

# HUGE ALLIED FORCE LANDS ON FRENCH MEDITERRANEAN COAST

## Herald and News

In The Shasta-Cascade Wonderland

KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1944

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5 CENTS

### Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
The long-awaited landing in the south of France is an accomplished reality as this is the hour when we must throw into battle the last little ounce of strength.

The Mediterranean landing, long expected, long warned against by the Germans, appears to have met surprisingly little opposition.

There was NO air resistance, according to the dispatches. Anti-aircraft fire was lighter than expected. Ground fighting seems to be modest, as compared with other landings.

Even the weather was favorable for once, with clear skies and calm seas.

Where are the Germans? Most of them seem to have been drawn northward, to meet the threat around Paris. Yet they have known for months that the Mediterranean landing was coming. They have had PLENTY of time to get ready.

The plain truth seems to be that Hitler just HASN'T MEN ENOUGH.

The landings were made along the Riviera coast, to the east of the mouth of the Rhone. The Rhone valley, one of the historic routes for invasion of Europe from the south, stretches northward from Marseilles.

British General Maitland, allied commander in the Mediterranean, says: "Our purpose is to join up with the allied armies marching from Normandy."

The comparative ease with which the landing seems to have been made suggests that the Germans may be getting out of all of France as swiftly as they can. As to that, only time can tell.

In the Normandy pocket, Von Kluge's 7th German army is still fighting for its life. News of this mighty battle is scarce as this is written, but Von Kluge's escape route has been narrowed to less than ten miles.

It is said this morning to be bringing in reinforcements (where they are coming from, if they are surrounded all but 10 miles, not being apparent) but the dispatches assert that they are 80 per cent "slave troops," loaned in as a rear guard sacrifice in an effort to save his best troops and his armor.

We shall have to wait a little longer to learn whether his army is destroyed, as we hope.

EISENHOWER says today: "The Germans in Normandy) held on TOO LONG, and underestimated our strength."  
That is always a bad mistake. It is the job of the high command to AVOID such mistakes. That is what high commands are for.

### FALAISE NOOSE TIGHTENS ON TRAPPED 7TH

#### Nazis Squirm In Hot Pocket As Pincers Points Narrow

(Map on Page Four)  
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Aug. 15 (AP)—Four allied armies beat forward simultaneously in a tightening strangulation on the trapped German seventh army today, narrowing the escape gap at Falaise to 10 miles, and clinching control of roads leading south from the Normandy pocket.

Hundreds of prisoners were seized, Field Marshal Gen. Guenther von Kluge's units again clogged roads leading eastward in desperate daylight attempts to wriggle out and he threw in "slave" reinforcements to hold as suicide rear guards.

**Tank Avalanche**  
Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, leading the third American army, hit northward within eight miles of the Falaise, Canadians driving south were within 2 1/2 miles of that town on the eastern edge of the trap.

A British avalanche of tanks and men on the opposite end of the pocket hammered to within a mile of Conde-Sur-Noireau, and a front reporter declared "the roof of the German escape corridor west of Falaise appeared to be collapsing." Conde is 15 miles west of Falaise.

The U. S. first army on the British right advanced in a tidal wave on a front extending beyond Mortain, seizing hundreds upon hundreds of captives.

U. S. troops captured La Ferte Mace, 13 miles east of Domfront, winning control over escape avenues to the south.

The Falaise hatch was blocked by a rain of bombs and artillery shells, ripping withdrawing Nazi columns.

How many of Von Kluge's forces of 100,000 to 200,000 men (Continued on Page Three)

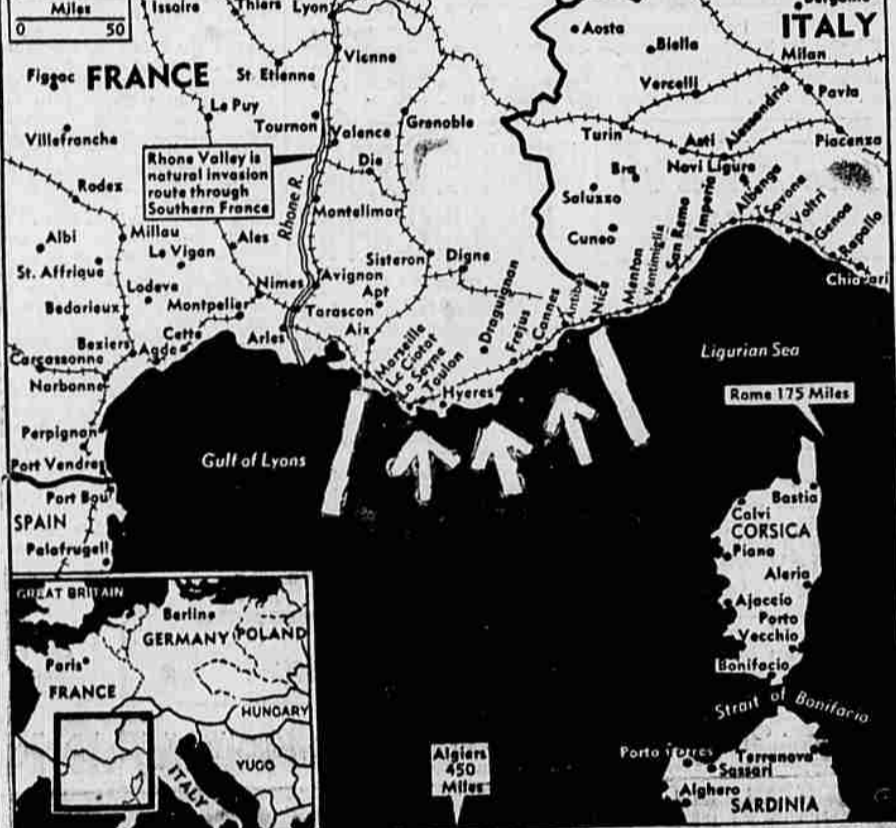
### Farmers Favor Wage Ceilings

Growers attending a meeting in the Tulare last night, sponsored by the Tulare Growers, expressed their desire for establishment of wage ceilings for farm labor in the basin area.

They are joining Klamath county growers in petitioning for a hearing on the proposal, which has been tentatively set for August 25 at Merrill.

Wage labor boards of Oregon and California will conduct the joint hearing, at which both employer and labor will be heard.

### Where Allied Forces Spectacularly Opened New Invasion Front



Arrows and brackets indicate area on the southern coast of France hit today by a mighty new allied invasion force, made up principally of Americans. Meeting little opposition, the troops quickly secured beachheads and drove inland. A huge naval contingent backed them up, while a terrific aerial bombardment of German positions blasted the way ahead.

### PUBLIC POWER GETS COUNCIL'S SUPPORT

A resolution opposing the enactment by congress of proposed legislation to restrict public power projects to the generation of power only and to prevent them from constructing lines for distributing power produced, was passed by the city council Monday night.

There was some argument among the council, but a 3-2 majority held that bringing in cheap power would stimulate competitive private enterprise and produce a better balanced economy in the Pacific Northwest. Councilmen Bussman and (Continued on Page Four)

### Fight Gone From Germans, Prisoner Interview Shows

By HERBERT MATTHEWS  
WITH AMERICAN FORCES IN SOUTHERN FRANCE—What I wanted to know, first of all upon landing with allied troops on the French coast today, was why the Germans did not put up a fight.

They had ample coastal defenses, gun emplacements behind wonderful hill positions behind the beaches.

So I went straight to the prisoners' cage where 125 Jerries were gathered. It didn't take long to find out what was wrong.

There wasn't any fight left in them. One master sergeant said he knew the army in northern France had been broken. For three months he had realized the war was lost, he said.

"There's no reason to fight," he added, "for whom should we fight?"

"You mean you are not fighting for Hitler any more?" I asked.

"That's it," he replied. "Anyway we have got nothing to fight with."

Their dejection contrasted remarkably with the happiness of the French.

## Invaders Drive Inland Against Soft Opposition

By EDWARD KENNEDY  
ROME, Aug. 15 (AP)—Many thousands of men from the army of France and the battle-hardened American and British divisions of Italy poured out upon the beaches of southern France today and struck several miles inland in an almost bloodless invasion.

Meeting scant opposition, either on the ground or in the air from the enemy's thinned and bomb-riddled defenses, the allies established a fourth major war front against Hitler by securing firm beachheads along a broad section of the Riviera between Marseille and the Italian frontier.

(DNB in a Berlin broadcast, said allied troops had landed at three places, in the Gulf of St. Tropez, at St. Raphael and at Cap d'Antibes, all in a 32-mile stretch of coast on both sides of Cannes and about midway between Toulon and Nice. "The number and strength of employed forces cannot be compared with the landing in Normandy," said DNB. "No further landing or supply vessels are off the south French coast at present".)

The landing forces were amazed, correspondents on the beachhead said, by the softness of the enemy.

The great stab into the "underbelly of Europe," bringing the battle for France to full fury, was backed by more than 800 ships—one of the biggest fleets ever to churn the waters of the Mediterranean, which Mussolini once called his own, and by great air power.

The troops swarmed ashore with the avowed purpose of linking their Mediterranean theater with their front west of Paris where the allies apparently were on the point of scoring a great victory which might speedily result in the liberation of most or all of France.

"The army of France is in being again, fighting on its own soil for the liberation of its country with all its traditions of victory behind it. Remember 1918," was the ringing declaration of the commander-in-chief of the invasion force, Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson.

**Weak Opposition**  
Striking after sunrise, seven waves of infantry splashed ashore in the first two hours and seized their initial objectives with great rapidity at many places along a 125-mile stretch of the Riviera between the great port of Marseille and Nice.

They encountered only the weakest opposition, for enemy defenses had been pulverized by five straight days of a powerful air offensive.

Shortly before dawn a large air-borne combat force descended into the rugged hills which rise from the coastline and went into a grapple with the German defenders for possession of key communication points and commanding vantage points.

The invasion was accompanied by the signal from the French national committee and allied commanders to all Frenchmen to rise up against their German oppressors and indications were that the well-organized underground army of southern France had responded.

**Scarcely a Shot**  
Scarcely a shot was fired at the big transport planes and gliders which put the air-borne troops down, and the first returning pilots of the massive fighter plane screen which covered the invasion said not a single enemy plane opposed the early operations.

Later, when the first German planes to be seen, three Messerschmitts were shot down without loss.

An allied spotter plane flew 60 miles inland without sighting a single enemy troop concentration.

### REDS ASSAIL NEW GERMAN POSITIONS

By DANIEL DE LUCE  
MOSCOW, Aug. 15 (AP)—Russian forces started attacking freshly dug German entrenchments today in front of Grajewo, two miles south of the East Prussian border, after cracking the steel and concrete forts around Onowice and winning a bridgehead across the Biebrza river.

Gen. G. F. Sakharov threw the full offensive might of his second White Russian army group against the Germans' attempts to reorganize their frontier line just below the Nasurian lakes.

A thundering bombardment from the air supported the red army attack.

"The waters of the Biebrza ran dark red with enemy blood today," a front dispatch to Izvestia said. Zakharov smothered a series of tank counterattacks with his high-powered drive and struck directly in the rear of large enemy forces tied up in the Suwalki triangle (which East Prussia annexed in 1939) by Gen. Ivan Cherniakov's divisions.

A German fortified zone three to six miles in depth lay littered with fire-blackened Nazi tanks and wrecked field guns behind Zakharov's vanguard.

### Heup's Mill at Hambone Burns

Fire yesterday afternoon destroyed the Western Pine mill at Hambone, near McCloud, Calif., owned by A. P. Heup of Klamath Falls. Damage was estimated in excess of \$30,000.

The blaze started near two diesel motors and quickly spread through the 50,000-foot capacity plant. Vigorous fire-fighting prevented the blaze from spreading to 2,000,000 feet of lumber in the yards or to the surrounding camp buildings.

It is understood Heup plans to rebuild the mill, if possible.

### WEATHER

August 15, 1944  
Max. (Aug. 14) 78; Min. 43  
Precipitation last 24 hours.....00  
Sirocco wind to date.....10.62  
Normal 12.28 Last year 17.85  
Forecast: Clear

### WAR BULLETINS

ROME, Aug. 15 (AP)—All the landings in southern France were successful, it was announced late today.

A special communique at 4:30 p. m. (7:30 a. m. PWT) said: "By mid-morning all landings were proceeding successfully according to schedule against only light ground opposition and no air opposition."

"The supporting air borne operation was also successfully executed."

ROME, Aug. 15 (AP)—The immediate commander of allied forces which landed in southern France today has not been identified, but reports published in London naming U. S. Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers as the commander were described tonight as incorrect. The whole operation is under the direction of Gen. Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, allied commander in the Mediterranean, and Devers is his deputy.

WITH THE CANADIAN FIRST ARMY IN FRANCE, Aug. 15 (AP)—Canadian troops advanced to within a mile of Falaise today on the northern edge of the Germans' last escape gap from their Normandy pocket.

LONDON, Aug. 15 (AP)—"The supreme hour has struck," the German radio said tonight. "It is the hour when we must throw into battle the last little ounce of strength."

NEW YORK, Aug. 15 (AP)—The Berlin radio said today "thousands of members of the French underground" had been arrested in a surprise roundup. The underground announcement was recorded by NBC.

LONDON, Aug. 15 (AP)—Large forces of German infantry and tanks counterattacking heavily in the area east of Praga, a suburb of Warsaw, have been repulsed by red army troops, the soviet communique announced tonight.

2000 Planes Hit German Points  
LONDON, Aug. 15 (AP)—At least 2000 American and British heavy bombers were hurled today against Germany, Holland and Belgium while other hundreds of planes from Italy and England laid explosive carpets on the Nazis in the paths of the invasions of northern and southern France.

At least 19 German air force bases and non-operational stations were deluged with around 8000 tons of bombs. The widespread attacks were designed to knock out what is left of Hitler's air units before the enemy can marshal his remaining strength for all-out support of the desperate German ground forces.

Everybody Knew It Was Coming  
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Aug. 15 (AP)—The invasion of southern France was perhaps the worst kept secret of the war.

Thousands of Frenchmen and Americans knew it was coming. Correspondents in Normandy and Brittany were constantly asked about it both by Frenchmen and GIs.

### Turner to Be North Bend C.O.

Announcement came today from North Bend that Lt. Comdr. B. M. Turner has been named commander of the naval air station there. He will succeed Capt. S. P. Mahoney, who is retiring from active service.

Lt. Comdr. Turner is at present serving as executive officer at the Klamath Falls naval air station, coming here from Pasco, Wash. His successor here has not been named.

### Baseball Scores

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Chicago	R	H	E
New York	3	3	0
Haynes and Tresh; Zuber and Hemaley.			

AMERICAN LEAGUE

St. Louis	R	H	E
Boston	5	5	1
Jakubicki; Shirley; G. Gaster; (6) and Manuoso; Terry; Barrett; (6) Ryba; (7) and Wagner.			

### "Blood and Guts" Patton Disclosed as Leader of Brilliant 3rd Army Campaign

By HOWARD S. COWAN  
Representing the Combined American Press  
A SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE COMMAND POST IN NORMANDY, Aug. 15 (AP)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower announced today that Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr., "Old Blood and Guts" of the Tunisian and Sicilian campaigns, is leading the American third army which has driven roughly 400 miles from the German front in Normandy and Brittany.

**Spectacular Sweep**  
Since August 1 the third army had effected the cutoff of the Breton peninsula and helped close a trap on the German seventh army with a spectacular sweep northward from Le Mans.

A French division of armor under Brig. Gen. Jacques Leclerc, who joined the allies from Lake Chad in Africa, is fighting with Patton.

The announcement of Patton's command came after it was revealed that Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley is the overall commander of the newly-formed 12th U. S. army group and Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges has taken command of the American first army. The first and third armies are included in the 12th U. S. army group.

Eisenhower said that Patton had been on the marching wing leading the American spearhead driving to envelop the German seventh army in Normandy.

**PATTON PROMOTED**  
WASHINGTON, Aug. 15 (AP)—The senate confirmed today the promotion of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. to the permanent rank of major general a few hours after disclosure of his leadership of the American third army in Normandy and Brittany.

### Explosion and Fire

Great fires and explosions were touched off during three great attacks spread over about two weeks. Halmahera is 200 miles west of New Guinea and 300 miles south of Mindanao, southernmost of the Philippines. MacArthur's great objective, like the Marianas, is part of Japan's inner defense line.

Chinese forces intensified attacks on Japanese who took Hengyang from them last week and heavy fighting was general in the area. The Japanese are trying to close a gap in the Han-Kow Canton railway south of Hengyang, the Chinese are battling to prevent that by retaking the city.

### Yank Bombs From China Smack Vital Formosa Port

By J. B. KRUEGER  
Associated Press War Editor  
Formosa, anchor on Japan's inner water routes and only 200 miles north of the Philippines, has been attacked by U. S. heavy bombers based in China, Gen. Joseph Stilwell's headquarters announced today.

The raid, directed at one of the island's main ports, complemented heavy aerial blows which have virtually neutralized Halmahera island at the southern and opposite end of the Philippines. Docks at Takao were hit and three freighters were sunk in the narrow water way between Formosa and the China coast.

Land-based heavy bombers stabbed again at Iwo Jima in the Volcano Islands some 600 miles from Japan, said radio Tokyo.

Twenty-two Liberators attacked the Japanese fortress yesterday and were engaged by fighters, the unconfirmed enemy report declared. Two bombers were downed, it added.

Halmahera, big Japanese-held island lying between allied forces on New Guinea and the southern Philippines, has been effectively neutralized under a rain of air-borne explosives.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique today said: "The flexibility of this great base is now gone. The enemy's airfields at Halmahera and at contiguous intermediate bases are practically neutralized, his maritime forces largely interdicted and his ground troops immobilized in their present positions."

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