

# ALLIES GAIN IN PACIFIC BATTLE

## Herald and News

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### Weather News

May 18, 1945	
Max. (May 17)	51
Min.	34
Precipitation last 24 hours	.22
Stream year to date	9.81
Normal	10.68
Last year	7.62
Forecast: Light frost tonight.	

### FLEET MOVES WORRY NIPS; CHINESE GAIN

6th Marines Battle To Extend Naha Bridgehead

By LEONARD MILLMAN  
Associated Press War Editor

Tokyo worried today over American fleet movements while British commands reported the dearest slasher yet made in the campaign to regain Singapore, base for one of the largest remaining segments of Japan's broken fighting and merchant fleets.

Japanese ground forces suffered new reverses in China and made Banzai suicide charges on two island fronts—Okinawa and Mindanao—on their invariable acknowledgment they know defeat is not far off.

**Decisive Gains**

The Okinawa campaign is slowly shaping into a decisive phase with the sixth marine division battling to broaden a bridgehead in the capital city, Naha, and three divisions steadily closing on the fortress city of Shuri from three sides.

Now 48 days old the Okinawa campaign already ranks as one of the Pacific war's toughest. There still is no evidence suggesting any collapse in the grim defense by an estimated 34,000 Japanese and Okinawan "home guards" survivors of an original garrison force of 80,000 or more troops.

**Japs 'Friendly'**

There was increasing interest in Russia's attitude toward the Pacific, although there was nothing to contradict a repeated Japanese broadcast that the "milkado's empire" is maintaining "completely friendly terms with the soviet union."

Moscow newspapers promised (Continued on Page Two)

### CHINESE SCANDAL IN GOLD REVEALED

By JAMES D. WHITE  
WASHINGTON, May 18 (AP)—Details of a multi-million-dollar Chinese gold scandal involving yellow metal loaned by this country are coming to light here despite a tight Chinese censorship.

The scandal stemmed from premature leak of a Chinese government decision in March to raise the official price of gold, thus permitting Chungking speculators to make fantastic profits in a few hours.

**Punishment Set**

Dr. T. V. Soong, Chinese foreign minister, took note of the incident late yesterday by authorizing the statement to a reporter that drastic punishment awaits those involved.

Soong declined further comment, however, explaining he has not yet learned the results of an investigation he ordered just (Continued on Page Two)

### Duane Cassidy Freed From Camp

Mrs. Florence Cassidy of Gooding, Idaho, was the recipient of a Mother's Day cablegram from her son, Sgt. Duane A. Cassidy of the United States army air corps, that he was liberated from a German prison camp, and has arrived safely in England. This is the first word that has been received from the young soldier since he was reported a prisoner of the German government on February 2. He was held in a camp originally located somewhere near the Baltic sea, in territory which was believed to be overrun by the Russians. It was presumed at the time of his capture that those prisoners of war had been moved deeper into Germany.

Cassidy was a gunner on a B-17 with the eighth air force, and was first reported as missing in action on November 2. He is a former employe of the Ivory Pine Lumber company at Bly, and enlisted in the air corps in December of 1941.

### Wet Weather Stops Parade

Wet weather, which stops forest fires, stopped the Stop Forest Fire parade in Klamath Falls, but tonight's anti-fire banquet will be held as scheduled indoors.

W. E. Lamm, well known lumberman, will be the speaker at the banquet at the Willard State Forester Neils Rogers arrived this afternoon to attend. The public is invited, and crabs and chowder will be on the menu. The banquet is a feature of the campaign conducted each year under American Legion auspices.

Due to the weather, the parade was cancelled by Chairman Walt Wiesendanger, who commented that the rain can't last and there will soon be serious fire danger in the woods.

### Major Oil Storage Area Knocked Out

GUAM, May 18 (AP)—Superfortresses knocked out Japan's greatest oil storage area, including both the army's and navy's biggest concentrations of fuel storage, in just one full scale raid. Reconnaissance photographs today disclosed that 85 to 90 per cent devastation was wrought by more than 400 B-29s in their May 10 raid on southeastern Honshu. It was the first of the war directed solely at destroying the major source of the empire's vital supply of gasoline and oil for her warcraft and shipping.

Twelve storage tanks were destroyed and 85 per cent of the target area devastated by B-29s which attacked Tokuyama naval fuel station. The adjoining Tokuyama coal yards and synthetic fuel factory—the army's greatest fueling center—were so badly damaged the 21st bomber command spokesman termed them "inoperative." Tokuyama is 48 miles southwest of Kure.

Sixty of 65 storage tanks at the Oshima naval oil storage center, the fleet's largest, were put out of operation. Oshima station is on an island of that name in Iushima strait outside the Shimotsuki entrance to the Inland sea.

Otake oil refinery, one of the empire's largest, was forced to cease operations. The B-29s covered the target area so effectively that only two small pockets in extreme corners of the plant area remained undamaged. Otake is on the western shore of the Inland sea, 27 miles northeast of Tokuyama.

Not one of the B-29s was lost in those raids.

### Klamath Lags In War Bond Sales During First Week, \$50,375 Worth Sold Here

The "Mighty 7th" was rolling slowly in Klamath county as the first week of the 7th War Loan drew to a close.

Purchase of only 12.4 per cent of the "E" bond quota of \$1,538,000, had been reported

Rose Poole, chairman of the 7th War Loan, said today: "Things aren't going so well in Klamath county. Figures show you that. Folks who didn't want to get their feet wet this week and stayed away from bond headquarters, should remember that the men on Okinawa are getting their feet wet, too, wet in blood."

at bond headquarters at noon Friday.

A total of \$50,375, maturity value, was the amount chalked up for sales of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and up to and including Friday at 11 a. m.

Sales were reported as follows: Monday, \$16,500; Tuesday, \$3,550; Wednesday, \$14,125; Thursday, \$3,225; Friday at 11 a. m., \$11,275.

Friday's clearing skies might have had something to do with the pick-up, marines in charge of bond headquarters observed. They also said they were disappointed in the total in "E" bonds sold thus far since the 7th War Loan got under way. In the meantime, school kids

### Klamath Man Released On Okinawa

Good news greeted this GI serving on Okinawa, hottest spot in the Pacific, when Sgt. Bob Marrs of Klamath Falls learned he was one of 30 veterans of Pacific action to be selected for return home and honorable discharge from the United States army.

Sgt. Marrs had more than 120 points to his credit. Twenty nine other veterans received the same word. The men are to return immediately, scheduled to be back in the United States not later than May 24, an Associated Press report from Okinawa advised today.

Young Marrs will be 21 years old next June 12. He is a native of Walla Walla, Wash., attended Klamath Union high school until 1941, and his parents are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Benton Marrs. Last known address of the family is 900 Owens.

### Two Missing At Crescent Lake

A report was received here from Crescent lake this afternoon to the effect that two persons are missing at that lake after their canoe was overturned in rough water.

Crescent lake sources said they understood the missing men to be members of a marine group working on a summer camp being set up for marines at the lake. Names were not available, according to Dr. George Adler, coroner, who said he had heard the reports.

No other information had been received at mid-afternoon by authorities, and Col. George O. Van Orden, commanding officer of the Marine Barracks, was said to be at Crescent lake.

The compartment and found a circuitous escape route through ventilation tubing. He returned time after time, leading the survivors to safety. All but one of the trapped men were saved.

While survivors were battling to keep the ship afloat, men still were dying in continuing explosions. Some were trapped, others leaped overboard to escape what seemed certain death. Others stayed at the undamaged tanks to beat off repeated attacks by waves of enemy planes. No more hits were scored on the crippled ship.

A few hours after the first attack, the light cruiser Santa Fe came alongside to remove the wounded. These operations were interrupted, however, when one of the carrier's forward five-inch gun mounts caught fire and threatened to explode.

Later, after the cruiser's (Continued on Page Five)

### EISENHOWER'S DEATH PLOTTED BY NAZI GANG

Col. Skorzeny Headed Picked Group Of Assassins

By TOM OCHILTREE  
Associated Press Staff Writer

Lt. Col. Otto Skorzeny, the scar-faced political kidnaper, and a picked gang of English-speaking nazi assassins plotted last winter to kill Gen. Eisenhower, supreme allied headquarters disclosed today.

Now in American hands, the six-foot-four Skorzeny and his group of German soldiers had kept the entire western front in a stage of alert for months during and after the Ardennes battle.

Skorzeny, a hatchman for Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler, was captured recently by the 15th regiment, U. S. third division, in the Arl valley. This 35-year-old giant was the leader of the raiding party which freed the late Benito Mussolini from allied custody in Italy in September, 1943.

**Elected Assassin**

The plot against the life of the supreme commander was hatched months before the Ger- (Continued on Page Two)

### MIXED FEELINGS GREET MOISTURE

While grain growers and livestock men rejoiced at the above-average amount of precipitation thus far in the month, some potato growers expressed the fear that it would do more harm to their crops than good.

With hail bouncing on the ground like moist balls Thursday and large snowflakes falling Friday, May, 1945, has been a mixture of sunshine and shower. For almost seven days straight, precipitation has been nearly continuous, giving a total of 1.52 inches of moisture to date. This tops the four-year average of .92 for the area.

Last year, by this same time, only .31 inches were recorded, and total for the month was .77. The record amount of moisture has delayed planting of spuds, but Assistant County Agent Bob McCambridge asserted that the rain would not affect growers adversely unless it were followed by a period of extreme cold weather. Potato men who already have their crops in the ground are afraid of rot if there is too much moisture.

### Cpl. Belden Hall Said Liberated

Cpl. Belden Hall, former Klamath Falls youth and son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hall, now of Pendleton, has been liberated from a German prison camp and is now in a hospital.

Young Hall wrote that he was slowly recovering from his "tough prison camp experiences" and that many of his fellow prisoners starved to death under German treatment. He observed that he was "just lucky" to be alive and hoped to return to his home soon.

### Buy Bonds, Claim Children

Over the loudspeaker at bond headquarters for the 7th War Loan, Sgt. George Herbert extends a continuing invitation to come in and buy bonds.

Whether little Larry Ross was attracted by the appeal from Sergeant Herbert, the music which plays between invitations, or by the warm room, is not certain, but on a rainy day the worried 3-year-old lad dropped in and announced that he "didn't live here."

Inquiry revealed that Larry was from Tulelake and that he had become separated from his parents. Sgt. Herbert immediately added to his bond-buying invitations an invitation to Larry's parents to call at bond headquarters for their missing property.

Worried parents on the third floor of Penney's store caught the announcement as it went over the loudspeaker. They immediately called at bond headquarters and claimed Larry, expressing deep appreciation for the service rendered.

Larry is a bit young to buy bonds, but he went to the right place to get things done.

### Marines Grow Their Own



Leatherneck farmers are shown above, installing water gates to irrigate their farm. A varied crop is planned by these students of agriculture. —Official USMC photo.

### Marines Battle Weather, Weeds On Farm Project

Radishes and onions are already several inches high on the 18 acres farmed by 25 marines under the direction of Cpl. Dwight B. Moser.

The agricultural project, sponsored by Klamath Junior Farmers, is part of the educational service at the barracks and is carried on in close connection with the county agent's office.

Twenty-five marines work the farm with the use of a borrowed tractor. They plan to plant corn, potatoes and beans as soon as danger of freezing is over.

The farm was started five weeks ago on land loaned for the purpose by a local citizen. Cpl.

### HIGHWAY 99 BACKED BY CALIFORNIANS

SACRAMENTO, Calif., May 18 (AP)—The California highway commission wants highway 99 between Weed, Calif., and Ashland, Ore., as the official inter-regional route between Oregon and California.

The commission endorsed highway 99 late yesterday after hearing arguments that the route has more trucking, bus and recreation traffic than the Eugene-Klamath Falls route.

**Back Route 99**

The Redwood Empire association, Yreka chamber of commerce, and Oregon Pacific Highway association backed 99.

Among persons championing highway 99 were O. G. Steele, Yreka chamber of commerce; state Senator Randolph Collier, Siskiyou county; Ralph Kooser, Oregon Pacific association president; Valerie Kuhn, Redwood Empire association manager, and Dr. George Cleaver, Yreka.

Others had urged the choice of 97, running through Klamath Falls to Weed.

The public roads administration will designate one of the two routes after July 1.

### Queen Mary Cuts Cruiser In Half

LONDON, May 18 (AP)—The British cruiser HMS Curacao, cut in half by the giant liner Queen Mary speeding to elude a German submarine, sank in the Atlantic on October 1, 1942, with a loss of 338 officers and men, the admiralty announced today.

An eyewitness declared that the big troop transport "simply trampled" the 4200-ton cruiser, which had a normal complement of about 400 men.

Survivors, among them the cruiser's captain, John W. Blackwood, were picked up and taken to a hospital near Glasgow.

The accident was considered one of the worst British naval disasters of the war. The admiralty disclosed also for the first time the loss of 10 destroyers, eight submarines and scores of smaller craft.

### Carrier Franklin Survives Stiff Ordeal, Limp Home

By POPE HALEY  
WASHINGTON, May 18 (AP)

The aircraft carrier Franklin, which miraculously survived one of the severest ordeals of this or any war, is home.

She came home, sadly crippled but under her own power, her charred and battered hull manned by a skeleton crew of survivors. Now undergoing repairs at the Brooklyn navy yard, she will resume her place in the war against Japan.

Until now Japanese radio propagandists never knew how close they came to being right when they boasted that the 27,000-ton vessel of the Essex class, 000-ton vessel of the Essex class, had been sunk. Without the incredible stamina and strength built into her and without the personal courage of her personnel, their claim might easily have been true.

As it was the carrier suffered 832 men killed and missing and

### TEST VOTE LOOMS FOR VETO POWERS

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER  
Associated Press Diplomatic News Editor

SAN FRANCISCO, May 18 (AP)

The outspoken opposition of many small nations to the big-power plan for a veto council of future peace-keeping machinery today nears a United Nations conference test vote.

It appears possible that the big powers—the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France—may accept some modification of the veto where peaceful settlement of disputes is concerned although Russia could firmly on the proposal that no force should be used against any nation except when all five agree.

**Argument Set**

Prospects are that on a show-down the powers can put over the voting formula as they want it with the argument that unless they stick together on great international issues of the future no peace-keeping league can hope to prevent war.

As the battle of the veto builds up in one of the key committees, here are other top conference developments:

1. Considerable support, approximately (Continued on Page Two)

### Wissenback Freed From Nazis

Darwin Wissenback, 32, and Mrs. James Wissenback, 31, of Shady Pine, sent one heart warming message last night when he read that a German of war camp, "all right, safe and well. I'm seeing you soon, Darwin," read the message.

Wissenback has been a prisoner since December 20, 1942, when Flying Fortress was in over enemy territory on a mission over France, been at Stalagluft 17-B, Germany.

Wissenback's twin brother, was shot down on a B-17 raid over France on Oct. 10, 1942. Seven months later he reported back to England. He was the commissioned officer in charge of the escape party and for his courage was awarded the Distinguished States and returned to the States and sent to pilot training schools. He wears the wings of a second lieutenant at Las Vegas, at the present time to be home when Darwin.

### Carrier Franklin Survives Stiff Ordeal, Limp Home

more than 270 wounded—more than one-third her total complement—in blazing, agonizing hours.

**Bombed By Nip**

Chance played into the hands of the lone enemy dive bomber that streaked suddenly out of the clouds within 80 miles of the Japanese coast on the morning of March 19 and dropped two 800-pound armor piercing bombs.

Released from low altitude, both scored direct hits. One exploded beneath the flight deck, on which armed planes were ready for takeoff. The other went off on the hangar deck, where other planes, fueled and armed, were waiting to be taken to the flight deck.

The attacking plane was shot down a moment later, but the bombs, exploding where they did, started a train of fires and explosions which for hours were

### Carrier Franklin Survives Stiff Ordeal, Limp Home

to rend and torture the vessel. Part Of Task Force

The ship was operating as part of a fast carrier task force in the strike against remnants of the Japanese fleet in Japan's inland sea, Nippon's "private lake."

Explosion after explosion followed the initial blasts.

Large bombs exploded and hurled men and planes the length of the ship. Smaller bombs, rockets and machine gun ammunition killed dozens who had survived the major explosions. Spreading fires fed by thousands of gallons of high test aviation gasoline added fury to the holocaust.

**Flaming Hell**

The whole after end of the vessel's flight deck became a mass of flame and smoke. Airplanes disintegrated, and torrents of burning gasoline streaked across her decks.

Bombs, rockets and bullets exploded all around, and splinters of wood and steel rained on survivors hugging the deck.

But, without panic, those who miraculously had escaped death or injury and the slightly injured moved in to fight the fires. Volunteers, including pilots, mechanics, officers and stewards, took over the job of regularly assigned damage control parties who had been killed or trapped by flames.

Among those especially cited by the navy's account was the ship's chaplain, Lt. Comdr. Joseph O'Callahan, Boston, whose actions brought from one of the ship's senior officers: "He was the bravest man I ever saw."

**Heroic Chaplain**

The lean, scholarly Jesuit first moved around the burning, slanting and exposed flight deck administering last rites to

the dying. Then he led officers and men into the flames, risking momentary death, to jettison hot bombs and shells. Then he recruited a damage control party and led it down into one of the main ammunition magazines to wet it down and prevent its exploding.

Below decks, several hundred men were at breakfast when the explosions came, blocking all apparent exits with smoke, flame and smashed bulkheads. In the group was Lt. Comdr. James L. Fuelling, the ship's flight surgeon of Indianapolis.

"Everybody sit down," he ordered. "We're trapped here for the time being. Stay calm and be quiet. Use as little air as possible. Stay close to the deck and say a prayer."

**Finds Escape**

Lt. Donald A. Gary, Oakland, Calif., after promising to return, groped his way out of