

AMERICANS DRIVE INTO ST. LO

Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

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KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1944

Number 10212

Weather News	
July 17, 1944	
Max. (July 16)	89 Min. 58
Precipitation last 24 hours	0.00
Stream year to date	9.89
Normal	12.03 Last year .. 17.78
Forecast: Fair	

Reds Seven Miles From Latvian Border After Taking Osveya, Grodno

LONDON, July 17 (AP)—Russian troops have swept forward to within seven miles of the Latvian border with the capture of Osveya and have overrun more than 210 other populated places, the soviet communique announced tonight.

The German radio said today that Russian troops were advancing both north and south of fallen Grodno in the direction of East Prussia.

Soviet forces which burst across the Niemen river south of the old Polish bastion city turned northwest and the Germans threw in reserves, the account said.

A heavy battle against advancing soviet units north of Grodno is in full swing, the report added.

South of the Pripyat marshes where the Germans have reported a new soviet offensive toward Lwow, the Berlin radio said the fury of fighting intensified yesterday in the Tarnopol and Luck areas, suggesting a massive tank battle was underway. The Russians have announced no such action.

BRITISH FORCES FOR PACIFIC SEEN

CANBERRA, Australia, July 17 (AP)—Prime Minister John Curtin told parliament today that though a transfer of main British efforts must await Germany's defeat, large and powerful forces would become available this year in the war against Japan.

He told the new session of parliament that when the full weight of British and American land and air forces was brought to bear the Japs would be as decisively defeated as Hitler.

Balanced Strength

Curtin, recently a visitor to the United States and to London, asserted there was a minimum and a maximum fighting strength beyond which Australia could not go and that it was a balance between these limits which the government was seeking.

Australia, he said, will make a fighting contribution until the enemy is completely defeated but there are economic leeways in Australia's economic life which "we should commence to overtake."

"The strength of our fighting services," he continued, "which (Continued on Page Five)

Former Consul Dies in Portland

SEATTLE, July 17 (AP)—Alexander W. Quist, 60, Finnish consul here for 20 years and one of the west coast's leading contractors, died Saturday night of a heart ailment.

As founder of the A. W. Quist company, building contractor and engineer, in 1906, Quist built the piers at Pearl Harbor in 1934 and 1935. During World War I he contracted to do all cement work for the navy at the Puget Sound navy yard. He constructed many of Seattle's largest buildings and the Tacoma Medical Arts building.

Five Injured in Hotel Fire

PORTLAND, July 7 (AP)—Five persons were injured in a fire that damaged the Lorraine hotel here yesterday.

Jack Anderson was burned on the hands and feet in carrying his blazing briefcase to a bathroom tub. George Lipschutz suffered serious burns in trying to reach a fire escape. He was rescued by firemen. Two women were overcome by smoke and a coastguardman collapsed after assisting firemen.

General Fegan Inspects Barracks, Makes Awards

Major General Joseph C. Fegan, commanding officer of the western department of the U. S. marine corps, made a tour of inspection of the Klamath Marine Barracks today, and presented awards to four men, veterans of South Pacific battles, at ceremonies on the parade grounds.

It was General Fegan's first visit to the newly-created Klamath Falls installation, and at a noon luncheon given in his honor by directors of the chamber of commerce, he declared that the post's equipment is unequalled in barracks installations anywhere in the country.

He made a thorough inspection of the barracks, office, service and recreational buildings.

During the inspection, he was accompanied by Col. B. Dubel, commanding officer; Com. L. T. Coggeshall, senior medical officer; Maj. Clyde C. Roberts, ex-

YANKS CONTINUE ATTACK ON GUAM

MOSCOW, July 17 (AP)—Red army troops pushed forward today along a broad front stretching from the Baltics to the Pripyat marshes after capturing the G...-held fortress city of Grodno, described by Premier Stalin as "covering the approach to East Prussia."

No Natural Barrier

Grodno, which the Germans announced earlier they had evacuated, is only 45 miles from the East Prussian border. With its fall the Germans have no natural barrier between them and their homeland, to which it appeared the fighting soon would be carried.

The Germans fell back at Grodno to the west bank of the Niemen river, which parallels the East Prussian border in that sector. Field dispatches said a new Russian crossing of the Niemen was made during the Grodno battle. The river has been crossed by the Russians farther north in the Alytus sector, where the red army, pushing west of Wilno, has driven within 50 miles of East Prussia.

The Russians have consolidated a bridgehead on the west (Continued on Page Five)

Allied Position Established on New Guinea

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NEW GUINEA, July 17 (AP)—Allied positions have been established firmly along the west bank of the Drinimur river, where two new Japanese attacks were repulsed in the week-old flare-up of the British New Guinea campaign, headquarters announced today.

The advance Japanese force which cracked allied lines to cross the river have been cut off by reinforced American units. These junglewise infantrymen swung around behind the Nipponese and plugged U. S. lines on the river, 21 miles east of Aitape.

Two Japanese assaults were repulsed Friday night and Saturday morning. Three enemy divisions have been identified in the action.

The Road to Berlin

By The Associated Press

Mileages on the routes which the allied armies are traveling to Berlin now read:

(1) Russian front—435 miles (measured in a direct line from a point near Prodnno).

(2) Italian front—About 607 miles (from near Ancona on the Adriatic coast).

(3) Normandy front—635 miles (from Caen).

Car Operators Get Warning

A few car owners are still operating motor vehicles in the Klamath Falls area without displaying the new federal use stamp and are being fined \$5, according to an announcement by Paul H. Wright, deputy collector in charge of the local internal revenue office.

The law provides a specific penalty of \$25 for failure to purchase and display the stamp in the upper left hand corner of the windshield, but so far compromise offers of \$5 have been accepted from violators.

Deputy Wright states that at regular intervals, deputies from the Klamath Falls office will be assigned to check automobiles in the area and any vehicle which does not properly display the stamp will be tagged.

These tags advise the owner that he is required to appear at the internal revenue office within a stated time, but it is pointed out, some persons who have received a summons have failed to respond as required. In all such cases, the name and address of the owner will be traced through state automobile registration and the maximum penalty may be invoked.

Memphis Children Toss Snowballs

MEMPHIS, July 17 (AP)—Thermometers read exactly 100 here yesterday when police arrested six youngsters on charges of tossing snowballs at passing automobiles.

Police said the boys raided an ice house for the flakes—or "snow"—formed by cutting ice.

U. S. FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, July 17 (AP)—American sea and air attacks on Guam and Rota islands in the Marianas for 12 straight days underscore Tokyo's homeland warning that "the war situation does not allow a moment of optimism."

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, Pacific commander in chief, announced that carrier-based bombers poured rockets and bombs on Guam, Japanese-occupied United States possession, and Rota to the northeast, in Saturday assaults which blasted buildings, started fires and shattered vital automotive and railroad equipment.

Twelfth Attack

It was the twelfth attack in as many days on the islands, which are only a little more than 100 miles south of Saipan, recently conquered by Americans. One bomber was downed, but its crew was rescued.

The previous attack Friday, made by warships and aircraft which hammered Guam gun emplacements and an airfield, drew the Tokyo broadcast warning against optimism.

Singapore Talk Of Executions Propaganda

MELBOURNE, Australia, July 17 (AP)—A "known irresponsible Singapore commentator" was making a propaganda talk, not a news report, Saturday when his remarks were interpreted abroad as hinting the execution of captured airmen from the June 15 B-29 raid on Japan.

This was reported yesterday by Australian information department monitors who heard the broadcast clearly.

The commentator said that many of those who participated in the Kyushu raids "met the same fate as those who came to raid Tokyo two years ago." He did not specifically state they were executed.

B-24 Production Resumes

DETROIT, July 17 (AP)—Production of B-24 Liberators was resumed at the Willow Run bomber plant today as employees began returning to work. The Ford Motor company closed the plant Saturday because of work stoppages by crane operators and riggers.

Skeleton crews entered the huge plant last midnight to prepare for full production on the day shift.

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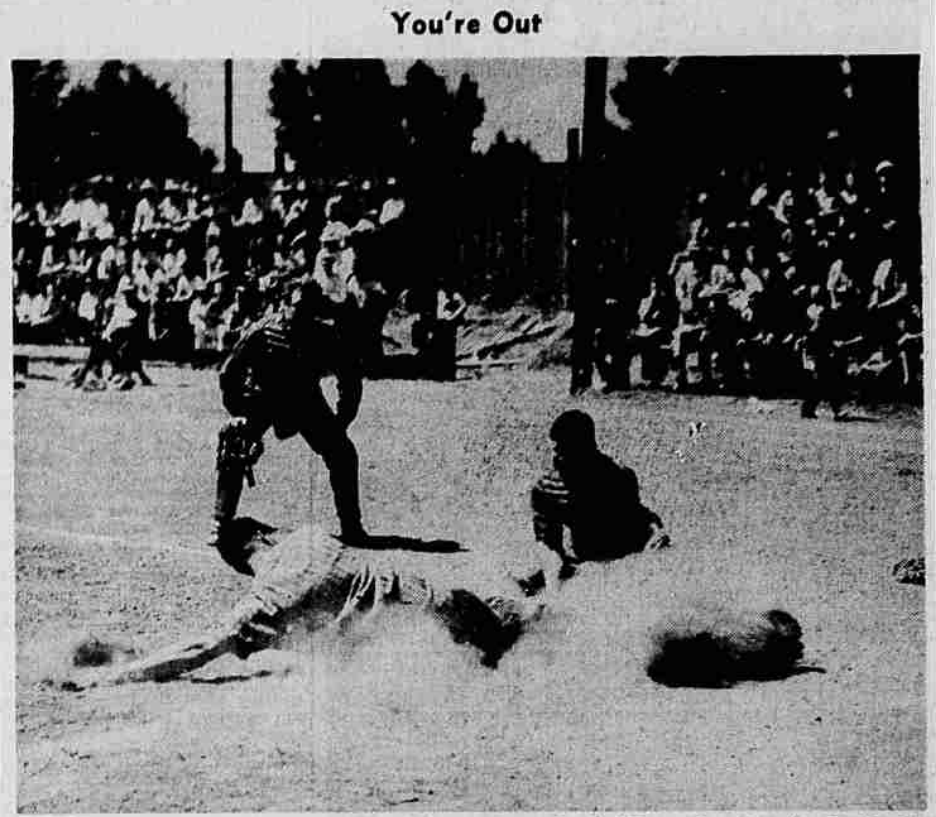
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Dead Woman Cooks Breakfast

TOWANDA, Pa., July 17 (AP)—A number of relatives arrived by train yesterday to attend the "funeral" of Mrs. Ash Parsons.

Mrs. Parsons greeted them sleepily—it was 6 o'clock in the morning—and cooked breakfast.

One of the relatives, misinterpreting a telegram, had spread the erroneous report of her death.



McMurray, third baseman for the naval air station baseball team, is out in the first inning as he tries to stretch a long triple into an inside-the-park home run in a game with the Medford Craters. McMurray was caught on the second baseman's relay of the centerfielder's throw. The Craters won the game, 14 to 7. See story on Sport Page.

Japs Make Fresh Break in Chinese Hengyang Defense

CHUNGKING, July 17 (AP)—Japanese troops have made a fresh breakthrough into the beleaguered Canton-Hankow rail city of Hengyang in the Hunan province fighting and, although the city itself still remains in Chinese hands, the encircled defender troops apparently had scant hope of relief.

A high command communique tonight said the second breakthrough was made last night by a strong enemy force which attacked in a southern suburb. A portion of these troops broke into the municipal hospital, but the building was retaken in a counterattack lasting several hours and other Chinese positions were restored, the high command said.

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Jap Admiral Relieved of Post

NEW YORK, July 17 (AP)—Admiral Shigetaro Shimada has been "relieved of his post" as Japanese navy minister, and succeeded by Admiral Naokuni Nomura, Tokyo radio announced today.

Tokyo said the post of navy minister was changed as part of preparations "in view of the present grave war situation" to unite "all efforts for certain victory."

Another broadcast said Shimada had resigned.

The broadcasts made no mention of the post of navy chief of staff, which Shimada held in addition to being navy minister.

Six Die in Fire In Denver Park

DENVER, July 17 (AP)—Six persons died in the midst of holidaying throngs Sunday afternoon when a sudden burst of flames swept the Old Mill, housing a scenic boat ride, at Elitch's Gardens in Denver.

Four of the dead were identified by Deputy Coroner Gus Economy as two Buckley field soldiers and their wives. The other two were park attendants who tried vainly to pull the boat riders to safety.

Race Issue Major Problem For Demo Platform Writers

By FRANCIS LE MAY

CHICAGO, July 17 (AP)—The race issue, major root of the "southern revolt" within the democratic party, parades in full dress today before the party's platform framers, with spokesmen for negro organizations, and for anti-lynching and anti-poll tax laws.

Thus at its first public hearing, the 23-member platform group was confronted squarely with the delegate job of finding phraseology perhaps to help restore unity in democratic ranks.

In addition to spokesmen for negro organizations, Platform Committee Chairman John W. McCormack arranged to hear proposals today for planks dealing with agriculture, women's rights, and the Palestine question.

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Swedes Report Plant Destroyed

STOCKHOLM, July 17 (AP)—Three Swedes just returned from Munich estimated today that the Bayerische Motorenwerke, where the Germans are believed to be manufacturing engines for flying bombs, was 80 per cent destroyed. The travelers said the huge factory, a long time producer of tanks and motor cars for the German army, was now thought to be concentrating on jet propulsion engines.

Hitler's brown house, formerly reported destroyed, was hit again and almost completely ruined, the eye witnesses continued.

Of the city's normal 828,000 population, 6000 to 8000 were made homeless. Evacuation of the city was difficult because railroads were tangled and the street car system was closed.

"Roads to the south of Munich were packed with refugees," one Swede said.

40-Acre Fire Under Control

SCIO, July 17 (AP)—A fire that roared through 40 acres of green timber 40 miles southeast of here was under control today.

The blaze started Saturday, and was checked by fighters from Scio, Lebanon and Albany. It was believed to have started by spontaneous combustion.

BRITISH ARMY FIGHTS IN TWO FRENCH TOWNS

Lessay Almost Lost To Nazis, Fight Weak

By WES GALLAGHER

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, July 17 (AP)—The American warriors of Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, attacking in a thick morning mist in the seventh day of their siege of St. Lo, have driven into that heavily defended bulwark of the Nazi Normandy line, supreme headquarters announced today.

On the Americans' left, the second British army fought blazing engagements in the streets of two villages and captured two others as Lt. Gen. Miles C. Dempsey threw forward strong forces on a nine mile front southwest of Caen in a drive aimed at bursting out of the Normandy peninsula.

Lessay Lost

Lessay, the western anchor of the German line, apparently was lost to the Germans any time the Americans chose to clinch control. The doughboys had entered the town across the flooded Ay river and reported only moderate opposition.

In the center Bradley's men made rapid gains in frontal and slanting attacks on Periers, capturing the village of Les Millerieux, about a mile and a half north of the town and taking other positions pointing close to the St. Lo-Periers road.

Fight Savagely

A Casino-like battle was in prospect at St. Lo. Supreme headquarters said Germans were fighting savagely in the outskirts. Full capture of the town was likely to be a matter of several days of bloody struggle.

Dispatches from the front said the Germans apparently had dug subterranean forts and tunnels under the ruins and in two years of preparation made painstaking efforts to fortify the highway center whose strategic value was first recognized by Charlemagne.

Force Way

Attacking both to the southeast and southwest in a two-direction offensive southwest of Caen, the British forced their way into houses at that eastern edge of Evrecy, 7 1/2 miles from Caen and the key to high ground in the blood-drenched triangle between the Odon and Orne rivers.

They by-passed this town and pushed on for about half a mile to the southeast of it, while one force attacked it directly.

Hold Half Noyers

The British also held the eastern half of Noyers, four miles to the northwest, where their (Continued on Page Five)

Saipan in Use As Transport Terminal

SAIPAN ISLAND, June 28 (Delayed) (AP)—Saipan has joined the ever-growing list of Pacific island terminals for American transport planes.

The new service to the Marianas was inaugurated by Lt. Col. Neil R. McIntyre, La Jolla, Calif., before Saipan was conquered. He landed his twin-engine marine corps plane at Isely airfield June 24.

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News

FRANK JENKINS

Biggest news from Europe is CLEAR WEATHER

planes are going in for fighting support to the in-fighting up German conditions and ranging far and over Germany itself.

weather has been one important reason for our slow advance in Normandy. We have been unable to make any progress because of the lack of flying conditions.

AMERICANS today are in the thick of St. Lo, where the Americans (taking a leaf from the book of the burrowing Japs) are digging deep tunnels and underground fortifications—as at Cassino.

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