

North Carolina—Fair in west portion and clearing weather in the east, with temperatures Monday. Showers in extreme eastern section Monday morning. Tuesday, fair and mild.

These Generals Rule Berlin



Seated behind a broad desk in Berlin at their first meeting are the four generals who comprise the Inter-Allied Kommandantur that will control the German capital. Each member will serve as head of the foursome for a fifteen day period in rotation. They are (left to right): Maj. Gen. Floyd L. Parks, United States; Col. Gen. Alexander V. Goltsov, Russia; Maj. Gen. L. O. Lyne, Great Britain; and Maj. Gen. Geoffrey De Beauchesne, France. (International Radiophoto)

Former Yank Base Taken By Chi

KANHSIEN RETAKEN Assault Air Base Retaken After Hot Battle

CHUNGKING, July 15.—(AP)—Chinese assault troops have recaptured the lost American airfield at Kanhsien, 250 miles north of Hong Kong, the Chinese High command said today, giving the U. S. 14th Air Force an advance base from which to lash China's "invasion" coast.

Kanhsien airfield, stormed and reoccupied Friday by veteran fighters of Free China, was the sixth former American airbase liberated from the Japanese in recent months. It had been abandoned by American fliers on January 30.

The air field lies a short distance South of the town of Kanhsien on the Kan river 200 miles West of the embattled Southeastern coastal area below Amoy. Mopping-up operations against Japanese remnants still holding out in the streets of Kanhsien, the most important highway junction in Southwestern Kiangsi Province, were continuing, a Chinese communique said.

It was doubtful, however, that the bomb-cratered Kanhsien field could be put to immediate use for it is without communication with the main airfields of the Chinese interior and would have to be supplied by transports hopping the Japanese corridor from Hong Kong North to Hankow.

The main Japanese garrison of Kanhsien was pulling out to the Northwest and possibly already had reached Suichwan, the first of the six American airbases recaptured by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's forces since March.

The Japanese last were reported within 14 miles Southeast of Suichwan and also were said to be moving on Wanan, an auxiliary landing field 16 miles east of Suichwan.

Beside Kanhsien and Suichwan, the Chinese, strengthening American airpower on the Asiatic mainland, have taken back from the Japanese the bases at Sinfeng, 30 miles south of Kanhsien, and at Yanching (Nanning), Liuchow and Tanchuk, all in Kwangsi Province 400 to 470 miles Southeast of Chungking.

From Liuchow, Chinese forces following in the wake of withdrawing enemy troops made new progress along the Hunan-Kwangsi railroad and highway toward the triple-airfield base at Kweilin.

FRANKFURT ON THE MAIN, July 15.—(AP)—Within another four weeks battered Berlin will become once more one of the great government centers of Europe as the Four Power Control Council takes over its task of directing the governing of occupied Germany.

BOX SCORE OF FLEET ATTACKS ON JAPAN

By the Associated Press Japanese Losses Vessels sunk: 61 totalling 53,000 tons. Vessels damaged: 64 totalling 55,000 tons. Planes destroyed: 28 on the ground, 1 in the air. Locomotives destroyed: 27. Cities hit: Kushiro on Honshu burned out; Hakodate on Hokkaido, rail and shipping facilities knocked out; Kamaishi on Honshu, steel mills and harbor works set aflame; Esa on Hokkaido, rail yards smashed; Muroran on Hokkaido, two steel mills, chemical works, warehouses and other industries set afire and exploded.

CHENNAULT HITS AT CHINA CRITICS

General Says Attitude of Some At Home Shocks Him Deeply

KUNMING, CHINA, July 15.—(AP)—Maj. Gen. Claire Lee Chennault, who has resigned as commander of the 14th U. S. Air Force, said today he had been shocked deeply by what he termed adverse criticism of the army and government of China "recently made by irresponsible persons at home."

"I think it's about time for Americans to cease to be so concerned by the mote in our neighbor's eye," he declared in a statement. Chennault, former leader of the Flying Tigers announced his resignation yesterday, saying he would remain until a new higher U. S. Air Force command is installed in Chungking and then return to the United States and retire from the Army.

His statement said that China's army and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's government were "no more faultless than any others." "I have been a witness of eight years of war in China, and I have the deepest admiration for the Generalissimo's courage, foresight and unwavering loyalty to the cause we share," Chennault declared.

"I think it's time for us to remember that we owe China an immense debt." Chennault said that Lt. Gen. Albert C. Wedemeyer, as commanding general of U. S. Army forces in China, had done a "great job," and that the Japanese now were being pushed back in retreat.

In his tribute to Gen. Wedemeyer, Chennault said that the "war was at a low ebb here when he assumed command. I think I can claim not to be easily discouraged, and even I was discouraged. He brought his splendid energy and determination to the task."

BERLIN TO RISE AS TRADE CENTER PHILIPSBURG, N. J., July 15.—(AP)—Two State Troopers were wounded today in a gunfight at Brainards, a village seven miles from here, with a man sought in connection with the axe-slaying of his wife in Orange last night.

Cpl. Jay Zeiss, who he identified as Ernest Rittenhouse, 30, exchanged blows with the two officers, left them wounded, then escaped by foot into Pennsylvania over a railroad bridge to Martin's Creek, a town about seven miles north of Easton.

Sgt. Cornelius O'Donnell, in command of the Washington, N. J. barracks of the State Police, was in critical condition at Warren Hospital here with wounds in the abdominal area. Trooper Fra Perry, who received chest wounds, was listed as in serious condition at the same hospital.

Planes, Warships Blast Jap Plants, Burn City; Aussies Near Sambodja

Batochampar Mount Falls

FIVE-MILE ADVANCE Heavy Artillery Fire Sends Japs On Run For Hills

MAN LA, Monday, July 16.—(AP)—Capture of one of the principal oil fields in Eastern Borneo was imminent today after Australian troops pushed to within five miles of the center of Sambodja against vanishing Japanese resistance.

Advances of five miles in two days were disclosed in Gen Douglas MacArthur's communique, and they came in a sector along the coast where previous gains had been bought by the yard in heavy fighting.

The wells of the Sambodja fields feed the refineries of Balikpapan, which were wrecked by bombings or set ablaze in the liberation of the port city. The condition of the wells was now known, but if the Japanese who have retreated from strong, fixed positions under heavy pounding from land, sea and air follow their usual tactics the wells will be found dynamited and choked with drilling tools.

The Australians were pushing on toward Sambodja from the village of Amborawang, in the heart of the difficult tidal swamp region. Australians and Dutch colonials brought heavy artillery to bear and drove the Japanese from Mount Batochampar or "Smashed Stone Ridge," six miles Northeast of Balikpapan.

This was an important obstacle in the Northeastward push along the highway leading to the port and oil center of Samarinda, 60 miles distant. This drive is concerted with the one along the coast, since Samarinda lies 36 miles north of Sambodja.

The Japanese fought back stubbornly, however. Patrols were operating 30 miles South of the enemy-held base of Jesselton in British North Borneo. Heaviest fighting still was in the Balikpapan area.

PROBE PROVES ARMY GOODS NOT BURNED AT BRITISH DEPOT LONDON, July 15.—(AP)—Charges that repairable equipment was destroyed by United States Army troops at a military depot in Warminster were found to be "without foundation" by an official Army investigating committee, headquarters of the United Kingdom base announced today.

It had been alleged at the trial of Alfred Grist, a former civilian employe at the depot who was convicted of unlawful possession of U. S. Army equipment, that thousands of dollars worth of motor trucks, ambulances, tires, furniture, motor accessories and tons of timber had been burned at the depot.

The investigation disclosed that early last month one wooden ambulance body and one two-and-one-half ton truck body, wrecked beyond repair, were burned in order to salvage the steel frameworks, the official statement declared.

Ready For Conference



PRESIDENT TRUMAN who arrived at Potsdam yesterday afternoon for the first meeting of the "Big Three" scheduled for today in the German city. He arrived by plane after a flight from Brussels, Belgium. Prime Minister Winston Churchill also arrived during the afternoon and Marshall Stalin followed a few hours later.

"Big Three" In Potsdam For Historic Meeting

BRADLEY LIKELY TO SHAKE UP VA BY MILTON MAGRUDER United Press Staff Correspondent WASHINGTON, July 15.—(AP)—Gen. Omar N. Bradley is expected to give the Veterans Administration a "big shake-up" when he takes it over as Administrator on Aug. 1, and he may put it on a stream-lined military basis, informed sources said tonight.

Bradley, Commander of the Twelfth Army Group, is now in Germany. He is due back early next month to replace Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, resigned, in a post that promises to be the "hot seat" of the government after the war.

The Veterans Administration has been under fire for months on charges of neglect and mistreatment of veterans and embroilment in red tape. Bradley already has under consideration the question whether VA should be "militarized" and its medical department headed by a surgeon general who would be an Army officer.

Such a move would be revolutionary inasmuch as the agency has always had civilian status. Bradley, an Army man since he entered West Point in 1911; will for the first time deal directly with pressure groups, politicians and the potent veteran and labor lobbies. He has let it be known that he has his own ideas and thus may run into considerable opposition.

WASHINGTON, July 15.—(AP)—The pocketbook test of America's widened role in world affairs—the question of United States participation in the Bretton Woods Monetary agreements—comes up before the Senate tomorrow.

Enemy Loses 128 Vessels

92 AIRPLANES OUT Widespread Damage Noted By Observers; Shore Fire Light

GUAM, Monday, July 16.—(AP)—Two days of unprecedented U. S. naval air and sea bombardment of Japan Saturday and Sunday cost the enemy 128 ships and 92 planes destroyed or damaged, vital steel works in two cities blown up, one entire city burned down and another seriously damaged, Adm Chester W. Nimitz reported today.

In the latest bombardment, on Sunday, by battleships of the powerful Third Fleet, more than 1,000 tons of shells set off continuous explosions and great fires in the once-important industrial port of Muroran on Hokkaido Island.

The enemy offered no defense, either aerial or naval, he said, to this second day's assaults on the home islands by 16-inch broadsiders and carrier plane strikes, which first were announced yesterday while they were taking place.

Preliminary reports of the two days of carrier attacks showed 128 Japanese ships and small craft sunk or damaged—including six vital train ferries linking Hokkaido and Honshu.

Most of the city of Kushiro was burned in the first day's air assault, Nimitz asserted. Superfortresses from the Mariannas joined the coordinated blasting of the empire with a 50 to 75-plane bombing of a major Honshu oil refinery at Kudamatsu.

Despite "widespread destruction" caused by the fleet's deliberate blasting and powerful air strikes, "the action of these forces brought no defensive response from the enemy in the air or on the surface throughout the day" Sunday—the second day in which Japan offered no gesture of defense except ineffective anti-aircraft fire, the communique reported.

Muroran's Nippon steel plant and Waniishi Iron Works were exploding and aflame after Sunday's cyclone of 16-inch shells from the battleships Missouri, Iowa and Wisconsin burst upon the city, formerly untouched by war.

In complete reports of Sundays carrier plane blows at Northern Honshu and Hokkaido—again hampered by adverse weather—showed nine ships and six small craft totalling 12,000 tons were sunk and nine ships and 30 small craft totalling 12,000 tons were damaged during the early morning hours alone.

Four enemy planes were destroyed and one was damaged. There was no aerial interception, and anti-aircraft fire did no damage.

Newspaper Deliverymen Will Continue Walkout

INVASION TERMED U. S. BEST MOVE

WITH THE U. S. 14th CORPS, Northern Luzon, July 15.—(AP)—A captured Japanese army captain said today that in his opinion Japan could not hold out long against an American invasion, which he declared was "the only quick way to end the war."

"The sooner the Allies invade Japan proper the sooner the war will end," he said in an interview through an interpreter. "I don't think Japan can hold out long. Concentrated air attacks might bring surrender ultimately, but invasion is the only quick way to end the war."

The officer requested that he be called Jiro Takahashi for the purposes of the interview, because that is the Japanese equivalent of the anonymous American "John Doe." He did not want his family at home to know of his disgrace.

Until a few days ago Takahashi was in command of a fighting Japanese infantry company. He did not intend to be captured. He probably would have died fighting or would have committed suicide if he had not been stricken by malaria.

Since his capture, however, he has had time to think about the future of Japan and the futility of continued resistance. In this respect he is typical of many Japanese officers captured on Northern Luzon, who realize that the war is lost and earnestly want peace.

It is his belief that practically all Japanese now realize the war is lost despite the bold front put up by military propaganda. He said the Japanese High Command obviously erred in thinking that it would take eight months to switch Allied might to the Pacific once the European war was over.

"I know the Japanese people are praying for peace and hoping that the war will be over at the very soonest," he said. "I see no immediate prospect of peace, but I think the Gumbatsu (Military clique) gradually will be discredited. The bombing undoubtedly is having a terrific demoralizing effect on civilians."

BAPTISTS TELEGRAPH SENATORS RE DOCTOR SHORTAGE IN CITY In an effort to help relieve the "critical shortage" of doctors in Wilmington, members of the Southside Baptist church last night voted unanimously to send to Senators Clyde R. Hoey and Josiah Bailey a telegram requesting their efforts in behalf of the city in relation to the Army's discharging of doctors. It was felt that Wilmington has a dire need for additional medical men in view of the great increase in population during the war.

The telegram follows: "In the light of the Army's plan to discharge some of its doctors, and as we have a critical shortage of doctors in Wilmington, the Southside Baptist church today unanimously voted to ask you to do all you can in the interest of Wilmington doctors," signed, "Rev. J. O. Walton, minister."

WHEELER (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. yesterday. TEMPERATURE 1:30a. 79; 7:30a. 82; 1:30p. 85; 7:30p. 80. Maximum 79; Minimum 73; Mean 80. HUMIDITY 1:30a. 87; 7:30a. 85; 1:30p. 63; 7:30p. 77. PRECIPITATION Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p.—0.0 inches. Total since the first of the month—5.46 inches. TIDES FOR TODAY (From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey) Wilmington High 2:30a. 9.55a. Low 8:15p. 10:17p. Masonboro Inlet High 12:15a. 8:25a. Low 7:30p. Sunrise 5:12; Sunset 7:24; Moonrise 11:53; Moonset 11:55p.

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