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FIREBOMBS SEAR JAPAN

★★★ ★★★ ★★★ ★★★ ★★★ ★★★ ★★★ ★★★ ★★★

TANKS PACE AUSSIE DRIVE

PHILADELPHIA TO OKINAWA — From Philadelphia's Independence Hall, where, on July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed, to Okinawa, far-flung outpost near Japan's homeland, the national independence for which the Stars and Stripes stands has spread. Nations subjugated by the Nazis in Africa and Europe are liberated—peaceful island people of the Pacific hail the rebirth of freedom after the tyrannical rule of Nippon.

The Fourth With The Forces

Americans In Berlin Mark Day By Raising Old Glory

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Stars and Stripes were hoisted over the Adolf Hitler barracks in a formal Fourth of July observance in Berlin today as American troops in the European theater celebrated Independence Day with the assistance of their Allies.

A 48-gun salute to "Old Glory" marked the flag-raising ceremonies in Berlin, carried out by troops of the U. S. Second Armored Division which entered the German capital only yesterday to take over their zone of occupation. An honor guard of 100 Red Army men participated.

Formal observances also were conducted in other European capitals. In Paris, the beautiful old Avenue Victoria Emanuele was officially renamed Avenue de President Roosevelt by French authorities at ceremonies attended by U. S. Ambassador Jefferson Caffery, who acknowledged the tribute in behalf of the United States Government.

A similar tribute was paid the late President Roosevelt in Brussels, where one of the city's smartest thoroughfares was renamed in his honor. U. S. Ambassador Charles Sawyer was an honor guest at the dedication.

In London, special observances were sponsored by the American Society and the Washington Club. Dutch officials marked the day by laying memorial wreaths on monuments at three American war cemeteries in Holland and the Moscow and Prague radios arranged special Independence Day programs.

HOLIDAY FOR ALL

For American servicemen and women, however, the day was for the most part one of relaxation. All Army personnel in United Kingdom bases were granted a holiday and special entertainments were arranged for their benefit.

High on the day's program wherever American troops gathered from London to Berlin, were athletic events that included baseball batting, track and swimming.

In Rome the Army Rest Center planned a beauty contest with "Miss Liberty" to be selected from a field of 25 American and 25 Italian girls.

On the other side of the world, America's Independence Day was celebrated aboard a British battleship in the Solomon Australia harbor for the first time in history.

H. M. S. Duke of York flew the American flag at its masthead as Gen. George Hoyt, U. S. Navy commentator, was piped aboard. He was received by Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander in chief of the British Pacific fleet.

Other services observing the day were held throughout the country.

Employment Shows Slight Drop In N. C.

RALEIGH — (AP) — A survey made at the end of May showed a 2.1 per cent decrease in the number of workers employed during that month as compared with April.

A 2.4 per cent decrease in average hours worked per week also was reported by Labor Commissioner Forrest Shuford. He said this decrease was due largely to the fact that many establishments arranged

President Sets Pace

Independence Day Observed Quietly

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Americans observed another wartime Independence Day today by remaining on the job for the most part, to help defeat a tenacious enemy.

War bond rallies, entertainments for wounded veterans, parades and flag raisings were held in scattered cities and towns. But a majority of working men and women followed the leadership of President Truman who devoted this July Fourth strictly to tasks at his desk.

The President issued an Independence Day statement asking Americans to "honor our nation's creed of liberty" and the fighting men and women who are carrying it with them throughout the world.

"We have pride in the combined might of this nation which has contributed signally to the defeat of the enemy in Europe," he said. "We have confidence that, under Providence, we soon may crush the enemy in the Pacific."

With the danger of submarines along the East Coast ended, New England communities ushered in the Fourth with traditional mob, night bonfires set on the first Fourth since the start of the war.

In the South, Dade County, Georgia, with a pageant and speech-making made known to everybody it had ended a legend that it still stood seceded from the rest of the country. The legend grew from a speech made by Dade Representative in the Georgia Legislature in 1860. He told the Legislature that if Georgia did not secede, Dade would. The story went that the Representative actually sent a secession proclamation to Washington.

Chicago expected more than 70,000 to attend a show at Soldier Field put on by the Cook County Council of the American Legion. Patriotic items Army bands still be glad.

The Weather Bureau forecast generally fair weather for many cities, but called for intermittent showers in others, with possible showers or thunderstorms.

Railroad officials at Detroit reported travel the heaviest in twenty years. State police there said automobile traffic was expected to be greater than last year's.

In historic Philadelphia, home city of Independence Hall, a community celebration in cooperation with the armed services was

cluded a pageant and war bond rally in Central Park Mall, an observance entitled "The Minute Men of America" in Madison Square Park, an Inter-service salute celebration aboard the aircraft carrier "Fighting Lady," a 100-foot scale model in Rockefeller Center Plaza, and a Fifth Avenue parade.

Maybank Would Pay Troops U. S. Money

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Maybank, Democrat, South Carolina, has proposed that American troops abroad be paid in U. S. currency. He told the Senate yesterday foreign currencies did not have as much purchasing power as American currency and men serving abroad should not be penalized by payment in foreign coin.

An exception would be troops serving in the Philippines.

Joan Blondell's Sister Files Suit For Divorce

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — Alfred Riccioli, heir of a family that gave its name to the vegetable, was sued yesterday for divorce by Gloria Blondell, sister of actress Joan Blondell. She alleged cruelty.

Married in Las Vegas, Nev., five years ago, the couple separated last week. Riccioli is a cousin of Pat Di Cicco divorced recently from heiress Gloria Vanderbilt.

B-29's Roam At Will

U. S. Officers Puzzled About Lack Of Jap Air Opposition

By TOM REDDY

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Japanese air force of the back of mess has developed into the biggest question mark of the Pacific War.

Top U. S. air generals are divided over the puzzling question of why B-29s can roam at will without encountering interception from Japan, including Gen. George C. Kenney, chief air officer to Gen. MacArthur, think the Japs simply take aim out of planes. Others believe the enemy force has been whittled down but that a good-sized number are being held back

Brig. Gen. William J. Flood of, Washington, chief of staff of the Seventh Air Force, returned from Saipan today with the declaration that he frankly is puzzled by the situation.

Flood says the question no longer is how good the Japanese plane and pilot may be, instead it is where is he.

Military intelligence always believed, Flood said, that the Japanese could produce from 1,200 to 1,500 planes a month. Bombing strikes have cut that down considerably but the General said "we are not destroying as many

The planes on Japanese home fields seemed to have dashed into hole B-29s on combing missions, almost never them scattered and airborne aerodromes.

"Some of us feel they have the planes but we can't figure out where or what they are saving them for," Flood commented to reporters.

Maybe they're saving them for the last grand finale to try to fight off invasion.

The General said the suicide plane attempts seem to be fal-

Spread Out Along East Borneo Coast

Balikpapan's Fall Expected Soon

By SPENCER DAVIS

MANILA — (AP) —The last Japanese air base in the Balikpapan area was menaced today by Australian Seventh Division troops, paced by clattering Matilda tanks, spreading out among the invaded East Borneo coast under a continuous fire screen of warships, planes and artillery.

The tank-led columns were less than six miles from the twin-airway Manggar Airdrome, 12 miles to the northeast of blasted, burning Balikpapan, Borneo's greatest oil port. Melbourne radio said the fall of Balikpapan is but "a matter of hours."

SCOUT PLANES UP

The stunned spearheads operated east of Sepinggang airfield, occupied only Monday night but already sending up scout planes to "cover" for ground advance. Engineers expected to have the captured 4,800-foot airfield ready for transport planes soon.

At a field near Balikpapan Associated Press Correspondent Russell Brines gave this overall summary today:

"Enemy forces in this area apparently were toppled off balance and ripped into small units, lacking communications, by the intense pre-landing bombardments. They have failed to regain their equilibrium in the face of the swift Aussie advance. Hence, they were unable to take advantage of the intensive fortifications they prepared long ago."

He reported that the Aussies, after uncovering 500 enemy mines, still were plagued by the most ingenious maze of concealed demolitions and booby traps yet encountered in the Southwest Pacific Brines said the Japanese probably will put up a strong defense along the bichway leading north from Balikpapan 56 miles to Marimda in the heart of the main oil fields.

REFINERIES WRECKED

From the last radio before Balikpapan, Associated Press Correspondent James Hutcheson looked down on millions of dollars of wrecked refineries, smashed by Allied air and naval attacks to render them useless to the enemy.

Now engineers stand ready to begin the tremendous job of restoring them but Hutcheson said it was likely that the oil fields serving them would remain in enemy hands for some time. The Aussie gear Balikpapan had made the deepest inland penetration from Sunday's invasion beaches, — two miles.

The capture of Sepinggang airfield against light opposition gave Gen. Douglas MacArthur's forces a base within fighter plane range of Java and afforded the U. S. Seventh Fleet air cover on submerged Makassar Strait, until recently penetrated only by Allied submarines.

Washington Statement

Senator Hoey Calls For Anti-Strike Legislation

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Legislation to deal with the strike situation is going to be necessary, declares Sen. Clyde R. Hoey.

In a statement Sen. Hoey said, it is unthinkable that we shall continue to permit the whole routine of business to be disrupted by strikes, both authorized and unauthorized, and the public denied the essentials of life because of some real or imaginary grievance and because of differences between contending forces."

The former North Carolina Governor said, "It is necessary to have laws to control monopoly in business, but it is equally essential to have laws to control monopoly in labor. I have only contempt for a law that can control a Sewell Avery but stands helpless before a James Petrillo or a John Lewis."

Sen. Hoey stated he is studying a proposed bill known as the Hatch-Ball-Burton Bill, which seeks to rewrite our Federal statutes governing labor relations." Because a "law so biased in provisions and enforcement as the National Labor Relations Act ought not to remain unchanged on our statute books."

SENATOR HOEY

He asserted, "The present law ignores entirely the rights of workers who do not belong to unions, and discriminates against them, as well as employers." He said it has been enforced to give the public the impression that the board is "merely an adjunct of the labor unions."

It is time, he said, for a new law changing policy so that employers and unions would be treated alike and the "rights of workers who are not unionized should be adequately protected."

Sav Sakhalin Shelled

Deep Warship Penetration Into Jap Waters Reported

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — Five American warships shelled Karafuto Island yesterday in their deepest penetration of Japanese waters, Tokyo radio reported today.

Karafuto is the Japanese-held half of Sahkalin Island, just off the Asiatic continent north of Japan. The northern half is held by Soviet Russia.

Warships reportedly trained their guns on war installations of Shikuka a port in the Bay of Taraka near the South-Japanese border.

There was no confirmation of the broadcast which was beamed to America and picked up by the Federal Communications Commission.

Tokyo radio later reported that an enemy submarine shelled the Shikuka coast yesterday for about ten minutes but denied damage.

The broadcast added that on the previous day a submarine made three successive shellings and machine gun attacks on Kashyo Island off the Taraika Cape. The latter shelling lasted for almost five hours.

Karafuto-Sakhalin divides the Sea of Japan from the Sea of Okhotsk. Only once have American warships penetrated these waters, when a task force of the North Pacific fleet recently steamed through the Kurile Islands and knocked out an enemy convoy.

Shikuka is on the east coast of Karafuto, nearly 400 miles north of Hokkaido, northernmost of the main Islands of Japan.

LONG JOURNEY

To reach Karafuto a task force from Vice Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher's Ninth Fleet would have had to steam out of Alaskan waters, ship through the oft-bombed Kurile Islands and penetrate roughly 600 miles of Nippon's most distant seas.

Tokyo which has long been worrying about an invasion from the south became apprehensive last week about an attack from the north.

Mecklenburg Casualties

Stories Inside

KILLED

Cpl. Lloyd Douglas Teerr

Marking Time

No Action Taken In Akron Strike

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Government marked time today after a move apparently leading toward Federal seizure of the strike-bound Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. plants in Akron, Ohio.

The labor dispute which has kept 16,500 workers away from their jobs for eighteen days was in the hands of William H. Davis, Economic Stabilizer, turned over to him by the War Labor Board for whatever action he may see fit. The board acted after refusal of strikers to obey its directives to return to work.

ORDER DEFIED

In Akron, where 16,500 additional employees of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company are on strike CIO Union leaders took President Truman's order to the country in stride. CIO Government director of the plants The Firestone workers, out since Sunday, defied a WLB back-to-work order.

The number of workers away from their jobs on the Fourth of July holiday because of labor controversies was around the 50,000 mark, with an additional 24,000 rubber workers in Akron idle because of a shutdown of three firms for overhauling of equipment.

While [illegible] for Federal intervention in a grain weighers' strike that has blocked movements into the big milling center since Sunday. A railroad embargo was placed on new shipments of grain as more than 1,000 cars were in yards.

Stoppages at two plants ended 3,000 CIO glass workers resuming production at the Ford City, Pa., plant of Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company and 1,700 Waukesha Wis., Motor Company employees were back to their jobs after a five-day strike.

Other strikes continued at Mack Manufacturing Corporation plants in New Jersey and Pennsylvania [illegible] at Detroit [illegible] yards affecting 700; the R. R. Donnelley and Sons Company in Chicago keeping idle 1,100 AFL printers, and 530 Negro CIO workers were off their jobs at the Port Arthur, Tex., refinery of the Texas Company, which was being operated by the government.

Trains Crash In Georgia

TALBOTTON, Ga. — (AP) — More than a score of persons were injured, some of them [illegible] when two passenger trains collided [illegible] Central of Georgia here [illegible]

The trains were the Dixie Flyer [illegible] en route from Miami [illegible] Atlanta, Birmingham & Coast Railway and a local passenger

Curb Placed On Speculating

WASHINGTON — (AP) — With the aim of keeping stock market speculation [illegible] the Federal Reserve Board has raised the margin requirements from 30 to 75 per cent, the highest ever [illegible] effective tomorrow anyone buying stocks on exchanges securities must put up 75 per cent of the purchase himself—this is his "margin" and can borrow only 25 per cent from his banker or [illegible]

The board also ruled that brokers may not lend to a person seeking [illegible] securities in an account and those do not necessarily up to the 75 per-cent requirement, but must use the proceeds to raise the margin to that amount.

Other than this existing accounts do not have to be raised

500-Plane Attack Hits Four More Nip Cities

Termed 'Highly Successful'

By LEIF ERICKSON

GUAM — (AP) — "General conflagrations" spreading from the white-hot blasts of 3,000 tons of B-29 fire-bombs greeted the Fourth of July dawn over four more of Japan's war-production centers.

Terming the 500-plane assault "highly successful," Maj. Gen. Curtis E. LeMay's 21st Bomber Command headquarters said weather was clearer than it has been for three weeks and virtually all planes bombed visually their targets in Tokushima, Takamatsu and Kochi, on Shokoku island, and Himeji on Honshu, 30 miles west of Kobe.

Tokyo radio today conceded 4,500,000 Japanese in Tokyo, Osaka, Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe were killed, injured or rendered homeless in American aerial strikes up to May 31. A total of 1,130,000 homes were destroyed in the five big cities, the broadcast admitted.

FIGURES CITED

The broadcast cited these figures:

Tokyo: 707,000 homes destroyed; 3,100,000 homeless. (Earlier broadcasts have indicated only about 200,000 persons expect to remain in Tokyo.)

Osaka: 130,000 homes burned down; 510,000 persons homeless.

Yokohama: 132,000 homes destroyed; 650,000 homeless.

Nagoya: 96,000 homes demolished; 380,000 people affected.

Kobe: 70,000 houses burned; 260,000 people "counted as destroyed or otherwise victimized."

Tokyo did not say how many of the "homeless" or "affected" were dead.

General LeMay said 70 per cent of the 500 plane commanders reported to headquarters by radio after their runs this morning, describing resulting fires as reaching "general conflagration" proportions in all four cities.

Pilots said flames appeared greatest at Tokushima at the extreme northeast end of Shikoku at the entrance to the Inland Sea. Destruction was next greatest in Kochi. For all except Himeji it was the first fire raid.

The strike was the 37th firebombing of Japan. Twenty-six of the enemy's most important cities have been blitzed by torch raids of the 29ers, with more than 117 square miles of their industrial hearts destroyed.

Less than two days ago, a record fleet of 800 Superforts rained a new peak load of 4,000 tons of firebombs on the Honshu cities of Kure, Shimonoseki, Ube and Kumamoto, and only Tuesday 50 more returned to the empire to blast successfully" the Marunen refinery at Shimitsu, 35 miles from Osaka. There were no B-29 losses at Shimitsu, and only two planes were lost—with all but two crewmen saved—in the record assault Monday.

Tokyo Reports Attacks By Nearly 240 Planes

SAN FRANCISCO —(AP)— Nearly 240 American planes from Okinawa and Iwo Jima attacked widely separated targets in Japan today, Tokyo radio reported, in daylight follow-ups of a pre-dawn fire strike by nearly 500 Superforts at four industrial cities.

Three B-29s led 120 Mustang fighters from two Jima over the eastern coast of Honshu in a bombing and strafing attack on airfields and military installations east of Honshu, the broadcast said.

Tokyo reported an assortment of 120 bombers and fighters from Okinawa, including Lightning, Thunderbolt and Mustang fighters, Mitchell medium bombers, and Navy Martin patrol bombers raided Kyushu, southernmost island of Nippon for two hours.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy, moderately warm today and Thursday; widely scattered afternoon thundershowers.

Temperatures at 12:30 Today: High and Low Last 24 Hours: Sunset Today: Sunrise Tomorrow: