

# INDEPENDENCEDAY

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## Americans Gain In Solomons

### COMMANDO RAID MADE ON CRETE

#### All Patrols Withdraw Safely

**Number of Aircraft Destroyed on Ground; Raid Is First Attack by Ground Forces**

Cairo, July 5—(AP)—A special Middle East communique announced today that "small British land forces carried out raids on air fields in Crete last night."

"The operations were successful," the communique said, "a number of aircraft being destroyed on the ground."

"All our patrols withdrew safely."

The raids constituted the first commando-type operations against Crete disclosed here since it was announced June 1, 1941, the British had abandoned that island under the hammering of German air borne units.

The invaders, however, apparently have never fully conquered the people and such allied troops as remained behind when British warships withdrew 15,000 troops to Egypt and tacitly conceded defeat in history's first major test between air and sea power.

Andrew Michalopoulos, Greek minister of information, announced in Washington last July that 1,500 British army regulars and various Greek forces were maintaining violent resistance. He said the nazis actually held only "a narrow strip around the coast."

The fourth largest island in the Mediterranean with a total of 3,235 square miles, Crete lies approximately midway between the north African coast and Athens. It is 160 miles long. The pre-war population was 441,667.

It is a logical stepping stone on the road back for any allied invasion of the Balkans and the new operation supplements heavy air raids previously carried out against axis installations there.

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE REJECTS COAL ACT

Washington, July 5—(AP)—Notwithstanding a recommendation by President Roosevelt, the House way and means committee today rejected, by a vote of 13 to 11, to approve extension of the bituminous coal act.

The act sets up machinery for a system of minimum prices on a national basis at the mines with the view to preventing destructive competition and stabilizing the coal industry.

#### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Little change in temperature tonight. Scattered showers and thunderstorms north and west portions this afternoon or early tonight.

#### FBI Agent Talks



**JAPANESE FBI AGENT** Tokio Slocum tells a House committee at Washington of laxity in the management of the Manzanar, Calif., relocation camp where 10,000 Japanese are quartered. Hostile Japs, he said, stirred rioting but were handled softly. (International)

#### Nazis Claim Kuban Gain

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At least 200 Russian boats were captured, destroyed or damaged by land forces aided by units of the German air force, the communique said.

Meanwhile the Russian mid-day communique, broadcast from Moscow, said that preparations for a German attack in the Belgorod sector northwest of Kharkov and midway between the Kuban bridgehead and the Leningrad front, had been smashed by artillery and mortar fire.

The first copy, the one actually voted upon on July 4, was signed only by John Hancock as president of the congress and attested by Charles Thompson as secretary. Since it was

#### Broadcast Declares Success Climaxed Weeks of Fighting; 2,000 Soviets Lost

London, July 5—(AP)—The German high command claimed today that a sudden Nazi thrust against Russian forces in the Lagoon district of the Kuban bridgehead yesterday had successfully climaxed several weeks of fighting over difficult terrain.

Two thousand Red troops were killed or captured and quantities of war materials were seized, the Nazi communique, broadcast from Berlin, asserted.

At least 200 Russian boats were captured, destroyed or damaged by land forces aided by units of the German air force, the communique said.

### POLE PREMIER DIES IN CRASH OFF GIBRALTAR

#### General Sikorski Had Been Visiting Polish Armed Forces in Middle East

London, July 5—(AP)—The Polish premier, General Sikorski, was killed last night when the Liberator plane in which he was traveling crashed shortly after taking off from Gibraltar, the air ministry announced today.

Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, deputy Polish premier and leader of the Polish peasant party, was designated as acting premier by the cabinet, pending selection of a successor to Sikorski.

The plane was reported to have crashed into the sea when its engines failed soon after the takeoff. Sikorski, six other passengers and all members of the plane's crew except one were killed, reliable reports said.

Among the victims was Sikorski's daughter, Mrs. Sophia Lesniowska, 26, who was traveling with her father as liaison officer between the air line headquarters of the Polish auxiliary territorial service (women's forces) and the Middle East. Her husband is a prisoner of war in Germany.

Major General Klimecki and several other members of Sikorski's staff died with him, the announcement said.

The only survivor of the crash was the pilot of the big plane, who was seriously injured.

Sikorski had been visiting Polish armed forces in the Middle East and was in Cairo as recently as last Thursday.

His death came at a moment when the forces which he had been organizing to fight for the liberation of Poland were at last ready to take

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#### BETTY GRABLE WEDS BANDLEADER JAMES

Las Vegas, Nev., July 5—(AP)—Blond Betty Grable, of the movies, and Bandleader Harry James were married here early today, less than an hour after James arrived by train from New York.

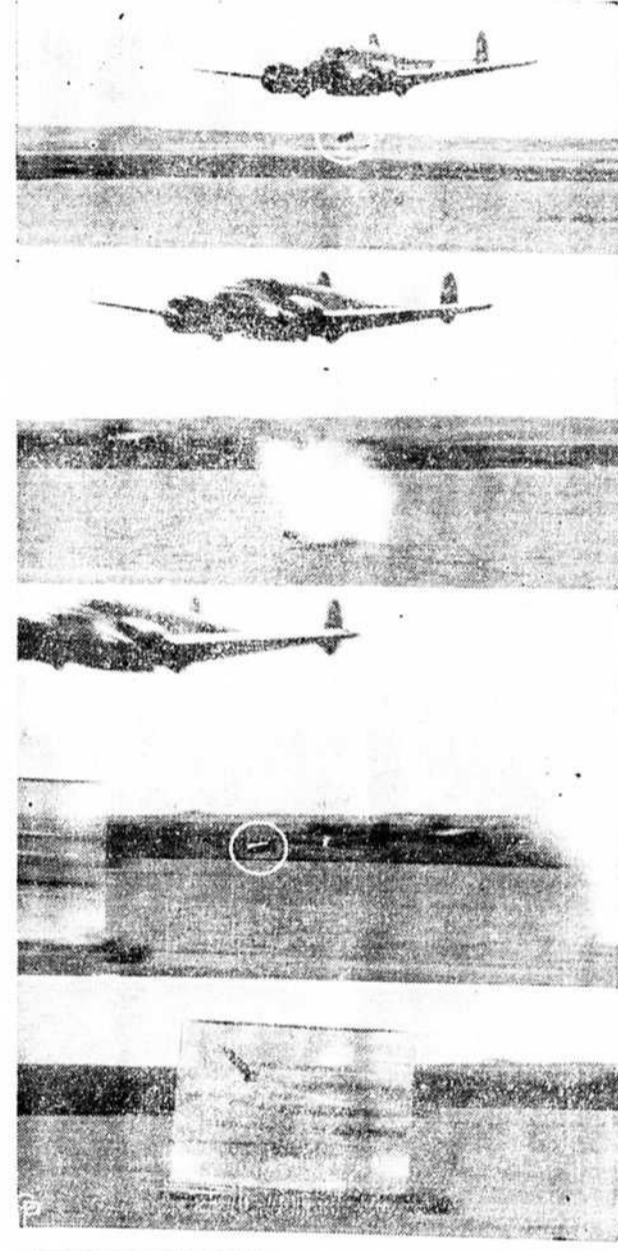
They reached a minister, and the newlywed couple left for the ceremony, performed at 11:30 a. m., in a hotel room. Miss Grable told County Clerk Ivelaine she was 26, and a native of St. Louis, Mo. James gave his age as 37 and his home as Beaumont, Tex.

#### Jap Islands Are Shelled

Washington, July 5—(AP)—Big shells from American warships streaming onto New Georgia and Kolombangara islands set numerous fires in the Japanese positions in a fourth of July bombardment, the Navy reported today.

The American surface craft steamed into the narrow waters between the islands in the Solomons, the Navy reported, then from their

#### SKIP-BOMBING DEMONSTRATION



ONE OF THE DEADLIEST TYPES of air attack developed recently by U. S. Army fliers is skip-bombing. These photos, taken at Lake Childers, Tex., during a demonstration, show its effectiveness. The bomb is dropped from the plane (top) low over the water. In the second photo it hits the water with a splash. Continuing on its way it skips into the air like a flat stone hurled across a pond. The bomb tears right through the target screen (bottom). In real battle it would explode against the target. The method can be used on land, also. (International)

### U.S. Squadrons Raid Five Italian Fields

**43 Axis Fighters Shot Down in Attacks; Aerial Supremacy Over Sicily at Stake**

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, July 5—(AP)—With air supremacy over Sicily at stake, United States squadrons attacked five of the island's major landing fields yesterday and shot down 43 axis fighters, it was announced today.

Despite the heaviest opposition from German and Italian fighters, the U. S. squadrons, including the 33rd Fighter Group, shot down 43 fighters, including 27 Axis fighters, and destroyed 100,000 lbs. of bombs, it was reported.

The 33rd Fighter Group, which is based at the Sicilian airfield of Trapani, the western Sicilian port of which aerial reconnaissance has disclosed the Italians to be blowing up shipping installations, and Catania, an eastern Sicilian port where the navy yards were the target, Italian sources reported today.

### Congressional Recess Finds Solons At Odds With FDR

Washington, July 5—(AP)—Congress will go home this week, bearing last minute changes in plans, at greater odds with President Roosevelt on domestic issues than at any time since the New Deal came into power ten years ago.

Predictions vary as to the mood in which the law makers will return seven weeks hence, but all agree that as the long for a summer recess, they are not in agreement with the President any more than they were when they first met in 1933.

Congress has dealt what amounts to death blows to two favorite New Deal schemes, the National Youth Administration plan and the National Recovery Administration, which was swept from a House floor today.

In the big fight, Mr. Roosevelt was outvoted by congressional conservatives in a vote on the National Youth Administration plan, which would have provided for an additional \$100,000,000 in 1943, but which has been ignored this year. A similar version of the plan, known as the "young men's act," which has apparently signed recently, has been enacted.

### General MacArthur Takes Field

#### Strategic Village on Vangunu Island Captured; 21 Jap Planes Shot Down

Allied Headquarters in Australia, July 5—(AP)—American forces, with General Douglas MacArthur in direct charge of operations thrust forward in the central Solomons Sunday, capturing a strategic village on Vangunu island and destroying 21 Japanese planes over Rendova.

News that General MacArthur had taken to the field for the second time in eight months was followed closely by the announcement that Americans had seized Vura village on the southern tip of Vangunu island. Three hundred Japanese were killed in the operation and the remainder of the garrison was dispersed. The noon communique said our losses were "relatively light."

Vura village commands the approaches to Wilhelm anchorage on the southern coast of Vangunu island. American planes and anti-aircraft guns shot 21 planes out of two formations which attempted to land the American positions on Rendova. Eighteen Japanese bombers, escorted by a score of fighters, were pinned down by a flight of Lockheed fighters before they reached their objectives. Five fighters and four Zeros were shot down without loss of a single American plane. Seven attempted Japanese bombers, including one which had just landed on Rendova, but which had just landed in a ditch on the island, were destroyed. The others were scattered.

General MacArthur sent troops and anti-aircraft guns to Rendova, a small island just west of New Georgia. The enemy commander for that base, Gen. Kameyama, was killed. The Japanese commander was killed. The Japanese commander was killed.

After the capture of five days of the island, the Japanese were allowed to leave. A flight of fighters was shot down. The Japanese commander was killed. The Japanese commander was killed.

