

Weather

FORECAST: Sunday — Partly cloudy and slightly warmer. Temperature: Highest Yesterday 63 Lowest this Morning 45

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Fortieth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1945. No. 50.

JAP RESISTANCE ON OKINAWA EBBS; FOOCHOW RETAKEN

Allied Offensive In Pacific Closing On Foe — Cities Raked By Bombs.

Guam, Sunday, May 20—(U.P.) Japanese resistance on Okinawa showed the first signs of cracking Saturday as U. S. 10th army marines and soldiers threw their full weight against strong enemy defenses along the entire five-mile line in the bloody struggle.

Chinese troops recaptured the east China port of Foochow and opened an invasion gateway to east Asia while American forces on C-inawa continued an all-out assault against the cracking Japanese defense line Saturday.

Foochow fell in one of the greatest victories of the Chinese in almost eight years of war. A nine-day battle ended Friday when the Chinese conquered the city, won an airfield to the south and opened a port where American troops could land for a thrust into the Asiatic mainland.

Only 515 miles west of embattled Okinawa, Foochow is one of China's largest ports.

Washington, May 19—(U.P.) A very large force of Superfortresses smashed heavily at the Japanese industrial city of Hamamatsu today while smaller groups hit Tokyo.

The 20th air force said the mission was directed at factory areas in both cities, both on the home island of Honshu, but that because of bad weather most of the force passed up the capital to concentrate their attention on Hamamatsu.

The Japanese could see the allied Pacific offensive closing on her homeland. In six of her major production centers, an area almost equal to that of Boston was in ruins after great B-29 strikes. This week alone Nagoya and nearby Hamamatsu were blasted with 9,100 tons of bombs unloaded by more than 1500 Superfortresses.

One-fourth of Nagoya, heart of Japan's aircraft industry, was destroyed. A total of 59.58 square miles of six cities—including Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe and Nagoya—have been swept by fire.

Enemy resistance on Okinawa still vicious and by no means broken, showed signs of cracking. The weight of American arms, Marines and soldiers fought side by side along the blazing five-mile front. Flame-throwing tanks paced their slow march across the island's southern ridges and hills.

Japanese counter-attacks and suicidal defense stands slowed the advance. Hand-to-hand fighting went on at some points. A pulverizing naval-aerial land bombardment poured into Japanese defenses but the enemy still managed to throw back enough artillery fire to make the going extremely tough.

Ten Army Units Vets of Uphill Fight With Japs

Washington, May 19—(U.P.) Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson named 10 Army Divisions today which are "veterans of the uphill war against Japan in service extending back three years."

Four of these—the 7th, 27th, 77th and 96th—are now fighting in the Ryukyu Islands.

The 7th Division, composed principally of men from California, Oregon and Washington, was the first to recapture American territory taken by the Japanese when it conquered the enemy on Attu. It later captured Kwajalein and took part in the campaign on Eniwetok before making the landing on Okinawa.

Marines Battle for Naha City



On a ridge two miles north of Naha City, Okinawa, Marines battle strong enemy forces before the position was captured. Here amid shellbursts and rifle fire, the Leathernecks prepare for the drive on the town. Marine Corps photo.

TITO'S STAND ON TRIESTE PUT UP TO ALLIED RULE

Rome, May 19—(U.P.)—Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, allied commander in the Mediterranean, charged today that Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia was attempting to establish territorial claims on Trieste and part of Austria by "force of arms" in a manner "reminiscent of Hitler, Mussolini and Japan."

Alexander explained in a five-point statement to allied troops in his theater that he had failed to reach agreement with Tito on the withdrawal of Yugoslav forces from Trieste and that the matter had been referred to the American and British governments.

"It is our duty to hold these disputed territories as trustees until their ultimate disposal is settled at the peace conference," Alexander said.

Correspondents in Rome viewed Alexander's statement as possibly the final effort to prevent bloodshed among allied troops over occupation of the areas in dispute.

"In this situation I have tried my best to come to friendly agreement with Marshal Tito but did not succeed," the statement said. "The United States and British governments have therefore taken the matter up directly with Tito. The Soviet government has been kept fully informed."

London, Sunday, May 20—Agency said today that Marshal Tito of Yugoslavia expressed "resentment and surprise" at Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander's statement charging him with using methods similar to Hitler, Mussolini and Japan in attempting to establish territorial claims on Trieste and part of Austria.

Chicago, May 19—(U.P.)—Two Chicago trucking companies filed a \$1,000,000 damage suit in federal district court here late today against the Independent Chicago Truck Drivers' union whose three-day-old strike has tied up shipment of food and vital war materials in the Chicago area.

The suit was filed as leaders of the union were en route to Washington to appear at a hearing tomorrow on a summons from the National Labor Relations board.

Sen. Newby Named To Tax Study Body

Salem, Ore., May 19—(U.P.)—Sen. Earl T. Newby of Ashland was named today as a legislative member of the Tax Study Commission created by the 1945 Oregon Legislature. He served as chairman of the Taxation and Assessment Committee of the Senate.

STALIN'S LETTER ON POLISH ISSUE DEEPENS BREACH

Premier Holds Only Solution On Crimean Decisions — Fear Sealing Off.

London, May 19—(U.P.)—Political observers today found Marshal Joseph Stalin's statement of what Russia wants in any reorganization of the Polish government as no new basis for breaking the Big Three deadlock on the Polish question.

Stalin gave his views in a letter to Ralph Parker of the London Times, released in Moscow late Friday night. He reaffirmed the stand which Russian diplomats have been taking for months since the Crimea conference. He expressed belief that the Polish question could be solved "by agreement among the allies," but only on the fulfillment of certain conditions.

Some observers believed that publication of the letter has deepened the rift between Russian and Anglo-American authorities on what to do with a future government of Poland.

"As to the actual question of the reconstruction of the Polish government, it can be solved only on the basis of the Crimean (Crimea conference) decisions as no deviation whatsoever from these decisions can be permitted," Mr. Stalin wrote.

It was thought highly significant that Stalin put into writing his fears that an attempt was being made to seal Soviet Russia from the rest of Europe by a belt of buffer nations.

Men who have dealt closely with the Russians for the past year feel that really close cooperation between the Soviet Union and the western powers will be difficult until Russia is convinced that no attempt is being made to seal her off from the west.

Bend Roadster Has Ownership Record

Salem, Ore., May 19—(U.P.)—Henry L. Reed of Bend has a 1929 roadster now in its 29th ownership, an all-time record for the Oregon Motor Vehicle Department. The runner-up car has been owned by only 26 different people.

Gen. Patton Issues Buy Bond Statement

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—Here is a seventh war loan drive statement by Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., commander of the Third U. S. Army in Europe:

"I saw a American die of battle wounds. You will agree that buying at least an extra \$100 war bond is a lot easier way to pay for victory."

SEEK LOST BOY

Great Falls, Mont., May 19—(U.P.)—The most extensive hunt ever to be carried on in this area was being conducted here tonight as more than 500 Great Falls residents searched for three-year-old Clyde "Scotty" Bell, missing from his home since yesterday afternoon.

NAVY SEAPLANES IN BOLD RESCUE FROM NIPP LAIR

Aboard Adm. Mitscher's Flagship, May 18—(Delayed)—(U.P.)—Two navy seaplanes boldly landed in Japan's inland sea in the midst of enemy vessels and under the fire of shore batteries to rescue a carrier pilot and his gunner in one of the most daring actions of the war, it was disclosed today.

Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher, whose carrier task forces have swept right to Japan's shore, said the daring rescue missions next will include that of recovering pilots "right out of the emperor's fish pond on the imperial palace grounds."

It was the first rescue from the inland sea. Earlier, a destroyer had steamed into lower Tokyo bay to bring out other downed Americans.

The airmen brought back to fight again were Ensign John Morris, Haverhill, Mass., and Aviation Radioman 3/c Clevis Leo Phegley, Frisco, Mo.

It was "one of the most exciting" rescue missions of the Pacific war, Mitscher declared.

WEST AND SOUTH GET FREIGHT CUT

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—The south and much of the west won a 10 per cent basic freight rate reduction today, thus achieving victory in a long fight to scrap inequalities which they contended have hampered their industrial growth. At the same time, the east was handed a 10 percent rate increase.

This action was taken by the Interstate Commerce commission in a decision that followed six years of investigation. It ordered establishment of a uniform freight classification system for the entire nation.

NEW LINE-UP

Los Angeles, May 19—(U.P.)—A city accustomed to cigarette, butter and other war-inspired lines witnessed something new tonight. More than a half dozen contractor's representatives are "in line" until 8 a. m. Monday when doors of the Federal Housing Administration office will open to issue permits to build 1,100 new homes in this area.

QUAKE HITS MEXICO

Mexico City, May 19—(U.P.)—A sharp earthquake, with its epicenter in the Pacific 943 miles west of Mexico City, shook Mexican Pacific coast villages at 1:36 p. m. Mexican time today. No reports of severe damage were received, the Tacubaya observatory said.

ERNIE HONORED AGAIN

Portland, Ore., May 19—(U.P.)—A niece of the late columnist Ernie Pyle, Babette Johnson, will christen a troop transport bearing his name at a Vancouver launching in June. She is a student at Southern Methodist university.

CENSORS REVEAL WHITE HOUSE NO. 1 TARGET OF ENEMY AIR RAID SHELTER BUILT WITH TUNNEL TO TREASURY VAULT

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—A cloak of secrecy was lifted today from the story of extensive precautions taken to safeguard the life of President Roosevelt during the European war years.

Censorship regulations prevented earlier disclosure of how laborers worked 24 hours a day for three months to build a \$60,000 White House air raid shelter which was a massive cube of steel and concrete.

The shelter, started less than a month after Pearl Harbor under the east end of the White House, occupied a space about 40 feet square. The ceiling was nine feet of heavily reinforced concrete. The walls and the floor of the same material were seven feet thick.

While the shelter was being built, a heavy concrete tunnel was run from the White House to the treasury, where vaults were available as shelters until the main refuge could be completed.

The new shelter was designed on technical information and advice from British experts who had refined shelter plans during the London blitz.

Plans for the shelter went forward when the war and navy departments expressed the opinion a few days after Pearl Harbor that the enemy would regard the White House as the No. 1 target in this country.

JAPAN INDUSTRY CENTERS ROCKED AS WAS GERMANY

21st Bomber Command Headquarters, Guam, May 19—(U.P.)—Great fleets of B-29 Superfortresses, now roving Japan with attacks as devastating as those which wrecked German war industry, have wiped out an area in six major Japanese production centers almost equivalent to that of Boston, it was disclosed today.

In the past six days alone, Nagoya and the nearby city of Hamamatsu were rocked by 9100 tons of bombs dropped by more than 1,500 Superfortresses, and officials said the attacks would grow heavier until Japanese war industry has been paralyzed.

It was disclosed that a total of 59.58 square miles of six cities has been destroyed in the past two months. That would be the same as wiping out Kansas City, which has an area of 59.4 square miles, or almost all of Boston, with an area of 65.9 square miles.

Individual destruction by cities was not available, but it was known that Nagoya, Tokyo, Osaka and Kobe were the hardest hit of the Japanese production centers, with approximately one-fourth of Nagoya, site of Japan's biggest aircraft factories, in ruins.

Honshu Coast Ships And Train Wrecked

Guam, Sunday, May 20—(U.P.)—Shorebased American aircraft ranged the south Honshu coast pressing the United States war of annihilation against Japanese shipping on May 18 and 19 while carrier planes swept through the northern Ryukyu chain.

Search Liberators and Privateers from fleet airwing 18 sank a trawler and damaged six small cargo vessels, a sailing vessel and wrecked a train. Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

WAR BULLETINS

Guam, May 19—(U.P.)—(Via Navy Radio)—The quality of Japanese pilots has deteriorated so much since the rugged days of Midway and Guadalcanal that a single fast carrier air group has compiled a score of 140-0 in aerial combat during the last 60 days.

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—The navy disclosed tonight that the New Mexico's skipper, a 25-year-old visitor, and 3 others were killed on a Japanese bomb hit the 25-year-old battleship and gave it its first war wound.

O.P.A. LAYS RATION "JUDDLE TO BLACK MARKET DEALINGS

Mountain of Bogus Stamps Seized — Vinson Plans Subsidy For Meat.

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—The Office of Price Administration said tonight that its special agents warring against black markets have captured enough illegal ration currency "to have crippled, if NOT wrecked, the gasoline, sugar and meat rationing programs."

For 10 months, OPA said, these agents have been "striking directly at the black market's big-time criminal leaders," hundreds of whom have been arrested.

By seizing mountains of bogus or stolen stamps and coupons, OPA said, the agents have saved for legitimate consumers 75,582,663 gallons of gasoline, 415,505 gallons of fuel oil, 764,275 pounds of sugar, and 55,245,789 pounds of meat.

These statistics supplied additional evidence of the vast scope of black market operations which, notably in meat, have aggravated civilian shortages all over the country.

Meanwhile, new government efforts to alleviate the meat shortage evoked expressions of disappointment from chairman of two house food committees.

The new federal moves—including a \$40,000,000-a-year subsidy for cattle feeders—were announced by War Mobilization Director Fred M. Vinson last night.

In addition to the new subsidies, Vinson said existing subsidies for beef and pork packers would be increased and that other steps would be taken to improve meat distribution and check its movement to black markets.

The Agriculture Department, meanwhile, predicted a five per cent drop in farm food production this year which would reduce civilian supplies to a point only two to four per cent above pre-war levels.

5000 MORE YANKS REACH NEW YORK

New York, May 19—(U.P.)—Four ships carrying more than 5,000 soldiers returning from Europe reached New York and Staten Island piers tonight.

BULLETIN (Night Games)

Portland, Ore., May 19—An explosive ninth inning tonight gave Los Angeles a 5 to 2 win over the league-leading Portland Beavers, with all seven runs coming in the final inning to break a scoreless deadlock.

Charlie Adams snatched the victory from Portland's Don Pulford, with Los Angeles having slightly the best margin on hits, 8 to 6.

Even with the loss, Portland's double win over the Angels last night gave them a 6½ game lead over the Pacific Coast league field.

Los Angeles 5 8 1
Portland 2 6 4
Red Adams and Greene, Pulford and Eddie Adams.

Seattle, May 19—(U.P.)—San Francisco Seals evened their three-game local series with Seattle tonight in the Pacific Coast league race when they took full advantage of a sixth inning loss of control by Rainier pitcher, Glenn Elliott, to clinch a 9-3 victory.

Offenbacher Hen Mothers Kittens

An old white hen, belonging to Herman Offenbacher, Applegate district farmer, is now mothering four orphan kittens, with all the fussy care she would bestow upon her own brood. The mother died shortly after the kittens were born. For a couple of days, Mrs. Offenbacher fed the kittens with an eye-dropper, and the old hen adopted them, and nestles them under wings. The kittens are now big enough to drink from a dish. They rush out from under her wing when called, and hasten back when their meal is finished. The old hen is very fond of her foster-charge. Offenbacher reports the old hen did not have much luck this spring, trying to have a flock of her own, and thinks she took charge of the kittens to satisfy her thwarted mother instinct.

14 JAPS DIE FOR EVERY AMERICAN LOSS IN PACIFIC

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—From the beaches of Guadalcanal to the outskirts of Naha on Okinawa, the score has been 14 to 1.

That ratio of Japanese dead to U. S. fighting men killed was reported tonight by the Office of War Information.

In the first official account of combined U. S. losses for amphibious operations in the Pacific since this country took the offensive in August, 1942, OWI said that 33,429 Americans have been killed in action, 125,447 wounded and 4,175 missing up to May 9.

Those losses were contrasted with an estimated 488,697 Japanese killed. Of the total, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces accounted for 237,256 Japanese in the Philippines alone, at a cost of 10,432 American lives, the OWI report showed.

OWI did not disclose how many American prisoners the enemy has taken but reported that U. S. forces have captured only 10,000 Japanese in three and a half years of fighting.

The figures on which the 14 to 1 ratio of dead was based did not include Australian losses, OWI said, although enemy casualties credited to them were included in the estimated Japanese losses. However, thousands of Japanese merchant and naval losses were not figured in the estimate of enemy dead, either.

Most of the naval losses resulted from American fleet operations.

EXTRA DRESSES TO EUROPEAN NEEDY

Mexico City, May 19—(U.P.)—The newspaper La Prensa said today Mexican customs officials had developed a scheme for relieving the European clothing shortage.

The paper said special women inspectors had been attached to the customs offices to investigate cases where women entered Mexico wearing two or three dresses over each other to avoid paying duty.

The offenders will be stripped down to their bottom dress and the extra clothing will be collected and sent to Europe.

SOVIET ACCEPTS YANKEE REGIONAL SECURITY PLANS

No Difference On Principle But Moscow Changes In Wording.

San Francisco, May 19—(U.P.)—The Soviet Union has accepted in principle the American compromise formula on the regional Security issue but has suggested certain changes in its language, it was learned tonight.

Russia's instructions to its delegation on how to vote on this controversial issue were conveyed to representatives of the Big Five late this afternoon at a hastily-summoned meeting by Soviet Ambassador Andrei A. Gromyko.

It was reported that there were no real differences in substance between the Soviet and American approaches to the issue, and that the Soviet suggestions appeared to accept the really big hurdle—recognition of the principle of the right of self-defense, individually or collectively.

The Regional Issue has plagued this conference for more than two weeks. For 10 days the U. S. delegation debated it before deciding how it felt regional agencies like the inter-American system should be linked with the world organization.

The compromise American formula proposed that the world organization should be considered paramount. But it recognized also the right of self-defense of a nation or a group of nations historically bound together in event the world Security Council fails to maintain peace and an attack occurs.

The Latin American nations agreed to this and all of the big powers except Russia accepted it without delay. But the Russian delegation had to cable Moscow for instructions. The issue has been postponed from day to day since last Tuesday while awaiting the Russian reply which came today.

ALL BUT 18 OF 69 ARTICLES IN NEW COURT OKAY

San Francisco, May 19—(U.P.)—The United Nations conference committee on the world court revealed today that it has approved and completed action on all but 18 of the proposed 69 articles in the new court statute.

This announcement came as the conference began a new phase with the first open meeting of one of its four judicial organizations—met for an hour in the San Francisco opera house to hear progress reports from its two committees on the court and on legal problems. The meeting "played" to packed galleries. It was the first conference session open to the public since May 3.

LIFT PRODUCTION BAN ON 'REEFERS'

Washington, May 19—(U.P.)—The War Production Board tonight lifted a three-year ban on manufacture of household gas and electric refrigerators and authorized priorities to make 530,000 of them this year.

These refrigerators will be added to the nation's dwindling stockpile for essential users such as hospitals. The general public may not have the chance to buy new refrigerators until early next year, the WPB said.

With the lifting of the ban, effective July 1, manufacturers will be permitted to make refrigerators above the authorized 1945 quota if they can obtain the necessary materials without WPB assistance.

Seventh War Loan Drive "E" Sales to date \$155,575 Quota \$1,067,000 Total Sales to Date \$458,088 Quota \$2,067,000