

# 5 German PWs Hanged for Murdering Fellow Prisoner

**Weather**  
FORECAST: Fair with little change in temperature tonight and Wednesday. Lightly scattered thunder showers in higher mountains.  
Temp. Highest Yesterday 89  
Lowest this Morning 63

# MEDFORD



# TRIBUNE

## FORMER MEMBERS OF AFRIKA KORPS STOLID TO LAST

Fortieth Year MEDFORD, OREGON, TUESDAY, JULY 10, 1945. NO. 92

## ARMY, NAVY PLANES SMOTHER NIPS; BOLD CHALLENGE IGNORED BY FOE

### YANKEE FLIERS RANGE AT WILL IN TOKYO SKIES

#### Carrier Strike Catches Japanese by Surprise; Bombs, Rockets Center on Capital.

Washington, July 10—(U.P.)—One Superfortress was abandoned during yesterday's big B-29 raid on five Japanese home island cities but the plane's entire crew was saved, the War Department revealed today.

Guam, July 10—(U.P.)—More than 1,100 American army and navy planes backed by the greatest naval armada afloat, were still smashing at Tokyo and a broad stretch of the Japanese coast late today after eight hours of sustained bombardment that literally smothered the enemy defenses.

Standing perhaps 200 miles off Tokyo Bay throughout the assault were scores of American carriers, battleships, cruisers and the lesser S. McCain's task force 38—the fighting spearhead of Admiral William F. (Bull) Halsey's U. S. Third fleet.

Challenge Ignored

They broke radio silence continually in a bold challenge to the remnants of Japan's air and sea forces to come out and fight. But fleet dispatches said that thus far NOT a single enemy plane or ship had been sighted.

Racing westward under forced draft all last night, the carriers pulled within striking distance of Tokyo before daybreak and sent the first of their 1,000 bombers and fighters over the capital a few minutes after 5 a. m. (Tokyo time).

Caught completely by surprise, the startled Japanese offered practically no opposition from the ground or aloft and first reports said the raiders were bombing and strafing at will.

Alarmed Japanese broadcasts said the navy fliers were ranging up and down the east coast of Honshu on all sides of Tokyo.

Mustangs Join

And around mid-day, the enemy reported that another 100 army Mustang fighters, accompanied by "several" B-29 Superfortresses, joined in the navy strike by attacking shipping and shore installations in the Osaka-Kobe area southwest of Tokyo.

The carrier-based raiders centered their bombs and rocket fire on Tokyo itself and the 70 to 80 airfields surrounding the gutted capital.

The pre-dawn Superfortress strike this morning ushered in the 35th straight day of the pre-invasion bombardment that already has laid waste huge areas of 35 Japanese cities. More than 130 square miles of Japanese industrial area were reported officially to have been burned out in 31 cities, with photographic data on four of today's targets still lacking.

### High Court Hope



(Acme Telephoto)  
With announcement that Supreme Court Associate Justice Owen J. Roberts will retire July 31, Los Angeles "insiders" started work on their speculating and came up with "inside info" that Federal Judge Peterson M. Hall (above) might succeed Roberts to the high court post.

### OVERSEAS DUTY AIMED FOR ALL

Washington, July 10—(U.P.)—All qualified army personnel in this country who have not served at least six months overseas will be replaced by next May 1 so they may be given foreign assignments.

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said the replacements would be made by returning veterans and others in special categories. The changes will affect about 400,000 men under 35 who are now in this country.

The army for several months has adhered to a policy of giving overseas assignments to personnel in this country and replacing them with veterans. The new order, however, sets May 1 as the deadline for the changes.

The order applies with special emphasis, it was said, to men under 35.

### MORSE PROFFERS THIRD TERM BAN

Washington, July 10—(U.P.)—Congressional Democrats, whose party was dominated for 13 years by the late Franklin D. Roosevelt, generally shied away today from the proposals that the no-third-term rule be imposed by law upon presidential tenure.

Sen. Wayne L. Morse, R., Ore., introduced in the senate yesterday a resolution to prevent a third term. Various similar propositions are pending or have been suggested.

### "The Voice" Gets Editorial Needle In Soldier Paper

London, July 10—(U.P.)—Frank Sinatra took an editorial pounding from the doughboy newspaper Stars and Stripes yesterday for raising his voice against the camp shows put on by the USO and the army special services.

The Voice, quoth the army newspaper, "is hardly an authority on either military or workaday show business."

"It is possible that Frankie was distraught and tired when he made his statement," it added sardonically. "He had just finished seven gruelling weeks overseas during which he sang several times every day, and in addition he had granted an audience to the Pope and wined up His Holiness on the crooning racket, and that taxes one."

Chicago has 6,988 policemen and 2,892 firemen.

### GREW SAYS FOE TRYING TO SPLIT ALLIES ON PEACE

#### Acting Secretary Denies Surrender Offer Received; Many Feelers Reported.

Washington, July 10—(U.P.)—Acting Secretary of State Stephen C. Grew, denying that Japan has offered to surrender, said today that the enemy is attempting to split the allies by provoking public discussion of Pacific surrender terms.

He denied for the third time in recent weeks that Japan has made conditional surrender offers "either through official or unofficial channels."

But in a surprise statement warning against a relaxation of the allies' unconditional surrender demand, Grew acknowledged that many "alleged peace feelers" on the part of the Japanese have been reported to this government through indirect channels.

Itemizing some of these "feelers," Grew said they were "familiar weapons of psychological warfare" being tossed into the battle now that the enemy's military position is deteriorating and the plight of Japanese civilians is becoming more critical.

He said "conversations relating to peace" have been reported to the state department from various parts of the world.

"But," he emphasized, "in no case has an approach been made to this government, directly or indirectly, by a person who could establish his authority to speak for the Japanese government, and in no case has an offer of surrender been made."

### Newspaper Drivers Receive Ultimatum

New York, July 10—(U.P.)—Striking newspaper truck drivers had until 8 a. m. tomorrow to return to work or see their jobs thrown open to strike-breakers with the sanction of the U. S. government.

The Labor Board told the 1700 members of the Newspaper and Mail Deliverers' Union, independent, that their closed shop privilege would be suspended, along with other contract benefits, unless the strike was ended by that time.

### Retirement Board Director is Named

Salem, Ore., July 10—(U.P.)—Jerry Saylor, Portland insurance man, was sworn in as executive director of the public employees retirement board, which was created by the last legislature.

Temporary headquarters of the board will be in Portland at the branch office of the state insurance commission. Most state employees will come under the new law.

Saylor is a former campaign manager for Gov. Earl Snell.

### U.S. Reservations On Charter Seen Violation Of Its Spirit

Washington, July 10—(U.P.)—Democrats and Republicans on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee agreed today that any U. S. reservation giving Congress the final decision in each case as to use of U. S. forces to help preserve peace would violate the spirit of the United Nations charter.

Sen. Eugene D. Millikin, R., Colo., asked Leo Pasvolosky, state department expert on the Security organization, whether a reservation by which the United States would "reserve to itself the right to judge in each case whether it should use armed force and how much would be a violation of the charter."

The question arose as the committee opened its second day of hearings on ratification of the charter.

Pasvolosky replied that "as a permanent member of the Security Council" of the United Nations, the United States would have the right to decide "at the outset" whether force should be used.

"But who would make the decision?" Millikin asked. "That's an important question. If we'd decide through a reservation to this charter, that Congress had that right, would that be a violation of the charter?"

"Well that decision would be a different kind of 'agreement' than is contemplated in the charter," Pasvolosky answered. He referred to the provision in the charter which says that members of the United Nations shall provide armed forces to preserve peace "in accordance with a special agreement or agreements."

### BIG THREE CHIEFS AGREE UPON JOINT REGIME IN BERLIN

#### Mixed Governing Authority to Be Established at Once—Speed Food Supplies.

Berlin, July 10—(U.P.)—An unusually large number of transport planes swarmed through the skies over Berlin today, giving rise to the assumption that the vanguard of specialist and important personalities were arriving for the Big Three meetings.

Berlin, July 10—(U.P.)—Chiefs of the American, Russian and British occupation forces met today and agreed upon the immediate establishment of a inter-allied governing authority to direct the joint administration of Berlin.

An official announcement of the agreement was issued after a conference of the Big Three leaders.

Zhukov Presides

Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov of Russia, Lt. Gen. Lucius Clay of the United States and Lt. Gen. Sir Ronald Weeks of Britain were the conferees. Zhukov presided.

They declined to establish at once the mixed governing authority "to direct jointly the administration of greater Berlin under the interallied agreement on control machinery in Germany."

"A satisfactory arrangement was made to meet the immediate problems of food supply for the civil population of Berlin on the basis of contribution from all the zones of occupation," the official announcement said.

"Progress was made toward a solution of the problem of fuel supply on a similar basis."

### TRUMAN'S SHIP IN MID-ATLANTIC

On the Atlantic with President Truman, July 10—(U.P.)—President Truman today was aboard an American warship in mid-Atlantic bound for Europe and his meeting at Potsdam, Germany, next week with Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Generalissimo Josef Stalin.

As his powerful fighting ship drove through unusually placid Atlantic waters, the president held continuous conferences with two of his top international advisers—the Secretary of State James F. Byrnes and Fleet Adm. William D. Leahy, chief of staff to the president.

They were preparing for what will be Mr. Truman's biggest test to date in the international field—his debut in big three deliberations.

### Man Aged 77 Is Walking Imp

Galesburg, Ill., July 10—(U.P.)—Seventy-seven year old William Farlow, Galesburg, Ill., boasted today that he could outwalk any man or boy in the state of Illinois.

Farlow could back up his challenge, too. Yesterday he made a seven-mile hike in an hour and 37 minutes, bettering the "record" for that distance claimed by John W. Simpson, 75, Springfield.

### Douglas to Halt B-17 Manufacture

Long Beach, Cal., July 10—(U.P.)—Production of B-17 "Flying Fortress" is to stop immediately at the Douglas Aircraft Co.'s plant here, resulting in release of 3,000 employes by the end of July, the company today was notified by the army air forces.

The new government order does not affect production of A-26 attack-bombers and the giant C-74 transports, both under construction here.

### LEGAL LOOPHOLE SAVES

Los Angeles, July 10—(U.P.)—William J. Dunn, former vice-president of the W. J. Dunn Co. brokerage firm, today was free of grand theft charges because of a legal technicality barring conviction on uncorroborated testimony of an accomplice, Dunn, 47, and James R. Prouse, 37, were accused of juggling records to spend \$53,000 of clients funds on wine, women and horses.

### Tower Guard Fires Machine Gun Into POW Tents



Private Clarence V. Bertucci, New Orleans, La., tower guard at Prisoner of War Camp, Salina, Utah (right), shot and killed eight German POWs, wounded 20 others. Shown (left) are group of wounded Germans as they left Kearns in ambulance under guard for Bushnell Hospital.



(Acme Telephoto)

### Grants Pass Man Brushes Death In Okinawa Adventure

Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands—(Delayed)—(U.P.)—Marine Corporal William H. Lyons, 28, of Grants Pass, Ore., a veteran of three major campaigns in the Pacific, had his strangest and narrowest escape during the battle for this island.

Lyons, preparing to demolish a cave, sat on what he thought was a log just inside the entrance. It turned out to be a Jap soldier's leg. The Jap sat up, pulled the fuse on a grenade and held it against Lyons' stomach.

The marine pushed the Jap aside and ran from the cave. Outside, he found, to his horror, that the grenade was caught in his shirt. He flicked it aside and hit the dirt just as the grenade went off. He was shaken up, but uninjured.

A few second later Lyons heard another sharp report in the cave. The Jap had blown himself up.

Lyons, who also fought at Cape Gloucester and Peleliu, is the son of Mrs. Mary Lyons, (324 West K street), Grants Pass.

### SIX INJURED AS CARS WRECK ON RURAL HIGHWAY

An accident at intersection of the Crater Lake highway and Delta Water road about 5:30 p.m. yesterday caused injuries to three Mexican Nationals and put three others in the Camp White hospital.

A pickup truck belonging to Crater Lake orchards and operated by Ruben Raymond Misenheimer and containing the Mexicans, collided with a sedan driven by James Larsen of Medford, according to a report by state police.

Larsen and his passenger, Riley Morningstar, were injured and taken to Camp White hospital in the Peri Ambulance. Morningstar's injuries were not serious and he was released from the hospital last night but Larsen is said to be still in the hospital.

The three Mexicans, A. S. Ramirez, M. H. Galvan, and J. Q. Rodriguez, all residents of the airfield barracks, and Misenheimer were also taken to the hospital.

### Guard Who Shot War Prisoners Disliked Nazis

Salina, Utah, July 10—(U.P.)—Pvt. Clarence V. Bertucci was under mental observation today after admitting that he sprayed machinegun bullets on a group of war prisoners while they slept, killing eight and wounding 20, because he "just didn't like Germans."

Col. Arthur J. Ericsson, spokesman for the branch prisoner camp near here, reported that Bertucci had been unable to account for his shooting orgy Sunday night, during which he fired a mounted gun from the guard tower where he was on duty.

Ericsson quoted Bertucci as saying that on several occasions he had been tempted to turn the tower gun on the prisoners and was "not at all sorry" for what he had done.

"He just didn't like Germans," the colonel said.

No other reason was given.

### JAIL TERM START OF VET'S TROUBLE

When Henry Edmond Reynolds 23, completes his 15-day term in the county jail for vagrancy his troubles will just be starting. He is wanted on a warrant by the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Jackson, Miss., as a parole violator, according to information received by the state police.

According to information received here, Reynolds, a discharged serviceman from Omaha, Neb., has been "bumming" over the country since receiving his release two years ago. His means of obtaining money, the report states, is to go to the ration board of a strange city, present his discharge papers to obtain a ration book and then sell the book. The report adds the FBI wants Reynolds for violating a parole on the book-selling charge in Mississippi.

### NAZI SLAPPER GETS 6 MONTHS ON AWOL

Fort Devens, Mass., July 10—(U.P.)—Pvt. Joseph V. McGee, 25, of Worcester, who served a jail sentence for slapping nine Nazi prisoners, was sentenced today to six months in jail at hard labor for being AWOL for the third time in six weeks.

### By The Side Of The Rogue

By Dale Vincent

Beside a clear mountain spring and under the shade of the big alder tree that hangs over the river, is an old canvas chair. Sitting in this chair I have enjoyed seeing within the past half hour.

A methodical, patient Bittern hunting frogs for its nest of young up river, a pair of Beautiful Orioles anxiously supervising their awkward family in their first field trip from the nest, four trout that have leaped clear of the water in their quest for flies, one old yellow-headed salmon cruising slowly down river close to the surface with his suitcase packed and obviously seaward bound, one gorgeous hummingbird that darted in her gossamer drapes of brilliant hues to put on a one-act dance skill for my special benefit.

To me this old canvas chair in the cool shade is a special seat in a colorful theatre whose stage is set with primitive actors. The music is a melodious bird chorus and the orchestral background is the everchanging murmur of cool running water. I would not exchange my old canvas chair for a gold-studded throne.

### Fanatics Look Anything But Supermen in Last March; Execution in Warehouse.

By Roy Calvin  
(United Press Correspondent)  
Fort Leavenworth, Kans., July 10—(U.P.)—Five German prisoners of war whose Nazi zeal led them to murder a fellow soldier in an Oklahoma internment camp were hanged at the disciplinary barracks early today in an historic application of U. S. military justice.

It was the first time that an enemy war prisoner had been executed in the United States.

No "Heils" Heard

Not a single "Heil Hitler!" came from any of the doomed men as they walked about a hundred yards across this army post from the main detention building—known familiarly as "the castle"—to an old warehouse building where a unique gallows had been set up in an elevator shaft. Seven reporters witnessed the executions with War department permission.

The Germans—Walter Beyer, Berthold Seidel, Hans Demme, Hans Schomer and Willi Scholz—were found guilty by a U. S. army court martial at Camp Gruber, Okla., last year of murdering Johannes Kunze, a German prisoner whose Nazi spirit showed signs of lagging.

From Afrika Korps

The five were members of Rommel's Afrika Korps, and from the 32-year-old Beyer to the 22-year-old childlike-looking Scholz, they displayed the iron discipline which made that German unit famous. They looked like everything but "supermen," however, despite their military bearing as they marched into the execution hall, stood before Col. William S. Eley to hear War department orders which doomed them, and then, with black hood adjusted, to be led by military policemen to the noose.

No Supermen

They were stolid without exception, and soldiers to the last. But there wasn't a big brawny man among them to measure up to the superman conception.

Beyer was the first to drop through the trap door, sawed out of a wooden platform which plugged the elevator shaft on the first floor of the warehouse building. He dropped, about seven feet into the basement, at 12:06 a. m., CWT.

The others followed at approximately 30 minute intervals. Scholz, last of the five going at 2:11 a. m.

Peyer, pale-faced and thin, was described by the army as a ringleader of the group which killed Kunze at a Tonkawa, Okla., branch POW camp on Nov. 4, 1943.

Col. Eley and Lt. Col. Robert W. Reed, public relations officer of the Seventh Service Command, emphasized that the Germans had been given every advantage, review and appeal permitted under the Geneva convention covering treatment of prisoners of war.

Brutal Murder

Beyer ordered all prisoners in the company for which he was leader to assemble in the mess hall of the compound at 10 p. m. on Nov. 4, 1943.

At that meeting, Kunze was found "guilty" of treason to the third Reich and was beaten to death. Court martial testimony given at Camp Gruber, Okla., showed that besides the fists of many of the 200 Germans in the company, Kunze was beaten with a milk bottle and heavy china drinking cups.