

U. S. PLANE PRODUCTION PASSES AXIS

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP)—United States land forces will make their assault on Europe backed up by warplane production which the government estimates is 4 to 1 ahead of German and more than 7 to 1 ahead of Japan.

A joint report by the war production board and the aircraft production board showed today that this country has turned out 171,257 planes since Pearl Harbor and will make 10,000 planes this year alone.

Gains Stacked Up
Stacking up the gains against estimates of axis production, the report noted that in 1936 Germany was building 5 planes for every one made here and by early 1942, the German year of peak production, this country had surged ahead.

In numbers U. S. production expanded 3400 per cent between January, 1940—four months after the European war started—and March of this year. In weight, the more meaningful measure, output rose 6800 per cent.

"Present annual Japanese production of combat planes is estimated at about 13 per cent of the U. S. output," the report said. "The monthly output of Japan, for all types, is estimated at between 1000 and 1400 planes."

German Production
"The Germans are now producing only about 75 per cent of their output in 1942, when they were producing about 27,000 planes annually."

"It is estimated that more than 40 per cent of German fighter production has been knocked out (by bombing). Germany's current total monthly production of all types is estimated at about 1800 planes."

Not Kayoed
(In this connection, General H. H. Arnold of the army air forces reported recently that while great damage has been done to German reserves, the enemy's air strength has not been knocked out.)

The British Empire and the U. S. together have built about 300,000 planes since England's entry into the war, while Germany and Japan together are believed to have produced about 151,000. Germany has been stressing aircraft since 1935, however, so they entered the war with a stockpile estimated at about 24,000 planes.

In the first four months of this year the United States built 35,009 aircraft, or one every five minutes around the clock, excluding Sunday. This year's bill for aircraft will come to about \$21,300,000,000, the report said.

OREGON RETAIL SALES TAKE CUT

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP)—Retail sales in Oregon dropped 5 per cent last month from March and 4 per cent compared to a year ago, the department of commerce's census bureau reports.

Sales for the first quarter of this year were 4 per cent ahead of the same period of 1943.

Portland retailers did 7 per cent less business last month than in April, 1943, but sales of independent Klamath Falls retailers increased 16 per cent and those of Eugene and Salem 13 per cent.

Shoe stores and filling stations throughout Oregon gained an average of 11 per cent in sales last month compared with a year ago. Women's ready-to-wear stores and food stores were next with 7 per cent gains.

CRAB PRICE PROTESTED
DEPOE BAY, May 31 (AP)—Fishermen are protesting new OPA price rulings under which crabs now are being bought by the pound instead of the dozen. They assert that the current price of seven-cents a pound lowers the scale per dozen from the former \$1.75 to about \$1.55.

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Weds His Replacement



Pearl Stegloff, right, above, of New York City, joined the SPARS to take over the job of some Coast Guardsman, and, after training, was sent to replace Yeoman 2/c Eric Fendler, left, of Irvington, N. J., who shipped off for sea duty. But she didn't forget him—for when he came back they were married.

Medal Winner Must Be "Fighting Man," Says Wife

LAUREL, Miss., May 31 (AP)—The young farm wife of a Congressional Medal Winner Corporal James D. Slaton observed today anybody could get along with her husband but said she

guessed he was "a fighting man since he killed six Germans at once."

Mrs. Dicie Walters Slaton talked about her 32-year-old husband's feat at the rural spot where she and their four sons, the oldest 13, are keeping up the home front by farming "for the duration."

The fighting corporal, said his wife, volunteered in 1943, "because he could never stand the idea of being drafted."

The war department announced Sunday award of the nation's highest medal to the former fireman and taxicab driver, of Gulfport, Miss., for killing six enemy soldiers and knocking out three machine guns in fighting near Oliveto, Italy. He will receive the medal overseas.

Fear Elephants, Live in Trees
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NAVY CHIEFTAIN OPPOSES QUICK KIMMEL TRIAL

WASHINGTON, May 31 (AP)—Secretary of the Navy Forrestal today expressed personal opposition to court martial at this time of Adm. Husband E. Kimmel on charges of negligence in connection with the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

His statement at a news conference came while congressional committees were considering a resolution which would fix September 8 as the deadline for starting a court martial trial.

Forrestal said that "It seems quite clear that during this war and certainly its immediate phase, I personally would not be in favor of conducting such a trial."

The house rules committee has approved a resolution directing that trial of Kimmel as commander in chief of navy forces and Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short should start before June 7, 1945. The senate judiciary committee meantime has scheduled action Monday on a resolution by Senator Ferguson (R-Mich.) fixing September 8 as the deadline.

Ferguson introduced the resolution after receipt of a letter from Kimmel in which the admiral demanded a "free open

Allies Tell Underground How to Fight Nazi-Sparked Fires Ahead of Invaders

LONDON, May 31 (AP)—The German propaganda pronouncements that the nazis will apply the scorched earth policy ahead of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's invasion armies coincided last night with an allied fire-fighting talk to the European underground.

In the fifth of a series of broadcasts by supreme headquarters of the allied expeditionary force, a spokesman for Gen. Eisenhower told patriots across the channel to keep their fire control units ready because the fire danger in the battle zones would be great from bombs, artillery and "German incendiary."

The underground also was reminded to brush up on its first and public court martial "at the earliest practicable date."

Forrestal said he had not acted to any extent in the proposed court martial proceedings which all had been handled by the late Navy Secretary Knox. Under direction of Knox depositions have been taken from officers now on sea duty acquainted with the circumstances of the Pearl Harbor attack.

aid because "the war may well pass quickly and leave its casualties behind."

As the German propaganda mill churned out its assortment of fact and fancy, much of it obviously designed to bring fear to the waiting invasion forces, a roundabout and suspect report told of the killing of five American airmen in Germany "by agitated people."

This story came from the Berlin correspondent of the Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet, who said it was told to him by "a traveler from Leipzig."

The correspondent said he was informed a "storm of rage" broke out among German civilians Sunday, when American fighters allegedly strafed women and children, and that when five fliers parachuted to earth "German police were unable to save them."

Two German planes, apparently on flights over Britain to have a look at invasion preparations, were shot down yesterday.

Fine invasion weather continued. High tide at Calais will come at 8:38 p. m. tonight and 8:28 a. m. tomorrow.

SNELL CRITICIZES LUMBER POLICIES

HERSHEY, Pa., May 31 (AP)—Gov. Earl Snell (R) of Oregon, in an address prepared for delivery today before the national conference of governors, criticized the federal government's policies on lumber resources.

Snell said encroachment by the federal government in control of forest lands "presents a challenge to the states" and asserted that the federal government "should recognize that ownership of forest land is a keystone in the economy of many

forest areas, and (the government) must aid in the development of sound and permanent private ownership."

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