

U.S. TROOPS REPORTED IN PARIS SUBURB

Yank Losses In S. Invasion Below 300

While enemy resistance in Southern France, slight since the invasion Tuesday, was officially reported crumbling, Allied Mediterranean Headquarters yesterday announced that American assault casualties in the operation thus far totaled less than 300.

The number of German prisoners, including two generals and their staffs, was estimated at 7,000 with the count still incomplete.

As part of Maj. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's U. S. forces drove inland through valleys of the Maritime Alps, other units of the Seventh Army spread out along 100 miles of tortuous twisting coastline. Last night they were reported within eight miles of the once-great French Laval base of Toulon and within four and a half miles of Cannes. German Radio previously hinted that the latter resort town had already been penetrated.

Reported 45 Miles Inland Doughboys pressing inland were officially reported 25 miles beyond the beach, but unofficial reports put them 45 miles inland. The U. S. troops are in possession of long stretches of the main lateral highway across Southern France, which in the invasion area parallels the coast about 12 miles inland. The Yanks also are continuing their drive up the main road running up the Rhone River valley.

Allied headquarters yesterday detailed the front line for the first time. It runs through Le Varadou, 22 miles east of Toulon, Cuers, ten and a half miles northeast of Toulon; Besse and Le Lue, both on the main road from Frejus to Toulon, Vidouban, seven and a half miles south of Dragugana; and La Napoule west of Cannes on the fringe of the Cannes airdrome.

The advancing troops thus far have struck no prepared positions in the hinterland behind the beaches, according to a Reuter report from the front. They have met only a few anti-tank guns, one or two tanks and some mortar fire, but no heavy artillery, the dispatch said.

Meanwhile, further details of the supporting operations in Southern France were revealed last night, serving to explain the phenomenally small figure of 300 American assault casualties.

Planes Carrier-Based
A naval communique disclosed that American and British planes are operating from aircraft carriers, not only to give protecting cover to warships, but also to bomb and strafe enemy positions. Use of the carriers has permitted far more effective fighter support than otherwise would have been possible, as the nearest land fighter bases are on Corsica, almost 150 miles away, the communique said.

Warships that bombarded the beachhead in the invasion operations fired almost 16,000 shells of 5-in. caliber or larger. Of these 12,500 were 12-in. or larger.

Tactical aircraft, roaming ahead of the ground troops, have been strafing and bombing the enemy relentlessly for four days.

ANNOUNCES NEW MINE

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Aug. 18—Production of hundreds of thousands of new high-explosive land mines, made of pottery which cannot be located by electrical mine detectors, was disclosed by Col. Frank J. Atwood, ordnance district chief. Both the mine and fuse were developed by Onondaga Pottery Co. in co-operation with the Rochester Ordnance District,

'Inside Paris' Today

Word from Paris via enemy and neutral sources yesterday was that French collaborationist officials and Japanese diplomats had fled, that the city's police were still on strike and that Parisians were thronging all the churches as Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army armored columns swept closer.

After the American Broadcasting Station in Europe had told Parisians "you can already hear guns and you soon will hear the rumble of tanks," the Germans were reported to have asked civilians for the first time to "keep calm."

There is no gas and little coal today in Paris, according to German reports, and if the Allies succeed in storming the French capital civil affairs authorities were said to be preparing to feed virtually the entire city from communal kitchens, which Stockholm reports say have already been set up in the streets.

The police went on strike Thursday in protest against the appointment of an unpopular official to a high position in the department. The prefect ordered the police back to work Thursday night but most of the policemen disregarded the order.

The Paris subway, sole means of transportation inside the city, has been shut down completely.

Laval, Darnand and other Vichyites fled from Paris to Metz, according to a United Press report quoting a French resistance leader who reached the British front from Paris. The whereabouts of Marshal Petain were not known.

As to the Vichy government, Reuter's continental observer wrote, "there is some doubt whether the Vichy government still exists at this moment even formally. It has certainly ceased to exercise effective authority in any part of France, or even to have a declared policy."

On Other Fronts

Nazis Scorch Own Towns as Red Slash into East Prussia Looms

As a Russian slash across the East Prussian border appeared imminent, the Germans last night were reported to be "scorching" the earth on their side of the frontier—burning their own towns and villages to prevent their being of use to the Red Army.

A front-line correspondent said the Russians had dislodged the Nazi from prepared defensive positions and were on the threshold of German soil, while Soviet fliers told of flaming German towns along the entire border.

While the hard-pressed Nazis fought back savagely, Berlin Radio told the German people that though the present struggle was grave it was only a curtain raiser to a new and greater Russian summer offensive, slated to begin "any time now."

A German Overseas News Agency analyst said the Reds were attacking with 14 infantry divisions, supported by powerful plane and tank forces.

The Russians last night were reported still resisting the German counter-attack east of Warsaw.

Planes Hamper Jap Shipping

Allied planes have seriously threatened the Japanese supply lines around the Philippines and are forcing the enemy to reduce shipping activity in the Southwest Pacific, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique said.

The blows make it necessary for the Japs to use small ships and vessels which are not effective in hauling essential war goods, to the outlying garrisons of Halmahera and Ceram, south of the Philippines, and into the Bandan and Afrafura seas, the communique said.

The report added that 23 Jap planes were destroyed in the latest Allied air attack on Miti airfield in northern Halmahera, night patrols operating in Davao Gulf, in the southern Philippines, sank a 1,000-ton freighter.

Situation Eases Around Florence

The tense situation north of Florence into which enemy tanks were reported to have penetrated Thursday, was officially described as much easier yesterday, but there still was heavy enemy sniping in northwest and northeastern suburbs. Meanwhile, the Mediterranean Air Forces again struck the Ploesti oilfield installations in Rumania in the wake of a daylight attack Thursday by 500 escorted American heavies.

Gen. Patton's Advance Units In Versailles, Germans Say; Nazis 'Beaten' In Normandy

An unconfirmed German report last night stated that an advance column of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's racing armored forces had reached Versailles, the Paris suburb in which the Peace Treaty of 1918 was signed.

However, the Associated Press said that security silence on American operations near the French capital allowed front-line dispatches to say only that armored patrols were in the vicinity of Paris and between Paris and liberated Chartres, as well as northeast of Chartres. Meanwhile, a staff officer at Gen. Montgomery's headquarters was quoted as saying that "the battle of Normandy has been won." He added that the possibility of the Germans placing a first-class army against the Allies in France again was very remote.

As the Allied generals moved their men in dramatic secrecy toward the climax of the week which Gen. Eisenhower had said could be made a "momentous one in the history of this war," the day's dispatches from the front were uniformly optimistic. They also were as uniformly devoted to generalities.

One told of the Wehrmacht suffering "its greatest defeat since Stalingrad," another of the German army "fleeing in a race through France that made their 1940 drive look slow by comparison." Just where that army was doing its fleeing was not specified.

The dispatches referred also to the prospective trap threatened by the American thrust toward Paris and the Seine River, flowing from the capital to the sea with its bridges blasted out by the Allied air forces. The Associated Press reported that "the Germans were being pushed by British, American and Canadian forces back against the Seine River," but here again specific details of whatever progress was made were not forthcoming.

At British forward headquarters, a United Press correspondent was told, "it looks as if the entire Seventh Army is going to be wiped out, either before or on the Seine."

As Canadian and Polish armored units captured Trun, ten miles southeast of Falaise, narrowing the Falaise "gap," a Canadian officer said that the close proximity of the Canadians and Americans hampered air attacks at Germans retreating through the gap.

The official Nazi party newspaper, Voelkischer Beobachter, forecast that the Germans might be forced to give up "important pieces and cities in the battle area." As quoted in Stockholm by the UP the paper also said, "The German war aim now is to give the war a new aspect through total mobilization on the home front. This also is more

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1,800 NAZI CARS, 155 TANKS HIT BY ALLIED PLANES

Allied fighters and fighter-bombers, supporting advancing ground troops in northern France, yesterday smashed more than 1,800 German military vehicles and 155 Nazi tanks while American heavies, which mounted three missions, hit a wide variety of enemy targets.

Marauders, too, switched their tactical support of ground troops from the Falaise region to the Paris area, setting ablaze enemy fuel reserves at Valenton, seven miles south of Paris.

Contingents of Ninth fighter-bombers, however, maintaining the furious tempo of the assault on German troops retreating in the Falaise area, hammered Nazi tanks and transport between Fiers and Argentan.

The Eighth Air Force heavy-bomber offensive was directed against airdromes to which the Germans have been forced to withdraw by the capture of fields in northwest France, an aero-engine works fuel-storage depot and bridges along the Meuse River in Holland and Belgium.

The route along which the Germans attacked the Low Countries four years ago, the Meuse River is one of the natural supply routes for flying-bomb installations in the Pas de Calais.

An Eighth Mustang outfit caught about 500 German soldiers in a low-level attack 15 miles southwest of Compiègne and turned about 200 of them into casualties.

On roads leading out of Argentan, it was revealed yesterday, Ninth P47s trapped three German columns Thursday afternoon and subjected them to a merciless strafing in the operations, Ninth fighter-bombers destroyed at least 275 vehicles.

Nazi Captive to GI Captor: 'Hi, Son'

As the German prisoners filed out of The Citadel—St. Malo's Fort de la Cite—following the fall of the "impregnable" fortress Thursday, one Nazi sailor broke ranks and rushed over to an American GI and shook his hand. Speaking perfect English, the prisoner said: "Hello son."

Without either of them knowing it, the German father and American son had been fighting against each other. The father had been in The Citadel since the siege started two weeks ago; the son had engaged in two attacks against it.

REVEAL 3 MORE U.S. UNITS HERE

The U. S. Fourth and Sixth Armored and Eighth Motorized Divisions are fighting in France, SHAEF disclosed yesterday.

The Fourth Armored, which arrived in Britain in January is commanded by Maj. Gen. John S. Wood.

The Sixth Armored, which arrived in Britain in February, is led by Maj. Gen. Robert W. Grow.

The Eighth Motorized is a development of the old Eighth Infantry Division, which was en route to France when the armistice abruptly ended World War I. Its commander is Brig. Gen. Donald A. Stroh.

Nazi (Fight to Last Man) Commandant Yields 'Citadel'; 600 Follow Him Out

By Jack Foster

Stars and Stripes Navy Writer
ST. MALO, Aug. 18—Fifteen days of continuous hammering by American guns ended yesterday for the German garrison defending The Citadel which commands this important harbor when 600 Nazi soldiers, sailors and marines surrendered just in time to save themselves from another concentrated air attack.

I watched the last hours of the fortress from a window in the famed walled city of St. Malo. The target was only 1,000 yards away and bursts of machine gun fire rattled occasionally at GIs in exposed positions.

When we arrived here we found batteries of 155s blasting The Citadel at point blank range. Anti-tank weapons and other artillery sent shell after shell into pillboxes and strongpoints. A composite company of three rifle platoons readied themselves for another attack, their third this week.

Unceasing thunder came from the hot guns. Shells burst every few yards inside The Citadel as artillerymen raked it with fire.

Direct hits smashed the bothersome outlying pillboxes and the enemy machine gun fire slackened.

At 3 o'clock a formation of P38s circled over The Citadel exactly on time for their first run. The lead plane swooped low and came in strafing and bombing.

It was too much for the Germans and two of them emerged from The Citadel waving a huge white flag. The second P38 was already on its run, however, and strafing the slope leading to the fortress. The rest of the planes were averted when a group of GIs raced up the slope carrying white and other brightly colored identification banners.

We left St. Malo and drove through St. Servan to The Citadel. As we arrived the first group of prisoners came from the tunnel entrance, blinking in the bright sun.

Col. Von Aulock, tall, monocolled Nazi commandant who had vowed to fight to the last man, led a small group of officers. Behind, two noncoms struggled over the

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'Somewhere in France...'

By Selma Chapmond
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE WACS IN FRANCE, Aug. 18—The WAC contingent in France grows steadily. Since the first group landed a month ago, four more detachments have arrived.

Sixty WACs have already taken over the switchboards at a headquarters here. Half of them were flown from the U.S. to England on D-Day for this job.

The farmhouses in the area have been turned into shops where WACs and GIs buy cherries, cider, and sometimes an egg.

T/5 Mildred Meyer of the Bronx, N.Y., shopping for cherries, went into her act to pointing to a tree drawing a cherry with her hands, rubbing her stomach, smiling and licking her lips... but the French woman didn't get it. So Mildred drew more pictures and the woman tried to oblige by bringing out different articles.

Mildred murmured to her escort, "I wish I had a French book, but it probably wouldn't have 'cherries' in it."

"Cherries exclaimed the French woman—and she brought them all they could carry.

The WACs have anxiously been watching the construction of showers—but they're still not finished. Helmets, no doubt, are very good for protecting the head but they are a bit small for a bath tub.

Washing is an art especially in a helmet, there is no room left for the water.

Pfc Arvilla Johnson, of Washington, D.C., M/Sgt. Raymond Willie, of Granite City, Ill., and T/Sgt. John Ennis, of Stamford, Conn., took their wash to the creek. A French woman allowed them to use her laundering equipment and showed them the procedure.

They laid their clothes at the edge of the water on a large

porous rock and Willie took over the paddle. To him it was a familiar bit of equipment, but he said his mother used a paddle for different purposes when he was a kid.

Everything went fine for a while but the soap slipped into the water and the boys flipped a coin to see who would go for more. By the time the washing was finished, they had lost four bars of precious soap.

Pressing is a simpler matter. T/5 Marian Hanna, of Blue Earth, Minn., started the vogue of sleeping on the woolen trousers to put a crease in them. It worked so well that many of the other girls tried it. The plans work as long as they don't roll over during the night, otherwise the trousers have accordion pleats.

Three Poles in German army uniforms walked into the American lines this week with a note from an American Pfc: "These three guys are my prisoners. They're good Joes. I am wounded and they know where I am. Take good care of 'em for me, pal."

The Poles, who said they were impressed into the German service, ran across the wounded American while they were en route to surrender.

"We took him with us," one of them said. "When we ran into a German patrol, we hid him and he gave us this note."

YANKS IN PARIS SUBURB—NAZIS

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important than territory—even than world-famous cities."

Reuter dispatches reported indications of a breach between the Wehrmacht and SS troops, who are Hitler's elite. A Canadian Army spokesman said that the chief role of SS troops in France now was to keep German infantry from running away.

The point at which one German report said the advance U. S. column was 12 miles from Paris was not specified. Another Berlin report mentioned American tanks and motorized divisions at Rambouillet, near St. Arnoult, about 23 miles from Paris.

Tours Is Isolated
U. S. troops captured Vendome, on the road from strategic Tours to Paris, thus completely isolating Tours from the Paris area.

The Canadian First Army captured Troarn, about seven miles east of Caen, and advanced farther east and southeast to a distance of six miles.

Voelkischer Beobachter, declaring that the German command can no longer "attempt to hold the present front lines" in France, said: "The whole strategy of the enemy betrays his final aim of finishing the war by autumn with the defeat of Germany."

The number of prisoners taken by the U. S. First Army alone reached 81,156.

KENNEDY'S SON KILLED
BOSTON, Mass., Aug. 18—Lt. Joseph P. Kennedy Jr., son of the former U. S. ambassador to Britain, has been killed in action. A notice of his death was received by his father from the Navy Department.

'CITADEL' FALLS TO U. S. FORCES

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debris, carrying the colonel's heavy luggage.

Inside the underground fortress the victorious Yanks found modern and completely equipped quarters and compartments connected by a series of tunnels. A power plant supplied electricity for full lighting facilities. A great switchboard, water system, hospital and kitchen were included.

Empty wine bottles and half-filled glasses in the officers' quarters attested to the heavy drinking habits of the Germans. Dazed and wounded men in the infirmary were evidence of the furious shelling and bombing.

In Col Von Aulock's room I found a small replica of Columbus' Santa Maria. Along the passageways and tunnels were hundreds of smashed German rifles and small arms.

Last night only the island of Cezembre, three miles offshore, held out, and the people of St. Malo and St. Servan are returning to their smashed homes. This afternoon they jeered the captive Nazis and cheered the victorious Americans. They are smiling again.

As we drove away from the Citadel an old woman came up to the jeep waving a tattered bag of belongings at us she said just two words. "Thank you!"

REDS BUY RIDDLE
BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Aug. 18—Johnny Riddle, catcher and manager of the Birmingham Barons in the Southern Association for the last three years, has been bought by the Cincinnati Reds for immediate delivery. Riddle will be succeeded as manager by Ted Petroskey, former Michigan University athlete.



News From Home

Several Million Acres of Farm Land May Be Sold After The War By U. S.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—A nationwide back-to-the-land movement rivaling that of the depression era was envisioned today by Congress in the post-war sale of several million acres of farm land acquired by the government for war-time military uses.

Both House and Senate have shown themselves in almost complete agreement that surplus lands should be parceled into family size farms and resold by the government either to former owners or returning veterans.

Estimates of government-acquired acreage have run as high as 15,000,000 acres but not all this would be resold as surplus.

A bill now under House debate would give former owners of such land reasonable time in which to buy it back at a price not to exceed that paid by the government. If they did not elect to buy, the land would be sold in small parcels "in so far as possible to persons who expect to live upon and cultivate such land."

A bill before the Senate would provide that a surplus-property administrator be empowered to limit acreage sold to individual buyers and the policy laid down would be that the administrator "encourage disposal of such lands to operators with prior farming experience, including both owners and tenants, and to veterans qualified in farming operations."

HE DIDN'T SAY WHEN
WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—President Roosevelt told his press conference today that he would "most certainly" meet again with Prime Minister Winston Churchill. He did not elaborate his statement.

VOIE AMENDMENTS TO FDR
WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—The House completed Congressional action yesterday on the Senate-approved amendments to the Schrier Voting Law to ease restrictions which, as they have been interpreted by the War De-

Promise Soldiers A Nazi-Coated Pill

FIRST U. S. ARMY HQ., Aug. 18 (Reuter)—Captured German prisoners who recently arrived in the Mortain sector as reinforcements were badly demoralized and disappointed—they had been told of Nazi successes in this sector and promised they would spearhead a drive to recapture St. Lo and finally push the Americans back into the sea. In addition to some specially-selected Panzer troops, the prisoners also included many previous hospital cases and otherwise physically unfit troops.

partment, have caused the withholding of some reading matter from members of the Army. The House vote was unanimous as was that of the Senate. The measure now goes to the White House.

CUT TORPEDO PRODUCTION

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—The Navy Department announced that torpedo production would be cut at four plants in October as the result of "outstanding successes of U. S. task forces in the South Pacific and the effectiveness of submarine and aviation operations against Japanese shipping." The announcement said that the number of enemy submarine targets had been reduced materially.

IT ISN'T WORTH IT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—The War Department has announced a policy of evacuating military personnel from regions where filariasis, the disease which causes elephantiasis, is epidemic, to avoid complications which may follow prolonged exposure. Already 522 members of a field artillery unit, who had been exposed to the rare disease in the South Pacific, have been returned to the U. S. They are now at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

COUGHLIN UNIT DISSOLVED

DETROIT, Aug. 18—The National Union for Social Justice, organized in 1934 by the Rev. Fr. Charles E. Coughlin, was dissolved yesterday with the filing of papers at the secretary of state's office in Lansing. No comment was available from Fr. Coughlin.

PLAN CAMPAIGN QUIZ

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—Investigation of political campaign expenditures will be started Monday by a special House committee, with Sidney B. Hillman, head of CIO political action committee; Democratic and Republican officials and members of Congress testifying.

'Spike' Bombs Blast Jap Rails in Burma

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18—"Spike" bombs, improvised in Burma, are being used with success to destroy Japanese-held railroads and bridges in the India-Burma fighting sector, the War Department reported.

The spike bombs, which make bombs stick where they land, were built by taking out the nose fuse of each bomb and putting in its place a spike made of an old axle, with one end threaded to screw into the missile and the other sharpened to a point.

LINDELL HITS FOUR DOUBLES TO TIE RECORD

NEW YORK, Aug. 18—Johnny Lindell hit four doubles and a single in five trips to the plate yesterday to tie the major league record for doubles in one day and lead the Yankees to their 10-3 victory over the Indians. He drove in two runs and scored three himself.

Every Yankee hit safely at least once and only George Stirmweiss and Oscar Grimes failed to bring in a run. Frank Crosetti, Walter Dubiel and Rollie Hemsley, playing his last game for the duration, were the only Yanks failing to score.

Rosar, Indians catcher, split his finger in the fourth and after George Suwall, who relieved him, was lifted for a pinch-hitter in the sixth, Manager Lou Boudreau donned the mask and finished behind the plate.

Walter Dubiel went the distance and allowed ten hits while the Yankees got 17 off Jim Bagby, Paul Calvert, Ira Hevin, Ray Poat and Ed Kleiman. Bagby was charged with the defeat, hurling the first four innings.

ROZANI REJOINS BEARS

COLLEGEVILLE, Ind., Aug. 18—Gene Rozani one-time Chicago Bears quarterback from Marquette, will rejoin the Bears training here for the game against the College All-Stars Aug. 30. Rozani will be a candidate for the quarterback job vacated by Sid Luckman, who entered the Maritime Service.

TEXAS LOOP NEXT YEAR

DALLAS, Tex., Aug. 18—The Texas League, which folded after the 1942 season may be back next year. J. Alvin Gardner, league president, said a meeting will be called for Sept. 16 to decide on measures for putting the league back into operation.

Majors & Minors

AMERICAN LEAGUE

St. Louis 10, Philadelphia 5
Boston 3, Detroit 3 (5 ms., rain)
New York 10, Cleveland 3
Chicago 1, Washington 0 (night)
W L PCT. GB
St. Louis 68 46 .536 —
Boston 60 52 .336 7
Detroit 59 52 .532 7 1/2
New York 59 52 .532 7 1/2
Chicago 54 59 .478 13 1/2
Cleveland 54 62 .466 15
Philadelphia 52 64 .448 17
Washington 47 65 .416 20 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

St. Louis 7, New York 0 (night)
Pittsburgh 7, Phila. 6 (1st)
Pitts. 6, Phila. 5 (2nd, 10 ins.)
Boston 7, Chicago 3
Others postponed.
W L PCT. GB

St. Louis 81 23 .743 —
Pittsburgh 63 45 .583 17 1/2
Cincinnati 61 46 .570 19
Chicago 49 56 .467 27 1/2
New York 50 62 .446 32 1/2
Boston 44 66 .400 37 1/2
Philadelphia 42 64 .396 37 1/2
Brooklyn 44 67 .396 37 1/2

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE

Jersey City 8 Montreal 1 (1st)
Montreal 9, Jersey City 1 (2nd)
Other games postponed.
W L PCT. GB

Baltimore 70 52 .574 —
Newark 71 55 .563 2
Buffalo 66 60 .524 6
Jersey City 62 63 .496 9 1/2
Toronto 62 65 .488 10 1/2
Montreal 59 63 .484 11
Syracuse 54 68 .443 16
Rochester 54 72 .429 18

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Indianapolis 1, St. Paul 0 (1st)
St. Paul 6, Indianapolis 3 (2nd)
Milwaukee 2, Columbus 0 (1st)
Columbus 6, Milwaukee 5 (2nd)
Other games postponed.
W L PCT. GB

Milwaukee 83 41 .669 —
Toledo 75 48 .610 7 1/2
Louisville 74 48 .607 8
Columbus 69 56 .552 14 1/2
St. Paul 65 54 .546 15 1/2
Minneapolis 45 78 .366 37 1/2
Indianapolis 43 78 .355 38 1/2
Kansas City 34 85 .286 49 1/2

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE

Hollywood 5, San Francisco 4
Los Angeles 3, Oakland 2
Sacramento 4, San Diego 3
Portland 5, Seattle 3 (1st)
Seattle 9, Portland 6 (2nd)
W L PCT. GB

Los Angeles 76 57 .571 —
Hollywood 70 73 .526 6
Portland 67 65 .508 8 1/2
San Francisco 66 66 .500 9 1/2
Oakland 65 68 .489 11
Seattle 64 70 .478 12 1/2
Sacramento 63 70 .474 13
San Diego 61 73 .455 15 1/2

BLONDIE

