

Reds Fall Back; Claim German 'Defeat'

Capitol Flag at Half-Staff in Tribute to Sen. Houston

WASHINGTON, June 27.—The flag atop the Capitol was placed at half staff Friday for the oldest member of Congress—Senator Andrew Jackson Houston of Texas, who died at nearby Baltimore, Md., in the night.

Johnson vs. O'Daniel (An Editorial)

IN the last few days of speechmaking in the senatorial campaign, Governor O'Daniel has succeeded in thoroughly disillusioning those of his supporters whose patriotism leads them to recognize the great need at the present of sending to Washington a Senator who will support the President and his foreign policy.

In view of the fact that the issue of national unity and support of President Roosevelt has been fairly raised in this campaign, there can be no interpretation of the Governor's recent speeches other than as a public boast that he dominates his followers so completely that they can be led anywhere he chooses.

Does Mr. O'Daniel indeed assume that he is above being called upon to declare himself at a time when the patriotic instincts of every American call out for solidarity in the face of national peril and when commonsense warns that his election would be a step toward disunion rather than unity?

The contrast afforded by Lyndon Johnson's candidacy is illuminating. Mr. O'Daniel is "not campaigning," just dropping in to allow his faithful followers to look upon him, maybe touch his hand.

The O'Daniel speeches, of course, are entirely characteristic. They are filled with vague but terrifying references to "pussyfooting politicians," "cliques" and "gangs"—all unnamed—and even resort to the old demagogic standby, the mysterious "they," who are going to catch it when he gets to Washington.

The trouble with talk like that is that Senators and Congressmen do not scare very easy. They have seen self-nomminated supermen come and go. It will take more than radio giggle and doggerel to make them line up and goose-step to the tune played by a brash newcomer.

The point is that Texas has a big investment in each of its two Senatorships at Washington. They are the instruments by which the State keeps its place among the other States in the handling and distribution of the Nation's business, and each of these instruments must be useful, or Texas loses.

The need at Washington—a need which Texas now has the opportunity to supply in part—is for Senators who have proved their ability and readiness to serve under the Nation's Commander-in-Chief, for Senators whose election symbolizes unity rather than disunion.

Nazi Battleships 'Straddled' With Bombs

LONDON, June 27 (AP).—Authoritative sources said Friday the German battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst, 26,000-ton sisters, had been straddled by "sticks" of bombs half a dozen times and probably had received several direct hits from armor-piercing bombs in British air raids upon their berths at Brest, France.

Free French Driving North of Damascus

LONDON, June 27 (AP).—Free French troops advancing from occupied Damascus have seized Maaraba, just north of the Syrian capital, and pushed to Qunastal, 35 miles to the northeast, informed sources reported here Friday.

Two Rallies Tonight to End Heated Senate Race

Tarrant County's 42,249 eligible voters, poised on the eve of a special United States Senate election, Friday night will have their choice of attending either the final rally of Governor O'Daniel or Attorney General Mann here before the polls open Saturday for an expected heavy vote.

Ballot and polling places will be found on Page 9.

eral Mann here before the polls open Saturday for an expected heavy vote. Mann's final personal bid for votes will be made in a Capps Park rally at 7:45 p. m. (Hotel Texas, if it rains).

O'Daniel will make his final plea on the Centennial grounds west of Will Rogers Memorial Auditorium at 7:30 p. m.

Heavy Vote Visioned. As predictions for a comparatively heavy vote continued to be voiced throughout Texas, another prediction was common: This is one of the "hardest-to-figure" political races in many a year.

Even the most astute, neutral lookers-on Friday found difficulty in pointing to the winner in the ballot contest that finds four men looming large throughout the State.

Lyndon Johnson, Congressman and colorful, new statewide political personality. O'Daniel, Governor, whose sound-truck, hillbilly band campaign strategy now is an old story to Texas.

Mann, Attorney General and first of the "Big Four" to enter the race that has attracted the eyes of the Nation.

"Off" Political Year. Martin Dies, Congressman and a national figure by reason of imitating the length and breadth of the land.

And if Fort Worth and Texas can not find its next Senator in this group, there are a score of others in the contest who would not reject their votes.

"Off-year" that it is, politically, a comparatively light vote ordinarily would be expected. But this is not the case this year. Tarrant County has two-thirds of its ordinary election year voting strength, but officials have predicted freely that a proportionately greater number of voters will turn out Saturday than have voted in several years.

Also, for the first time in a large election, establishments selling beer and package stores will hang out "business as usual" signs by reason of a Mann ruling that this election does not come under the head of a general election. E. C. Pinson, deputy supervisor of the Texas Liquor Control Board, said, it will be perfectly legal to sell beer and liquor all day. Member banks of the Fort Worth Clearing House Association will be closed.

The county's vote strength this year is made up of 19,083 exemptions and 23,166 paid poll taxes.

The official ballot lists 25 Democratic party candidates, two Republicans, one Communist and one Independent. Several candidates have withdrawn, but they did so too late to have their names removed from the ballot.

No Entertainment. Polls will be open as usual from 7 a. m. to 7 p. m. Delivery of supplies will be started Thursday, and the rest were being delivered to precinct officials Friday. The county clerk's office will open at 7 a. m. Saturday to aid any election judge or clerk seeking information.

Keith Kelly, county campaign manager, said Mann's Capps Park rally will be without benefit of an entertainment program. In Waco

Teachers Agree Houston Wasn't 'Hero of the Alamo'

Fort Worth history teachers, along with other Fort Worth residents, expressed surprise Friday that Governor O'Daniel should have so confused the vital issues of Texas history that he would term Gen. Sam Houston the "hero of the Alamo."

The Governor made the error in a statement expressing regret at the death of Senator Andrew Jackson Houston of Texas, 87-year-old son of the famous general, hero of the Battle of San Jacinto.

The New Order in Asia



After a bombing raid on Chungking, wartime capital of China, these Chinese children sit near the wreckage of what was once their home. A few scant belongings are at their feet.

Gunman Takes \$160 in Holdup

Douglas Green, attendant at the Rosedale Package Store, 1200 East Tenth, was locking the door of the establishment at 1:15 a. m. Friday when a man approached him, flourishing a pistol and ordering: "Give me your money!"

The gunman took a sack containing about \$160 from Green, the latter reported to police, and ran to an automobile parked near by. The car, in which a second man had waited, sped from the scene.

Green said he closed the store a few minutes before midnight after sacking the money. He had to make a trip downtown and did not want to take the money with him so he hid it under a counter.

He returned for the money, intending to take it home with him for safekeeping.

The gunman was described as tall and well dressed. The robber, Green said, used a large nickel-plated pistol.

—Bought Your Defense Bond Yet?—

Negress, 104, Offers Self to US

MILTON, Fla., June 27 (AP).—Susan Kalker, negress, listed her age at 104 when she registered for civilian defense.

She said she could take care of children, cook, sew, knit and do any kind of household work.

Three Perish in Building Fire

LOS ANGELES, June 27 (AP).—Two women and a man, burned almost beyond recognition, died and three persons were injured seriously as fire raged through the Burton Arms Apartments early Friday.

The dead tentatively were identified as Mr. and Mrs. Goldsberg, also known as Harris, and Miss Alma Vosback.

Burned so severely she could not hold on longer, the woman identified as Mrs. Goldsberg slipped from a fourth floor window ledge and fell dead as firemen arrived. The man's body was found in the Goldsberg kitchen and the third body in a fourth floor hallway.

Tenants said they heard an explosion and almost instantly the fourth floor was in flames. Firemen speculated that gas had accumulated and become ignited.

Most seriously injured was Carl G. Wallerstedt, 63. Doctors said his burns might be fatal.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Turkey Will Permit Vichy Troop Passage

ANKARA, June 27 (AP).—A high Turkish source said Friday that Turkey has granted permission for the evacuation across its territory of Vichy forces now fighting in Syria provided they travel as unarmed civilians.

It was expected, however, that only a fraction of the French army would be able to leave Syria because of a lack of transport, but belief was expressed that most of its officers would succeed in escaping capture by the British.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

Pigeon Sets Speed Record

WASHINGTON, June 27 (AP).—The Army Signal Corps reported Friday that "General Mauborgne," one of its messenger pigeons, had established a speed record by flying 600 miles in less than 14 hours.

The flight, in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas, was without aid of a tailwind, it was said.

—Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps—

British Torpedo Two Ships

LONDON, June 27.—Two ships were torpedoed when British planes of the fleet air arm attacked a convoy of 20,000-ton transports off the south coast of Italy Thursday, it was announced Friday.

Reform Line; Nazis Assert Decision Won

Russia has withdrawn her armies on the Vilna and Baranowicz fronts to new positions after inflicting a "heavy defeat" on German forces driving toward Minsk, a Red army communique claimed Friday.

A similar retirement before a Nazi thrust along the Baltic coast apparently aimed at Riga also was admitted. This came after heavy fighting in the region of Siauliai.

Berlin, meantime, claiming victory on all fronts, asserted the main decision over Russia already had been won. The Germans, however, continued to withhold detailed information.

The Russians, in acknowledging that their forces had fallen back before a German mechanized thrust to new positions in defense of Vilna, Lithuania, and Baranowicz, occupied Poland—apparently were fighting not in Russia proper but still in the occupied buffer zone.

The Russian forces withdrew Friday night, said the Moscow communique, and were "effectively reformed for new military operations." The depth of the retirement was not given.

Drive Costs Nazis Heavily. The Vilna-Baranowicz drive, aimed at capture of Minsk, capital of White Russia, cost the Germans heavily in tanks, pounded into twisted wreckage by planes used as "anti-tank artillery," the Russians claimed.

Minsk is about 400 miles southwest of Moscow. Ready for close war collaboration with Russia against their common foe, British military and economic experts meantime arrived by plane in Moscow, accompanied by the British ambassador Sir Stafford Cripps.

The Moscow communique said Red airmen, opposing panzer columns in the precise manner that the Luftwaffe was used in the Low Countries and France as aerial artillery, had blasted mechanized invaders aimed at Vilna, Brody and Baranowicz.

Many Tanks Wrecked. Indications were that the Germans, on the sixth day of their drive, had not yet penetrated the secondary outer defenses of the Soviet Union to reach the primary fortifications along the old frontier.

The Russians said their air force wrecked many a tank in "innumerable attacks" on the German mechanized forces Thursday on the front running south from Lithuania on the Baltic through Poland.

On the southern, or Bessarabian sector, facing Rumania, a great battle was declared fought through the night in the region of Sculeni.

Elsewhere the night passed quietly, the Moscow communique said. Cessation of operations at night is customary—almost compulsory—in tank warfare, where the vision of the tank driver is limited by a narrow slit in his armor plate.

Three Main Drives. The Russians indicated that the German thrust centered on the three main drives:

- 1. Toward Vilna, northeast of Minsk, capital of White Russia. 2. Toward Baranowicz, southwest of Hinsk. 3. Toward Brody, south of the Pinsk marshes, near the border of the rich Ukraine.

Aside from battle line action, Red airmen were praised by the Kremlin command for raids on the Rumanian port of Constanta, Bucharest, the Rumanian capital, and Ploesti, center of the Rumanian oil fields.

The German command indirectly acknowledged terrific resistance by the Russians. Its daily war bulletin said that the first five days of the struggle proved "that Soviet Russian armies had been ready to attack Central Europe."

Another Postponement. The German communique was another postponement of details on the Russian drive. On Wednesday a military spokesman in Berlin said the Thursday communique would be a detailed account of imagination-baffling successes. Thursday came, but there were no details. Friday's deal with this point thusly:

"Our troops, which were victorious on all fronts, obtained big decisions which will be made known shortly."

The German radio, however, said that 28 Russian planes were shot down Thursday in a fierce air battle when the Red airmen attacked a dive-bomber squadron over the Rumanian sector of the front.

The Russian air force struck heavily at Finland from which German forces threatened her northern flank. Finnish observers said the devastation was as bad as that which marked the Russian invasion of 1939-40. Thousands were believed to have again been made homeless. Turkey was hardest hit.

British Protest to Sweden. In London, meanwhile, informed sources said that Britain has protested Sweden's announced decision to permit German troops to cross

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RAF Bombs Nazis 17th Night in Row

LONDON, June 27 (AP).—British Royal Air Force planes swept Friday night in the direction of Boulogne for their seventeenth consecutive night of raiding German objectives on the continent.

A short time later, the familiar sound of explosions rolled back across the English Channel.

During the late afternoon a considerable cloud formation formed over the Channel and Britons expressed belief that a few of the Nazis' new stratosphere 100F's used this cover to fly across the Southeast English coast.

Two or three aircraft, sighted flying at more than 30,000 feet, were believed to be the first Germans in recent days to cross the Channel in daylight.

Polish Fliers Aid. RAF fighter formations made a one-hour raid on the German-occupied French coast Friday despite heavy anti-aircraft fire and Polish pilots were reported authoritatively to have destroyed three Messerschmitt 109 planes on German air-dromes.

These thrusts followed the sixteenth consecutive night bombing attack on Germany Thursday night and speculation over the possibility of a British invasion of the continent.

British bombers including some of the latest types dropped heavy loads of explosives Thursday night on the docks and shipyards of Kiel, German naval base, causing numerous

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The Weather

(By U. S. Weather Bureau.) Sun sets Friday at 7:32. Sun rises Saturday at 5:23. Highest temperature Thursday was 92 degrees; highest year ago Thursday was 90 degrees. Lowest temperature Friday was 73 degrees; lowest year ago Friday was 74 degrees.

Fort Worth and Vicinity, including Camps Wolters and Bowie—Thundershowers with light to moderate rain Friday afternoon until early Friday night. Saturday partly cloudy except for afternoon thundershowers developing. Little temperature change; lowest Friday night 72 degrees; highest Saturday 90.

West Texas—Few widely scattered thundershowers Friday afternoon and evening. Saturday fair. Little change in temperature.

East Texas—Considerable cloudiness Friday night and Saturday with scattered thundershowers except on lower coast Friday night.

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Two Reasons Spurred Houston to Accept Post

BY STAFF CORRESPONDENT. WASHINGTON, June 27.—Senator Andrew Jackson Houston accepted the senatorship from Texas for two reasons, it was learned Friday.