

.. EVENING EDITION

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== (Compiled by Overseas Branch, Office of War Information) ==

RUSSIANS OPEN 2D NEW OFFENSIVE IN 2 DAYS!
GREATEST DAYLIGHT AIR OFFENSIVE STRIKES GERMANY!
ALLIED OFFENSIVES GAIN IN NORMANDY AND ITALY!
NAZIS SAY HITLER ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTED!
CHINESE HOLD HENGYANG AS AMERICAN BOMBERS SMASH BONINS!

RUSSIA -- Marshal Stalin announced Thursday that the Soviet forces have opened a new offensive, with the first White Russian army advancing thirty-one miles on a ninety-three mile front in three days of fighting. Kevel, from which the offensive was launched, is about ninety-three miles north and east of Lvov. Stalin's Order of the Day also said that more than 400 localities were captured in the new Soviet offensive which drove to the western Bug River.

In a second Order of the Day, Stalin announced the capture of Vladimir-Velynsky, 65 miles northeast of Lvov; and Rava-Russkaya, northwest of Lvov. The Order describes the towns as "important strongpoints of the German defenses in the western Ukraine."

Stalin's Order of the Day announcing the new offensive from Kevel said that the key town of Opalin, on the eastern bank of the Bug River, west of Kevel, had been captured. The Bug River at this point was the starting line for the German invasion of the Soviet Union in June, 1941.

AIR WAR -- Nearly 3,000 Flying Fortresses and Liberator bombers of the 8th And the 15th U.S. Air Forces swept out for the third consecutive day to hammer oil refineries and other military objectives in the Munich, Friedrichshaven and Leipzig areas Thursday. Supreme Allied Headquarters announced that in the five days since July 16, Allied skyfleets had delivered the greatest daylight air assault of any comparable period. A total of approximately 19,000 tons of bombs were dropped in those five days on military targets, most of them in Germany. Little effective opposition was encountered at any time in the course of this 120-hour campaign.

NORMANDY -- Coincident with the steady British advance southeast of Caen, DNB (German News Agency) in a dispatch to German-occupied nations said Thursday that the Paris press is advising all persons who are not indispensable, to leave the capital.

A special communique issued Thursday at General Eisenhower's Headquarters report that Belgian patriots have joined with the French underground in harassing action against the Germans.

ITALY-- Lieutenant General Mark W. Clark, Commander of the Allied 5th Army in Italy, announced Thursday that the 100th Hawaiian American battalion, composed partly of Americans of Japanese descent, has been awarded a War Department citation for "outstanding performance of duty in action".

The 100th battalion has fought with the Allied 5th Army through Italy from Salerno to Livorno (Leghorn) and played an important part in the capture of the latter city.

GERMANY -- DNB (German News Agency) said in a transmission from Berlin that an attempt was made Thursday on the life of Adolf Hitler. The Nazi "News Agency" said several members of his staff were injured during the explosion.

A later report said that Hitler himself was slightly burned and bruised. Chief of Staff General Alfred Jodl was also slightly injured, along with Karl Heinrich Bedenschatz, Chief of Goering's personal staff; Admiral Von Puttkammer, Hitler's Adjutant for Navy; Admiral Vess; and 4 men named Kerten, Buhle, Heusinger and Scherff. Other injured were Lieutenant Colonels Bergman and Berger.

(Over)

The DNB transmission said that the attempt was made with high explosives. A later German home radio broadcast said "the would-be perpetrators of Hitler's assassination have escaped but police are on their trail."

In Washington, Secretary of State Cordell Hull said, when asked for comment on the DNB report, he had just heard the report and naturally it does not afford any basis for comment. If the results had been serious, he added, he would have offered ample comment.

JAPAN -- The Japanese news agency Domei said Thursday that General Kuniaki Koiso, Governor General of the Japanese-occupied Korea, and Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai, former Japanese Premier, have been chosen to form the new Japanese cabinet to succeed the Tojo cabinet which resigned yesterday.

Later the Tokyo radio described the new cabinet designators as displaying concentration, dismay and confusion after having asked the Emperor for more time to select the new ministers.

Secretary Hull, commenting on developments in the Japanese cabinet crisis, said Thursday a substantial reversal evidently is taking place in the "situation at the top," but that developments are unpredictable.

FAR EAST -- A Chinese High Command communique said Thursday that the battle for Hengyang, key center on the Hankow-Canton railway continues. The communique also said Chinese forces are attacking Hengshan, and that far to the south, fighting continues along the Pei River as Japanese troops attempt to push northward from Canton to join with the enemy forces below Hengyang in an attempt to clear the entire Hankow-Canton rail line.

Acting U.S. Secretary of War Robert Patterson, commenting Thursday in Washington on action in southeast Asia, said that the Japanese have been driven "far back from Imphal and Kohima and from Ukhrul to the east."

He said that British and Indian forces in this area as well as Chinese and Americans in North Burma "have shown their ability to overcome the monsoon difficulties, including swollen rivers and mud." As he spoke, Allied troops in Manipur were pushing the Japanese further back as they cleared the entire area around Imphal, Allied road junction which was one of the prime objectives of the now broken attempt of the Japanese to invade India.

Action along the other southeast Asia sectors continued in favor of Allied forces.

PACIFIC -- Pacific Fleet headquarters, Pearl Harbor, announced Thursday that U.S. heavy bombers, presumably from Saipan, have made their first land-based attack on the Japanese-held Bonin Islands, less than 800 miles south of Tokyo. It was also announced that the number of Japanese dead buried at Saipan now totals 19,793. Saipan is being used as an Allied base for both aircraft and artillery.

CHICAGO -- President Roosevelt's name was formally placed before the Democratic Convention Thursday for fourth term in nominating speech by Senator Alben W. Barkley of Kentucky. Nomination was seconded by Vice President Wallace. Chicago Convention, after cheering Roosevelt's name and demonstrating for 37 minutes, settled down to hear the Party's platform before balloting, and hear the President's acceptance speech (over the radio) at about 11 pm EWT.

BULLETIN - NORMANDY -- Allied infantry thrusts to east and south of Caen have steadily extended area now "firmly" in Allied hands. After bitter street fighting, Bourguebus and Frenouville, 5 miles southeast of Caen, have been freed of Germans.

BULLETIN - ITALY -- Following capture of Livorno yesterday torrential rains swept the entire Italian battlefield, seriously interfering with advance of Allied armies. American troops of Fifth Army, however, have reached Arno River on a 45-mile front.