

ALLIES WRECK 40 JAP BARGES

American Warships Blast Evacuation Fleet in Solomons.

By DON CASWELL United Press Staff Correspondent ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Oct. 5.—American warships have wrecked a big Japanese barge fleet attempting to evacuate troops from the central Solomons, sinking or severely damaging at least 40 barges and several escorting gunboats, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced today.

The action, fought out under cover of darkness Friday and Saturday nights in the narrow waters off Kolombangara island at a cost of one American vessel damaged, appeared to foreshadow the collapse of organized Japanese resistance in the central Solomons.

A spokesman at MacArthur's headquarters indicated that the Japanese were trying to withdraw their garrison from Kolombangara, now encircled by American island positions, to Bougainville, more than 100 miles to the northwest.

Surface units of Adm. William F. Halsey's South Pacific command intercepted and smashed the flotilla, despite repeated attacks by Japanese planes attempting to cover the barges.

One escorting Japanese gunboat was sent to the bottom and a number of others were damaged, while the enemy planes hit one U. S. naval unit, causing light casualties. A lone Corsair fighter raided enemy barge hideouts on Kolombangara Friday morning, hours before the surface action, strafing and burning two barges.

There was no immediate indication as to whether the big enemy flotilla was caught on the way into Kolombangara or while actually withdrawing troops from the island. If the barges were fully laden with troops, it was believed the enemy casualties might be high, possibly several thousand men.

PROSECUTOR NAMED FOR 7TH CIRCUIT Governor Schriker today appointed Willard M. Dean, Aurora lawyer, as prosecuting attorney of the seventh judicial circuit which includes Dearborn and Ohio counties.

Mr. Dean succeeds Lester G. Baker, Lawrenceburg, who has entered the army. Both Mr. Dean and Mr. Baker are Democrats.

Hitler's Eight Routes to Italy



Hitler has eight potential routes of supply to bolster his rapidly retreating armies in Italy, but he is getting plenty of interference on two of the most important of these. Allied warplanes are bombing the rail and road link south of Brenner Pass, while Yugoslav partisan armies are hitting the Nazis in the north-east corner of Italy. Map shows the eight routes through the mountains between Germany and Italy—routes that may eventually be used for escape by Nazi armies.

CLAIMS WAR MAKES U. S. SAFETY MINDED

CHICAGO, Oct. 5 (U. P.).—Col. John Stilwell, president of the national safety council, said today that the United States at war has become the most safety-conscious nation in the world, preventing the loss of millions of civilian lives through accidents.

Stilwell, opening the council's annual meeting, reported that the organization has co-operated extensively with the armed forces, the government and industry to cut down accidents.

"The all-accident death toll for the nation is down 7 per cent," he said, "partly because, working with every person in the country, we have gained the technical knowledge and skills to deal effectively with the accident problem."

"The rising rate of accidental deaths among workers has been entirely halted, in spite of a 17 per cent increase in man hours worked and new personnel," he said.

"Traffic deaths are down 41 per cent, due to increased public co-operation with wartime restriction."

Daniel Brown, Seaman 2-c, Reported Missing in Action

(Continued from Page One) her son was missing on Sept. 22 and received a letter yesterday from him. The letter had been written shortly before he was reported missing.

Charles E. Vance, seaman 1-c, also was included on today's missing list. He is the son of Mrs. Mary L. Vance, Ft. Wayne.

Prisoner J. SGT. ROBERT STAHLHUT, who was reported missing in action over Germany Sept. 6, is a prisoner of the German government.

A war department telegram Sunday notified his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stahlhut, 2811 E. Raymond st., of the "long-awaited news."

Aerial engineer and top turret gunner with the army air forces in England, T. Sgt. Stahlhut was commended for his meritorious action in a letter received by his parents just a few days ago.

"Although you failed to return from our last mission over Germany on Sept. 6, 1943, I take great pleasure in being able to commend you for your meritorious achievement on that date," Col. Budd J. Peaslee, air force commander, said in the commendation.

"Your performance of duty on that important mission was superior. In spite of heavy fighter and flack opposition, you truly accomplished your duty as engineer," he added. "By your skillful airmanship and courage you enabled our group and wings to deal a vital blow to the enemy. It is through such acts that we are able to continuously press home our blows to the enemy."

"The courage, coolness and skill displayed by you reflects great credit upon yourself, the 384th bombardment group, the army air forces and the armed forces of the United States. I as well as the whole 384th bombardment group are proud of you for your gallant action and we sincerely hope you are safe and we shall be able to again fly with you wing to wing."

PVT. NORMAN L. SHOOK JR., 19-year-old marine from Speedway City, was among eight men burned fatally in a two-day fire in a two-day fire, beginning Saturday, over 6000 acres southeast of San Diego, Cal.

The only other Indiana victim was Pfc. Lowell Rexford Whetsel, husband of Mrs. Frances Whetsel, Anderson.

The fire spread along a 20-mile front and was brought under control last night. More than 600 fire fighters, including skilled forestry men who were transported to the area by plane, battled the flames.

Pvt. Shook, son of Mr. and Mrs. Norman L. Shook, 4941 McCray st., Speedway City, recently completed his boot training after enlisting in the marines last April. His mother had planned to go to San Diego Nov. 1 to visit him.

He was formerly employed by Prest-O-Lite Co., Inc. and attended Speedway high school. He was a member of St. Christopher Catholic church.

Survivors besides the parents are two sisters, Mrs. Mildred Bowman and Mrs. Anna Mae Parish, and an aunt, Mrs. Fannie Shook, all of Indianapolis.

Six of the 77 marines injured in the blaze are reported in serious condition at Camp Lockett army hospital.

HONORED THE PURPLE HEART, awarded posthumously to Pfc. Albert A. Arnel for meritorious action and wounds resulting in his death July 16 in Sicily, was received yesterday by his mother, Mrs. Myrtle Arnel, 1219 Laurel st.

Pfc. Arnel was a member of the military police division of the armored command and had been in the army since Feb. 12, 1942. He was a graduate of Tech high school.

Surviving besides his mother is a sister, Mrs. Irene Gamberinger of Indianapolis.

CMR. NORWOOD A. CAMPBELL of West Lafayette was awarded the distinguished flying cross by President Roosevelt recently for heroism in the Solomon Islands.

The 36-year-old commander was cited for courageous leadership against Japanese forces. As leader of a scouting squadron attached to an aircraft carrier, Cmdr. Campbell directed daring attacks, blasting enemy shore installations and causing extremely heavy damage and severe personnel losses.

FIRST SGT. RICHARD E. COOLEY, Kokomo, has been awarded the legion of merit, the war department announced today. The citation stated that Sgt. Cooley was appointed a first sergeant March 11, 1941, at the age of 19, after only six months of service.

AUTUMN RAINS SLOW RUSSIANS

Offensive Bogs Down as Wet Season Begins At Front.

MOSCOW, Oct. 5 (U. P.).—Soviet mechanized forces broke stubborn enemy counter-attacks and expanded their bridgeheads on the Pronya river's west bank 25 miles east of the key White Russian stronghold of Mogilev today, but the three-month Russian summer offensive appeared to be nearing an end.

Only limited gains had been reported from the White Russian front during the past 24 hours, and farther south the Soviets apparently had halted temporarily at the Nazi Dnieper defense line to mass strength for a new push.

Autumn rains diffused enemy resistance and difficult terrain combined to slow the Russian army's advance toward Mogilev, and the companion strongholds of Gomel, to the south, and Vitebsk, to the north. Ahead lay swamps, hills and numerous water courses.

Taking advantage of torrential rains which turned the roadless terrain into a quagmire that all but halted Russian mobile forces, massed German troops and tanks counter-attacked all along the 200-mile White Russian front.

The Soviet high command said the Germans were striving at all cost to hold their winter line anchored on Gomel, Mogilev, Orsha and Vitebsk, barring the approaches to the Polish border and the Baltic states.

YANK PILOT FREED OF CUSTOMS CHARGE

CALCUTTA, Oct. 5 (U. P.).—Royal Leonard, 38, Los Angeles, Cal., American pilot of the China National Aviation Corp., was acquitted today after a four-month trial of a charge of smuggling uncensored letters from Chungking.

The charge was brought by British customs authorities. Leonard was Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's personal pilot in 1937.

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Girl 'Soldiers' Study Maps, Drill at Washington High

Girl soldiers at Washington high school are deep in war training again this year—drilling, reading maps, learning first aid and military discipline.

June Pedigo is cadet major, and company I officers include Capt. Audrey Williams, 1st Lt. Elsie McCormick; 2d Lt. Betty Edwards; 1st Sgt. Juanita Wise; Platoon Sgts. Florence Smith and Julia Manning; Sgts. Betty West, Betty Jenkins, Portia Secrist, Juanita Carter, Ann Mueller and Betty Paine; Cpls. Catherine Swindle, Norma Martin, Edith Alexander, Norma Carr, Rosemary Gammon and Mary Koejan, and Right Guides Letitia Harran and Wanda Koonits.

Company II officers are Capt. Laura Haun; 1st Lt. Mary Jo Reinhardt; 2d Lt. Shirley Walker; 1st Sgt. Charlotte Sorlie; S. Sgts. Loreta Downey and Betty Gulley; Sgts. Martha Brucher, Marie Gilbrech, Geraldine Leamon, Betty McKay, Dorval Steinway, Florence Hendrixson, Betty Cummins and Marilyn Dunn, and Cpls. Patricia Newnum, Faye Rentschler, Helen Jones, Ruth Schubert, Shirley Lines and Norma Wills.

New officers of the Washington club, senior girls service organization are Maxine Hahn, president; Nancy Wageman, vice president; Ann Mueller, secretary, and Carol Busard, treasurer.

GRANT \$30,000 FOR MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

The civil aeronautics authority in Washington has granted the city \$30,000 with which to construct aprons and runways at the CAA experimental station at municipal airport. Henry I. Metz, CAA engineer, announced today.

Mr. Metz said about 20,000 square feet would be aproned with concrete, with entrance-way and parking space improvements also scheduled under the program. The experimental station is located in the northwest sector of the field.

WAC MOTHERS TO MEET

The WAC Mothers association will meet at 7:30 p. m. tomorrow in the west wing of the World War memorial.

URGE REDUCTION OF BEEF POINTS

GOP Committee Cites Possible Losses by Cattle-men.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5 (U. P.).—The Republican congressional food study committee, pointing out that the number of cattle now being slaughtered is the greatest in history, today urged drastic reduction or complete elimination of ration point values for beef.

Chairman Thomas A. Jenkins (R. O.) said in a letter to Price Administrator Prentiss M. Brown that cattle surpluses and a feed shortage have forced cattlemen to market the majority of their beef with the result that retailers are able to offer the public a wider selection and variety of choice beef.

But the boost in butter point values from 12 to 16 cuts down on the number of points consumers can spend for meat, he said, and "the housewife is unable to take advantage of this situation."

He said the group also opposed an order by Brown, effective yesterday, placing price ceilings on live hogs.

Claims Responder Job Shifts

Mayor Tyndall self and "not the committee," is direct all personnel changes at the sanitation.

His statement was also directed to councilmen who were warmly-debated their laps by persistent municipal trends.

The measures, night to council of a resolution of the city hall, patrons they affect the operation of the sanitation plant.

An ordinance will be the east side of E. 59th and 62d st. A proposal calling preventive steps number of drownings them construction dangerous areas bo.

Handed to Council President acher handed the resolution to a s including Herman Kealing, Carson J. Worley.

Members of the patronage committee other verbal spang the hands of Walter C. I. O. chairman Rebennack, a sanit.

Mr. Frisbie deced presently, this unse force is over and a consequently above the electorate."

In dismissing their employees, Plant was "acting on a patronage com.

When deposed work appeal their cases refused to give their charged Mr. Frisbie.

He also said Mr. in the face of F. W. global C. I. O. di letter telephonat test patronage com. The C. I. O. has union at the sanit.

Arno, Siefker George Home, v Marsh & McLennor brokerage firm, appen zen" to testify th spectors througho unstinting in their engineering capabil Fred Siefker." Th ers were fired from tion posts for alie Charges against t "grossly uncall Home.

Scores of citizen night's session in the proposal to ar Evanston ave. T Ralph B. Gregg, s would, if passed, l taxes in Washington \$1.10 to \$2.80. He dren living on th Evanston ave. wou transfer to a city s

Already B Works Board P Campbell said all t the ordinance "are city benefits, and them like any oth When councilme decided on a resol erection of a fence portions of the ca Member Carson Jo ure's sponsor, vehen "You fellows are do something for concern for the children."

CLARIFIES ASS The Washington sor is entitled to a year under state law eral James A. Em He gave the rulin agnier Otto K. Je for an opinion at the assessor.

Senators On F

WASHINGTON, The senate may st on the bill to defe from the draft unti unlimited debate at ties of compromise final decision unti senate Democrati W. Barkley of Kent of defeating the sponsored by Sen. B er (D. Mont.), but cautions that he mig promise that woul able single men of government jobs an services.

That compromise Senators Josiah W C.) and Bennett C. and, according to provide not more t for the military se

Better Care Means Longer Wear. Care and Repair of Electric Cords. 1. Always keep electric cords dry—never touch or disconnect them with wet hands. 2. Pull the plug, not the cord, when you disconnect your iron or other electrical equipment. 3. Coil the cord loosely when not in use. Hang, preferably, over a pair of wood curtain brackets to avoid sharp bends or kinks which may break the thin wires in the cord's spine, and to save fraying of the covering at the point of frequent friction. 4. If the rubber or fabric covering wears off near the end of the cord, disconnect the worn end from the plug or cap-cut off the worn part and reconnect. 5. If the outer rubber or fabric covering becomes damaged in the center of the cord, repair first by wrapping with electrician's tape, then with friction tape. 6. If the inside rubber covering of the two bundles of wires is damaged, wrap each bundle separately with electrician's tape, then wrap the bundles together with friction tape.

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