RAF Heavy Bombers Unload on German Ports, Aircraft

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

LONDON, Aug. 17 (AP)—Nearly 1200 RAF heavy bombers dumped about 5600 tons of explosives before dawn today on the German ports of Kiel and Stettin and lighted great fires, chiefly among supplies believed destined for the nazi troops stranded in the Baltic states and in Finland.

At the same time Mosquitos bounded enemy aircraft behind the western front and dumped flock busters on Berlin for the third successive night.

The heavy bombers encountered unusually light fighter opposition at the widely separated ports—proof of the effectiveness of the tremendous attack on airfields and parked planes in western Germany and the low countries by nearly 2000 American and British bombers only 24 hours earlier.

Stettin is the chief Baltic port used by the Germans for supplying their troops in Finland and also on the upper flank of the Russian front. The city, with a pre-war population of about 270,000 is the site of oil refineries and chemical industries.

Kiel, some 200 miles west of Stettin, is a naval base and shipbuilding center.

Sixteen planes were lost overnight.

The RAF's eight-hour round trip to Stettin and back caught the enemy completely by surprise. Anti-aircraft fire was moderate and few nazi fighters were over the target. The Germans have increased the use of the Berlin-Stettin canal recently for nourishing the north Russian front.

"The whole port seemed on fire," said a bombardier back from Stettin. "Explosions mingled with fires, and when we left there was a huge square of flame with isolated fires creeping out to merge with the central mass."

Kiel, headquarters of the German fleet, was hit twice in three days earlier this month by American heavy bombers—on August 4 and 6. Stettin was last hit by the RAF on January 6.

Important industries are in and around Kiel. The naval base has a vast anchorage, large shipyards where a considerable portion of the German fleet was built, fuel stores and a number of specialized factories turning out equipment for naval vessels.

Flak ships on the coast near Kiel put up a barrage, but only a few night fighters challenged.

MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE

Suddenly finding himself in command of a weapons unit in the midst of battle was the experience of Marine Platoon Sergeant Roger L. Donaho, 24, of Whitefish, Mont.

Early in the fighting on Eniwetok, Marshall islands, the officer commanding sergeant Donaho's outfit was wounded, and the sergeant had to step in and assume leadership. He led his men through the remainder of the campaign.

Sergeant Donaho enlisted in the marines in 1939, and served 22 months overseas at Samoa, Hawaii, and Guadalcanal in addition to the Marshalls.

He was not wounded. An ailment contracted in the tropics caused his return to the United States and to the new marine corps rehabilitation and training center here.

His wife, Mary, lives at 103 Washington street, Klamath Falls.

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Second Lt. Leonard Leroy Hamilton, 25, after several months in the South Pacific war area, including duty at Guadalcanal, Samoa and New Zealand, is back home again.

A native of Portland, Ore., he is now stationed at the local Marine Barracks as commanding officer of Company D. He is the son of Mrs. Dorothea E. Hamilton of this city.

While serving in New Zealand, he met and married the former Shirley Mary Bennett of Wellington. They have one son, Robert Leonard, and are making their home at 1720 Eldorado street here.

Lieutenant Hamilton attended Klamath Union high school, and was working here when he entered the marine corps in June, 1941.

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MAJORS FIELD, Tex.—Aviation Cadet Junior A. Cummings, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Cummings, 1934 Auburn, Klamath Falls, has arrived at this AAF training command station for 10 weeks of basic flight training. He received his primary flight instruction at Corsicana, Texas.

PUEBLO ARMY AIR BASE, PUEBLO, Colo.—PFC George B. Rhinevault, son of Mrs. Maude Conquergood, route 1, Bonanza, was recently promoted to the grade of corporal at Pueblo army air base. A gunner on the combat crew of a Liberator bomber, Cpl. Rhinevault entered the service in September, 1943.

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ON LEAVE—Lt. Paul Whitlatch arrived by plane Wednesday morning from Biggs Field, Texas, where he was a co-pilot in the air corps. He will be here until Monday when he will leave for Will Rogers field, Oklahoma City, Okla., where he will be assigned to reconnaissance duty as an aerial photographer.

The human heart varies in weight from eight to 12 ounces.

Joe Stewart Named Principal of School

Joe H. Stewart of Portland has accepted the position of principal at the Chiloquin school, it was announced today by Harold Ashley, county school clerk.

Stewart was principal at Springfield, Ore., two years ago. He will bring his wife and twin daughters to live in Chiloquin.

WAINWRIGHT SAYS CONDITIONS FAIR

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17 (AP)—Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, commander on Bataan when it fell and a prisoner of the Japanese since, has told a Red Cross interviewer that conditions in his camp in Formosa are "as good as can be reasonably expected."

Red Cross headquarters said today that General Wainwright and two other officers, Brig. Gen. Lewis C. Beebe and Capt. George T. Schooley, have been visited within the past 90 days by a delegate of the international committee of the Red Cross. They were interviewed as spokesmen for the men held in their respective camps, all in Formosa.

The delegate was permitted to give the numbers of the camps, but not their locations.

General Wainwright, at Camp V, said that relief supplies received from the American Red Cross via the diplomatic exchange ship Gripsholm were useful. He added that more canned food and warm clothing would be appreciated. Other prisoners in the same camp also voiced the need for more relief supplies and better mail service.

Spanish War Vets Approve Universal Training Program

CINCINNATI, Aug. 17 (AP)—The 46th annual encampment of United Spanish War veterans today unanimously adopted a resolution favoring compulsory military training after the war.

The resolution declared "we must see to it that the boys comprising our fighting force shall never again be sent into battle barefoot and unarmed."

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first to Sears...
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