

RALEIGH WPA OFFICE APPROVES ARMORY PROJECT

Jap Envoy Says Nation Seeks Peaceful 'Expansion' Will Be Sent To Washington Agency Today

Asserts Will Not Fight Unless U. S. Takes 'Initiative'

NOMURA AIRS VIEWS Claims Country Will Expand Southward to Get Supplies Nearer Home

Japanese Sailors Stay Close to Positions At South China Sea Base

SAIGON, French Indo-China, Feb. 20. — (Thursday) — (AP) — Japanese sailors at this South China base stayed close to their posts and Japanese officials rushed about in an atmosphere of excitement today, despite professions that nothing was known here about heavy Australian reinforcement of the Singapore base.



American-born Mrs. Juanita Bruton Pagella is one of the two American women in the American ambulance corps in Great Britain, voluntary outfit supported by American money from Palo Alto, Calif., Mrs. Pagella married her husband, a British Marine officer, a few days before the outbreak of the war.

Arms Housing Survey Slated In Wilmington

WPA to Make a Sample Study of Dwelling Vacancies, Rooms for Rent

SUPERVISOR ASSIGNED

Workers Will Be Instructed Today and Actual Work Begins Tomorrow

Wilmington has been selected as one of the key defense cities in which the WPA nation-wide research project, in cooperation with WPA offices here, will conduct sample surveys of dwelling unit vacancies and rooms for rent at the request of the national defense housing coordinator, Mrs. Gladys B. Proctor, district director of community service programs for the WPA, announced yesterday.

FINANCE MEASURE PASSED BY SENATE

Upper House Also Provides Vote on Consolidation of School Agencies

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. — The senate today passed two major pieces of legislation—the finance bill, and a measure to provide a vote on a constitutional amendment which would consolidate state school administration in a single agency.

GERMANS ATTACK BRITISH IN AFRICA

Masses of Tanks and Armored Cars Assaulted by Nazi Dive-Bombers

ROME, Feb. 19. — (AP) — Formidable masses of British tanks and armored cars—poised as though for a final thrust into Western Libya—are being assaulted by German dive-bombers, official Italian reports said tonight.

OPIANS RISE AGAINST ITALIANS

Troops Threaten to Leave Addis Ababa Within a Month

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 19. — (AP) — British troops are threatening to leave Addis Ababa within a month, it is reported here.

Britain Receives Japan's Offer Of War Mediation

BRITAIN today received a Japanese offer of mediation in the war, it is reported here.

WPA Office Approves Armory Project

RALEIGH, Feb. 19. — (AP) — The WPA office here today approved a project for an armory-auditorium building in Wilmington.

Brunswick County Road Improvement Is Planned

Work on 12-Mile Section Of Wilmington-Whiteville Road Costs \$135,000

A WPA improvement project for a 12-mile stretch of U. S. highway 74 in Brunswick county — work which has been considered essential to the furtherance of the national defense program—was announced yesterday by W. Joe Prevatt, Wilmington district WPA supervisor.

LOCAL SHIPYARDS WORK STEPPED UP

Part of Operations at Sunset Park Are Placed on 24-Hour Basis

Work on the construction of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company yards at Sunset Park was stepped up a pace this week, with part of the operations being placed on a 24-hour basis, J. E. Dennis, contractors' representative, said last night.

ITALIANS OUSTED FROM TWO POSTS

Greeks Claim Fascists Firing on Own Comrades to Make Them Fight

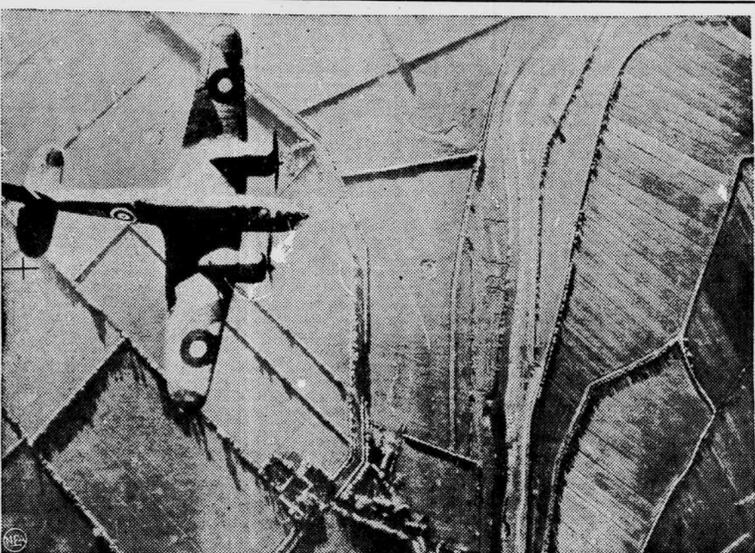
ATHENS, Greece, Feb. 19. — (AP) — A Greek government spokesman asserted tonight that members of an Italian company retreating on the Albanian front were fired on by their own comrades and forced to return to their line.

ARMY ORDERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. — The War Department released the following orders yesterday, dated Feb. 15.

Wilmington Morning Star

Pattern Of Death For German 'Invaders'



British bombers are making their heaviest raids on the German-held "invasion coasts" these days. This unusual picture shows a British Blenheim bomber over the seaboard of occupied France, apparently during a daytime attack on German bases.

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Wilmington Morning Star

Armory-Auditorium Building Is Expected to Cost About \$215,000

PAPERS ARE SIGNED

Special Bond Election Is Necessary to Finance Undertaking Here

A joint city-county application for an armory-auditorium project costing \$215,000 in sponsor and federal funds has been approved by the state headquarters office of the WPA in Raleigh, W. Joe Prevatt, Wilmington district WPA supervisor, announced yesterday.

The application was returned to Wilmington for check of details and signatures and was then sent back to Raleigh yesterday for the signature of C. C. McGinnis, state WPA administrator.

Going to Washington

The Raleigh office intends to forward it today to Frank March, project control division, federal works agency headquarters office in Washington, D. C.

Approval in Washington is anticipated and when it comes machinery will be set into motion by the city and county to hold a special election to provide bond issues for financing their share of the work.

If the bonds are approved by the voters, work is expected to be started immediately. The application, which has been completely checked by the state WPA headquarters office in Raleigh, arrived here yesterday morning at Prevatt's office for the signatures of the joint sponsors.

Prevatt said the application was signed by Addison Hewlett, chairman to the board of county commissioners, in behalf of New Hanover county, and by James E. L. Wade, commissioner of public works, in behalf of the City of Wilmington.

Garages Not Included

The application did not include the garages for the project, Prevatt explained, and this phase of the work are to be submitted to the WPA by the city and county governments at a later date.

Project plans, he said, provide (Continued on Page Six; Col. 4)

HILL IS APPOINTED N. C. COORDINATOR

Athens Clearing House of U. S. Treasury's Law Enforcement Agencies

John Bright Hill, collector of customs, yesterday received official notice of his appointment as North Carolina coordinator of law enforcement agencies of the U. S. Treasury department.

Hill succeeds R. E. Tuttle, of Baltimore, supervising agent, Alcohol Tax Unit, who has been promoted to the position of assistant district co-ordinator for five states.

The appointment of Hill was made by Harry Cooper, of Washington, D. C., supervising agent, U. S. Secret Service, for the fifth treasury department district comprising the states of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia.

Hill yesterday said assistant state coordinators will be: L. O. Padgett, of Charlotte, a agent in (Continued on Page Four; Col. 4)

Mighty German Undersea Drive Expected In Spring

By DREW MIDDLETON

LONDON, Feb. 19. — (AP) — A great German undersea offensive is expected in spring with 600 submarines let loose against British shipping was predicted today by a neutral naval source.

Such a campaign would be for one of two purposes—either to prepare the way for invasion of these islands or to provide a momentary substitute for Adolf Hitler's promised assault, this observer said.

"The deciding battle of the war more likely will be fought in the northwestern approaches to Britain than on her beaches," this (Continued on Page Four; Col. 4)

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina: Increasing cloudiness and continued cold Thursday followed by snow mixed with freezing rain Thursday night or Friday and in mountains Thursday; colder Friday afternoon.

(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. 31; 1:30 p. m. 30; 7:30 p. m. 45; maximum 55; minimum 30; mean 42; normal 48.

Humidity 1:30 a. m. 46; 7:30 a. m. 45; 1:30 p. m. 23; 7:30 p. m. 65.

Precipitation Total for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. 0.00 inches. Total since first of the month 2.52 inches.

Tides For Today (From Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.)

High Low Wilmington 4:56a 12:15p 5:14p 12:15a Masonboro Inlet 2:57a 9:10a 3:13p 9:27p

Sunrise 6:51a; sunset 6:00p; moonrise 2:27a; moonset 1:08p.

Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville on Feb. 19, at 8 a. m., 14.00 feet.

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Bailey Urges Full British Aid Even If It Means War

By RICHARD L. TURNER

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. — Three southern senators backed the lease-lan bill today, and one of them, Bailey (D-N. C.), asserted that the utmost help should be given to England even if the ultimate result is war.

"I am hoping this intervention may not mean war," he told a suddenly hushed and solemn senate. "But if it does, I am ready for it."

Great Britain is standing virtually alone against a combination of forces whose one purpose is world revolution, he said. And if Britain falls, he added, America,

"a lone republic in a totalitarian world," will be in peril. "Are we capable," he asked, spacing his words to give them emphasis, "of sitting here as a great country—we as senators and the custodians of the security of that country—are we capable of sitting here with money and guns and planes and ships, saying we will build up our defenses at home but we will bide our time; we will take the chance of being the victims of a totalitarian triumph in which the world will be divided amongst three nations not one of (Continued on Page Four; Col. 5)

Has Defense Angle

Work on 12-Mile Section Of Wilmington-Whiteville Road Costs \$135,000

A WPA improvement project for a 12-mile stretch of U. S. highway 74 in Brunswick county — work which has been considered essential to the furtherance of the national defense program—was announced yesterday by W. Joe Prevatt, Wilmington district WPA supervisor.

The project will cost an estimated \$135,000, said Prevatt, who expressed the hope that the improvement work on that portion of the highway would be completed by June 30.

Has Defense Value This particular stretch of U. S. highway 74 in Brunswick county has been designated as being of considerable value to the rapidly expanding national defense program by the war department, Prevatt pointed out.

Improvement work will begin on U. S. highway 74 in Brunswick county at the Columbus county line and will extend eastward toward Wilmington to the intersection with U. S. highway 74 going to Southport.

Approximately 12 miles of that portion of the Whiteville-Wilmington highway are to receive extensive improvement work, he said.

Three and seven-tenths miles on the eastern end of the project will have a two-inch hot asphalt wearing surface and a number of dangerous curves are to be eliminated.

Work on Curves Prevatt said bad curves in approximately the center of the project will have a complete new location. The state highway and public works commission is now determining the new locations of these dangerous curves.

These new locations will be 22 feet wide, of concrete construction, and conform to the standard specifications.

(Continued on Page Six; Col. 7)

Australia Is Taking Defense Precautions

MELBOURNE, Australia, Feb. 19. — (AP) — A. W. Fadden, active prime minister, said tonight that the cabinet had received Australia's defense system and taken "added precautions against any sudden emergency."

"No action will be taken, no word spoken which would shatter peace in the Pacific," Fadden continued. "If war comes to our front door, it will not be our choosing."

"But let nobody think we are helpless and unfitted for such a supreme test."

(Continued on Page Six; Col. 7)

PLAN FOR NAVAL OUTPOSTS OKEHEED

Guam and Samoa Base Proposal Given Speedy Approval by the House

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. — (AP) — A plan to develop naval outposts at Guam and Samoa won speedy and unanimous house approval today after the Navy's high command recommended strongly that a Navy project be "totally disregarded."

In sharp contrast to the future created at two past sessions when the house rejected requests for harbor developments funds for Guam, there was not a word of protest when the item went through today in a bill to authorize a \$242,000,000 naval base development program. The measure now goes to the senate.

Unusual criticism of the Japanese as individuals developed on the house floor during the relatively brief debate. While Rep.

(Continued on Page Nine; Col. 5)

ARMY ORDERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19. — The War Department released the following orders yesterday, dated Feb. 15.

MAJOR GENERAL Sheel, W. E., Washington, D. C., relieved from detail as a member General Staff Corps, to command of the 8th Division, Fort Jackson, S. C.

BRIGADIER GENERAL Robinson, D. A., General Staff Corps, Fort Lewis, Wash., to Memphis, Tenn., as chief of staff, Headquarters, 2d Army.

Colonel, L. P., to command of 18th F. A. Brigade, Fort Sill, Okla.

Longino, O. H., Fort Crockett, Texas, to command of 38th Anti-Aircraft Brigade, Camp Edwards, Mass.

Haines, R. E., Fort Moultrie, S. C., to command of harbor defenses of Narragansett Bay, Fort Adams, R. I.

Hall, C. P., Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., to Fort Lewis, Wash.

Terrill, H., Jr., Washington, D. C., relieved from detail as a member of the General Staff Corps, to Fort Jackson, S. C.

Maxwell, R. I., relieved from detail as a member of General Staff Corps, and from assignment to the War Department General Staff.

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