

WILMINGTON and VICINITY—Partly cloudy and cooler. Temperatures yesterday: High 94, low 76.

Belgian Flowers Welcome Yanks



Villagers of Forge Philippe, Belgium, shower with flowers the crew of an American jeep as it drives through their village, shortly after its liberation. The British have freed Belgium's capital of Brussels and its chief port of Antwerp. U. S. Signal Corps radiophoto.

Battle In Italy Nearing Climax

Eighth Army Troops Plunge Within Five Miles Of Rimini On Adriatic Coast

ROME, Sept. 6.—(AP)—The decisive battle for northern Italy on the broad stretches of the Po river valley appeared near tonight after Eighth army troops plunged within five miles of Rimini on the Adriatic coast and Americans on the opposite end of the front seized Lucca, provincial capital 10 miles northeast of Pisa.

Once Rimini is captured, Gen. Sir Harold Alexander will pour out onto the flatlands of northern Italy the greatest armored striking force ever assembled in the Mediterranean area to proceed with the annihilation of Field Marshal Gen. Albert Kesselring's armies.

Due south of Rimini Canadian forces crushed all Nazi counterattacks and carved out new positions only five miles from the city's outskirts. Other Eighth army units striking directly up the coast were reported less than six miles from their goal as enemy forces weakened considerably under combined blows by Allied ground troops, warships and planes.

Some of the fiercest fighting occurred around the key town of Corsano, seven miles south of Rimini and about two miles from the sea. Allied shock troops captured an important ridge running from Corsano to the coast and sent paratroops to a time into the town itself.

The German first parachute division, which met the first assault of the Canadians below Rimini and tried desperately for nearly a week to stem the advance, was said to have been so mauled that it was relieved.

For the second day two British destroyers stood offshore and slammed more than 600 shells into German batteries and gun positions guarding Rimini. An Allied communiqué said several batteries were silenced. Return fire from enemy guns was described as ineffectual.

Rimini, an ancient Roman port with a pre-war population of 65,000, is at the Adriatic terminus of a Po valley highway which runs northwest through Bologna into the heart of the northern Italy industrial regions. Ten miles northeast of the city is the Rubicon of Caesar's fateful crossing.

Lucca, captured by American paratroops in the Fifth army's thrust near the western end of the line, is an important communications center with a normal population of 82,000. An Allied announcement of its occupation did not mention any

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GOVERNMENT ACTS TO OPERATE MINES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—On direction of President Roosevelt, the interior department took possession tonight of 15 more bituminous coal mines tied up by strikes of supervisory employees.

The mines are operated by nine companies in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, employ 5,100 men and have a daily production of about 27,000 tons.

House, Senate Conferees Scrap Retraining Plans

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—The House and Senate conferees on demobilization and reconversion legislation today scrapped a provision of the Senate bill setting up a general program of postwar retraining and re-employment of war workers.

However, the conference committee agreed to put into the legislation a retraining program, created by executive order, for veterans and disabled civilians and to provide an administrator to coordinate all such federal and state retraining plans.

Lagging Supplies Slow Down Allies As Battle For Germany Gets Started; Russians Smash Way Into Yugoslavia

Soviet Force Gets Across Danube River

JOINS TITO'S TROOPS

Turnu-Severin Captured On Romanian Side Of Stream

LONDON, Thursday, Sept. 7.—(AP)—The Red army has smashed across the Danube into Yugoslavia to join with the Yugoslav partisans, Marshal Tito's radio station broadcast early today shortly after the nightly Russian communique had announced capture of Turnu-Severin, on the Romanian bank of the river.

The Russians did not announce a crossing into Yugoslavia, and Tito's broadcast gave no details, but the development was entirely reasonable, particularly since Moscow dispatches have said the Red army often has outrun official statements by ten miles or more.

The Danube is 4,000 feet wide at Turnu-Severin, but an inkling that a crossing may have been made by air was contained in a midnight Moscow dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Eddy Gilmore who wrote:

"The Red army is employing large groups of paratroops in its lightning advance westward in an operation which promises soon to link up with Tito's forces."

He added that occupation of Turnu-Severin put the Russians 100 miles from Belgrade, Yugoslav capital, and a little over 140 miles from the Hungarian frontier, "but by the time this is in print, for the way the Russians are going, they will be considerably closer to both objectives."

Paired with the spectacular dash of more than 50 miles westward in a single day in Romania, the Russians gave equal or greater mention to capture of the Polish front of the Narew river fortress of Ostroleka in a hard-slogging gain of two miles through some of the heaviest German defenses.

This victory, extending an outflanking movement against Warsaw and creating an ominous new threat to East Prussia, 26 miles

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ARMY ESTABLISHES HELICOPTER SCHOOL

FREEMAN FIELD, Ind., Sept. 6.—(AP)—The Army Air Forces disclosed today the establishment of the nation's first military helicopter training school at this field in southwestern Indiana.

Col. E. T. Rundquist, commanding officer of the field, which also is used as an advanced two-engine pilot training school, said personnel of the new helicopter section were officer-instructors rated as pilots, and field mechanics, who are enlisted men.

The training in the use of helicopters is given at the field and at the Sikorsky aviation plant, Bridgeport, Conn.

England Will Relax Rigid Blackout Rules

LONDON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—The rigid blackout regulations which plunged Britain into darkness five years ago will be relaxed Sept. 17, the government announced tonight.

In addition to turning on the lights again, an act which probably will be a greater boon to morale than anything short of the end of the war itself, joyful Britons will drop many civilian defense duties they undertook in the days when Prime Minister Churchill proclaimed "we'll fight on the beaches and in the hills."

The blackout—the most depressing of all British wartime restrictions—will be relaxed almost to the vanishing point a week from Sunday.

TRIAL AND DOOM OF FRENCH TRAITORS



SIX FRENCH TRAITORS CONDEMNED TO DEATH



READY FOR FIRING SQUAD

Guns of a firing squad bring to end the lives of six young Frenchmen, tied to stakes after being sentenced to die as traitors. This drama of retribution, staged in Grenoble, is being repeated in many sections of France as the Germans are driven out and those Frenchmen who assisted the Nazis are brought to justice. Ten were taken at Grenoble charged with being members of Vichy's Gestapo. Six were found guilty. Above, the story unfolds in three chapters. U. S. Army Signal Corps Radiophoto.

No Peace Plea Made Yet

DAVIS OFFICIALS HONORED BY CITY

A buffet dinner honoring Camp Davis' high ranking officers, and their staffs was given by the City of Wilmington at the Cape Fear Country Club last night at 7 o'clock.

The dinner was an expression of appreciation for the consistent assistance rendered Wilmington by the Camp Davis authorities, notably during and following the tropical storm of August 1.

Councilman Robert R. Romeo, chairman of the committee in charge, stated last night that the city is becoming acquainted with new faces at Bluetenthal Field, and bidding farewell to others of Camp Davis.

Those attending last night's function in addition to the city's official family were Brig. Gen. C. V. R. Schuyler, commanding general, AAATC, Camp Davis; Col. D. S. Ellertorpe, commander of the AAA school, Col. A. E. Potts, camp commander, Col. Kelly, commanding officer of the Davis hospital, and Major Edward Bullard, commanding officer of the Davis air base.

Representing Bluetenthal Field was Col. J. C. Shibley, commanding officer.

DEWEY TO MAKE SPEECH TONIGHT

NEW YORK, Sept. 6.—(AP)—Gratification with what he called the progress being made toward a non-partisan postwar peace organization was coupled by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey today with an announced determination to discuss foreign policy fully during his campaign opening tomorrow.

The Republican candidate for president, who leaves for Philadelphia tomorrow morning for the first of a series of speeches that will carry him across the country, made it clear at a press conference that he would speak out on world affairs as well as on domestic issues.

"Certainly I'll discuss foreign policy during this campaign," he said in response to a question. Dewey will speak at 10 p. m.

Germans Make No Effort To Negotiate Truce With Allies

LONDON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—No peace plea has yet been made to the United Nations by Germany, a spokesman for the British government stated emphatically tonight.

He made the statement, he said, to dispose of recently recurrent rumors that Germany has been seeking opportunities to open talks with the Allies.

Any German peace emissary can approach the western Allies only through the supreme commander, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the spokesman said, and the western Allies will not cease fighting until Eisenhower gives the order.

This he will not do until he gets an unconditional surrender from the German high command, endorsed by the German general staff, this source said.

The Germans then would be presented with a document informing them that the Allies demand a free hand in all matters relating to enemy forces, food, transport, economic and financial facilities, industry and political affairs. Only if the Germans accept these terms will the "cease fire" order be issued.

The same conditions apply on the eastern and other fronts, he said. Thus the war will end only when military defeat of Germany is utter and complete and there will be no German alibi this time that they were not beaten on the battlefield, he added.

Surrender terms have been drawn up and agreed upon by the Allies, and under the terms of this agreement, there will be no chance for Hitler or any of his henchmen to come forward with an attempt to deceive the Allies, the spokesman pointed out, adding that it has been said officially the Allies realize Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels will try to capitalize on the United Nations' uncompromising attitude.

MARCUS ISLE ATTACKED

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, Sept. 6.—(AP)—American warplanes slashed anew into the island stepping stones south of Japan and made their first attack since May 19 on Marcus Island, 1,200 miles southeast of Tokyo, in widespread actions announced today.

FEW SOLDIERS TO RETURN SOON

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—The Army announced today the method it will use in demobilizing part of its strength after Germany is defeated, but the news was every indication that the number of men released immediately would be small.

Moreover, the Navy emphasized that it planned no demobilization until Japan is beaten.

One highly placed person said only a "trickle" of soldiers would start home after V-Day in Europe, largely because of the Pacific war's priority on them. The approved discharge basis—under which the men will be released individually and not by units—will be complicated and therefore slow.

To determine priorities for discharges, the Army will use a point system giving weighted credits for total months in the army, decorations awarded, time spent in combat.

GERMANS 'DISAPPEAR'

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 6.—(AP)—An estimated 1,000 persons "disappear" daily in Germany as the Nazi wave of terror and violence grows, it was reported tonight by a neutral informant just returned from the Reich.

Most Processed Foods Soon To Be Point Free

WASHINGTON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—Virtually all processed foods other than canned fruits will be returned to pre-war non-rationed status in 10 days, the White House announced today, and a War Food Administration spokesman indicated that additional meat also may be made ration-free soon.

War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes directed the removal from rationing on September 17 of these items: All jams, jellies, fruit butters, asparagus, lima beans, corn, peas, pumpkin and squash, mixed vegetables, baked beans, tomato sauce, paste and puree, and all varieties of soups and baby foods.

Byrnes' acted on the recommendation of Marvin Jones, WFA administrator, who advised that available and prospective supplies of these foods justified the step.

Meuse Crossed; Move On Liege

Infantry And Armor Push Relentlessly On Reich; Nazis' Belgian Defenses Breached

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Thursday, Sept. 7.—(AP) The swift, Germany-bound drive of the U. S. Third army has been stalled for almost a week by lagging supplies, but in the north, American First army tanks in mass formations were on the move eastward toward Liege after leaping across the Meuse river and breaching the Nazis' Belgian defenses before the Reich, field dispatches disclosed today.

The First army drive was along at least a 25-mile front, and Supreme Headquarters indicated it was operating from three secure bridgeheads over the Meuse at Namur.

Associated Press Correspondent Don Whitehead, with the First army, said the Yanks had started the real battle for Germany, and that as infantry and armor pushed relentlessly toward the Nazi homeland, the rate of advance soon would bring it within range of Allied big guns.

The Americans poured across the Meuse after rounding up hordes of Germans in the Mons trap. They stormed the river banks where the Germans were waiting in a midnight thrust Tuesday, and a battle raged all day, Whitehead wrote. Some of the fighting, he said, was the hardest since the St. Lo breakthrough.

On the Americans' southern flank, supplies and necessity for regrouping stopped the Third army's swift drive toward the Nazi border and reinforced Nazis taking advantage of the lull have begun their first real stand since the Allied Normandy breakthrough, other front dispatches disclosed.

A heavy battle raged in the Moselle valley invasion corridor. An arm smash through stubborn American mechanized cavalry resistance to within four miles of Metz, key city on the French side of the Siegfried line. But as the Yanks closed in on the stronghold, every yard of ground was being contested bitterly.

After the enforced halt supplies finally have caught up with the Third army, but the Nazis, fleeing in confusion a week ago, have had time to regroup and reorganize front dispatches disclosed.

Associated Press Correspondent Wes Gallagher wrote from the front that temporarily, at least, the brunt of battle against the newly reinforced German strongpoints has been turned over to the ever-ready infantry, which must drive a wedge through which Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. third army, who last were reported at Bar-Sur-Seine in their push southeastward from the Paris area, a junction of the French-American forces would trap every German soldier remaining in southern and western France.

American troops rolling up the east bank of the Saone occupied the village of St. Germain du Chalon-Sur-Saone, after a brisk fight with Nazi rearguards.

Allied headquarters offered no information on the position of the main German force, which last was reported fleeing toward Dijon. (There was no immediate official explanation of the Nazis' apparent decision to retreat through Dijon, which is well north of the main, most direct route from Chalon-Sur-Seine through the Belfort Gap. The latter route, roughly paralleling the Swiss border, runs through Besancon, 64 miles northeast of Chalon, and Baume-Les-Dames to Belfort.)

Bulgaria Appears Near To Upheaval

LONDON, Sept. 6.—(AP)—Bulgaria, frantically struggling to get out of the war, seemed on the edge of an internal upheaval as Moscow radio urged the population to "take fate in your own hands."

Unconfirmed reports from other sources pictured Soviet troops already marching into the corners and bewildered country.

The regime of Premier Constantine Muraviev, confronted by a Russian declaration of war in the very midst of its efforts to wriggle out of war with the United States and Great Britain, appealed to Moscow for an armistice without waiting for the entry of Soviet troops.

Nazis' Siegfried Line Not Considered Strong

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Sept. 6.—(AP)—A senior staff officer at Supreme headquarters said today that Germany's Siegfried line was no stronger than the overrun Atlantic wall, if as strong, and declared that "of course we're going to break it."

The officer stressed that the greatest problem for the German defense was insufficient manpower, the Nazis having far fewer troops for the line than it was intended to have in defense against a major assault. The big blows might come anywhere along its length from the Swiss frontier to Cleve, in the Rhineland 50 miles northwest of Dusseldorf.

JAP FREIGHTERS SUNK BY PLANES

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Thursday, Sept. 7.—(AP)—Navy Catalina planes sank three small Japanese freighters off Mindanao, southern Philippines, Monday night and Tuesday morning, headquarters announced today.

Liberator bombers meanwhile continued the relentless neutralization of the airbases around Davao, most important port in the southern Philippines, toward which Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces are aiming.

Simultaneously strong forces of Australian and American fighter bombers swept Vogelkop peninsula on Dutch New Guinea, hitting at Japanese positions. They did their work without encountering enemy opposition.

Bad weather hampered operations in other southwest Pacific sectors.

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