

Vilna Falls; Germans Evacuate Pinsk

German Attacks Stall Drive for St. Lo

Gap Before East Prussia Is Narrowed

Reds 29 Mi. From Border In Drive Threatening to Outflank Grodno

Adolf Hitler's armies, rolled back within 29 miles of the post-1939 border of East Prussia, gave up Pinsk north of the Pripet marshes yesterday a few hours after the Russians completed annihilation of the encircled German garrison at Vilna, southeast of Kaunas in Lithuania.

These two Soviet successes at opposite ends of the twisting 600-mile front, coupled with a fresh Nazi retreat opposite Luck, 80 miles northeast of Lwow, emphasized anew the Germans' inability to stand against the Russians' relentless westward surge.

Red Army gains were recorded on all sectors of the front, particularly in the sector opposite Grodno, about 150 miles almost due west of Minsk. In that area the Russians were outflanking Grodno to the north and driving back the Germans on a 50-mile front against the Niemen River running north from Grodno to Kaunas and thence west to the Baltic, near Memel.

Last Line Before Prussia

Moscow dispatches described the Niemen line as the Germans' last natural defense short of East Prussia. A successful attack breaching it would outflank both Grodno, one of the fortresses on the Nazis' Dvinsk-Vilna-Grodno-Bialystok defense line, and also Kaunas.

While two Soviet forces threatened Grodno, one from 15 miles northeast and the other from 27 miles southeast, other Red Army units outflanked Volkovysk junction and pressed within ten miles of the Volkovysk-Siedlice section of the Polotsk-Warsaw railroad. Still others swinging around Pinsk menaced the important Pinsk-Brest-Litovsk highway, threatening to encircle the Pinsk salient.

German Overseas News Agency said Pinsk was "evacuated according to plan."

Claim Vilna Evacuated

The Germans made a similar claim about Vilna, asserting that the city was evacuated and that its garrison had fought its way back to the main Nazi lines. The claim came more than two hours after Marshal Stalin, in an order of the day, had flatly announced the garrison's "annihilation" after five days' fighting.

Yesterday, Moscow Radio asserted the Germans murdered 100,000 people during their occupation of the city, which began in 1941 shortly after the invasion of the USSR. Moscow added that many thousands had been driven off to work in Germany and that only 50,000 remained of Vilna's pre-war population of more than 250,000.

The Germans still appeared to be offering stubborn resistance against superior forces, and Moscow reported they had rushed up reinforcements from deep in the rear to meet the threat to the Lithuanian front. One dispatch said two whole regiments were flown in from Berlin in Junkers transports.

On the almost-overshadowed Finnish front, Russian pressure was maintained. Stockholm reports said Finnish casualties were mounting rapidly and the Helsinki communique reported fierce fighting on the Karelian Isthmus.

Nazi Booby-Trap Hides Thermite in Candy Bar

WASHINGTON, July 14 (AP)—Army authorities told today of a new and diabolical booby-trap being used by the Germans—candy with a piece of thermite buried in the center. When eaten, the candy melts away and the thermite flares up in the mouth and throat.

The Germans also are exploiting the Allied troops' desire for cleanliness in devising other traps, Army experts said. Liquid-soap dispensers are filled with sulphuric acid, and another gadget is an innocent-looking cake of soap which can be used for some time, but when the outer coating is worn away, it explodes and is strong enough to blow off both hands.

Budapest Area Hit from South

500 Heavies Strike Oil Targets; Rail Bridges Pounded in France

A force of up to 500 Italian-based American heavy bombers yesterday battered four oil refineries on the outskirts of Budapest, as well as the Hungarian capital itself, as Ninth Air Force warplanes struck again at Germany's already badly disrupted French transportation system.

Escorted by Lightnings, Marauders and Havocs from Britain pounded two rail bridges west of Paris; Thunderbolt fighter-bombers hit two marshalling yards.

Eighth Air Force P47s and P51s, in a morning sweep over France, shot down four enemy planes.

Meanwhile, USSTAF headquarters said reconnaissance photographs showed a steady improvement in the accuracy of bombing by instruments through overcast.

Photos taken after a June 24 attack through cloud on an air-frame factory at Bremen disclosed that 12 of the plant's 14 main buildings were damaged heavily. Pictures of other instrument-bombing assaults revealed similar results.

James Stewart Is Named B24 Wing Chief of Staff

A LIBERATOR BASE, July 15—Appointment of Lt. Col. James M. Stewart, of Indiana, Pa., the screen star, as chief of staff of a B24 combat wing was announced yesterday by Maj. Gen. James P. Hodges, commander of an Eighth B24 division.

Stewart has been serving as a Liberator group operations officer. As chief of staff, he will be second in command to Brig. Gen. Edward J. Timberlake Jr., wing commander.

Plan Parley on News Exchange

WASHINGTON, July 14 (AP)—The U.S. and Britain are planning a conference this autumn on international communications and the exchange of news. It is regarded here as the opening move toward the American Government's objective of world-wide press freedom after the war.

Allies Join French They Freed In Bastille Day Observances

Amid the ruins of battle-ravaged towns and villages, Allied troops joined yesterday with the liberated people of Normandy in celebrating Bastille Day, France's equivalent of America's Independence Day.

Cherbourg saw the largest demonstration. French, British and American troops marched together in a parade that led to the Place de la Republique, where they were cheered by a gathering of 3,000.

In a public ceremony in front of the municipal theater, the Place Marshal Petain was formally renamed Place Gen. De Gaulle.

Caen, still within range of enemy fire, could ill afford public demonstrations. However, at a simple ceremony early yesterday morning, the Croix de Guerre was conferred on five members of the French resistance movement.

Members of the French underground, as well as French troops fighting on the Normandy front, were paid high tribute by Gen. Eisenhower in a Bastille Day message over the American Broadcasting Station in Europe.

"Our common victory will permit you to bring back, in France, that liberty born in France 155 years ago today—that liberty without which you cannot have either equality or fraternity, those two other ideals which the world owes to the French people," declared the Supreme Allied Commander.

Public worship and simple ceremonies at war memorials, decorated with wreaths and the flags of France, Britain and the U.S., for the most part marked the observance of the day throughout liberated Normandy.

Nazis Force Yanks Back In One Area

Right Flank, Center Gains Continue; Guns Blast Panzers Near Caen

The American left-flank drive on St. Lo came to a standstill yesterday and some U.S. forces withdrew slightly northeast of the city.

German SS and paratroop forces—Hitler's young party fanatics—leveled a savage barrage of mortar and automatic-weapon fire against the grim American yard-by-yard attempts to push into the city. A U.S. Army spokesman near St. Lo said that the Germans, with mobile self-propelled artillery, were firing from positions along the road leading eastward out of the city.

On an exposed salient along the road, U.S. troops retreated 200 yards and dug in, a dispatch from First Army Headquarters said. Northwest of the town, an American attack was under way along both banks of the Vire River in an attempt to straighten out the front.

Gain on Right Flank

Meanwhile, Yanks in the center and on the right flank of the front at the base of the Cherbourg peninsula moved steadily forward, gaining from one to three miles, in the general drive southward toward the St. Lo-Periers-Lessay highway.

On the British and Canadian front, Allied artillery blasted one of the biggest concentrations of tanks yet massed by Rommel for a counter-attack in Normandy.

(Continued on page 4)

The War Today

Russia—Germans evacuate Pinsk

Russians complete seizure of Vilna, "annihilate" Nazi garrison . . . Drive north of Grodno outflanks that main fortress on Warsaw-Vilna rail line, rolls back Germans to Niemen River running between Grodno and Kaunas, within 30 miles of post-1939 boundary of East Prussia.

France—American left-flank drive on St. Lo is brought to standstill by savage German resistance, forcing some U.S. troops to withdraw 200 yards and dig in . . . Yanks in center and on right flank of the front, gaining from one to three miles, are 1½ miles from Lessay and three miles from Periers . . . Allied artillery southwest of Caen smashes German move to counter-attack.

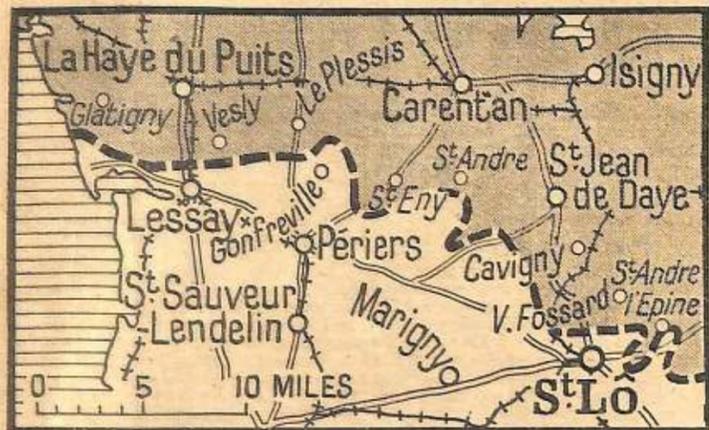
Air War—Italian-based American heavy bombers raid four oil refineries near Budapest and Hungarian capital itself.

Italy—Americans of Japanese origin capture Pastina and San Lucia, 13 miles southeast of Leghorn . . . Eighth Army advances toward Arezzo in the central sector with the taking of four villages and high ground dominating the roads to Arezzo . . . Casa Acqua and Montagnola cleared of Germans in the Adriatic area.

Pacific—American sea and air fleets bombard Guam two days, emphasizing possibility of imminent landing there . . . Tokyo Radio reports "powerful enemy fleet" in northern Marianas . . . Japs thrown back with heavy losses attempting to break through Allied lines in New Guinea.

Asia—Japanese abandon more positions south of Bishenpur, near Imphal in India . . . Chinese assault east gate of Tengchung on Yunnan front in China . . . Other Chinese gain new positions northwest of Myitkyina, in north Burma.

Americans Gain in Some Sectors



American troops gained from one to three miles in some sectors of their drive toward the St. Lo-Periers-Lessay highway, but German resistance held off attempts to enter St. Lo yesterday.

Barkley's Name to Be Offered For Vice-Presidential Race

3-Day Course Is Planned for Voting Officers

A three-day course on soldier-voting procedures will open Monday at Communication Zone headquarters for staff representatives of the ETO's major commands.

Officers attending will be charged with supervising administration of the soldier-vote law within their commands and with insuring proper instruction of soldier-voting officers to be appointed in each echelon down to companies.

They will be drilled on the regulations governing distribution of balloting material, the various state laws in reference to application for and transmission of ballots, and federal balloting provisions.

"We are anxious to insure uniform administration to the letter throughout the theater," said Col. Thomas R. Kerschner, ETO soldier-voting officer, who will conduct the course.

Guam Bombed, Shelled 2 Days

Emphasizing the possibility of an imminent landing on Guam, U.S. warships and aircraft bombarded the former American base in the northern Marianas twice this week, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz revealed yesterday.

Cruisers and destroyers joined on Monday and Tuesday to shell land installations, Nimitz said, while planes from a "fast carrier task group" attacked late Tuesday and also hit the neighboring island of Rota.

Meanwhile, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced that Japanese troops attempting to break through the Allied line northwest of Wewak on New Guinea were thrown back with heavy losses.

Robots Hit France Due to Nazi Error, Eisenhower Believes

ADVANCE COMMAND POST, July 14 (UP)—Gen. Eisenhower has received reports on flying bombs which fell on the Normandy beachhead and he discussed them at his last press conference, it was revealed today.

He said that no important damage was done and expressed the opinion that they were not directed at the beachhead area, but had probably fallen there because faulty mechanism had taken them off their course.

Formidable Weapon

MIAMI, July 14 (AP)—"The robot is a formidable weapon," said the Duke of Windsor when he arrived here with the Duchess. He intends to visit Washington, New York and probably Canada, he said.

Betting Chief Makes FDR 1 to 3, Dewey 2½ to 1 In November

PADUCAH, Ky., July 14 (ANS)—Senate Majority Leader Alben W. Barkley will be placed in nomination for the vice-presidency at next week's Democratic National Convention and will remain in the running until a nominee is selected, Associate Editor Henry Ward of the Paducah Sun-Democrat, close personal and political associate of Barkley, announced today.

Ward added that the plan had the senator's approval. Barkley, at home writing a speech to nominate President Roosevelt for a fourth term, had no comment.

Meanwhile, Sen. Harry S. Truman of Missouri announced in Kansas City that he did not want the vice-presidential nomination.

Puts Odds on Roosevelt

ST. LOUIS, July 14 (ANS)—Betting Commissioner James J. Carroll today offered 1 to 3 odds on President Roosevelt's re-election and 2½ to 1 on Gov. Thomas E. Dewey to win.

Carroll said a wager on Mr. Roosevelt would mean a \$3 bet to win \$1 and on Dewey a \$1 bet to win \$2.50.

In odds by states, Carroll put Michigan alone in the Dewey column.

GOP Vote Tops in Washington

SEATTLE, July 14 (ANS)—Washington State Republicans rejoiced today over a primary vote topping Democratic totals for the first time since the Roosevelt landslide in 1932—but Democratic leaders maintained that things would be different in November.

In all major races in Tuesday's primary (Continued on page 4)

Jap-Americans Score in Italy

Fifth Army infantry spearheads composed of American soldiers of Japanese origin cut through fiercely-defended German lines covering Leghorn yesterday to capture Pastina and San Lucia, villages 13 miles southeast of the west coast port.

In the Arezzo area, in the central sector, the Eighth Army moved ahead with the capture of Monte Civitella, Pianzano, Monte Tagliolo and Monte Favallo, dominating the lateral highway leading to Arezzo. French troops occupied San Gimignano, increasing the threat to Poggibonsi. On the Adriatic front, the village of Casa Acqua was cleared and the German outpost of Montagnola wiped out.

Star Denied a Honeymoon Till Navy Pulls Up Anchor

MIAMI, July 14 (ANS)—A postponed honeymoon was in prospect today for screen actress Gail Patrick and Lt. Arnold D. White, of the Navy, who were married Wednesday. White yesterday was ordered confined to quarters because he was minus a pass when he went to Jacksonville for the wedding.

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Hash Marks

The Yankee invasion of the United Kingdom is complete. The pigeons in Trafalgar Square are now saying, "Any crumbs, chum?"
 Famous Last Words. "Well, I didn't hear any alert."
 N. C. Lefton, one of our boys, was whipping his jeep up to the MOI office the other night. As he turned a corner



a masculine voice boomed out, "What time is it?" "10:30," cried Lefton. "You are wrong," shouted a feminine voice, "It's 10:35." "Guess I must be slow," mused Lefton. Came the feminine voice again, "If you are slow—you're the first Yank!"
 And English as she is spoke over here is making inroads into our language too. We spotted this inscription on the dashboard of a jeep: "Tyre Pressure 35 Lbs." For shame!

Milton Caniff, creator of Terry and the Pirates, can do Mustang Pilot Charlie Yeager of the ETO a big favor. Yeager, who follows the popular comic strip like Li'l Abner follows Fearless Fosdick, was made second lieutenant the same day Terry Lee of the strip got his gold bars—after 16 months of sweating it out. Now Yeager's sweating out Terry to make first looney.

Last Straw Department. Unoriented folks back home sent a GI at an Ordnance Base over here a can of Mexican Prickly Heat Powder.

Made a trip to Northern Ireland recently. The scenery is very beautiful along the way—especially when they are wearing shorts.

GI Philosophy: The old-fashioned girl used to hope to marry the boss. All the modern girl aims to do is boss the marriage.

While a doodle-bug bomb whistled over the city a little Cockney kid was



heard to sing, "Praise the Lord and Keep the Engine Running."

Flash from the Front! A communique from Headquarters Troop of a Cavalry Group now operating in the combat zone indicates that the outfit has already entered Paris and Berlin—on the payroll. (Cpl. George Paris and Pvt. Harry Berlin recently joined the outfit as replacements.)

J. C. W.

PRIVATE BREGER



"He read somewhere that it's very relaxing!"

Healthy Respect of Mines Is Healthy
Even German Dead May Cloak a Wired Invitation for Company

By G. K. Hodenfield
 Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

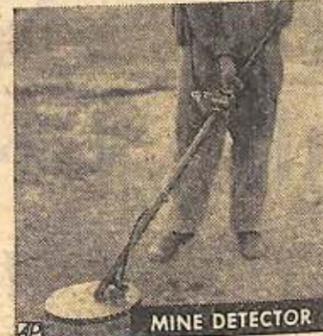
WITH U.S. TROOPS IN NORMANDY—Harry Simpson likes to talk about mines, and he's seen enough of them to make him an authority. Simpson used to work for the Agriculture Department in Bozeman, Mont. Now he's a lieutenant—reconnaissance officer with a front-line division. His job is to collect information and equipment. He calls himself a "commissioned junkman."

One of the nastiest mines Simpson has seen so far is an "S" mine, the German anti-personnel gadget often found in roadside ditches. These mines consist of long tubular containers with a charge of black powder at the bottom. Three prongs stick about one inch above ground and the slightest pressure on them will set off the powder. There is just enough charge to blow the container about four feet high. The charge also lights a very short fuse timed to explode the container at the right time, scattering round steel balls in all directions with terrific force.

Stepped on Mines

Simpson reports cases where men have stepped on mines, heard the little "phutt" of the exploding black powder, and been able to dive backwards or forward to a prone position. And if they're fast enough they sometimes are lucky enough to get away without a scratch. But when a man hears a machine-gun open up and dives into a ditch, he may land right atop a mine, and it's all over then.

Many times more destructive but much easier to locate is the Teller anti-tank mine which the Jerries leave atop roads and buried in the shoulders. Where I was talking to Simpson we could see at least 15 placed right on the surface of the road with only leaves or branches thrown over them as partial camouflage left by hastily retreating Jerries. All along the road white pieces of paper fluttered on sticks shoved into the ground marking the



The U.S. Army's SCR-625 mine detector set has proved to be far superior to the captured German model, the Frankfurt 42. Carried by one man, the 625 can detect a mine at 50 inches; the German detector does not register beyond 15 inches.

location of buried Tellers. Minesweepers always clear the roads with electrical detectors as far as the hedge while the troops move forward, but if mines are newly planted they are visible to the naked eye, for you can see where the dirt has been recently broken.

Not Much Trouble

Simpson hasn't yet had a great deal of trouble with booby traps—just enough that when he moves the body of a dead German for identification prior to burial by graves registration units Simpson always ties wire to the ankle and moves the Jerry from a safe distance. Germans are very rough and tough and no respecters of the dead. They'll booby-trap the bodies of their own soldiers just as quickly as those of their enemy if they think it will cause another Allied casualty. And when Simpson sees the body of a dead German private with binoculars or pistol he is doubly careful and makes the wire twice as long, for he knows Jerry has heard of the American reputa-

tion as a souvenir hunter and besides, what private in the German army would carry a pistol or binoculars?

Pvt. Carl Knoll, of Chicago, isn't lazy, but he likes to make his job as easy as possible. Knoll headed toward the front one afternoon with mortar ammo tied on the back of a small burro which he was leading with a rope halter. The burro was presented to him by a French civilian who thought the load too much for Knoll's shoulders.

All "inhabited places," including the largest cities and the smallest crossroad cluster of houses, are marked off-limits by MPs until Army authorities have a chance to make sure no Germans or German agents are left behind. One German agent entered La Haye day when Americans entered for the first time they reached du Puits for the first time they didn't stay only the railway station and didn't stay back in again next morning they found the usual sign stuck on a building near the city limits: "This town out of bounds to all military personnel."

One unit took over a former German billet in Cherbourg and found a huge steel safe in one of the rooms. They called engineers, who cut the safe open with blowtorches. Inside were three pencils and seven blank notebooks.

Pvt. Robert A. Banville thinks he may be the round peg in a square hole that he heard so much about. Banville was in a paratroop regiment for 13 months and has 11 jumps to his credit. He asked for overseas duty, hoping to be a replacement for some unit already in England. He's in Normandy now as wire-stringer for a combat engineer unit.

The Rangers who assaulted Point du Hoc on D-Day took over a former German troop area and found a movie projector and films in good order. They don't care much for the features, but they like to watch the German newsreel of the battle for Cassino.

Notes from the Air Force

COL. Leland G. Fiegel's Liberator group, which claims to be the most widely-traveled and oldest B24 outfit in the ETO, recently completed its 200th mission.

The unit arrived in Britain in September 1942, under the command of Col. (now brigadier general) Edward J. Timberlake Jr. It saw its first action over Lille, France, Oct. 9, 1942. After attacks on U-boat pens and anti-sub patrols, the group went to North Africa to support the Tunisian campaign.

It returned to the ETO in February, 1943. In June, the group flew to Africa again to support Allied landings in Sicily and Italy. While based in the Mediterranean it took part in the historic low-level attack on the Rumanian oil center of Ploesti.

Then, back in Britain once more, the group celebrated its first anniversary in combat with the assault on Danzig Oct. 8, 1943.

Gen. Timberlake's successor, Lt. Col. Addison E. Baker, who was killed in the Ploesti raid, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his part in the attack. Another Medal of Honor was posthumously awarded Baker's co-pilot, Maj. John L. Jerstad.

Eight more Marauders of the group commanded by Col. Joe W. Kelly, of Columbus, Ind., have passed the 100-mission mark, bringing the total to 14. The eight planes are: Mert, Seductive Susie, Hell's Angels, Privy Donna, La Golondrina, Smokey, Boomerang and Bad Penny.

I/LT. Ralph E. Kobler, 22-year-old P47 pilot from Morganton, N.C., chased a Nazi fighter at tree-top level on the outskirts of Hamm, Germany, and blasted him out of the air when the Jerry pulled up to dodge a three-storey building. Only minutes before Kobler forced a Nazi to bail out after shooting parts of his plane away.

An Eighth Air Force Fortress and Liberator recently crash-landed in Allied territory in France under enemy fire. The Fort, piloted by I/Lt. Raymond J. Graves, of Tioga, Pa., came down six miles behind the battlefield at a Canadian-held airfield. The Lib, piloted by 2/Lt. Richard L. Bates, of Louisville, Ky., landed so close to the front lines that the crewmen stood on the wing of their bomber and watched a land engagement.

Snafu, but Let There Be No Moaning at This Bar

That new overseas service bar, it seems, was pictured OK in yesterday's Stars and Stripes, but the description under the drawing was slightly snafued.

The bar itself, not the border, is gold. The gold part is one-fourth of an inch wide and one and three-eighths of an inch long. This is on a khaki or olive drab cloth background which forms a border one-eighth of an inch wide around the gold bar.

Nazi Dilemma

FURTHER proof that the Nazis are suffering from a severe manpower shortage which is affecting the course of the war in Europe has been disclosed by Acting War Secretary Patterson, in Washington.

At a press conference Patterson produced a German document obtained in Italy which he said indicated the shortage evident in Normandy, where the enemy is applying all troops available. "The Allied attacks on three fronts—give the Nazis very little leeway in which to practice a strategy of concentrating at one point and then shifting to another in an effort to throw back and relieve Allied pressure," he said.

His words are accentuated by today's headlines which tell of the Russians launching an attack against the last German defense line before Prussia, the Americans closing in on St. Lo for the kill and the Allies in Italy driving against Leghorn.

The Allies' three-way advance on Berlin is rapidly bringing closer the time when we shall know the extent of Germany's shortage of men and materials. As it appears now, she will have to exert herself to the utmost in order to make an effective last-ditch stand against the closing jaws of the Allied vice. But her defeat is certain.

Probably realizing this, the Nazis, as the British Minister of Home Security says, are making their last desperate throws with the fly-bombs, hoping to win a compromise peace by getting on the nerves of the people in London and wearing down their resistance.

No evil task the Nazis ever set upon could be more difficult of accomplishment.

Plan for Globe

A NEW 1944-model peace plan that has knocked the bottom out of prevalent international theories and has America talking is advanced in a new book, War Aims, by the American pundit Walter Lippmann.

Scrapping the idea of a world organization like the League of Nations, Lippmann's plan calls for a four-part division of the globe in accordance with "community interests."

The divisions Lippmann terms "orbits." He would have an Atlantic orbit led by the United States and Britain and including Canada, Mexico, all of South America, France and her empire, Belgium, the Netherlands and their colonies, Luxemburg, Norway, Denmark, Iceland and possibly Portugal, Spain, Italy, Greece, Eire, Sweden and eventually Germany.

A Russian orbit would consist of the USSR, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Finland, Poland, the Baltic States and perhaps Yugoslavia. All the states of southeastern Asia and Japan would fall into a Chinese orbit. A Moslem and Hindu orbit, the definite composition of which Lippmann finds it difficult to envisage, would encompass the Middle East, southern Asia and Africa.

Lippmann believes that such "orbits" would have such common interests as to facilitate unity and make war unthinkable.

This plan, of course, is only one of many being offered by those attempting to find a more practical basis for peace than has been afforded in the past. It will be up to the leaders and people of the United Nations to decide what plan is best. Certainly present events demonstrate that a future world organization to last must not be based solely on the expediency of the hour but on the practical long-range needs of all nations concerned.

From Down South

STILL they come. Below another snative son expounds about the beauties of his home state.

"Stars Fell on Alabama." As I sing that beautiful song sitting here cleaning my gun in Normandy, it reminds me of Birmingham with its large foundries turning out material to hit the Jerries; of coal dug by the millions of tons to push locomotives all over the States, and people working day and night to bring victory nearer. It helps me recall the days when I could always get good Ol' Moonshine or stump juice—a good thing to liven up that fiddlers' convention, box supper, wood sawing or square dance.

"I can see the fields of white cotton which help clothe Mr. and Mrs. America, and the waving corn we used to eat off the cob; and the Mighty Crimson Tide driving to the goal posts and victory. But best of all I can see the little farm about three 'axle greasings' from town, where there's always ham, fried chicken, biscuits, blackberry pie, strawberry shortcake and whipped cream on the table.

Say fellows, it's tough all of you ain't from Alabama! Pfc Ralph Price, Airdrome Squadron."

McNair Given New Job; Lear Takes His Post

Chief of Ground Forces Going Overseas on Secret Assignment

WASHINGTON, July 14 (AP)—The War Department announced today that Lt. Gen. Ben Lear had been assigned command of the Army ground forces, relieving Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair, who has been given "an important overseas assignment" the nature of which was not disclosed.

As commanding general of the U.S. Second Army, Lear directed the training program of selectees between Oct. 1, 1940, and May, 1943, when he reached the retirement age of 64 years.

Since then he has been assigned to the U.S. Army Group, detailed to special and often confidential missions.

The Canadian-born general rose from the ranks as a private.

Yanks Stalled By Nazi Blows

(Continued from page 1)

mandy. A concentrated carpet of high explosives was laid down as 40 German tanks were forming near Eterville, southwest of Caen between the Odon and Orne Rivers, and no attack developed.

U.S. troops advancing toward the St. Lo-Periers stretch of the St. Lo-Periers-Lessay highway captured Tribhau, Gournay and Le Hommet d'Arthenay and drove within two miles of the highway. A heavy German counter-attack in this sector near Auxais, about a mile west of Tribhau, was beaten back.

Two columns moving toward the Periers-Lessay stretch of the highway almost encircled the Gorges flooded area from the east and west, and had only two miles to go before linking up—a link that would shorten the American front and improve lateral communications.

3 Miles From Periers

Yanks heading down the Carentan road toward Periers reached a point three miles from the town.

In the Lessay sector, near the west coast, troops advancing southward on the road from La Haye du Puits reached the outskirts of Beauvais, only 1 1/2 miles north of Lessay. Other troops near Bretteville-sur-Ay were 2 1/2 miles from Lessay, and had cleared the southern slopes of Hill 92, from which there was a clear sweep down to the town.

The Germans were making an orderly withdrawal, SHAEF said, adding that there was no sign of panic among Germans falling back, and that there had been no reports of large numbers of prisoners.

British and Canadian forces in the Caen area had their quietest day since D-Day, two dispatches said, and a Berlin military spokesman commented: "It is obviously a case of calm before the storm." Massed artillery fire by the British southwest of Caen, another German source said, may indicate new attacks in that area.

Regrouping continued on the British sector, where the Germans succeeded in recapturing Colombolles and St. Honorine, both northeast of Caen, an Allied dispatch said.

Madame Chiang in Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO, July 14 (UP)—Mme. Chiang Kai-shek has arrived by plane for several weeks' rest.

Radio Highlights

AFN in the United Kingdom—1000 hours—2300 hours

On Your Dial
1375 kc 1402 kc 1411 kc 1420 kc 1447 kc
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.

Saturday, July 15

1000—Victory Parade with Boyd Raeburn Orchestra.
1015—Personal Album with Joe Stafford.
1130—Duffie Bag.
1330—Yank's Radio Edition.
1400—Hello Glee—Jimmy Durante, Dinah Shore.
1430—Army Talks.
1545—On the Record.
1630—Miss Parade.
1730—Tommy Dorsey.
1755—American Sports Roundup.
1815—Glen Miller Sextet.
1905—Dinah Shore.
2000—Home News from the U.S.A.
2015—Fanny Brice.
2045—Bandwagon.
2145—Top of the Evening.*

AEF on the Continent—0555 hours—2300 hours

On Your Dial
1050kc. 285m.
0600—Rise and Shine.
0815—GI Jive.
1215—Joe Loss Orchestra.
1315—Starlight.
1330—By Way of Music.
1830—Atlantic Spotlight.
2015—Music from the Movies.
2200—Johnny Carson's Revue.
* Indicates programs heard on both networks.

AFN in the United Kingdom—0800 hours—2300 hours

On Your Dial
1375 kc 1402 kc 1411 kc 1420 kc 1447 kc
218.1m. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.

Sunday, July 16

0800—Hymns from Home.
1000—Radio Chapel
1100—Morning After (Dinah Shore)
1130—Duffie Bag.*

Where 160 Died as Flames Swept the 'Big Top'



Against a backdrop of roaring flame which claimed the lives of 160 persons, these people fleeing the blazing "big top" of the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus in Hartford reflect the panic and fear which swept the matinee audience.

Gen. Roosevelt Dies in France

FIRST U.S. ARMY HQ, Normandy, July 14—Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt, son of the late President Theodore Roosevelt and veteran of four campaigns of this war, died in his tent Wednesday from a heart attack, it was disclosed today.

The 56-year-old general, who was wounded and decorated as a major in France in World War I, fought in North Africa, Sicily and Italy before leading assault forces on the beaches of Normandy in the initial waves of the invasion on D-Day.

He was at the front with the infantry in the siege of Cherbourg and was serving with the Fourth U.S. Division when stricken.

Cousin of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the general had been a prominent figure in civilian life before returning to active service in 1941 as a colonel. He was former assistant secretary of the Navy, former governor of Puerto Rico and Governor-general of the Philippines, as well as an author and publisher. He helped to organize the American Legion.

P51 Ace Goodson Missing Since June 20, AF Reveals

AN EIGHTH P51 BASE, July 14 (AP)—Maj. James Goodson, credited with destruction of 30 German planes—15 on the ground and 15 in the air—has been missing in action since June 20, it was disclosed today.

Fellow pilots reported his plane was shot down by flak as he was escorting bombers. Goodson was a squadron commander in the Mustang group commanded by Col. Donald M. Blakeslee.

Damage Suits Nearing ARC to Handle Home Requests

HARTFORD, Conn., July 14 (ANS)—With the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus placed in receivership in the wake of the recent disastrous fire here, damage suits against the circus corporation mounted toward the million-dollar mark today.

Several new actions filed yesterday totaled \$65,000, bringing total damages asked to \$893,000, with many more suits promised.

Many of the actions, arising out of the death of 160 persons in a fire which razed the circus "big top," named the city of Hartford as co-defendant. One named the city's fire chief and marshal.

Politics - - -

(Continued from page 1)

for governor, U.S. senator and in five of six congressional districts, the GOP vote on unofficial returns was impressively larger than that given to Democratic candidates.

Refuse to Bolt

COLUMBIA, S.C., July 14 (ANS)—South Carolina delegates yesterday voted down a proposal that they withdraw from the Democratic National Convention if their views on race problems were not given attention.

They voted to support President Roosevelt for renomination, with former Supreme Court Justice James F. Byrnes, war mobilization director, as his favored running mate.

Dewey Raps Administration

ALBANY, N.Y., July 14 (ANS)—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, in his first formal address since he accepted the Republican Presidential nomination, charged yesterday that the Roosevelt Administration had "separated the government from the people" and developed a tendency to hold the executive department "apart from and superior to other branches of the government."

New Committee Born

WASHINGTON, July 14 (ANS)—The National Citizens Political Action Committee, a flowering of the year-old CIO Political Action Committee, made its bow yesterday, dedicated to the reelection of a Roosevelt-Wallace ticket and a "progressive" Congress.

Sidney Hillman remained at the committee's helm and the only innovations were its slightly altered name, an avowal to make all financing strictly voluntary, and an expanded roster studded with editors, authors, bankers, manufacturers, professors and Hollywood stars.

ARC to Handle Home Requests

WASHINGTON, July 14 (ANS)—Requests to theater commanders asking for the return of servicemen overseas because of illness in their families or other emergency reasons henceforth will be handled by the Red Cross, the War Department announced today.

The strain imposed on communications by military messages forced the change in policy, the Army said. The Red Cross will make the recommendations through its own channels if it believes the soldier's return is necessary.

The Army also announced that it no longer would send requests overseas to obtain information regarding a specific individual. Such matters as the serious illness of a soldier, and subsequent changes in his condition, are reported by the Army to the soldier's next of kin as a matter of routine procedure.

Gabreski, Top Ace With 28 Kills, Can't Seem to Find No. 29

AN EIGHTH P47 BASE, July 14 (AP)—Lt. Col. Francis E. Gabreski, top American ace, is beginning to despair of fattening his score of 28 Nazi planes shot out of the air.

"I've flown five missions since I got number 28 and haven't seen an enemy plane or fired a shot," he said today. "I'm going to fly on through next week and then stooge around England for awhile before I go home for 30 days leave."

Anglo-American Bostons Plan Double Celebration

The two Bostons—in England and America—will conduct ceremonies simultaneously tomorrow in celebration of the 13th annual American pilgrimage to Boston, England (Lincolnshire).

A U.S. air force band in the ETO will lead a procession which will include a contingent of U.S. troops marching behind an American flag sent by Mayor Maurice Tobin, of Boston, Mass., for the occasion. Sir Gerald Campbell, British consul, will deliver an address at services in St. Paul's Cathedral in Boston, Mass.

Plane Crash Kills 12

SOUTH PORTLAND, Me., July 14 (ANS)—Twelve persons, including two Army fliers and three children, were killed when an Army plane crashed into a trailer camp near the Portland Municipal Airport. At least 25 were injured.

NEWS FROM HOME U.S. Delegates Oppose 'Treaty' On Money Issue

Want 'Agreement' at Talks To Obviate Need of a Two-Thirds Senate Vote

BRETTON WOODS, N.H., July 14 (Reuter)—American delegates at the International Monetary Conference are pressing for the inclusion of the word "agreement" in whatever action is taken. This would permit Congress to register its approval or disapproval by a majority vote of both houses.

The U.S. representatives want none of the documents to take the form of a "treaty" which would require ratification by a two-thirds majority of the Senate.

Meanwhile, the progress of the talks slowed down because of objections by smaller countries to having their quotas in the proposed stabilization fund slashed to enable Russia to get a larger one. The American delegates contend the fund already is sufficiently criticized for being too big and oppose any increase in the over-all total. The Soviet delegates seek a larger quota in order that their credits may be extended.

Dog Saves Joan Leslie

HOLLYWOOD, July 14 (ANS)—Frantic barking by her dog yesterday saved film actress Joan Leslie from possible serious burns. Miss Leslie fell asleep in her backyard while sun-bathing and upon being awakened discovered herself surrounded on three sides by a grass fire.

De-Triangulation

PITTSBURGH, July 14 (UP)—The judge asked William McCracken, on trial for attempting to choke his wife, if he would stay away from the "other woman." "That's pretty hard to do," McCracken replied. "Not so hard, maybe," the judge retorted. "One year."

Church Admonished

OCEAN GROVE, N.J., July 14 (ANS)—Liquor traffic could be destroyed "if the voice of the church would speak out and not be afraid," the Rev. James S. Pemberton, pastor of Asbury Park, N.J., told the annual meeting of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

Dog Freed From Cave

LESTERVILLE, Mo., July 14 (ANS)—A dog which two weeks ago plunged into an Ozark Mountain cave was rescued last night. Rescuers chipped through 20 feet of limestone to pull him out.

Job Program

CHICAGO, July 14 (UP)—Raymond Stemmer, a railway worker, confessed to wrecking signal boxes to get overtime for repairing them. On one occasion, Stemmer's activities held up eight trains.

Ex-Senator Dies

FAIRFAX, Va., July 14 (AP)—Joseph Little Bristow, former U.S. senator from Kansas, died here today. He was 83.

Germans Reported Shooting Prisoners

OTTAWA, July 14 (UP)—The Canadian government has begun an inquiry into reports from overseas that Canadian war prisoners have been shot for refusing to work for the Germans. Prime Minister Mackenzie King told the House of Commons last night.

King made the announcement after Mr. Graydon, leader of the Progressive Conservative Party, had referred to a Toronto newspaper report that two Canadian prisoners and several Americans had been killed at Stalag 11B near Hammerstein last February.

Fighting Grandma Gets Rumleys Back in War

SOMERS, Mont., July 14 (ANS)—Grandma and Grandpa Rumley grumbled because their grandson was too young for military duty. Then their son was discharged after combat duty, leaving the Rumleys minus a representative in uniform.

So Grandpop tried to enlist, but was ruled too old. That was too much for Grandma. She headed for the WAC recruiting office and now is Pvt. Rumley.

