

FORECAST

WILMINGTON AND VICINITY: Partly cloudy and continued moderately warm today, with scattered showers and thundershowers, occurring mostly in the afternoon. Temperatures yesterday: High 86—Low 70.

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ROMANIA JOINS ALLIES

Paris And Marseille Both Fall

Bloody Battle Frees Capital From Tyrants

FFI SCORE VICTORY Patriots Fight To Death To Rid 'City Of Light' From Oppressors

LONDON, Thursday, Aug. 24.—(P)—Paris—freed yesterday by its own people—was reported to have been occupied early today by the Second French Armored division and some American units ordered into the city by Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley to seal the patriot's victory.

There still was no comment from Supreme Allied Headquarters on the liberation of the French capital, but from Paris, CBS Reporter Charles Collingwood broadcast that General Bradley decided to act when an armistice negotiated by the Germans with the French Forces of the Interior expired yesterday.

Associated Press Correspondent Hal Boyle, with American armies driving beyond Sens toward the German border, pointed out the American army could have occupied Paris at will during the last few days. But he said Paris was a side issue and Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's slashing spearheads had a more important task—chopping to pieces German forces.

Symbolically Brig. Gen. Jacques le Clerc, one of France's greatest heroes of the war, headed the troops entering Paris, Collingwood reported. Patriots liberated the capital from four years of bondage by beating down the Nazi garrison in street fighting as bloody as any the French revolution ever saw.

Immediate occupation had not been in Allied plans. It was supposed to wait while the main military weight was hurled against Evreux to pin down as much of the German Seventh army as possible along the Seine northwest of the capital.

But the Germans were reported using the armistice to withdraw.

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GUNFIRE ROCKING BORDEAUX SECTOR

IRUN, Spain, Aug. 23.—(P)—The sound of distant bombing and cannonading in southwestern France could be clearly heard today at the Spanish frontier, but a heavy fog masked all other signs of naval or military activity.

French military officials who announced an Allied landing last night in the Arcachon area southwest of Bordeaux declined to give any information on the situation there.

Berlin declared a small force of American troops and French paratroopers had landed at St. Jean De Luz, six miles above the French-Spanish frontier.

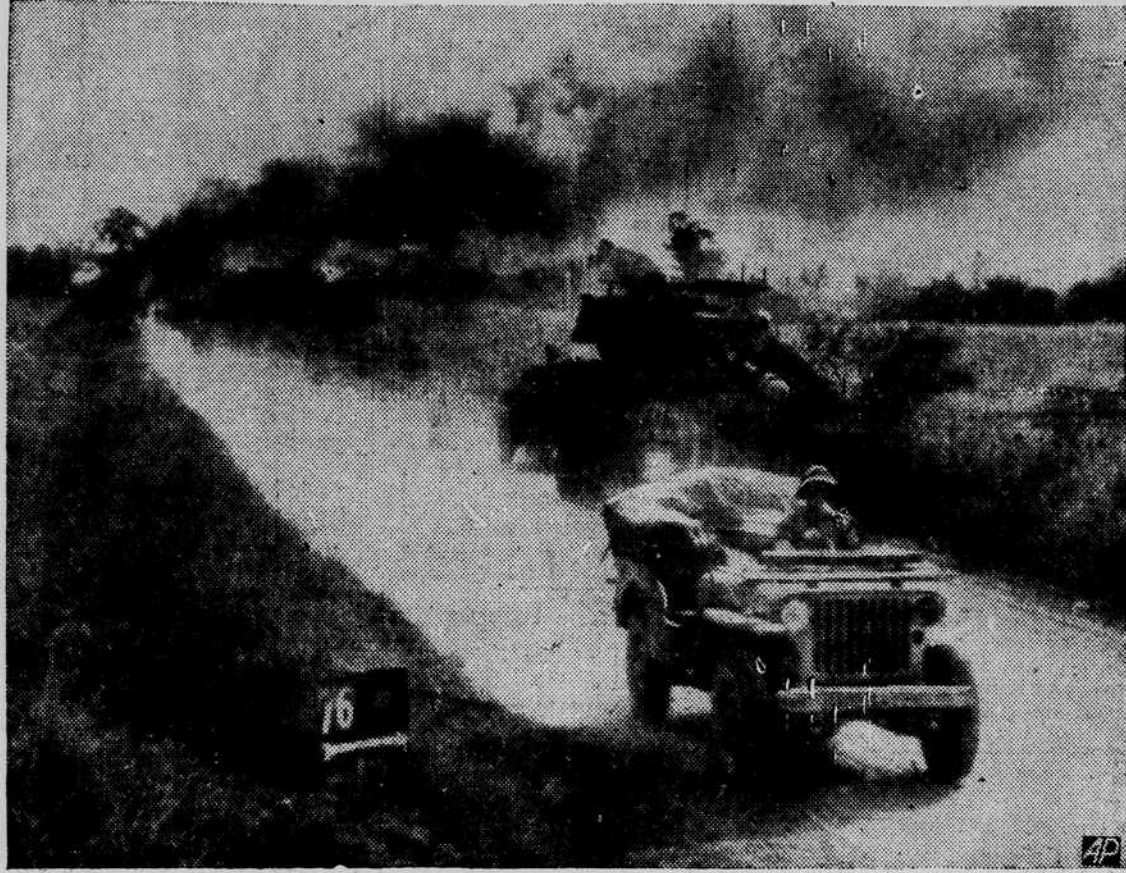
Border advisers said French and Allied troops were continuing their drive on Bordeaux, seeking to liquidate the last German pocket of resistance below the Loire. These reports said Americans had driven down to Bordeaux from the Loire, with French forces advancing northward to the port, forming a junction at its outskirts.

Two Japanese Columns Halted Near Hengyang

CHUNGKING, Aug. 23.—(P)—Two Japanese columns attempting to outflank Chinese positions northwest of the enemy-held Canton-Hankow rail junction of Hengyang have been halted, and to the south a battle was in progress with another Japanese column pushing eastward from the suburbs of captured Leiyang to prepare the way for a drive down the railway, the Chinese high command announced tonight.

The battles raged in a heavy downpour, but despite this a Chinese unit recaptured the small town of Sungpo, 18 miles south of Hengyang, about midway between the junction and Leiyang, and recaptured the position, the high command said.

Tightening Falaise Trap



Allied infantry and armor move up a dusty road toward Falaise, forming part of an Allied force which trapped units of the German Seventh Army in France. Smoke from burning German equipment rises in the background. (AP wirephoto).

American Tank Units 150 Miles From Reich

EXTENSION ASKED FOR LEND-LEASE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—The possibility that Lend-Lease will stimulate postwar American foreign trade was suggested in the latest report on its operations, dispatched to Congress by President Roosevelt today along with a recommendation that it be continued until both Germany and Japan surrender.

"The war has introduced American products to other countries in a volume and variety never approached before," the report commented. "After the war these countries will want to continue to obtain many of these products by buying them."

"American industry will have a greatly expanded foreign market, provided that our international economic policies make it possible for these nations to pay for their purchases."

The report, covering Lend-Lease operations through June 30, gave the total of American supplies and services furnished to Allies since the program started in 1941 at \$28,270,351,000. In addition, American commanding generals in the field have been supplied with \$676,241,000 worth of arms and other materials for Lend-Lease to Allied forces.

The value of reverse Lend-Lease—the goods and services supplied American forces by Allies—was estimated in excess of \$3,000,000,000. The report commented, however, that the true value of the Lend-Lease program must be measured in lives saved.

Western Railroads Sued In Big Anti-Trust Case

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—In one of the largest anti-trust suits in history, the Justice department today charges a group of railroads, trade associations, investment houses and rail executives with conspiracy to restrain and monopolize trade in the transportation of freight and passengers in the west. Defendants named in the suit, filed in Lincoln, Neb., include the Association of American Railroads, the Western Association of Railway Executives; J. P. Morgan and Company and Kuhn, Loeb and Company, New York investment houses; 47 railroads and several score of individuals associated with the rail lines or the trade associations. Among many charges in the

Fresh Gains Ground Out On All French Fronts By Lightning War

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Thursday, Aug. 24.—(P)—American armor hammered out fresh gains south and southeast of Paris today while to the northwest of the capital—now fully in control of French patriots—Americans and Canadians clamped a tightening stranglehold on remnants of the German army still below the river Seine.

Allied fighters and fighter bombers harried the Germans' frantic efforts to withdraw across the river by any possible means.

The latest advance south of Paris saw armored reconnaissance units drive more than 15 miles east of Sens while others passed through Corbeil and Melun, and still others gained positions between Orleans and Sens.

Chief prize in the drive on the

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GOP Fails To Deny Dewey Overseas Trip

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Chairman Herbert Brownell, Jr., of the Republican national committee declined today to answer directly a question whether Gov. Thomas E. Dewey would go overseas or to army camps in this country during the presidential campaign.

He did say, however, that the prospective soldier vote had been taken into consideration by himself and other Republican leaders in reaching the conclusion that Dewey would win the presidency in November.

ECONOMY GROUP RULES IN HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—(P)—The House Ways and Means committee, taking a militant stand against planning for large government expenditures on the postwar reconversion, struck from the Senate's demobilization legislation today a section providing federal unemployment compensation coverage for 3,500,000 government employees.

Earlier, the committee had turned thumbs down on the whole plan for retraining and reemployment of war workers.

If the Ways and Means committee's position finally prevails in House and Senate votes, the unemployment compensation program would continue on its old basis—in the hands of the states.

The committee's decision left only one major provision of the Senate measure remaining for action, that to create an Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion to have overall supervision of contract terminations and surplus property disposal.

Rep. Mills (D-Ark.) moved to eliminate the Senate provision for employment compensation for federal workers but both Democrats and Republicans were in the group voting to tear out hunks of the Senate bill.

AMERICAN BOMBERS SINK 9 JAP SHIPS

By The Associated Press American bombers sank or damaged nine Japanese ships, Pacific communicues reported last night, boosting the daily average for August to more than four Nipponese vessels destroyed every 24 hours. Two navy Liberators found a five-ship convoy near Chichi island in the Bonins, 650 miles south of Tokyo, and sank two freighters. Another was damaged.

Southwest Pacific bombers left large fires blazing in Davao, major city on Mindanao island in the southern Philippines and sank a small cargo ship northeast of Mindanao.

Another freighter and three coastal vessels were either sunk or severely damaged near Celebes in the Dutch East Indies. A destroyer tender was left dead in the water by air raiders over the Palau isproaches to the Philippines.

CHARLOTTE GETS MEET CHARLOTTE, Aug. 23.—(P)—The International Typographical Union, now holding its annual convention in Grand Rapids, Mich., today accepted the invitation of Charlotte Local No. 33 to hold its 1945 convention here

Famed Poilus Quickly Take Big Seaport

8-DAY CAMPAIGN ENDS American Forces Sweep Inland 140 Miles In Big Push

ROME, Aug. 23.—(P)—Marseille, France's second city and greatest seaport, fell to the swift onslaught of French infantry and armor today as American forces swept 140 miles inland from the Mediterranean and captured Grenoble to within less than 240 miles of a junction with Gen. Eisenhower's legions below liberated Paris.

Only eight days after the landings in southern France, the inspired Poilus battered their way into the heart of Marseille against slight Nazi resistance and tonight were cleaning out pockets of last-ditch defenders.

The unexpectedly easy capture of the great port insures the Seventh army of Maj. Gen. Alexander M. Patch an adequate flow of supplies and reinforcements for speedy continuation of their thrust toward northern France. Prior to the city's fall, other French troops had cut the last escape route for the German garrison along the coast to the west.

The encircled and doomed Nazi force in Toulon, big naval base 27 miles east of Marseille, still was holding out tonight, but French troops had fought their way within a few hundred yards of the docks and the city's fall was expected any hour.

Matching the French victory in its spectacular quality was the dash of American forces into the big industrial city of Grenoble—a reckless drive that threatened to bisect France and trap every German soldier in the southern and western parts of the country.

As the swift American column of armor, self-propelled guns and motorized infantry plunged almost unopposed through the French Alps

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GULF HURRICANE MOVING INLAND

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 23.—(P)—The United States weather bureau here announced today that gulf hurricane was centered apparently about 170 miles east-southeast of Tampico, Mexico, and would move inland near Tampico shortly after midnight tonight.

The advisory said the disturbance was moving west-northwestward at about 17 miles per hour and that the strongest winds were 65 to 80 miles per hour near the center with gales extending over an area about 125 miles north of the center.

"Strong winds and high tides will begin late this afternoon on the coast, extending from the vicinity of Tampico for a distance of 150 to 175 miles northwards," the advisory said.

Comforts Dog During Shelling



...the French boy comforts his dog as shells whine overhead while U. S. soldiers blast away at German defenders of Dinard in northern France in the St. Malo area. Note the broken window and the debris on the street. (AP wirephoto from Signal Corps).

Reds Keep Up Drive On Romanian Front

LONDON, Thursday, Aug. 24.—(P)—The two-fisted Soviet offensive that knocked Romania out of the war roared through its fourth day yesterday, capturing Vaslui, 140 miles northeast of the Ploesti oil center, and toppling the two big Bessarabian bastions of Tighina and Cetatea-Alba on the west bank of the Dneestr, and more than 400 other towns.

Disregarding developments on the political front, at least for the present, the Second and Third Ukrainian armies deepened to as much as 60 miles the holes they have ripped in the German-Romanian defenses and advanced within 167 miles of the capital city of Bucharest.

Romania still was garrisoned with thousands of German troops, and the Russians were likely to continue their lightning campaign to drive the Nazis entirely out of the country, regardless of what Romanian troops chose to do.

The Romanians were attempting to retreat, and fighting the Germans in doing so, an early morning supplement to the Russian communique said. Already large

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Pennsylvania Mines Seized By Government

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Aug. 23.—(P)—Government seizure of the mines and other workings of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron company was ordered today by President Roosevelt in a move to break a strike that started June 28 and has made 4,000 anthracite miners idle.

There was no official comment immediately from the miners, but conversations with individuals indicated they would be no immediate back-to-work movement.

Plane Crash Kills 35 Children

LONDON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Fifty-four persons, including 35 children all under five, were killed today when a flaming American bomber plunged into a church school infants' department in the quiet Lancashire village of Freckleton.

The plane smashed through the top of the school building where 41 children under five, many of them refugees from robot bomb attacks, were assembled. It careened across the street and crashed into a snack bar where several dozen soldiers and a staff of six women were gathered.

The flames spread swiftly through the school, the snack bar and several buildings nearby. Fire brigades from neighboring districts brought the fires under control, and the bodies of 35 children and 19 adults were recovered from the smoldering wreckage. Two or three of the 41 infants removed were injured.

The U. S. Strategic Air Force announced that the bomber, a Liberator, crashed after it was caught in a sudden storm. The pilot was among the three crewmen killed. Other members of the crew were injured.

Country First Balkan State To Quit Nazis

PROCLAMATION ISSUED

Tiny Kingdom Gets Jump On Bulgaria In Move To Oust Germans

LONDON, Thursday, Aug. 24.—(P)—Romania announced last night that she was switching from the Axis to the Allied side in the war and a subsequent Soviet communique reported that shooting had broken out between retreating Romanian and Nazi soldiers on the eastern front.

Acceptance of armistice terms offered by the Soviet union, Great Britain, and the United States was announced in a proclamation broadcast from Bucharest.

The early morning Russian communique, recorded by the Soviet monitor from a Moscow broadcast, told of clashes on Romanian soil between the Romanians, ordered by King Mihai to cease hostilities against the Red Army, and the Germans.

Romanian prisoners were quoted as saying that the Germans were firing on the Romanians and blocking their withdrawal.

"A large number of Romanian officers and men have thus been killed," said the communique, "in armed clashes between the retreating Romanian detachments and German frontier detachments in several places."

A Proclamation by young King Mihai, read over the Bucharest radio, said all hostilities against the Red army as well as Romania's state of war with Britain and America would cease "from this moment."

Russian armies were stabbing into Romania to within 167 miles of Bucharest and threatening the Ploesti oil fields as the announcement went on the air.

Romania, the king said, will fight "at the side of the Allied army and with their help."

There was no immediate official confirmation of the royal proclamation by any of the three Allied nations, but London showed no inclination to doubt the broadcast—the first crack in Hitler's Balkan structure.

Prime Minister Churchill has been in Italy for more than a week and presumably had a hand in the

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BULGARIAN TACTICS RECEIVED COLDLY

LONDON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Bulgaria's latest efforts to get out of the war before Germany collapses received a cold reception today from belligerents, on both sides.

Authoritative British sources termed Foreign Minister Parvan Draganov's peace speech yesterday, in which he insisted his country's declaration of war had been a mistake, as a rather silly show and in other Allied quarters the Sofia government's attitude was likened to that of a man trying to sell something he no longer owned.

In Germany, where Bulgarian regrets for the error of declaring war on Britain and the United States could only mean recognition that Hitler's war is lost, a foreign office spokesman said he did not consider it necessary to express German reaction to Draganov's own personal views.

Competent sources said the Bulgarians already have been told by Britain, Russia and the United States that it is too late to drive a bargain for peace and that Bulgaria must surrender unconditionally, expel all Germans, and withdraw troops from non-Bulgarian areas received as a gift from Hitler at the expense of Greece and Yugoslavia.

7th Army Commander Wounded In France

LONDON, Aug. 23.—(P)—Col. Gen. Paul Hauser, commander of the German Seventh army, has been wounded in Normandy, the Berlin radio said tonight. Hauser, under the overall command of Field Marshal Gen. Guenther Von Kluge, led the army which was battered heavily in the Falaise pockets and now is falling back upon the lower Seine, menaced with a new envelopment.