

FORECAST

WILMINGTON AND VICINITY: Partly cloudy and hot today. Temperatures yesterday: High 92—Low 68.

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Allies Smashing Into Cherbourg

14 Japanese Ships Sunk, Damaged

Enemy Flees From Fleet In Darkness

BATTLESHIP HIT

Carrier, Three Tankers Sent To Ocean Bottom By U. S. Planes

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, June 22.—(AP)—Carrier aircraft of the U. S. Pacific Fifth fleet sank or damaged 14 ships of a powerful Japanese naval force between the Philippines and the Marianas islands Monday before the enemy fled in darkness.

Results of the battle, which did not bring combat ships together or involve the imperial grand fleet, were announced today by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

The enemy broke off the engagement after nightfall. By then one of his carriers of the Hayataka class and three fleet tankers had been sunk. Ten other vessels, including three carriers and a battleship of the Kongo class, were damaged.

Other Nipponese ships reported damaged were a cruiser, three destroyers and two tankers. One of the destroyers was believed to have sunk. The tankers were severely damaged and left burning.

American losses were 49 planes. Many of these made water landings at night. Some pilots and crews "appeared to have been rescued," Nimitz said, and search was continued for others.

Between 15 and 20 enemy planes were destroyed. That brought Japanese aircraft losses in two days to between 368 and 373. Nimitz said revised reports showed 353 were shot down Sunday when carrier-type planes attacked American warships near Saipan island in the preliminary stages of the battle.

Two United States carriers and one battleship "received superficial damage" in repulsing Sunday's air attack, Nimitz reported. Twenty-one planes were lost in combat.

62 Japanese Destroyed In the entire Marianas action, starting June 10, and supporting air strikes on the flanks at the Bonin and Caroline islands 19 Japanese ships have been sunk, 36 damaged, 626 Nipponese planes definitely destroyed and 25 more probably.

Announced U. S. losses were 96 planes. Three warships were damaged, but still in action.

Although naval circles had widely expected a showdown battle with the main Japanese fleet, even as late as Wednesday, it had not put in an appearance. The enemy force that ran out on the night was estimated by Nimitz to have consisted of four or more battleships, five or six carriers, five fleet tankers and "attached cruisers and destroyers."

Despite this defeat — exceeded only by stunning American victories at Midway and Guadalcanal in 1942 — much of the imperial Japanese fleet has not yet been in action. Japan's latest type capital ships have never been seen by American air or surface units, unless some of them were in Monday's clash.

The latest Japanese naval defeat was an offshoot of the enemy's (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

Carrier Boys To Make Collections Tomorrow

Your Star-News carrier is a small merchant. He buys his papers wholesale and sells them retail to his subscribers. If he makes the maximum amount from his route, he is naturally better satisfied, and will render better service to his subscribers.

We ask that you have his money ready for him when he calls on Saturday, which is his collection day.

In case you do not receive your paper please dial 2-3311. For the Morning Star, not later than 9 a.m.; For the Evening News, not later than 7 p.m.; For the Sunday Star-News, not later than 10 a.m. A paper will be sent to you by special messenger.

Dancer's Nylons Bring \$1,500



Mike Thibodeaux, shipyard superintendent, and Band Leader Johnny Long hoist night club dancer Junkita Kias to their shoulders during 3 a. m. swing shift war bond rally at the plant of Todd-Johnson Dry Docks, Inc., at New Orleans, and auction her nylon hose to the highest bidder among bond purchasers. The winner bought bonds worth \$1,500.

Local Price Panel Doubles Strength

Enlargement of the Wilmington War Price and Rationing board's price panel and installation of a multiple panel was officially announced yesterday by the board.

Membership of the panel has been doubled and four new men will aid the original members in their work on the panel, which has been broken down by commodities into four divisions: food, durable goods and services, wearing apparel and restaurants. Each division will be staffed by two men, a chairman and assistant, with 11 divisions united under one general chairman.

The enlargement and division of the original price panel was necessitated by an increase in work done by the board which under the original set-up made it a difficult and slow process. Division of the original panel provides each section with some specific phase of price panel work and will facilitate more thorough discussion of the cases and enable the board to go more thoroughly into disposition of cases brought before it.

In charge of the various divisions are: Foods, Kyle Bannerman, chairman, and L. L. Mills; Durable goods and services, Herbert Blueenthal, chairman, and G. D. Greer; Wearing apparel, N. L. Foy, chairman, and Harold Stewart; Restaurants, W. Eugene Edwards, chairman, and C. M. Harrington.

The members, all leading business men, are suited for the specific positions for which they were asked to volunteer their services, officials said.

The formation of this new multiple panel is "a record for Wilmington," W. A. Kavanaugh, Raleigh district price executive, now in the city to facilitate completion of final arrangements for the new panel, said yesterday.

It is the first time, he said that this improved type of panel has been installed in the Raleigh district, which includes 54 such panels, and is perhaps the first in the state.

Enlargement here, he said was made necessary because of the number of defense industries which created a pressure on the board which is not felt by other boards in the Raleigh district who have found the single small panel sufficient for their needs.

"We in Raleigh, he said, "are quite rightly proud of this board's operation."

ROBOTS STRIKE AGAIN LONDON, Friday, June 23.—(AP)—After a lull of several hours, German flying bombs buzzed over England one right after another early today.

Allies Near German Line Below Alps

NAZI STAND EXPECTED

Troops Capture Paganico In Swift Advancement Up West Coast

ROME, June 22.—(AP)—American troops driving up the west coast of Italy have overcome stiff German resistance and captured the town of Paganico, 14 miles north-east of Grosseto and less than 60 miles from the Pisa-Florence - Rimini defense line along which the Nazis are expected to make their final stand below the Alps, Allied headquarters announced today.

On the Adriatic coast, eight army forces raced into Fermo, 32 miles from the important port of Ancona and approximately 85 miles from Rimini. Thus for the first time since Rome fell the pursuing Allied armies were strung out on almost a straight east-west line across the Italian peninsula and the Germans appeared to have escaped any danger of a wholesale entrapment of their forces.

Thirty-five miles east of the captured fortress-city of Perugia, Eighth army units approached Camerino through increased German artillery and mortar fire. West of Perugia British forces drove on Castiglione del Lago, principal town on the western shore of Lake Trasimeno. The villages of Villa Starda and San Fataccio, southwest of the lake, fell after sharp fighting. East of the lake Allied troops were reported within three miles of the town of Magione.

French troops, advancing on the right flank of the Fifth army, cleared the Germans from several more mountain villages in the neighborhood of Montefiore. Here, as at other points on the front, the Nazis were making heavy use of artillery and mortar, to slow the Allied advance and employing their infantry sparingly.

An unofficial estimate from Fifth army headquarters placed the number of Nazi dead, wounded and captured since the Allied offensive began six weeks ago at between 80,000 and 100,000. The enemy is known to have brought in elements of four new divisions since Rome fell, and one of these already has been virtually destroyed.

(A German broadcast reported the Allies had thrown fresh tank formations into hard fighting on the 5th army front north and north-east of Grosseto, but claimed that Nazi troops "held their main fighting positions everywhere.")

The ground still was muddy from a three-day rain, but a hot sun and a warm breeze today promised better going for Allied armor. The clearing weather, also brought the Allied Tactical air force out in strength again, 1,100 individual flights being made yesterday against numerous targets without a loss.

Chinese Concede Japanese Advance

CHUNKING, June 22.—(AP)—Japanese troops driving swiftly southward along the Siang river have reach a point only 33 miles north of Hengyang, a Chinese command admitted that the threat to this strategic rail junction was becoming more grave by the hour.

Oh, Girls, Look At This! First Bus Leaves At 9:45

GREENSBORO, June 22.—(AP)—For sale, 5,000 pairs of nylon hose!

This is a free advertisement for Uncle Sam who will put the unheard-of quantity of stockings on the market tomorrow morning in the office of the U. S. marshal in the federal building here.

The hose came into government possession as the result of a trial involving charges that

Dewey Silent On Nomination



Gov. Thomas E. Dewey (right) of New York admits to newspapermen during a press conference at Albany that he has been in telephone contact with New York Republican leaders in Chicago but declines comment on the leaders' statement that he would accept the Republican presidential nomination if drafted. (AP wirephoto).

City Limit Extension Favored At Community Council Meeting

HOUSE DEFIES COURT RULING

WASHINGTON, June 22.—(AP)—Aroused by a recent supreme court decision applying the Sherman anti-trust act to the \$37,000,000 insurance business, the House voted 283 to 54 today to exempt the business specifically from the act.

Overwhelmingly, members expressed dissatisfaction with the high court's 4-3 decision to the effect that insurance firms are in interstate commerce and thus subject to the Sherman law. The court decision had overturned precedents extending back over the past 75 years.

Insurance controls have been in the hands of the states, and the resolution passed today declares that nothing in the anti-trust laws shall be construed to apply to the business "or in any way to impair the several states."

The Senate judiciary committee decided today however to hold off action until after the summer recess, and the proposal will be on the shelf in the meantime.

Dewey Leaders Claim Additional Support

CHICAGO, June 22.—(AP)—New York "Draft-Dewey" leaders announced today that party principals from 22 states and two territories have volunteered to join to make the Empire state governor the 1944 Republican presidential standard bearer.

California, with its 50-vote uncommitted delegation, was represented in the list and the prediction was made by the Dewey leaders that other state party chiefs would "join up" as their delegation reached Chicago.

BOMBERS HIT ISLAND

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Friday, June 23.—(AP)—Continuing their attack on Noemfoor island, west of invaded Biak in Geelvinck bay, Liberator bombers heavily hit the island Thursday, headquarters announced today.

nylon yarn was stolen and fabricated into precious leg wear. Judge Johnston J. Hayes, who ordered public sale of the hose stipulated that it should be sold only to residents of the Middle U. S. court district and that no purchaser be allowed to buy more than three pairs.

Court officials looked forward with some apprehension to probably the biggest bargain sale rush in Greensboro since the war began.

Troops Cut Way To Sea

Artillery And Aerial Bombardment Wrecks Steel Ring Guarding Approach To Port

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Friday, June 23.—(AP)—The final massive assault on the surrounded fortress of Cherbourg raged toward an explosive climax today, with Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley's American doughboys wrecking the last steel ring of suburban fortifications from the south with a Gigantic, perfectly-timed artillery and aerial bombardment — the greatest onslaught against a German stronghold since the Allies invaded France June 6.

1,000 Planes Join Assault

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Friday, June 23.—(AP)—More than 1,000 bombers and fighter-bombers of the American tactical air force pounded the last wall of German fortifications separating American troops from the port of Cherbourg yesterday as both British and U. S. heavy craft delivered a one-two punch against Nazi rocket bomb nests.

It was the last act of the spectacular American drive which began on June 14, smashed bitter German opposition, sheared off the Cherbourg peninsula from the rest of France, and finally isolated the great seaport.

Unofficial reports reaching here shortly after 3 a.m. said the American assault troops had pushed to the sea both east and west of Cherbourg. Exact locations were not given, and headquarters had no official confirmation, but it was said this development was regarded as likely.

With an air of expectant conservatism, the Allied midnight communique dealt with the battle only in vague, guarded terms, and men turned to an account of Thursday's widespread aerial operations.

In them there was more than a hint that the Germans were resigned to Cherbourg's loss and were preparing for the next and greater phase of the invasion, for the communique said Allied planes "swarmed over northwestern France from dawn to midnight to harass enemy reinforcements moving westward from the Paris area."

Such reinforcements, coming up from 100 miles and more from the beachhead, could be the strategic reserves which the German command thus far has hesitated to commit to battle. They could not now relieve Cherbourg, whose garrison is doomed and dying.

Close teamwork More than 1,000 planes were disclosed to have participated in launching the all-out assault on Cherbourg Thursday afternoon, streaking in at practically pistol range above the ground and planting their bombs and bullets as little as 500 yards ahead of the advancing infantry.

Despite this flying artillery and their own big guns, the men on the ground had to clean out surviving Nazi pillboxes one by one in methodical hand fighting.

As a vital prelude to the main attack the Americans thrust northward on both sides of Cherbourg and cut the coast roads, thus slicing into three segments the remaining German footholds on the north fringe of the Cherbourg peninsula.

The bulk of an estimated 50,000 German troops and workers was believed to be in embattled Cherbourg, but for none of the three groups was there any possibility of escape.

Cherbourg already was caught up in a confused swirl of close-quarter combat, with doughboys and Germans fighting through the suburban streets and houses.

But there was no confusion about the American onslaught, which started with stop-watch precision at exactly 12:40 p.m. (6:40 a.m. EWT). At that moment American and British divebombers began an 80-minute attack on the last ridge (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Navy Men Send Cash To Buy Off Strikers

NEW YORK, June 22.—(AP)—From somewhere at sea, a communication signed "The crew of the U. S. S. Coos Bay," a seaplane tender, and offering "to help pay the wage increase money-hungry strikers are demanding," today aroused labor leaders to vigorous rebuttal.

Making the point that wage demands were not involved in the strike to which the Coos Bay letter specifically referred, two labor leaders contended organized labor is doing its utmost to curb all stoppages and keep production rolling. One asserted newspaper publishers were creating a "deep feeling of antagonism between labor and the armed forces."

The Coos Bay letter was addressed to the editorial department of the Associated Press at San Francisco, and enclosed \$412 in paper money. The letter requested that the Associated Press "act as our agent to buy off the present strikers of the Wright Aircraft corporation."

The letter, stamped "Passed by Naval censor," began "We, the crew of the U. S. S. Coos Bay" and ended with a postscript reading "If the Wright strike is over, just choose another (for the distribution of the \$412). There are always plenty at hand."

Congress Ends Work On Most Money Bills

WASHINGTON, June 22.—(AP)—Congress finished work tonight on most of its accumulated appropriation bills and prepared to recess tomorrow until August 1.