

CAMP DAVIS' WEEKLY PAYROLL TOTALS \$500,000

Jap Thrust In Pacific Feared By Australia HALF OF SUM CASHED HERE, SAYS OFFICIAL

America Asks Nationals To Quit Far East

Sydney Officials Say War Has Entered State Involving Great Gravity

MAY STRIKE SINGAPORE

Japan May Act Simultaneously With New Thrusts In Europe by Axis

By J. C. STARK WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The United States government sought anew today to induce Americans to leave the Far East as Australian officials at Sydney declared that "the war has moved into a new stage involving the utmost gravity."

Sidelights Night Defense Boom Town



Two months ago Holly Ridge had 28 inhabitants. Today the little hamlet has blossomed into a boom town of 5,000, all because a \$10,000,000 anti-aircraft center, Camp Davis, is being built there. Bed space is pretty scarce, but many of the workmen find rest in this 500-a-night hotel (upper right). For relaxation, a couple of the boys toast the defense work with a little beer. And then there are country stores equipped with pool tables such as this one. But more aware than anyone else of the town's growing pains is Postmaster C. C. Hines (top right), who used to handle a heavy run of 30 letters. Now between 3,000 and 4,000 letters pass through his hands daily.

Army Appeals For Housing In Wilmington

Officers Say 1,200 Homes And Apartments Needed In City and Vicinity

SHORTAGE IS PROBLEM

Persons Having Housing Asked to List Offer with Lieutenant Sutherland

Wanted, in and near Wilmington, 1,200 homes, apartments and rooms, for Army men and their families.

That, in effect, was the plea last night of the Camp Davis headquarters staff, temporarily located here pending military possession of the Army's new anti-aircraft firing base at Holly Ridge.

Of course, not all the 1,200 commissioned and non-commissioned officers are here but already the housing shortage is causing the Army more than a slight headache, for within the next 60 days living quarters must be found for that many officers, non-coms and their families.

Trying To Help The Wilmington real estate board, the chamber of commerce and other agencies are trying to help the Army solve the problem, but even so more help is needed by the men now here and charged with arranging for accommodations for others yet to come.

Anyone in or near Wilmington having a house to rent, or an apartment or furnished rooms in a private home, has been invited by staff headquarters to list their offer with Lieut. John Sutherland, housing officer, located in the basement of the Wilmington postoffice. Listings should be made in person rather than via the telephone in order to minimize possibility of error.

At the present time there are less than 100 commissioned officers and non-coms here, yet the housing problem is considered "acute" by

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BANKS OPEN TONIGHT

Amount Spent Here for Board, Other Necessities Totals About \$125,000

BUSINESS IS BOOMING

Bankers Stress That Special Services Limited to Holly Ridge Workers

The weekly payroll of the more than 20,000 civilian workers engaged in constructing Camp Davis, the army's anti-aircraft firing center at Holly Ridge, was estimated at \$500,000 by an official of the contractors last night.

Of this amount, approximately \$250,000 is cashed in Wilmington and one-half of this, \$125,000, is being spent in the city weekly, it was said.

The spending of this sum each week recently has speeded up considerably the tempo of all lines of business. The greater part of the money released here goes for room and board and meals at the various restaurants but the thousands of workmen are also spending considerable sums daily for gasoline and oil, clothes, tools and other essentials of their lives and trades.

More Help Needed

Evidence of the current prosperity note in Wilmington's business life may be seen in the additional help being constantly needed by the merchants and crowding of eating establishments early in the morning and late in the evening.

The possibility of further increases in the weekly payroll total at Camp Davis in the weeks to come, will be largely dependent on weather conditions and the availability of labor, the official indicated.

For the convenience of the Camp Davis workers, all four of the banks in the city will remain open from 6 to 9 o'clock tonight, and longer if necessary.

As no charge will be made for cashing Camp Davis payroll checks, this service will be strictly an accommodation.

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SOUTHPORT SUPPLY BASE IS INDICATED

Navy Expected to Establish Station to Service Craft Using Waterway

SOUTHPORT, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Indications are increasing to point to what seems a certainty that the Navy will have a supply base at Southport for vessels plying the waterway, and also to which vessels along the coast may come in to take aboard anything needed.

Last week two boats of the Mosquito Fleet had trouble getting a considerable supply of aviation gas of a high grade. Other things needed were also unavailable. Monday of this week a local organization was notified by Washington that until arrangements were made, government vessels scheduled to arrive here and needing supplies of any sort, would advise the local organization in advance of their arrival. This will permit of supplies being arranged for and ready when the boats come.

GERMANS DESTROY 13 ARMED SHIPS

Nazis May Be Gathering Resources for a Violent Drive on British Craft

BERLIN, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The destruction of 13 armed merchantmen by German warships in the Atlantic was officially announced today under circumstances suggesting that the Germans were gathering their resources for the

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City Manager Vote Bill Approved By Legislature

RALEIGH, Feb. 13.—Without a dissenting vote, the state senate today ratified the bill providing for a special election in the city of Wilmington on the city manager form of government.

The motion to ratify the measure was made by Senator Roy Rowe, of Burgaw.

Opens Way For Vote

By its action, the senate set in motion the machinery by which the citizens of the Port City will decide some time next month whether or not the city will continue function-

GERMANY SEEKING BALKAN PASSAGE

Reported Anxious to Move Troops Through Yugoslavia and Bulgaria

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Feb. 14.—(Friday)—(AP)—Reports that Germany is seeking passage for German troops through both Yugoslavia and Bulgaria in order to get at Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean shores reached diplomats here early today as Yugoslavia's premier and foreign minister began "request" conferences with the Nazi leadership in Germany.

Diplomatists with usually reliable sources of information in government quarters said Premier Dragisa Cvetkovic and foreign minister Aleksander Cincar-Markovic will discuss passage of German troops from Rumania through the Yugoslavian railway junction of Nis, thence by rail down the Vardar river valley toward Greece and the important Aegean seaport of Salonika.

There were unconfirmed reports that King Boris of Bulgaria might follow the Yugoslavs to Germany today.

In any event, Sofia dispatches said that Bulgaria, with Italian and German backing, now is trying to get British-allied Turkey to promise not to fight if the Germans start through Bulgaria toward the Dardanelles.

An indication Turkey was not prepared to fight to prevent the Nazi armies reaching Greece and the Mediterranean through Bulgaria and Yugoslavia was seen in an announcement that Nazi-controlled Rumania had agreed to

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Eight Title Battles Set For GG Tourney Tonight

FAVORITES TO FIGHT

Roanoke Rapids and Lumberton Will Be Seeking Team Championship

Eight championship fights in the Open division and four in the Novice class are on tap for tonight's final in the Fifth Annual Star-News-Brigade Golden Gloves tournament at Legion stadium.

All of the top favorites of the early rounds of the tournament and the popular scrappers of former years will be battling for all they are worth in tonight's final round of fist slinging.

Roanoke Rapids and Lumberton will be battling it out for the team championship trophy, with Wilmington given an outside chance of coming through for the prized cup.

Wilmington's popular Snooky Swann will meet Lumberton's Douglas Baxley for the bantamweight decision. Other top bouts include Bob Moore and Red Beard's set-to in the middleweight division.

The championships finals will be as follows:

Open Division FLYWEIGHT—Donald Ray Lane, 114, of Wilmington, vs. Bennett Kirby, 111, of Lumberton.

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WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina: Mostly cloudy with showers Friday and in extreme east portion Friday night; colder Friday night and Saturday and in west portion Friday.

(By U. S. Weather Bureau) (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.)

Temperature 1:30 a. m. 40; 7:30 a. m. 38; 1:30 p. m. 57; 7:30 p. m. 55; maximum 59; minimum 37; mean 48; normal 48.

Humidity 1:30 a. m. 74; 7:30 a. m. 89; 1:30 p. m. 83; 7:30 p. m. 93.

Precipitation Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. 0.01 inches. Total since first of the month 1.67 inches.

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LENNON AND SMITH REPLY TO GARDNER

Answer County Commissioner Who Expressed Opposition to Pay Boosts

Judge Alton A. Lennon and Solicitor Winfield Smith, of recorder's court, yesterday, in a statement read in open court, replied to Harry Gardner, county commissioner, who recently expressed opposition to their requests for salary increases.

The statement, addressed to the citizens of New Hanover county, follows in full:

"Ten days ago we gave notice to the people through the press that we would ask our representatives in the legislature for an increase in our respective salaries, and at the same time we set out in detail our reasons for the request. This public notice through the press was an unusual procedure and one not heretofore practiced, but we believed it to be the only method that should be used in our democratic form of government. Every citizen in New Hanover county was invited to express any opposition he or she might have to this legislation.

"On Tuesday of this week our representatives informed us that only three people had expressed any opposition to the legislation, one of whom was Honorable Harry Gardner, a member of the Board of County Commissioners.

"We have read with much interest the article appearing on the front page of the Wilmington Star, dated February 11, wherein at a County Board meeting, Commissioner Gardner bitterly opposed the salary increases we had re-

quested. We are gratified that the press has given us the opportunity to explain our position to the people of this county.

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State's \$163,600,000 Tax Bill Is Passed By House

RALEIGH, Feb. 13.—(AP)—North Carolina's tax bill, designed to raise a record-shattering sum of \$163,600,000 during the next biennium, won unanimous approval in the house of representatives today, and was sent to the senate.

The measure, which actually is a group of amendments to the continuing revenue act, would make these two basic changes in the state's tax structure:

1.—Exempt from the sales tax all foods bought for home consumption.

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FRANK L. DUNLAP DIES IN FLORIDA

Funeral Services for State Highway Commissioner Planned Saturday

RALEIGH, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Governor Broughton and a large number of state officials will attend the funeral in Wadesboro of Frank L. Dunlap, chairman of the state highway and public works commission, who died last night at Welaka, Fla., of a heart attack.

The services will be held at 11 o'clock Saturday morning at the Calvary Episcopal church.

Dunlap was on a 90-day leave of absence from his duties as commissioner.

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War Interpretive

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON Despite the elaborate window dressing provided for the Mussolini-Franco conference there are no real signs that Mussolini or anyone else expects important military developments to flow from the meeting immediately.

The Balkans still are the prime center of interest. German moves on that game board point increasingly to southeastern Europe, not Albania, Africa or the Mediterranean, as the scene of the next dramatic war development.

A command appearance by Yugoslavian government leaders in what is coming, headlines the news. Whether it means that both Yugoslavia and Bulgaria are to

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Senate Committee Okehs Lease-Lend Bill, 15 To 8

By RICHARD L. TURNER WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The Senate Foreign Relations committee approved the lease-lend bill, 15 to 8, today and urged its passage with an assertion that it "is a war measure, but a practical safeguard aimed at keeping out of war."

Making a formal report to the senate, the committee majority said the welfare of the nation can best be served by a foreign policy based upon the two fundamental principles that:

"The United States must strive in all ways reasonably possible to stay at peace with all the world; and the United States must, in its own interests, supply effective national aid to those countries whose defense is vital to our defense."

"Your committee believes," the report added, "that within the terms of H. R. 1776, as amended, provision is amply, safely and constitutionally made that the foreign policy of the United States shall continue to be guided by these two principles."

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