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BREST LITOVSK FALLS TO RUSS

Soviets Sweep Westward From Carpathians to Baltic.

(Continued From Page One)

narrowed the escape corridor westward to about six miles.

The Nazi acknowledgment of Brest Litovsk's loss indicated that the Russian army was adding a black Friday to the black Thursday on which it amassed its greatest victories of the war in a single day, overrunning six of the biggest German defense bastions on the eastern front.

With the capture of Brest Litovsk, Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky tore out the last German anchor impeding a frontal push against Warsaw, against which Russian armored forces were driving within less than 30 miles, at a rate promising to bring the Polish capital under siege within a matter of days.

Stockholm reports said German authorities and Nazi party officials were fleeing Warsaw, and had completed plans to evacuate its industrial plants while Polish patriots were picking off occupation troops in an upsurge of guerrilla warfare within the city.

Admit Other Losses

Along with Brest-Litovsk, the German high command admitted the loss of Lwow, Bialystok and Dugavpils, three of the six big bags taken yesterday in the Russian army's greatest day of the war which loosed a victory salute of 22,400 rounds in Moscow last night.

Ancient Brest-Litovsk, at the confluence of the Bug and Muchavich rivers, is the hub of rail lines to Moscow, Minsk, Wilno, Warsaw and East Prussia. Its pre-war population was 50,000. The Russians fortified it heavily before the first world war and considered it impregnable. But it fell to the Germans in 1915, and the Germans made it headquarters for their eastern army.

Far to the west, Rokossovsky's Cossack cavalry and armor already was pounding toward Warsaw, scattering the remnants of broken and disorganized German armies. The pace of the advance increased as the German units fell apart under the terrific hammering.

'On Brink of Precipice'

"The enemy is on the brink of a precipice," the Soviet army journal Red Star said. "Forward to the West" is written on our battle flag."

A German catastrophe of the Stalingrad caliber was shaping up in the Baltics. Whatever hopes the Nazis had of extricating their Baltic divisions appeared to have been doomed by a sensational Soviet armored thrust 43 miles inside the German lines to capture Siauliai, Lithuanian communications center.

A Moscow dispatch said the fall of Siauliai split the Germans in the Baltics and created a situation in which the Russian army can methodically chop up the remaining units. At the same time powerful thrusts toward Riga increased the German peril.

Orders Estonia Defended

(A Nazi-controlled radio in Estonia said today that Adolf Hitler had ordered that country defended—an indication that the German command had decided to sacrifice its forces at the upper end of the exposed Baltic salient.)

The German command said the battle on the eastern front raged with increased violence all the way from the Carpathians to the Gulf of Finland.

"After the enemy succeeded in breaking deep into our front and achieving deep penetrations in some sectors, salients in our front line were withdrawn on some sectors in order to husband our forces," the high command said. "During these operations designed to strengthen our front, the towns of Brest Litovsk, Bialystok and Dugavpils were evacuated after the destruction of all installations of military importance."

Capture Six Strong Points

Rokossovsky's 1st White Russian army swept through Gorbolin, 30 miles southeast of Warsaw, and mopped up Siedlce, 50 miles east of the capital, yesterday while other Soviet forces were capturing six of the strongest enemy anchor bastions on the eastern front in the biggest cluster of victories since the start of the war.

One Army Out the Main Escape Routes

An army out the main escape routes for an estimated 200,000 men in the Baltics with the capture of the Lithuanian communications hub of Siauliai and also seized Dugavpils (Dvinsk); another seized the Latvian railway junction of Rzekine; a third captured Bialystok, 102 miles northeast of Warsaw, and a fourth liberated Lwow and the city of Stanislawow and the approaches to Czechoslovakia and Romania.

The capture of encircled Lwow, with 317,000 inhabitants pre-war Poland's third largest city, freed huge forces to reinforce Konev's drive to the west toward Krakow and to the south toward Czechoslovakia. Thirty-seven generals were mentioned in the order of the day announcing its liberation.

The routed German garrison was being destroyed piecemeal in isolated surrounded pockets southeast and west of Lwow.

MRS. MILLIE PADGETT DIES AT AGE OF 69

Mrs. Millie Padgett died yesterday at her home, 2118 Jefferson ave. The wife of Charles Padgett, she was found dead by her husband when he returned from work yesterday afternoon. Mr. Padgett said that his wife, who was 69, had been suffering from heart trouble for some time.

Seven Key Towns Fall to Russ



The Russians have captured seven key towns in the last two days, have crossed the Vistula river in a drive on German-held Poland. The towns captured include Brest Litovsk, Lwow, Stanislawow, Bialystok and Dugavpils.

'Dear Ernie: Aunt Mary and Dad Are Getting Along Fine'

(Continued From Page One)

and Aunt Mary said to tell you she was on the glad all the time. She goes to all the meetings of the Dana Sunday school class, the Bono missionary society and the Merry Housewives club. The Merry Housewives, you remember, were organized 33 years ago. Aunt Mary said that many a time you used to drive her and your mother over to their meetings.

17 at the Table

They had 14 men and three women there to eat. Aunt Mary had to come home and cook for your dad and Ed Ambrose, "her men," as she called them. She is serving tomatoes, and cabbage out of her garden and peaches out of the orchard now.

While we were talking, Ella Goforth came over, still wearing her apron, and she apologized and said she had no idea that the Pyles had company. Talking about old clothes reminded Ella and Aunt Mary about your old coat with the patches in the sleeves.

Remember the Heater?

Do you remember when Aunt Mary wrote you that the oil heater had leaked and spoiled the rug in her room and you wrote back and said to get a new one? Mrs. Will Bales bought two new rugs to match awhile back and when she heard about Aunt Mary's accident she gave her a rug that was pretty nearly new. She said she'd rather let Aunt Mary use it than keep it rolled up all the time.

Mrs. Tott Bales is "complaining." She's about the same, no better, no worse. Mrs. Jennie Hooker is fine. They told me that you and Thad Hooker, her son, were close friends.

Mrs. Campbell is well and Iva Jordan is improving. She's using the "walker" your father used while mending from his fall. And your dad said he'd had a letter from your cousin, Lincoln Saxton, who is in India, and he's getting along all right too.

Aunt Mary's Room Papered

They've painted the woodwork and papered Aunt Mary's room, the dining room and the kitchen since you were here last and you don't have to worry about the place ever getting run down. Remember, you told them the last time you were home that you were glad they were keeping the place up.

They Haven't Done a Thing to Your Room

"It looks just the same as when you left."

We went out in the yard to look around. Everything needs rain, "as though we're not suffering," as your dad put it. Old Betty, your part collie and shepherd dog, barks just as much as ever and

YANKS FOLLOW ROUTED NAZIS

Gain 4 More Miles, Mass

Armor Outside Coutances.

(Continued From Page One)

the Germans were withdrawing as fast as possible along the main road down the west coast, with various degrees of confusion in their ranks, while a few miles inland the resistance was stiffer in an attempt to set up a wavering shield for the retreat.

American forces moving down from Periers penetrated within two miles of St. Severin Jendelin, the last major road center above Coutances.

Coutances Already Outflanked

On the east wing of the American front, Gen. Bradley's forces advanced two miles south of Le Mans, Herman, cutting a lateral road and struck out southeast and southwest down other roads leading inland to the heart of Normandy.

U. S. Infantry Moved Forward

U. S. Infantry moved forward to improve their positions west of Caumont at the extreme eastern end of the American line, while a new attack a little over a mile southwest of St. Lo overran Hill 101. This assault apparently was aimed at ironing out the hump in the line immediately east of St. Lo.

Although the Weather Held

air activity, fighter-bombers based in France blasted German tanks and horse-drawn artillery a mile ahead of the American armor.

Supreme headquarters did not expect to know for several days how many Germans will be rounded up as a result of the break-through. The seven divisions in the pocket above Coutances had taken a bad beating and were far below normal strength.

The British End of the Normandy

Plans were quiet after German and planes broke up another German attempt to form for an attack in the Verriers area late yesterday.

Town Seems Abandoned

United Press War Correspondent James McGraw reported that one U. S. armored column advanced three and a half miles to within a mile and a half of Tressy-sur-Vire, 10 miles south of St. Lo, and reconnaissance airmen said the town appeared to have been abandoned by the Germans.

The Germans Appeared to be in

panicky retreat all along the 40-mile western half of the Normandy front as the greatest tank offensive ever mounted in western Europe went into its fourth day. Supreme headquarters said there no longer was "any question of a line on the United States front."

1ST ARMY FIGHTING FOR ELBOW ROOM

(Continued From Page One)

corps can be cut off above Coutances and knocked out. This corps of seven divisions represents about half of the 150,000 men the Germans are estimated to have opposing the Americans.

If they and their tanks are put

out of action, there seems little probability that the Germans can find the reinforcements to prevent an American sweep to the Avranches-Caen line.

The Germans cannot remove units from the Caen area without risking calamity at the eastern end of the line. It is doubtful if they have enough reserves to do the job because of the reinforcements they used up to block the British 2d army's offensive smash last week.

It now appears probable that the

British-Canadian attack was a masterly feint. Preceded as it was by the most spectacular aerial bombardment of the war against a battle line, it may have looked to the Germans like the big push.

At any rate, they threw in everything they had available to stop the British and Canadians.

Meanwhile, Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley

on the West had his actual tank and mobile strength concealed.

When Bradley struck, the Germans found themselves engaged at both ends and in the center, much after the Russian fashion of keeping the enemy busy everywhere at once.

When the American operation

has progressed satisfactorily, there is every likelihood that the British 2d army will strike its real blow, with greater strength than before.

HARRISON COUNTY REUNION

Former Harrison county people will hold their annual reunion at noon Sunday at Garfield park with a basket dinner, according to Lonnie Cunningham, group president and secretary.

EVENTS TODAY

National Federation of Postoffice clerks, Claypool hotel.

Indianapolis Press club, 8:30 p. m.

Indianapolis Speakers club, Washington hotel, 6:45 p. m.

American Legion festival, Riverside amusement park.

Pat Della Pi severity, Beta chapter, Washington hotel, 7:30 p. m.

EVENTS TOMORROW

National Federation of Postoffice clerks, Washington hotel.

Old-fashioned barbecue and festival, parish school grounds of St. Peter and Paul cathedral, night.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

These lists are from official records in the county court house. The Times, therefore, is not responsible for errors in names and addresses.

Lowell Morris Combs, 21 Bedford, Ind.; Myrtle Owens, 18 Bedford, Ind.

James Patterson, 645 West Washington; Betty Jean Franklin, 20 of 1505 N. Arsenal.

Edwin David Woods, 23 of 3225 N. Delaware; Betty Ann Coons, 21 of 3219 N. Delaware.

Thrasher Gets Legion of Merit

(Continued From Page One)

career soldier with more than 30 years' service. He volunteered for duty before world war I, and served in France as a captain.

From then on the way was up. Today his mother said, "He had some big jobs long before he went to England, but this last one was immense."

He held commands in Hawaii,

Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and before going to England in May, 1942, he was commanding officer of the Seattle, Wash., port of embarkation and the quarter-master supply depot there.

Leading Supply Expert

A writer in a British magazine typified him as "one of the leading experts of supply of the U. S. A. and a favorite with the senior British officers in the neighborhood," and a war correspondent has explained that his command includes more than one-fourth of England.

Born in Paxton, Ill., he attended

school there and in Wolcott, Ind. He later went to the University of Illinois.

His wife, Mrs. Ethel W. Thrasher, living in Gilman, Ill. One son is a first lieutenant serving in England and another is a civil engineer, working for the government in Oakland, Cal. He also has two daughters and a sister.

URGE 'EXIT' FOR JOB SURVEYORS

Councilman Move Due Monday to End Services of Jacobs Firm.

Of Jacobs Firm.

A councilman move to discontinue the services of the J. L. Jacobs budgeting firm, which for the last eight months has been conducting a municipal job and salary survey, will be launched at Monday night's city council session, it was learned today.

Dismissal of the Jacobs company,

and of Fred Telford as its chief investigator, was decided upon by a council bloc on the theory that the Chicago concern has fully discharged its duties under the original contract and is no longer needed.

Although considerable speculation

has revolved around the possibility of Mr. Telford's remaining with the city to offer advice on activating his recommended reforms, councilmen are now embroiled in an inter-family squabble over proposed appointment of a city personnel director and Mr. Telford, for the present, seems to be out of that picture.

Showdown Likely

Likelihood that a showdown on the personnel head issue will be forced at Monday night's meeting was also seen by council spokesmen, who said that an ordinance authorizing the job at \$6000 a year "will either be passed or rejected." If it is passed, Mayor Tyndall will appoint to the post his present deputy controller, Larry Parsons.

If it's rejected or held over, it

will probably mean that G. O. P. organization string-pullers still are not convinced that the city hall faction of the Republican party will not return to befuddle the "regulars" after the general election in November. The organization wants to be sure that any "personnel director" won't be converted into a factional patronage-dispenser when the next mayoralty primary rolls around.

Responsible sources within the

Victory organization, city hall G. O. P. faction, have averred that the group will not dissolve its memberships and funds into the regular organization, as has been suggested.

SALLY BLISS GETS 7-YEAR CONTRACT

HOLLYWOOD, July 28 (U. P.)—Sally Bliss, 18, today signed a seven-year contract with Columbia pictures at a starting salary of \$100 a week.

Miss Bliss, daughter of Capt. H. A. Bliss of the army medical corps,

had a part in "Meet Miss Bobby Socks" and was the ingenue in the musical film "Swing in the Saddle."

PLAN FOR RODEO

Man's "best friend" will hold the spotlight at 8 p. m. tomorrow at the Speedway stadium when over 150 horses will take part with riders—in a combination horse show and rodeo sponsored by the Speedway club.

RETURNS SUICIDE VERDICT

LOGANSPORT, Ind., July 28 (U. P.)—The Cass county coroner returned a verdict of suicide today in the death of Marshall J. Dyer, 54, patient at the Logansport state hospital who was found hanged from a shower in a bathroom yesterday.

'BLACKOUT' OF REICH IS BEGUN

Yesterday's Allied Blows Forecast More Woe for Crumbling Nazis.

(Continued From Page One)

adequate defense line before Berlin, the River Oder. For the sake of his own life and that of his regime which he had promised would endure 1000 years, Hitler must choose a battlefield east of the Oder.

He must fight there with an army

already in complete rout—nothing else can explain the speed of the Russian advance—plus whatever half-ready reserves Hitler, Goebbels and the Wehrmacht high command can find.

He must fight against an enemy

in the full flush of victory which today has up to 400 divisions ready for battle.

Black Thursday recorded another fearful warning on the perimeter of Western Europe when American tanks completed their breakout in the Normandy beachhead in an offensive which probably is still only half developed.

The Russians forecast yesterday

that a full strength blow from the west would end the war in Europe quickly. The blow may be about to fall.

Panorama of Disaster

Against this panorama of disaster, Hitler is trying to purge battered Germany of defeatism and Goebbels is trying to hack a few more divisions from the Reich's shattered manpower.

They are working with a nation

whose endurance already has been strained beyond believable limits, whose industry is partly wrecked, whose armor is just a shadow and whose army is outnumbered on all fronts.

The national morale can be stiffened

with promises of new weapons of retaliation and mysterious new methods of fighting which will win the war. But it is difficult to see where propaganda can provide men, guns, tanks and combat planes for the shaky fighting fronts.

Prestige at Full Tide

The Russian army long since has reaffirmed its position as the world's greatest single military force and one of its greatest political weapons as well.

Today its prestige is at full tide.

The Finnish campaign is just a matter of when the Soviet command wants to divert the necessary effort. So, probably, is the Balkan campaign where Hitler, who never has been able to disgorge his conquests in the face of danger, still clings to the outposts which in the long run will fall of themselves if not taken in battle.

Only Rail Line

In the Baltics the Russian army already has cut the only adequate railroad line connecting Riga and Tilsit and may trap the entire German army there. It is advancing toward Riga, Tallinn and Kaunas and is threatening the Junkers citadel of East Prussia.

Five drives ranging from the

northeast to the southwest are developing relentlessly on Warsaw and with it control of Western Poland.

Lwow is already in the rear area and Przemysl has been bypassed. The Vistula river will be a barrier for only a day or two more.

Just ahead of the advancing

Russian army today lie Cracow, Katowice, Posnan and Lodz, none of them naturally defensible. Behind them lies disaster for Hitler.

SAFE FROM M. P.'S

HAMMOND, July 28 (U. P.)—Raymond Shofurth, 26, was temporarily safe from M. P.'s today—he was in jail. He called police yesterday and said he wanted to surrender because he was tired of "dogging M. P.'s" for the two years he had been A. W. O. L. from Camp Horn, Miss.

OFFICIAL WEATHER

U. S. Weather Bureau

All Data in Central War Time

Sunrise... 5:39 Sunset... 8:03

TEMPERATURE

July 28, 1944

7 a. m. 77 12 m. 84

Precipitation 24 hrs. end 7:30 a. m. 0.3

Total precipitation since Jan. 1 21.50

Deficiency since Jan. 1 23.4

The following table shows the temperatures

yesterday:

Station	High	Low
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Atlanta	86	72
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Boston	73	66
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Chicago	87	62
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Cincinnati	80	64
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Cleveland	88	62
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Denver	88	67
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Evansville	92	71
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Flt. Wayne	85	59
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Indianapolis	89	70
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Kansas City, Mo.	89	68
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Miami, Fla.	79	57
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Minneapolis-St. Paul	79	57
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New Orleans	97	75
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New York	91	71
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Omaha, Neb.	89	59
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Pittsburgh	82	65
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San Antonio, Tex.	75	55
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St. Louis	88	60
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Washington, D. C.	83	69
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Death of Yanks in France From U. S. Bombs Admitted

NINTH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Normandy, July 26 (Delayed)—U. P.)—About 50 Flying Fortresses and medium bombers dropped bombs short of their assigned area and killed and wounded American soldiers during yesterday's record 3000-plane bombardment of enemy lines west of St. Lo, Maj. Lewis Breerton acknowledged today.

Breerton, commander of the 9th

air force, told correspondents that the American casualties were much fewer than had been feared and added that "you are practically certain to have some shorts when you have that many planes in the air and resulting smoke obscures the ground."

In the case of one group of Havoc

bombers, he said, the bombing mechanism on the lead plane went wrong and bombs plummeted down 10,000 yards short of the scheduled area. Other planes in the group immediately released their explosives.

Though practically the entire

mass of bombs fell in the assigned area 9000 yards long and 2000 yards wide, Breerton admitted that the army was not satisfied with the results of the mass bombardment, presumably because of its failure to bring a quick break-through by tanks and infantry.

(The break-through was achieved

late Wednesday and Thursday, however.)

He said the bombardment was planned at the request of the army commander, who indicated the area to be hit.

Breerton received the press after a conference with Lt. Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, commander of the U. S. strategic air forces over Europe, and Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, commander of the 8th air force.

Mayor's Backing for Beeker Over Safety Board Implied

By SHERLEY UHL

In an indirect way today, Mayor Tyndall gave the nod to Chief Cliff Beeker in the latter's scrap with the safety board over whether he can shuffle and reshuffle his police slate without the board's approval.

"Read the law, read the law,"

snapped the mayor, when asked his opinion on authority for police personnel changes.

The mayor didn't clarify matters by specifying which law he referred to, but Corporate Counsel, Stanley G. Galt, understood to have assisted him in finding a legal route out of this jurisdictional entanglement, said:

Old Ordinance Cited

"He probably was referring to a long-standing city ordinance which gives the chief of police exclusive powers to make assignment changes as he sees fit. The ordinance places full responsibility for police department personnel slates on the chief himself."

There the matter would appear to

have been settled except for the fact that safety board members themselves have dug up a couple of old statutes which they believe bulwark their stand. Principal among these is one which has been read to the mayor, stating:

"The safety board shall have the

care, management, supervision and exclusive control of all matters and property relating to or connected with the fire and police forces. . . . The chief of police shall have exclusive direction and control of the police force, subject to the rules, regulations and orders of the department of public safety."

Latest round in the chief-safety

board square-off was over Beeker's announced intention to recreate the homicide squad with assignment to the murder detail of 10 men, headed by his close confidante, Capt. Alfred Schulz.

GLASGOW, Scotland, July 28 (U. P.)—Twenty-two persons, including