,150 sorties yesterday, bombed bridges and communications in the Po valley and munitions factories farther to the north, a communique reported.

5 DEAD, 100 HURT, IN LOS ANGELES SHIP EXPLOSION

Los Angeles, Oct. 21.—Naval officials tonight investigated an eyewitness report that the explosion of a U. S. Navy motorized landing ship (LSM) at its Terminal Island dock which killed five men and injured nearly 100 others and left adjacent docks and installations ablaze was caused by ignition of gasoline in harbor waters.

Investigators said the eyewitness reported he saw gasoline floating on the water and that he saw the water catch on fire just before a pillar of fire and smoke shot hundreds of feet in the air as the flames swept over two vessels, adjacent docks, and equipment.

There was no large explosion, officials said. Witnesses reported several small explosions about five minutes after the fire started.

Coast guard units, evacuating wounded from the danger area to harbor hospitals, sent out a call for all available ambulances and supplies of blood plasma. No identification of the dead was available, and the navy said it would be several days before the names of navy personnel involved would be announced.

ALLIES CONVERGE TO FREE ANTWERP, HASTEN VICTORY

Aachen Mop-up Complete; Vital Battle On Schelde Estuary Rages.

Allied Supreme Headquarters, Paris, Sunday, Oct. 22.—German forces retreated toward a new defense line on the Roer river 15 miles east of fallen Aachen Saturday while two allied armies converged on the enemy pockets commanding the Schelde Estuary into Antwerp, clearance of which might mean final victory in a matter of weeks.

The British second army, in a lightning five-mile dash, westward, linked up with Canadian troops on the Roosendael canal 14 miles north of Antwerp, to tighten the noose on possibly 20,000 enemy troops in the Schelde Estuary area.

The commander of the Aachen garrison, a Colonel Wilck, belatedly surrendered with 600 of his men at a point just west of the city where they had held out after Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' doughboys completed the mop-up of Charlemagne's old capital Friday.

Under a thundering barrage from all types of guns, the main German defense force in the Aachen area, frustrated in more than a score of counter-attacks designed to break the siege, was pulled out to the northeast toward emergency defenses before the Rhine.

The Yanks immediately followed up the withdrawal, and drove half a mile eastward from the Wuerselen area, three miles above Aachen—their first advance in that direction since the sieve arc was first thrust around Aachen nearly a month ago.

The Germans' defense of Holland as a buffer before the Reich meanwhile deteriorated sharply as Canadian troops extended to six miles their gains in a new drive north of Antwerp and thrust two columns within nine miles of the vitally important communications center of Breda.

But the "most important battle on the western front," United Press correspondent Frank Fisher reported, was surging to a climax on the south side of the Schelde Estuary where only about 1,000 die-hard Germans remained to be liquidated.

Once that pocket is dissolved, allied engineers can begin clearing mines and other obstructions from the wide estuary and ocean-going ships can pass by night through the 30-mile channel separating Antwerp, one of the greatest ports in Europe, from the North sea.

German batteries on the north side of the river at Flushing and Ellewoutsdijk will be unable to interfere with the traffic in the hours of darkness so long as the ships hug the south side of the channel and allied planes are on hand to black out the enemy's searchlights, front reports said. Antwerp itself was seized largely intact in the British 2nd army's dash through Belgium six weeks ago and once its vast port facilities can be used to funnel allied might eastward "the Germans on the western front can be folded up in weeks, in the opinion of many here," Fisher reported.

PACIFIC WRITER LAUDS M'ARTHUR

Eugene, Oct. 21.—Don Caswell, United Press correspondent from the south Pacific, today said that the invasion of the Philippines came sooner than most correspondents expected. The newsmen is a great admirer of Gen. MacArthur, and described the invasion as "typical MacArthur strategy—cut them off and let them die on the vine."