

Caen Citizens Weep With Joy as Allies Liberate the City

(William Smith White, Associated Press Correspondent)

Caen, France—The people of Caen—those who are left—shouted and sometimes cried for joy in their littered streets Sunday night as Allied troops nailed down the greatest Allied victory since Cherbourg.

I entered this city Saturday afternoon to find a moving welcome—extended because I was an American—while fighting still was going on just to the southeast of the center of Caen.

The city itself has been heavily damaged. French civilians already were clearing the wreckage here and there.

I came in with two others, Capt. Colin Rayment, Canadian officer from Montreal, and Alan Wood of the London Daily Express, and we were astonished to find ourselves treated as a sort of Allied delegation.

Looking into their faces, they all seemed either young or old, no one could doubt the spontaneous exultation of these people as we hit the main city from the suburb of St. Germain La Blanche.

We sat low in our jeep as the firing broke out intermittently but quite some distance away. The first civilian we saw was an old woman with stiff, bristling gray hair, a red face, a pugnacious chin, and tears in her eyes. But on her face was an enormous smile and she thrust her hand upward in the most emphatic thumbs-up salute I've ever seen.

It was like that all the way to the middle of the city, and we went to his heart in the shadow of the cathedral.

We had not gone a block when an old man in a blue smock rushed forward, stopped us with a bow and hand us a brown paper package. It contained cherries hurriedly snatched from a branch of his tree.

Where Do We Go From Normandy?



In his first press conference on the Normandy beachhead, Lieut. Gen. Omar Bradley, commander of the American ground forces, points the way toward Berlin. The general was obviously pleased at what he had to tell the war correspondents. The capture of the port of Cherbourg made it possible for him to turn his eyes toward larger and stronger fields, eventually with eyes set on Berlin.

Sino-Jap War Now In Eighth Year

Chungking, July 7—China completed its seventh year of war with the Japanese today, and despite sweeping advances of the enemy in three battle-front provinces, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek predicted "liberation is close at hand."

On this "triple seventh" day—the seventh anniversary of the clash at Marco Polo bridge near Peiping on July 7, 1937, starting what the Japanese called the "China incident," China's generalissimo made no attempt to underestimate the gravity of the situation. But he said that Japan now fully realized "a general counter-offensive from China is imminent."

The anniversary found the Chinese battling to stem a Japanese tide in Kwangtung province from Canton, which already had pierced Chinese defenses along the last Chinese-controlled strip of the Canton-Hankow-Peiping railway, and locked in a struggle to the death in Hunan province against strong enemy forces battering the last Hunan stronghold of Hengyang. To the north, in Honan province, there was sporadic fighting, although the Japanese had won virtual control of the Peiping-Hankow railway through that province and the Lunghai railway going west towards Shensi province.

Only in the southwestern province of Yunnan were the Chinese enjoying success. There they were proceeding with an encircling movement against the main enemy base of Tengchung, and conducting concerted attacks on other enemy fortifications, in an attempt to push westward for a junction with the troops of Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell in North Burma, and reopen an overland route (the Burma Road) to China. The gap between these two forces at last reports had been narrowed to about 26 miles.

Chiang admitted that the scale of enemy operations in China today was the largest since the assault on Hankow in 1928, and said, "It is of no use to ignore the fact that the enemy has made a rapid advance in his new drives, and the situation is grave."

157 Die As Flames Destroy Circus Tent

Hartford, Conn., July 6—The greatest disaster in American circus history killed at least 157 persons in a terrifying burst of flames that enveloped the huge main tent of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey circus and brought injury to at least 220 persons.

The fire, discovered near the entrance of the big top a few minutes after a mighty thunder of applause had signaled the close of the opening animal act, turned 6,000 erstwhile festive spectators into a mass of frantic men, women and children, screaming and shouting and fighting to reach the exits.

Children were tossed by fear-stricken parents from lofty seats to the ground beneath, some to escape but many to be caught in the folds of the flaming tent. Their cries rang in the ears of spectators.

Men, women and children alike were trapped beneath the canvas as it crashed to the ground in a fiery climax to a catastrophe "as horrible," said Felix Adler, noted clown, as ever witnessed by any circus performer.

As Governor Raymond E. Baldwin mobilized all of the state's emergency resources, a steady stream of motor vehicles brought the dead, among them many children, to a temporary morgue established in the drill shed of the state armory. The count there showed 127 dead.

Meanwhile other cars and ambulances brought scores of injured and burned to city hospitals after first aid treatment at the scene or in nearby drug stores.

Hal Oliver, circus press agent, termed the blaze "the first great fire in the whole history of Ringling Brothers circus" and estimated the damage to circus property at \$300,000.

Uncle Sam to Pay G. I. Baby Expense

Washington—Half a million G. I. babies are expected to make their debut during the next 12 months at Uncle Sam's expense.

That many infants and their mothers will be cared for under the emergency maternity and infant care program for which congress has appropriated \$42,600,000.

The congressional appropriation provides for help to servicemen's wives and babies, with no questions asked concerning the financial ability of the father to foot the bill himself.

\$37,000,000 EDUCATION BUDGET IS PROPOSED

Raleigh—The State Board of Education's finance committee met here last week and completed its proposed budget of more than \$37,000,000 for the 1944-45 nine-months period.

FOOD DRIERS

Stove top driers are most practical in preserving food in the average farm home, reports N. C. Teter of the agricultural experiment station at State College.

Hitler, Gloomy, Tries to Spur War Production

London—Adolf Hitler, in a gloomy and forboding speech to key war production men Wednesday said that unheard-of strength of nerves and determination were necessary if Germany was to survive "such times as the present" and surmount "a magnitude of difficulties."

In an apparent attempt to squeeze even greater efforts from workers he repeated his boasts that Germany would never surrender and, that somehow, sometime, she would win final victory. But he admitted implicitly that the Allies were smothering the German armies under a vastly superior weight of war production.

Hitler said: "This gigantic struggle for the fate of the German nation is deciding the to-be-or-not-to-be of many generations."

Hitler's speech was broadcast by German news agencies and recorded here. Listeners familiar with his speeches over many years were inclined to regard it as the most depressed he had made, even gloomier than that after Italy's capitulation.

It was announced, in the German broadcasts, that Hitler and Albert Speer, armaments minister, had conferred with war production leaders and as the result had decided that despite Allied air attacks it would be possible to increase production further, because of the exemplary work of German workers and intensified rationalization and simplification of production.

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There Must be No Shortage of Telephone Equipment on War Fronts

Tons on tons of telephone cables, wire, switchboards, telephone instruments and hundreds of other types of telephone equipment have been shipped to England for use by our armies in their advances through Europe.

More shiploads are following to meet the growing demands of the war fronts, not only in Europe but the Pacific, as well.

All out production of telephone equipment for our armed forces takes virtually all available manufacturing facilities and manpower, and reserve supplies are about exhausted.

The shortage of supplies for home use has made it impossible for us to keep up with civilian orders for service. That is why we, over here, must continue to do the best we can with the limited amount of equipment we have on hand.

We keenly regret that more and more people are having to wait for telephone service, due to the increasing war demands. But there must be no waiting for the men who fight our battles.

Your continued patience and cooperation in these difficult times is greatly appreciated.

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1
in a series of ads on post-war opportunities

The question of post-war jobs—especially for returning veterans—is a big one and a live one. It will get more so as the war comes nearer its end.

Our own job security plan for Esso Marketers' employees now in uniform went into operation the day after Pearl Harbor. It has worked so well for so long that we want to pass our experience along.

In general, it is based on the idea that we are saving his place for our fighting man while he's away, whether he volunteered, was drafted, or was called up as a reservist. Chief features of the plan are these . . .

1. Each employee who has been with us a year or longer is given two months' salary as he enters the armed forces.
2. His dependents receive monthly payments from the company while he is away—up to half of his former company pay.
3. Each employee has been assured by letter from our company president that his old job—or another as good or better—will be waiting for him. Experience gained in the Armed Forces may result in his immediate advancement.
4. His rights in company retirement and benefit plans are protected while he is away.

DETAILS of the plan have been put into a booklet which we shall be glad to send you.*

Soon we will announce in this newspaper further plans for making some good new jobs in the oil business after the war.

As we see it today, next to winning the war itself, nothing is more important than the matter of post-war jobs.



*For booklet please address Mr. C. M. Myers, Division Manager Standard Oil Company of New Jersey 901 West First Street Charlotte 1, North Carolina

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY