

List of Dead in Worst Circus Fire in History Reaches 146

Five Officers of Circus Held For Manslaughter As Cause Is Investigated

Hartford, Conn.—(P)—While grief among parents, relatives and friends grew hourly deeper, officials placed the list of dead at 146 today as they counted and recounted the victims of the greatest fire in circus history which yesterday turned the big top of Ringling brothers circus into a flaming inferno. At least 250 other victims, many of them seriously burned and trampled were scattered about the city's hospitals.

Identification of the dead continued slow as sorrowing friends and relatives of missing persons trooped mournfully through the huge state armory where the dead, many of them charred beyond possibility of visual recognition, lay in somber aisles.

The death toll—which at one time was feared might reach 200—receded slowly as duplicating identifications were corrected but the condition of many in the hospitals indicated it might rise sharply again.

Meanwhile investigators sought the origin of the blaze which was variously asserted by some to have started from a discarded cigarette but by others to have first appeared high above the crowd in the lofty tent top, as 6,000 carefree spectators watched enthralled the opening act of the big show.

Held in high bail today on charges of manslaughter were five officers of the circus company as Mayor William Mortensen announced he was considering the probability that the city would have to bury many of the prospective unclaimed dead.

It cost as much as \$1 a call for frantic persons escaping fire to telephone relatives of their safety.

The Hartford Times reported it had learned that at least one householder in the immediate vicinity of the holocaust had garnered \$200 at the expense of panic stricken escapees.

On the other hand, many homes in the vicinity were freely thrown open to survivors with lines of men, women and children from the sidewalks to the telephone, patiently awaiting their opportunity to convey the good news of their safety.

Blood Volunteered
The Red Cross blood donor center was swamped today with countless offers of blood for circus victims, but V. H. Vosburgh said that as a result of the activities of the Hartford county blood bank, approximately 2700 pints were collected and processed for use in a civilian disaster.

Flags on the state capital flew at half-staff today in a sorrowful fluttering tribute to the circus dead or order of Governor Raymond E. Baldwin, who Thursday plunged

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RUSS WITHIN 10 MILES OF WILNO

London—(P)—German reports said the Russians were advancing today within ten miles of Wilno, where Moscow reported the Nazis had declared martial law.

Smashing beyond the old Polish bastion of Kowel, the Russians were approaching the Bug river at a point about 135 miles southeast of Warsaw along the main trunk line. Virtually all the pre-war Polish frontier was crossed save for a section before Luniniec in the Pripiet marshes.

Wilno, city of 207,750 which has changed nationality six times since the last war, lies but 97 miles from the border of East Prussia and is a rail and highway center. A Moscow dispatch quoted Yustas Paletskis, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Lithuania, as saying the German martial law edict barred persons from the streets between 8 p. m. and 5 a. m. and forbade walking in groups greater than two, Paletskis said there had been uprisings in Kaunas, Mariampole and Vilnius.

9,000 Nazis Killed
While at least four Russian army groups pushed westward, other Soviet forces mopped up bewildered German stragglers east of Minsk, leagues behind the main front, Moscow said 5,000 were killed last night. The midnight communique listed at least 9,000 Germans killed in all and nearly 1,000 captured.

More Names on Service Roll
With publication in this newspaper Monday of the names of nearly 2,800 south Wood county service men and women it was inevitable that there would be some omissions, a few inaccuracies. The Tribune regrets that these omissions occurred and is eager to publish at this time the names of those in service, whom, we have later been informed, were not included in the two-page listing Monday:

- Larson, Wilbur
- Arnold, Earl W.
- Kreutzer, Richard Andrew
- Fritz, Kenneth F.
- Oesterreicher, Charles N.
- Tomskey, Gilbert C.
- Tomskey, James G.
- Malcolm, Ronald W.
- Malcolm, George V.
- Martin, Erwin B.
- Wellner, John E.
- Podvin, Catherine
- Perham, Marshall Roger
- Anfield, John
- Yetter, Donald
- Spice, Leslie E.



PFC. ROBERT J. KAHOUN

Pfc. Robert Kahoun Killed In Normandy

The ironical brutality of war brought harsh ending to the vacation trip enjoyed by the J. R. Kahouns Thursday night when they arrived home to find two messages, a v-mail letter from their son Robert, a paratrooper in France who wrote "I know how you must have worried before you know it. I will be back home again," and beside that letter a war department telegram: "The secretary of war desires me to express his deep regret that your son, Pfc. Robert J. Kahoun, was killed in action on June 19 in France."

The Kahouns, who live at Biron where Mr. Kahoun is employed in the Biron mill of Consolidated Water Power and Paper company, had just returned from a holiday vacation trip in Milwaukee when they found the two messages. The letter from Robert was written on June 17, two days before he was killed. It was the first letter received from him since one written last May.

The complete text of the letter, pitiful in its cheerful hopefulness that the parents back home won't worry, follows:

"Here I am in France and writing at the earliest possible moment, for I know how you must have worried. I can't write much as yet but will, first chance I get. This is just to let you know and let you know I am well.

"We've really got those Krauts on the run. Everywhere they go they leave a trail of clothing and equipment.

"Please keep from worrying as much as possible. Try to forget this

See—KABOUN—Page 7

Countries Split On Monetary Issues

BY DONALD KOVACIC

Bretton Woods, N. H.—(P)—Differences of opinion within the American delegation to the United Nations monetary conference were reported today to be delaying a decision on the critical issue of quotas to a proposed \$8,000,000,000 currency stabilization fund.

With Russia and some other devastated nations purportedly holding out for special treatment, the United States group was said by a staff member to be at odds over the degree of firmness with which it should be prepared to deal when the time for a showdown comes. Specifically Russia is understood to favor a quota larger than the \$1,000,000,000 figure generally mentioned and to want to put up less than 25 per cent of her quota in gold, as the present outline provides.

Four City Workers Continue Strike

Carl Cajanus, city engineer, stated today that there had been no change or development in the matter of the one blacksmith and three grader operators who failed to report for work on Thursday.

The striking city workers objected, not to the decision of the maintenance of way committee on wage increase, but rather to the failure of that committee to meet with the labor representatives for a discussion of the disputed matter.

The four workers remained away from duty today, and Mr. Cajanus stated this morning that there was no indication that any settlement would be reached today.

COLONEL IS RECALLED

Algiers—(P)—Col. Egbert White has been relieved of his command as director of Mediterranean area editions of the Stars and Stripes, and been ordered to the United States because of differences with higher officials over political censorship, it was learned reliably today.

Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune

Thirty-First Year—No. 9518. Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., Friday, July 7, 1944. Single Copy Five Cents

B-29 BOMBERS RAID JAPAN AGAIN

Troop Train Crashes in Ravine

DEATH TOLL IS EXPECTED TO GO WELL OVER 40

Jellico, Tenn.—(P)—At least 17 persons, all but two of them soldiers, were killed last night when a troop train plunged into a 50-foot gorge of the Clear river 11 miles south of here.

Dr. E. P. Muncy, resident physician of Knoxville's General hospital, said the death toll probably would exceed 40.

The locomotive and four cars were piled at the ravine's bottom, and a fifth hung over the precipitous edge, where it left the Louisville and Nashville railroad tracks.

Soldier Fined 12 Hours
One soldier, identified by army public relations as Pvt. Leonard Battag of Evanston, Ill., was still pinned in the bottom of a wrecked car 12 hours after the crash, with four dead men piled on him. He regained consciousness and talked with rescuers as acetylene torches cut through twisted steel nearby.

The youth, in the army only 18 days, asked a doctor if he was in a plane. "It sure looks like it," he said. "This is a lot better hole than on that train." He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Battag of Evanston.

Bodies Taken to Hospital
By noon six bodies had been brought to the government hospital at Oak Ridge, Tenn., and eight other bodies were reported on the way there. Army authorities at the hospital said that they had admitted 20 injury cases.

A partial death list released by the army included the following enlisted men, with serial numbers but with home addresses still not known: Donald J. Clark (35845018), William M. Gorey (35845175), Dale Mattix (35844937), W. H. McChesney (35844923), John Ruggles, in charge of the Knoxville office of the federal bureau of investigation, said that possibilities of sabotage in connection

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Former Purdue U. Professor to Run Cranberry Marsh

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert D. Williams and son Robert arrived this week from Lafayette, Ind., and will make their future home at Biron. Mr. Williams, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Burt Williams, has taken over the control and operation of the Williams cranberry marsh there and he and his family will reside on the property.

For 10 years Mr. Williams has been a member of the English faculty at Purdue university. He was at first an instructor in English and co-director of dramatics, but during recent years, has been director of the University Educational Radio Station programs and teacher of all the radio courses in the university schedule.

He resigned his position at Purdue last week to come here and devote his time to cranberry raising. The Williams marsh is located between the Guy Nash and Charles Dempse marshes, which are adjacent to the village of Biron.

At the last national convention of the Association of College Educational Stations, he was elected as president of the organization, but now automatically relinquishes that position.

Conserve Water, City Is Urged

Frank L. Steib, manager of the city water & lighting commission, issued an urgent appeal today to people of this area to refrain from sprinkling lawns and gardens for the next few days. A reduction in the city's water supply has been brought about by damages caused by recent storms and other circumstances outside the control of the commission.

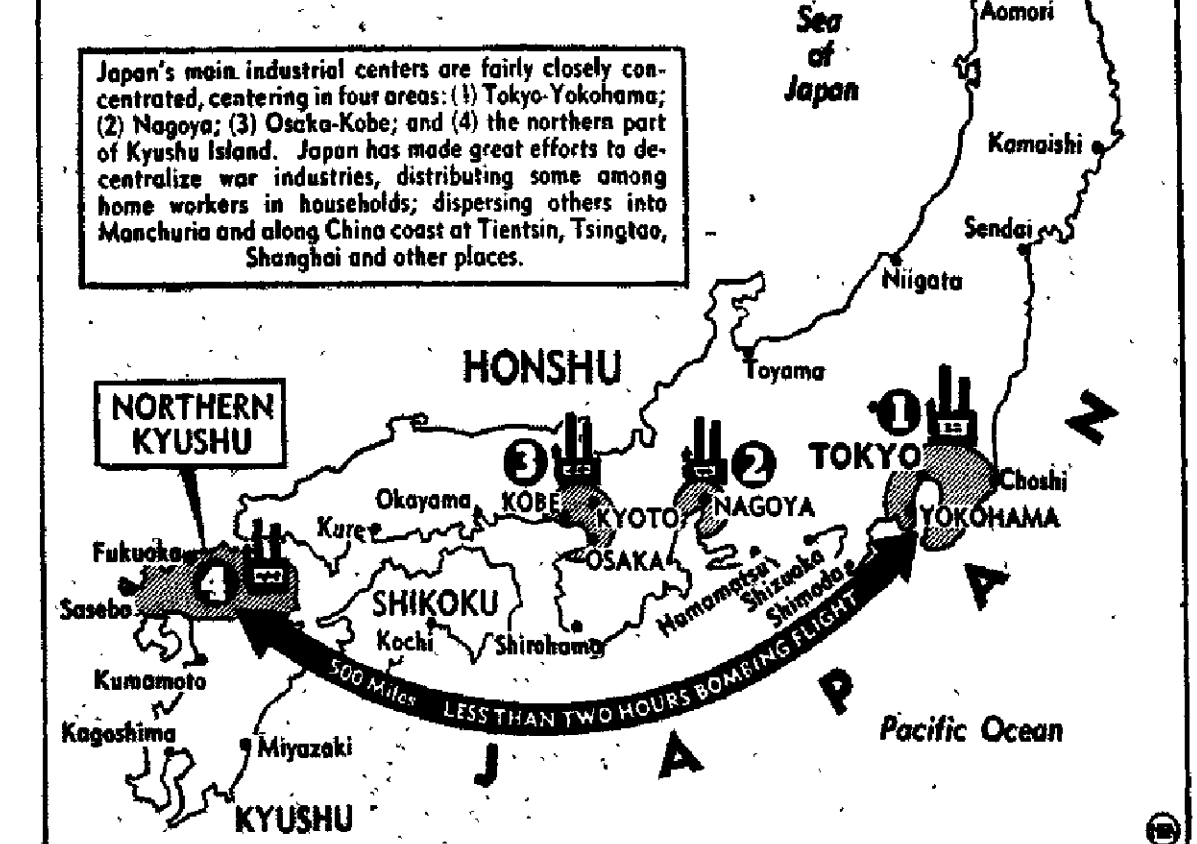
In addition, users of air-conditioners are being asked to reduce their use of water 50 per cent until the defects are remedied.

Mr. Steib stated that every effort is being made to correct present conditions and that all will be normal again in a few days.

SWINGING DOOR KILLS MAN

Eau Claire, Wis.—(P)—George Olson, 56, was killed yesterday when a heavy swinging door smashed him against the side of a barn on his farm.

FOUR JAP TARGETS



Japan's main industrial centers are fairly closely concentrated, centering in four areas: (1) Tokyo-Yokohama; (2) Nagoya; (3) Osaka-Kobe; and (4) the northern part of Kyushu Island. Japan has made great efforts to decentralize war industries, distributing some among home workers in households, dispersing others into Manchuria and along China coast at Tientsin, Tsingtao, Shanghai and other places.

TARGETS OF SUPERFORTRESSES—Communique No. 3 of the U. S. 20th air force issued this afternoon tells of bombing raids by B-29's on the Japanese naval base of Sasebo and the steel center of Yawata on the island of Kyushu Friday. The attack is the second by the huge bombers on the Japanese mainland and the third time since Pearl Harbor that Japan proper has been bombed. As allied forces continue their inexorable hop-skip-and-jump progress in the Pacific, Jap press and radio expresses worry of Tojo and Co., over possible allied attack on their homeland. One reason for Nips' jitters can be seen in map above, which shows how enemy's main production centers are concentrated in four areas, all within a short bombing run.

Begin New American Thrusts At Dawn Through Lowlands of Normandy; Yanks Seize Airel

Carentan, France—(P)—American troops smashing out in a new attack advanced along a widening 33-mile battle-front today, sending foot patrols into besieged La Haye Du Puits, crossing the marshes south of Carentan in the face of heavy artillery fire and smashing several thousand yards across the Vire river.

Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force—(P)—Gen. Omar N. Bradley's American army, springing at dawn today in a new attack on the Nazi-defended bottlenecks through the marshy lowlands of Normandy, stabbed forward more than a mile across the Vire river and captured the village of Airel.

This attack toward the west above St. Lo surged forward under a concentrated hail from big guns which dazed enemy machine gunners and sent German artillery observers scampering.

Local American attacks around La Haye Du Puits at the western end of the blazing 25-mile front almost surrounded that pivotal point.

German Grip Melts
The Americans were now attacking along a huge semi-circular front, with the newest offensive pressing in from the eastern side of the arc, and the German grip slowly melting under the pressure around La Haye at the western end.

Airel, eight miles northeast of the important road junction of St. Lo, was taken in the first hour of the new attack across the Vire.

Take La Surellerie
Around La Haye one American column took La Surellerie, less than a mile south and only slightly west of the town, while the column working around from the east closed in to a similar position three miles southeast of La Haye.

At La Surellerie the Americans See—INVASION—Page 7

Guatemalan Is Brown Swiss Cattleman's Speaker Today

With Wood county today host to Brown Swiss cattle breeders from throughout the state and many from beyond the state's borders, interest centers in the speech to be given this afternoon by Dr. Enrique Asturias of Yopocapa, Guatemala, a man who is visiting this country in the interests of the dairy industry in Central America.

Dr. Asturias, widely traveled and with an education which includes a doctorate of medicine degree from a California university, speaks at mid-afternoon today.

Dr. Asturias is prominent in Guatemalan affairs, his father being director of a large Guatemalan bank while the son participated in a revolution a fortnight ago as result of

Steel Center and Naval Base Are Blasted By Yanks

Washington—(P)—Superfortresses of the U. S. 20th air force bombed the Japanese naval base of Sasebo and the steel center of Yawata on the island of Kyushu Friday night, in the second attack by the huge B-29's on the Japanese mainland.

Gen. H. H. Arnold, chief of the air forces, announced the assault in a communique at Washington. It was the third time since Pearl Harbor that American planes have rained bombs on Japan proper.

Sasebo, comparable to the U. S. naval establishments at Norfolk, Va., or Bremerton, Wash., was hit for the first time since the start of the war. It lies to the west of Yawata, which was the target of the first B-29 Superfortress attack on the Japanese home islands on June 15.

Arnold, who also is commanding general of the 20th air force which operates directly under the joint chiefs of staff, issued this communique:

"Headquarters 20th air force, Communique No. three: B-29 superfortresses of the 20th bomber command attacked naval installations at Sasebo, Japan, tonight.

Also Hit Yawata
"Bombs were dropped also on industrial objectives at Yawata, target of the superfortresses' June 15 assault on Japan.

Both cities are on the island of Kyushu.

No additional information was available immediately.

Sasebo is west of the steel center of Yawata, which was struck June 15 by the B-29 superfortresses in the first air attack on the Japanese islands since medium bombers under Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle were launched from the aircraft carrier Hornet to hit Tokyo and other Japanese cities on April 18, 1942.

On 7th Anniversary
The target of today's attack, which occurred on the seventh anniversary of Japan's initiation of the war with China, lies just north of the great Japanese port of Nagasaki.

The attack on Yawata, also by superfortresses of the 20th bomber command based in China, occurred in the pre-dawn hours of June 15. The great weight of explosives was poured on the factories of that city at the northern end of Kyushu island, and air force officers reported a high degree of successful hits on the industrial targets.

Auto Rolls Over Near Rudolph; 2 Persons Injured

A Model A Ford, owned by Basil Nelson, Rudolph, and driven by Stella Louis, also of Rudolph, failed to negotiate a curve on County Trunk C, one mile west of Rudolph today, left the road and turned over, injuring two of its five occupants.

Glenn McGregor, Route 3, Stevens Point, suffered a broken clavicle and is now at Riverview hospital here. Linas Ford, Route 2, Wisconsin Rapids, suffered a cut hand but the injury was not serious enough to require hospitalization.

Other passengers in the car, in addition to the owner, were Ray Stenke and Ardene Tosch of Rudolph. Nelson is 25 years old; the other four occupants are in their teens.

The automobile was a total wreck, according to County Officer Arthur Boll's report.

Navy Recruiting Date Changed For One Week

Petty Officer Glenn Parkin, U. S. navy, announced today that navy recruiters from Wausau will appear in Wisconsin Rapids on next Wednesday, July 12, instead of the usual Tuesday date. This change is for next week only; the following week recruiting will go back to the usual Tuesday.

Petty Officer Parkin also stated that 17-year old enlistments are not closing, as has been rumored, but that they are being limited to some extent.

Parkin, recruiting officer for this area, is a former resident of Wisconsin Rapids and was president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce here in 1941.

INJURIES PROVE FATAL

Milwaukee—(P)—Mrs. Bessie Shlimovitz, 42, of Black River Falls, Wis., died at a hospital today of injuries suffered in an automobile accident near Black River Falls. She is a native of LaCrosse, Wis., and the wife of Dr. Benjamin Shlimovitz, a Black River Falls veterinarian.

Former City Man Dies in California

John Dernbach, 55, who moved from this city to Los Angeles, Calif., about 13 years ago, died there Thursday, July 6, after a two day illness of pneumonia following a heart attack. Services and burial will take place in Los Angeles.

Mr. Dernbach, who was in the cigar manufacturing business both here and in Los Angeles, is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mabel Dernbach and his father, Frank Dernbach of Los Angeles, and two brothers, Adolph Dernbach of this city and Henry Dernbach of Almond. He was preceded in death by his mother and two sisters, Hattie and Helena. The Dernbachs two children died in infancy.

CHINESE THROW JAPS IN RETREAT AT HENGYANG

China crowned seven hard years of war today with a smashing victory which broke the siege of Hengyang and threw into a 25-mile retreat a great Japanese army menacing the Hankow-Canton railway.

This sudden, stunning blow to Japanese arms made the Pacific war news unanimously unpleasant for Tokyo, which also had to reckon with the imminent Bataan-like end of its troops on Saipan and a new island invasion in the southwest Pacific. And a Japanese general conceded defeat in the attempt to invade India.

On the first day of the eighth year of its resistance to Japan, the Chinese announced the main body of enemy troops driving south from Hengyang had been forced back 25 miles toward the northeast.

Jap Drive Thwarted
The sudden turn in fortune thwarted "for some time to come," Chungking said, the all-out Japanese drive to cleave China along the 1,000-mile railroad from Canton north to Peiping. Along this line the Nipponese hoped to construct a

See—WAR IN PACIFIC—Page 7

Nazis Halt Yank Drive To Florence

Rome—(P)—Lashing out from outposts of the heavily fortified Gothic line in their first aggressive action in two months, the German defenders of northern Italy have brought the Fifth army's drive toward Livorno (Leghorn), Pisa and Florence almost to a halt, allied headquarters said today.

The Eighth army also measured its gains in yards instead of miles. A staff house-to-house battle continued to rage day and night in the village of Rosignano, where American infantry who have penetrated to within ten airline miles of Livorno were attempting to smash through heavily manned strongpoints.

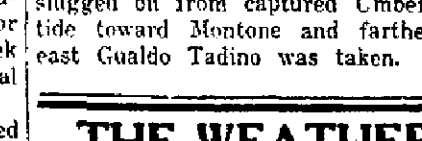
The severity of the fighting was shown in official reports. The Americans, who on the preceding day held half of the town, were able to claim only two-thirds of its battered ruins last night, after a struggle reminiscent of the bitter, bloody combat at Cassino several months ago.

Fighting on the Eighth army front was featured by the enemy's stubborn defense at Arezzo, 36 miles southeast of Florence, which is giving Field Marshal Albert Kesselring time to bolster his main Gothic line defenses in the northern Apennines. In the Tiber valley the Eighth army slugged on from captured Umbertide toward Montone and farther east Gualdo Tadino was taken.

THE WEATHER

For Wisconsin: Considerable cloudiness with scattered thunderstorms tonight and Saturday, cooler north and west central portions Saturday.

Today's Weather Facts—Maximum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 88; minimum temperature for 24-hour period ending at 7 a. m., 63; temperature at 7 a. m., 64. Precipitation, trace.



CLOUDY