



NO. 2 VOL. 542

H.Q. NO. 11 L OF C SUB AREA

TEL EXT 129

THURS 17 AUG 44

ALLIES PRESS ON INTO SOUTHERN FRANCE

8 MILES INLAND

ENEMY WINS A NEGATIVE VICTORY

AMERICANS FIGHTING 44 MILES FROM PARIS

Allied forces in southern France have established positions 8 miles inland and are in particular strength between Toulons and Cannes. Reinforcements are pouring into the beachheads without interruption. This morning's communique says all first objectives have been taken.

NO OPPOSITION. The Germans apparently decided not to oppose the landings, but it is known that they have strong defence rings round Marseilles and Nice.

THE LANDING. The initial assault was made by U.S. troops. French troops followed. A Swiss report says that French forces east of Nice are advancing towards Italy. Meanwhile at the west end of the Pyreneese Partisans are reported to be causing much damage and many casualties. Rockets played a large part in the smashing of what little opposition was originally offered. 56 positions were destroyed in an hour.

A GERMAN VICTORY. Negative and Pyrrhic though it is, the enemy has won a victory at Falaise. The Canadians have entered Falaise and the escape gap has been reduced to 6 miles, but correspondents say that Von Klueger has succeeded in withdrawing the greater part of the 100,000 troops originally caught in the pocket. It took two days RAF planes destroyed 82 tanks and 1,000 vehicles in this area.

For security reasons a temporary censorship has been imposed on the mentioning of place names immediately east of Falaise.

AMERICANS 44 MILES FROM PARIS. Berlin confirms the Allied report, squashed when the battle for Falaise began, that American forces driving east of Lemans had reached Chartres. This means that there is large scale fighting only 44 miles from Paris.

REGRETTABLE BUT - In explaining the failure of the Allies to close the Falaise gap, it is pointed out that the forces were so close to each other that it was difficult for large guns to fire without hitting the opposite Allied force. As it was both British and American troops were killed by Allied heavy bombers forced to operate in a limited area.

WORLD ITEMS

NEW ALLIED LANDING IN OFFING ?

Broadcasts from Berlin make it evident that the German high command believes that talks in Rome between Mr. Churchill and the Yugoslav leader, Marshal Tito, heralds further Allied landings. The 5th front, said the announcer, will be on the Dalmatian coast.

RUSSIA. Soviet troops have established another bridgehead across the Vistula - this time southwest of Lublin. While some counter attacks round Warsaw have been beaten back, Moscow admits the evacuation of one town.

Baltic forces, meanwhile, drive through Esthonia toward the sea. 70 places were captured yesterday.

LITVINOFF SUGGESTS WORLD AIR CORPS. As an international post war world security measure, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Maxim Litvinoff, has suggested the establishment of a world airforce. The U.S.S.R., Britain, U.S. and China would be major contributors.

CHINA. A Japanese report says that large American mechanised forces are ready to start a major offensive in China. This is unconfirmed by Washington.

AIR WAR. Yesterday a thousand heavy bombers smashed at aircraft factories and assembly plants in Magdeburg and Leipzig. Enemy fighters rose in considerable strength. 32 were shot down by our fighters alone; numbers destroyed by our bombers are not yet to hand. 23 Allied bombers and 3 fighters are missing.

Mosquitoes attacked Berlin for the third time in four nights.

ITALY. Fighting along the river Arno has fallen off. However, on the Adriatic sector Polish troops have consolidated 40 miles inland from Ancona.

NEWS from HOME

NO HOPE WITHOUT HYSTERICS

The arrival of Bob Hope and party in Sydney last night held up the city peak hour traffic for more than 20 minutes. The party had flown from Newcastle after having motored more than 100 miles from Lauriston, where Hope was forced to borrow £11 from the local Postmaster to pay the Lauriston hotel bill. Six white gloved American military police on siren screaming motor cycles cleared a way through the traffic. In the city, screaming and hysterical women clambered up marble pillars outside the Hotel Australia, entrance. Girls and middle aged women threw themselves full length on pavement in front of Hope. Never before has Sydney seen such an hysterical demonstration as yesterday's reception to Bob Hope, Francis Langford, Jerry Colonna, Patty Thomas, Tony Romano, Barney Dean and Captain Lanny Ross. Hope was expressionless at hysterical outburst. He didn't even smile, just chewed gum. Today armed provosts guarded the private suites of the party at hotel.

WAITING ON BABY. The fighting career of Vic Patrick has not ended. As soon as convenient he will defend his Australian lightweight title. A child is expected in the Patrick family and when this important event is over, Patrick will be ready to fight again. Meantime interest is switching to outstanding Queensland boxer Tommy Burns, who will be in Sydney in a fortnight to fight Ron Heron.

FIRST OF THE FEW. Mrs. Cassie Lundie, 56, who claimed to be first woman to fly in Australia, died at her home in Potts Point yesterday. Her brother William Ewalt Hart, built the first plane in Australia, flying it from Penrith to Parramatta Park in 1911.

HOT LONG? OH FRIEND. W.M. Hughes has another new secretary. She is Miss J. Alison Shakes of Neutral Bay, who started duties yesterday. Mr. Hughes is now in a sanitarium hospital, recuperating from his recent illness.

NEW IDEA FOR OUR MENU (JOKE) An appeal for one hundred women volunteers to crack eggs for the Egg Board was made by NSW Manpower Director yesterday. Eggs to be cracked will be processed for the services. It is estimated that women could crack open an average of 125 eggs an hour.

EMBRYO BUILDING CONTRACTORS. Commonwealth Govt. plans are in hand for the training of 50 to 70 thousand servicemen and war workers as building operatives says Doctor Lloyd Ross, research officer in Dept. Postwar Reconstruction. He is confident that the required number could be obtained for training without compulsion.

IF THEY ONLY HAD COUPONS. A 15 months old baby girl shared the £5,000 first prize in yesterday's Sydney lottery with her mother Mrs. Smith, wife of Sgt. Don Smith AIF of Kogarah, who said it was only the second ticket she had ever bought.

WE'RE HOPING. American people who hated the Jap more than the German, believed the war in Europe would end soon, and Japan's defeat would follow within a year, said Mr. Yates McDaniel, Chief of Australian Bureau of Associated Press of America, on his return to Australia after a two month's visit to U.S.

DOING NICELY THANKS. Dept of Social Services announces that 9,568 maternity allowances were granted during four weeks ended 24 July 1944, compared with 4,923 for corresponding period of last year. Childless endowed by Commonwealth total 922,570 compared with 908,451 in July 1943.

TOOL, TOOL! Wool valued at nearly two and a half million pounds already has been appraised in Australia although the season has been in progress less than three weeks. The clip is expected to be slightly smaller but the cheque for 1944-45 season should again exceed seventy million pounds.

TAKING HIS LEAVE FIRST. Two weeks after William August Herrman enlisted in the army on October 1942, he went AIL, it was stated in Brisbane Police Court yesterday, when Herrman was prosecuted for ration book breaches. He was fined a total of £17: 1: 0. Herrman who has been working on the wharves, is still AIL.

BRING TEST CLOSER TO EAST. Delivery of equipment needed to instal three new channels to meet increasing volume of telephone business between West, Aust and Eastern states is expected shortly.

HOT BIDDING FOR REFRIGERATOR. 100 people participated in a ballot for a refrigerator when it reached pegged price of £65 at auction sale of household goods in Ipswich yesterday. A tea set brought £40 and a dinner set £45 after excited bidding.

- AROUND THE AREA -

PICTURES. Camp: "The Lighty Barnum" and "Les Miserables". Pioneer: NO SHOW.

Capital: "Boston Blackie Goes To Hollywood" and "My Sister Eileen"...DANCE. C. of E

ALICE SPRINGS THEM LIKE GROUP. Casting meeting tonight. 1930 hrs. Hall rear Meth. Church.