

1^D

THE STARS AND STRIPES

1^{Fr}

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Vol. 4 No. 199

New York, N.Y.—London, England—France

Friday, June 23, 1944

3 Jap Carriers, Battleship Blasted by U.S. Planes Final Cherbourg Assault Is On

Rest of Fleet Gets Away; 14 Ships Hit

U.S. carrier planes caught up at last with the elusive Japanese fleet on Monday and destroyed or damaged 14 ships, including a battleship and three carriers, a Pearl Harbor communique announced yesterday, but the rest of the fleet slunk away in the darkness and the American warships could not bring them to battle.

But the sinking of four and possibly five Jap ships and the damaging of others by the U.S. planes, plus the destruction of 353 Jap planes, was the heaviest blow struck at the dwindling Japanese Navy in more than a year. Two aircraft-carriers and a battleship of Adm. Raymond J. Spruance's Fifth Fleet were damaged, but not seriously enough to impair their fighting power, and 49 U.S. planes were lost, 21 in combat.

The Japanese ship losses were:
Sunk—One carrier of the powerful new Hayataka class; three fleet tankers; possibly one destroyer.
Damaged—One Hayataka-class carrier hit heavily and left burning furiously; another carrier, believed to be the 20,000-ton Zuikaku, hit three times with 1,000-pound bombs; one light cruiser, probably of the 10,000-ton Zuiho or Taiho class, hit by at least one bomb; one battle-

shop of the old 30,000-ton Kongo class, one cruiser, two destroyers in addition to the one listed as possibly sunk, and two tankers.
The engagement, about midway between Saipan, in the Marianas, and Luzon, in the Philippines, opened Sunday when planes from the Jap fleet sought to attack the American task force. In this attempt, which proved disastrous for the enemy, the Jap plane losses previously had been estimated at 300, but Adm. Chester W. Nimitz's communique yesterday gave the exact count as 353—335 shot down by U.S. fighters and 18 by the ships' anti-aircraft fire.
The next day, U.S. reconnaissance planes finally located the Jap fleet, which included at least four battleships, a half dozen carriers and an unspecified number

The War Today

France—American troops launch all-out final attack on Cherbourg around whole 20-mile defense perimeter. . . . Defenses blasted by waves of Allied planes in tremendous 80-minute bombardment after Germans ignore 8 AM surrender ultimatum.
Air War—U.S. Forts, Libs give robot sites in Pas de Calais sixth heavy pounding in 36 hours. . . . Medium, light and fighter-bombers soften up Cherbourg fortifications.
Pacific—U.S. carrier planes catch Jap fleet between Marianas and Philippines and sink or damage 14 ships, including one battleship and three carriers. . . . rest of enemy fleet escape before U.S. warships can bring it to battle.
Italy—Allies 27 miles from Adriatic port of Ancona. . . . German casualties in last 31 days put unofficially at 80,000 to 100,000.
Russia—Red Army opens two new offensives 225 miles east of Vipuri, threatening to cut across waist of Finland. . . . Stockholm hears rumors of Russian "last chance" offer of armistice to Finns.

From the ETO to Russia



In the first two-way strategic bombing mission from Britain to Russia, U.S. Eighth AF long-range bombers and fighters landed in Russia after attacking Germany.

U.K. Heavies, Fighters Hit Reich, Land in Soviet

A U.S. AIR BASE SOMEWHERE IN RUSSIA, June 22—Long-range bombers and fighters of the U.S. Army's Eighth Air Force were being refueled here today after making the first two-way strategic bombing mission from Britain to the Soviet Union.

Escorted by American and Soviet fighters, the bombers landed here yesterday after attacking synthetic-oil refineries and installations in Ruhlant, 50 miles southeast of Berlin, and other targets in Germany.
In what was probably the longest fighter-escort mission ever made, Mustangs of the Eighth Air Force accompanied the "large number" of heavies from Britain to the bases here. Yak planes of the Red Air Force joined in the latter part of the flight.
Eastern Command of the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in Europe announced that three bombers and two fighters were lost in the mission. The fighters reported the destruction of five enemy planes, while the bombers were credited with one.

"Weather over the target was fair and results were excellent. Light fighter opposition was encountered and anti-aircraft fire varied from light to intense," the communique said.
High-ranking Soviet and American officers greeted the airmen as they landed. Russian girls also were on hand to shower them with bouquets of flowers.
"Shuttle raids place any given point in Germany or her satellites within reach of the Allied air forces," the colonel in command of the American bombers said on arrival here.
German News Agency reported yesterday that the planes landed at a field near Poltava, and that the base was raided Wednesday night by 100 Luftwaffe bombers. Poltava is in the Ukraine about 100 miles southwest of Khar'kov.
The presence of the American bases in the Soviet Union was revealed June 2. Italy-based long-range bombers and fighters landed there for the first time after bombing military objectives in Rumania.

America Next?
BALTIMORE, June 22 (AP)—Glenn L. Martin, the airplane builder, forecast today that development of the flying bomb would give it a 5,000-mile range by next year and make it "capable of coming from Europe to America."
At that extended range, he said, "they would be even more inaccurate."

P47s and P51s strafed and bombed marshalling yards, road and rail traffic and airfields, destroying or damaging 65 railroad cars and five locomotives. One fighter failed to return.
During the night, RAF Lancasters attacked industrial objectives in the Ruhr and Rhineland heavily, and Mosquitoes set Berlin's sirens wailing for the second time in 12 hours.
A large force of night fighters was sent up by the Germans and 46 RAF bombers were lost in the night's operations, which also included a twilight raid by escorted

Loss of Tanker To Sub Is Bared

The American tanker Seakay, set afire by a torpedo in mid-Atlantic, was lost several weeks ago, the U.S. War Shipping Administration announced yesterday.
More than 80 merchant seamen and Navy gunners were aboard the vessel, but only one life was lost, it was reported. The ship was bound for the ETO with a full cargo of vapor oil and a deck load of war material.

FDR Signs Into Law The 'GI Bill of Rights'

WASHINGTON, June 22—President Roosevelt today signed the so-called "GI bill of rights," known as the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944.
As finally adopted by House and Senate, after long consideration by a conference committee, the measure provides veterans education benefits and unemployment compensation and guarantees loans up to \$2,000 for purchases of homes, farms or businesses.

U.S. Heavies From Italy Attack Plants at Turin

ALGIERS, June 22—Mediterranean-based heavy bombers today attacked Fiat plants at Turin in northern Italy and motor-repair shops at Chivasso, 12 miles southwest of Turin, Algiers radio said tonight.

Extend War-Time Controls
WASHINGTON, June 22—Legislation to extend war-time price, wage and rent controls for another year went to the White House today following final congressional approval.

Ultimatum Ignored, Yanks Move In After Great Air Barrage

American troops drove a steel semi-circle around Cherbourg yesterday and launched a full-scale attack all along the 20-mile perimeter of its defenses in a supreme final push to wipe out the German defenders and capture the great port.

The assault was opened after waves of U.S. and British medium bombers, dive-bombers and fighters, some roaring down to within 100 feet of their targets, poured tons of high explosives on the hapless Nazis in a blinding bombardment which lasted 80 solid minutes. It was the closest co-ordinated air and land attack of the campaign.

An ultimatum had been broadcast by the Allied army field radio station in Normandy calling on the German garrison to surrender by 8 AM yesterday and giving detailed instructions for the procedure. It warned that "if you do not stop the fight now you will never see your homeland again," that "thousands of planes are waiting for the signal to rain death on you."

Russians Open 2 New Assaults

While the Red Army emphasized the might of its arms in the north by opening two new offensives aimed at cutting across the waist of Finland, a series of unconfirmed reports came from Stockholm yesterday that Moscow had given the Finns one last chance to seek an armistice and save their country from devastation.

One of the principal conditions, according to a Reuter Stockholm dispatch attributed to "a usually reliable informant," was the Finns' return to their 1940 frontier, which would give the USSR the newly captured port of Vipuri and all the Karelian Isthmus between the Gulf of Finland and Lake Ladoga, plus a sizable area along the eastern boundary with Russia at the Arctic Circle.
The Stockholm Aftonbladet, publishing a similar report, said the Red Army desired freedom of movement in Finland, especially air bases in central Finland, for use against the seven Nazi divisions in the north, and also bases on the Aaland Islands at the mouth of the Gulf of Finland between Sweden and Finland.

Allies 27 Miles From Italy Port

Allied troops storming up the east coast of Italy yesterday were reported only 27 miles from the important port and naval base of Ancona, a Reuter dispatch from the front said.
Inland, Eighth Army forces captured Umbra and Camerino, ten and 20 miles northeast of Foglino, which itself is 20 miles southeast of Perugia, Algiers radio announced. British troops which Wednesday took Fermo, five miles inland from Porto San Giorgio on the coastal railway running south of Ancona, have advanced several miles to Adagio.
On the west coast, Fifth Army troops on Highways 1 and 73 were 15 miles north of Grosseto.
German casualties in Italy in the last 31 days were unofficially estimated at 80,000 to 100,000 killed, wounded or captured, dispatches from Fifth Army headquarters said.
The report added that 27 or 28 German divisions had been absorbed by the fighting in Italy and that 25 of them already had seen action.

Senate Votes Infantry Raise

WASHINGTON, June 22—The Senate passed and sent to the House yesterday an Army-indorsed bill which would boost the pay of expert infantrymen \$5 to \$10 a month.
A \$5 increase would go to infantrymen who attain a standard of proficiency or perform satisfactorily in combat, while a \$10 raise would reward exemplary conduct in action of satisfactory duty in a "major operation."

Predicts FDR Will End Silence on a 4th Term

WASHINGTON, June 22 (AP)—Gov. Ellis Arnall of Georgia, leaving the White House after an appointment with the President, told newsmen today he believed Mr. Roosevelt would make a public statement shortly after the Republican National Convention, "taking the people and the Democratic Party into his confidence" concerning his attitude on a fourth term.
The GOP convention opens in Chicago Monday.

GOP OK Seen On a Plank for Peace Combine

Chiefs Believed Agreeable To International Agency; Delegates Arriving

CHICAGO, June 22—Indications arose today that Republican leaders would agree on a platform plank committing the party to cooperation in an international post-war organization to maintain the peace backed up by military force.

At the same time, with delegates arriving hourly for the national convention which opens Monday, the possibility that Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York might be nominated for President on the first ballot was widely discussed.

Former Gov. Alf M. Landon of Kansas, the 1936 standard-bearer; Clarence Buddington Kelland, Arizona national committeeman, and Lew M. Wentz, Oklahoma committeeman, were among those predicting Dewey's nomination on the first or second ballot.

It appeared that California, with its 50 votes cast adrift by Gov. Earl Warren; Illinois with its 59, and Pennsylvania with its 70, held the key to the one-ballot issue, with no one certain how their votes would be cast.

Sen. Warren R. Austin, of Vermont, brought to Chicago a draft of a foreign-policy plank which he said went beyond last summer's Mackinac Island pledge for responsible participation by the U.S. in a post-war co-operative organization in its reference to the use of military force to back it up. The plank was understood to have been approved in principle by friends of Gov. Dewey and by Sen. Robert A. Taft, of Ohio, chairman of the resolutions committee.

House Votes to Probe Union Campaign Funds

WASHINGTON, June 22—The House voted yesterday to bring labor unions within the scope of its biennial congressional campaign-expenditures investigation this year for the first time.

Campaign-fund inquiries previously have been confined to contributions of corporations and business associations. The resolution for this year's investigations made any contribution by individuals, partnerships, corporations, labor unions and trade associations subject to investigation.

Meanwhile, complete but unofficial returns from the June 13 Idaho primaries indicated the defeat of Democratic Sen. D. Worth Clark in his quest for re-nomination. Returns from all the state's 845 precincts, including official returns from 818, showed 10,513 votes for Clark and 10,733 for Glen H. Taylor, of Pocatello, former cowboy radio singer. Gov. C. A. Bottolfsen won the Republican senatorial nomination.

Nomination of Colonel, 28, To Be General Approved

WASHINGTON, June 22—Two Air Force "youngsters" were among 63 Army officers whose Presidential nominations to the rank of brigadier general were approved by the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

The two are Col. Richard C. Sanders, 28, commander of a bombardment wing in the ETO, and Col. Clinton D. Vincent, 29, commander of a composite wing of the 14th Air Force in the China-Burma-India Theater.

The committee at the same time approved promotions of 20 officers to temporary grade of major general.

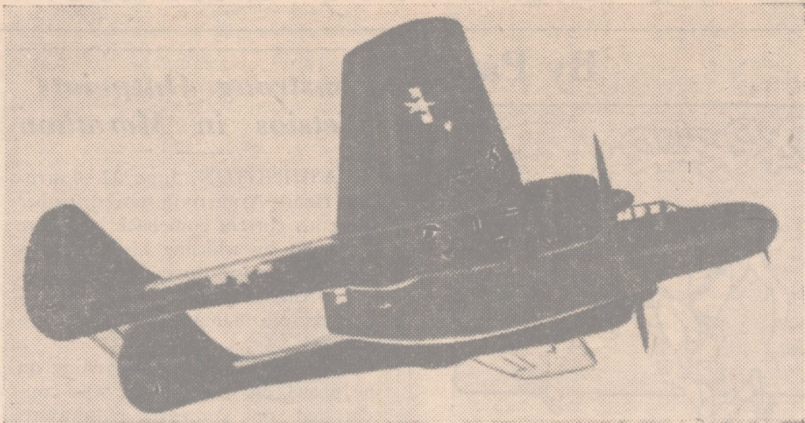
He Should Know

PENSACOLA, Fla., June 22—Sailors at the Naval Air Training Center here gave a concert under the direction of Sir Thomas Beecham, famed British conductor. After the program, Beecham exclaimed: "They're d — — — good."

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 fm. 213.9m. 212.6m. 211.3m. 207.3m.
- Friday, June 23
- 1005—Personal Album—John Charles Thomas.*
 - 1015—Victory Parade—Jan Savitt.*
 - 1100—Army Talks.
 - 1130—Duffie Bag.*
 - 1345—Melody Roundup.
 - 1400—Visiting Hour—The Great Gildersleeve.
 - 1530—On the Record.*
 - 1700—Grand Old Opera.*
 - 1730—London Column.
 - 1745—Hawaiian Serenade.
 - 1755—American Sports Roundup.*
 - 1805—GI Supper Club.
 - 1905—Fred Allen.*
 - 2000—Home News from the U.S.A.*
 - 2005—Duffy's Tavern.
 - 2030—California Melodies—Frank Duval's Orchestra.*
 - 2115—Paul Whiteman Presents.
 - 2145—Fred Waring.
 - 2200—Kay Kyser's Kollege.*
 - 2230—Suspense.
- AEF—On the Continent—0555 hours—2300 hours
- On Your Dial
- 1050 kc. 285m.
- 0600—Rise and Shine.
 - 0815—Hawaiian Serenaders.
 - 0830—John Charles Thomas.
 - 0915—Ranch House.
 - 1030—Music While You Work—Sidney Davy Players.*
 - 1215—Lew Stone's Band.
 - 1815—Starlight—Pat Leonard, Jimmy Bailey.
 - 1830—GI Journal.
 - 1935—RCAF Dance Orchestra.
 - 2230—One Night Stand.
- *Indicates programs heard on both networks.

Army's New P61—the Black Widow



The Army Air Forces' new Northrop P61 Black Widow night fighter plane, claimed to be the most powerful pursuit plane ever built, is shown here. The ship is equipped with the latest night-fighting devices and powered by two Pratt and Whitney engines.

FDR Takes Action On a Mother's Plea, Sarge Gets a Cake

NINTH AIR FORCE ADVANCE HQ, June 22—Sgt. Donald Kantner, of Ringtown, Pa., celebrated his 21st birthday at a Thunderbolt base in Normandy last night in style. He had a birthday cake—thanks to a letter his mother sent to President Roosevelt in which she asked that cooks in her son's organization be instructed to bake him a cake.

The Chief Executive marked the request "immediate action" and forwarded it to Kantner's commanding officer, Lt. Col. George L. Wertenbacher Jr., of Charlottesville, Va. The cake, inscribed "Happy Birthday," was flown from England to France yesterday.

A \$5 bill which Kantner's mother inclosed to pay for the cake will be returned to her, Wertenbacher said.

Make Decree Foolproof, Doris Duke Asks Court

RENO, Nev., June 22—Doris Duke Cromwell, seeking to make "foolproof" her divorce obtained last year from James H. R. Cromwell, told a court Tuesday that the former U.S. minister to Canada not only tried to gain control of \$7,000,000 of her fortune, but proposed that she finance a foundation that would net him \$110,000 annually as its president and that she should underwrite any loss.

Mrs. Cromwell petitioned for a hearing July 19 to amend her Nevada divorce, the legality of which has been disputed by a New Jersey court.

Cromwell, suing in New Jersey as his legal domicile, won a verdict that his wife's Nevada divorce was "wholly void and of no effect" in that the Reno court lacked jurisdiction because her home was in New Jersey.

A Youthful Hunter, 16, Bags Himself a Wife, 37

VANCOUVER, Wash., June 22—His fingernails painted bright green—"to match Mary's"—16-year-old Ronald Smith last week married 37-year-old Mrs. Mary Ellen Brown, 37, a widow with two children.

Smith attributed the romance to a mutual liking for hunting and fishing.

Nature Was Applauding

PHILADELPHIA, June 22—Seven thousand persons sat in a downpour to hear a complete rendition of Brahms's Third Symphony at Robin Hood Dell bowl.

Pacific - - - -

(Continued from page 1)

of smaller units. The U.S. bombers and torpedo planes immediately took off to attack and struck the 14 ships within the two hours remaining before darkness. The Japs fled during the night through the passage between Luzon and Formosa.

With the Japs thus driven from the Marianas waters, U.S. soldiers and marines launched a major attack to clean up Saipan Island. The Americans in one week's fighting against an estimated 20,000 Japs have captured a third of the island in the south, including two airfields. One of these, Aslito airdrome, already is ready for use after repairs by Seabees. The Americans captured large stocks of rice, fish, gasoline and other material.

Warn Civilians Of Rail Tie-Up

NEW YORK, June 22—Railroad officials yesterday warned civilians holding July reservations that they would have to give up their space if large numbers of American wounded begin returning from the Normandy battlefields.

All reserved space for July on eastern lines was sold out yesterday. Rail and bus spokesmen predicted summer vacation travel would set new records this year, despite a government appeal against unnecessary travel.

Officials of the Office of Defense Transportation warned that "the railroads need the full co-operation of public traffic curtailment, with organized military and furlough travel close to the three million mark each month and the necessity for transporting large numbers of wounded men."

Air - - - -

(Continued from page 1)

Lancasters and Halifaxes on a flying-bomb installation in northern France.

A senior Eighth Air Force officer yesterday forecast bigger blows on Berlin and other key German cities. He declared that with the Allied beachhead secured, the Allied air forces could resume their original job—the smashing of German manufacturing capacity and communications and the destroying of the Nazi ability and will to fight.

In the record assault on Berlin Wednesday, the heavies plastered railroad yards, factories, other military objectives and FW190 engine plants at outlying Basdorf. Forty-nine enemy aircraft were shot down—29 by the bombers and 20 by escorting fighters.

Although bad weather restricted aerial activity throughout the day, nearly 1,000 fighters were dispatched by the Ninth Air Force in widespread assaults on rail yards northwest of Paris, airfields and main lines supplying German troops in Normandy. The fighters also helped escort Eighth Air Force bombers.

Robots' Platforms Seized near Cherbourg

The capture of German pilotless-plane launching platforms by American troops advancing across the Cherbourg peninsula was confirmed yesterday at SHAEF.

However, it was added that "there is no evidence that a single flying bomb ever was dispatched" from this area.

Meanwhile, reports from an Allied advanced command post said that more than one fourth of the Nazi flying-bomb installations were located in the Cherbourg area and that the others were in the Pas de Calais region. Allied experts were reported examining the captured platforms.

German Radio reported yesterday that the destructive power of the planes had been increased by equipping them with incendiaries.

In Washington, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said that "robot bombs are not yet a major factor in the war, and various counter-measures already have been undertaken."

Emmons Transferred

SAN FRANCISCO, June 22 (AP)—Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, chief of Western Defense Command, has been transferred to "an unannounced important command," it has been announced. His successor was not named.

Terry and the Pirates

