

Navy Fund Is Passed By Senate

\$3,446,990,644 Appropriation Largest in U. S. Peace-Time History

PLAN NEW WARSHIPS

Solons Who Fought Purchases of South American Beef Score Win

WASHINGTON, March 20.—(AP)—A \$3,446,990,644 naval appropriation, the largest in United States peace-time history, was passed by the senate today...

Port-Traffic Body Raps St. Lawrence Canal Pact

VOICES OPPOSITION Hiers Named Official Of Shippers' Board

The Wilmington Port-Traffic association has urged three members of the North Carolina delegation in Congress to oppose the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Waterway treaty...

The association has written letters to Congressman J. Bayard Clark, Senators Josiah W. Bailey and Robert R. Reynolds, urging that they express opposition to the project...

ROOSEVELT BOARDS YACHT FOR CRUISE

Nation's Chief Expects To Spend Week or 10 Days In Southern Waters

PORT EVERGLADES, Fla., March 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt vacated tonight to find temporary escape from the weighty problems of his office...

He boarded the Potomac at dusk, but officers kept her tied to Port Everglades docks because of threatening weather outside the harbor.

With his fishing gear oiled and a half a dozen other devotees of the art of angling along, the President was ready to sail at nightfall from this port on the lower Florida East coast.

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina: Cloudy with rain, slightly colder in interior Friday; Saturday partly cloudy, preceded by rain in east portion.

British Bombers Were Active Last Night...



This unusual picture shows British bombers over Nazi-held Dutch coast amid glare of searchlights. They're on way to blast military targets on continent.

RAF Raids Nazi Sub, Air Bases

Bombers Strike at Important Objectives in Cologne and Lorient LONDON IS ATTACKED

LONDON, March 20.—(AP)—RAF bombers struck at the Germans with fiery overnight raids on Cologne, the Nazi U-boat base at Lorient, France, and airbases in Belgium and the Netherlands...

On the other hand, should Plan D be defeated on March 31 by a majority vote, the primary on Monday, April 21, according to the notices issued yesterday...

BRITISH TORPEDO ITALIAN VESSELS

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, March 20.—(AP)—Torpedoes by air and by sea have ripped new holes in Italy's battle, transport and supply fleets...

The latest exploit disclosed was that of the torpedo-carrying British Swordfish planes, which launched their self-propelled engines of destruction in the Albanian Ports of Valona and Durazzo on three successive nights, March 15, 16 and 17.

The traditional "guinea-word" admiralty laconically described the attacks as "extremely successful," adding almost as an afterthought that "the ships sunk included one cruiser or a large destroyer."

The rest of the recent toll was credited to a trio of British submarines which the admiralty said had torpedoed five heavy-laden Italian transports and supply ships...

The submarines' score: Two supply ships definitely sunk; a crowded troop transport exploded and considered certain to have been "completely destroyed"; and another supply ship "almost certainly" destroyed, status of the fifth ship, a transport, uncertain.

The attacks were conducted by three submarines, the Triumph, Utter and another.

Official registration books will be opened at 9 a. m. on Saturday, March 29, and closed at 5 p. m. on Sunday, March 30.

American Naval Movements In Pacific Seen As Caution Signal To Japanese

WASHINGTON, March 20.—(AP)—United States naval movements in Australian and New Zealand waters appeared tonight to be designed as a caution signal to Japan in connection with forthcoming Axis talks in Berlin.

RAF Raids Nazi Sub, Air Bases

Bombers Strike at Important Objectives in Cologne and Lorient

LONDON IS ATTACKED

Heavy Casualties Feared In German Raid on Southwest English Town

LONDON, March 20.—(AP)—RAF bombers struck at the Germans with fiery overnight raids on Cologne, the Nazi U-boat base at Lorient, France, and airbases in Belgium and the Netherlands...

Axis Says First British Aid Ship Sent To Bottom

PAPERS SPREAD STORY Russia Returns Battle Banners to Hungary

BERLIN, March 20.—(AP)—A big newspaper banner-line told Germans today of an Axis report that the first shipload of United States armaments to start for England since passage of the British aid bill had been sunk.

The newspaper Nacht Ausgabe, crediting the report to Rome, commented: "That which was expected by all clear-minded men has already happened. Herewith the American people finally understand the real meaning of the lease-lend law."

The report, as broadcast by the Rome radio, said it was rumored in Gibraltar that the first British aid cargo had gone down before Axis submarines. There were no details, and no explanation as to how the report was obtained from the British fortress of Gibraltar.

For the German press, the report provided trimmings for a high command communique crediting submarines and the Luftwaffe with 66,500 tons of British shipping space sunk within an unspecified period.

Submarines, said the communique, got 59,500 tons, including what was termed a whaling mother-ship of more than 20,000 tons. This all was said to have been picked out of a strongly protected convoy, and other merchantmen of 21,000 tons were said to have been damaged severely.

Another convoy, the communique went on, was attacked by scouting planes, a ship of some 7,000 tons sunk and two other ships totaling 10,000 tons damaged.

Still later reports from a long-range bomber base said four British merchant ships totaling more than 18,000 tons probably were all destroyed when the raiders swooped on a convoy yesterday about 190 miles west of Ireland.

N. Y. BUS STRIKE NEAR SETTLEMENT

NEW YORK, March 20.—(AP)—With only one union demand still at issue, Manhattan's 11-day-old bus strike—which has discommoded 900,000 passengers a day—passed into the hands of an arbitrator tonight.

Union and company spokesmen announced in separate statements that service would be resumed Saturday morning.

The agreement came 24 hours after Mayor LaGuardia appointed a three-man fact-finding board which swung into action shortly after noon today and met almost continuously until 8:30 p. m. with representatives of the Transport Workers union (CIO), the Fifth Avenue Coach company and the

interior while doing liaison work at the capitol for the President. Smith, an economist and native of Baltimore, is now chairman of the public service commission of New Hampshire. A republican, he has been vice president of the National Association of Railway and Utilities Commissioners since 1937.

The nominations must be approved by the senate before the board can begin to function. The law under which it was appointed, the 1940 transportation act, requires that it make a preliminary report by May 1.

Yugoslav Body Approves Passive Pact With Axis; Internal Trouble Feared

IL DUCE'S COUSIN TAKEN BY GREEKS

ATHENS, March 21.—(Friday)—(AP)—The capture of a cousin of Premier Mussolini and the repulse of two strong Italian attacks supported by tanks were reported early today by the official government spokesman.

The official spokesman in his account of yesterday's fighting reported that a company 150 strong was thrown against Greek fire and was quickly blasted. "About 100 dead were found in front of our lines. The rest were wounded," he declared.

Factories and oil tanks strung out along the east bank of the Rhine were set ablaze, the ministry declared, munitions stores were blown sky high and communications were crippled in this latest attack on much-bombed Cologne.

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Board Is Named To Study Transportation Systems

WASHINGTON, March 20.—(AP)—A three-man board headed by Wayne Coy, 37, of Delphi, Ind., was nominated by President Roosevelt today to study and report on the adequacy of existing rail, water, and truck systems to carry the nation's ever-expanding commerce.

Coy, a democrat and assistant to Paul V. McNutt, federal security administrator, was named along with Charles West, 46, of Granville, Ohio, and Nelson Lee Smith, 42, of Hopkinton, N. H.

West is a former democratic house member and served a brief period as undersecretary of the

interior while doing liaison work at the capitol for the President. Smith, an economist and native of Baltimore, is now chairman of the public service commission of New Hampshire. A republican, he has been vice president of the National Association of Railway and Utilities Commissioners since 1937.

The nominations must be approved by the senate before the board can begin to function. The law under which it was appointed, the 1940 transportation act, requires that it make a preliminary report by May 1.

MINISTERS OBJECT

Alliance Endorsed by Council Is Expected To Be Signed Soon

RESIGNATIONS LOOM Agreement Believed To Involve Offer of Semi-Army Help to Axis

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, March 21.—(Friday)—(AP)—Violent objections by cabinet members who predicted serious internal disorder were reliably reported early today to have arisen from the Yugoslav crown council's approval of a program described as a passive but effective alliance with the German axis.

Such an alliance, which would clear the way for Germany to attack Greece as soon as signatures are affixed in Vienna or Berlin possibly next week, was approved by the council late last night.

No Discussion The cabinet and military chiefs were asked to initial the scheme without discussion, but three ministers were asserted to have raised vigorous objections.

Their resignations were considered likely. Political quarters pointed out that the regent, Prince Paul, then would be free to find a cabinet which would approve a German alliance, but they agreed that such action might well bring to a blaze the smoldering passions in this pro-British country.

Such a reaction was predicted particularly among the peasant population. The three objecting cabinet ministers were Dr. Srdjan Budisavljevic, minister of social welfare; Dr. Branko Cubrilovic, minister of agriculture and leader of the Serb peasant party; and Prof. Mihajlo Konstantinovic, minister of justice.

May Quit Now Friends of Cubrilovic said he probably would resign immediately in protest against the council's decision, and associates of Milan Gavrilovic, first Yugoslav minister to Soviet Russia, said a few days ago he had threatened to quit his post and not return to the country if an Axis agreement was signed.

Seemingly confirming that Yugoslavia would sign with the Axis probably next week, one cabinet minister declared when the meeting broke up after midnight: "Because of Yugoslavia's delicate foreign situation, it is necessary that her position of strict neutrality should be modified in some way so that she should become more closely connected with the Axis. Because she is surrounded on all sides by Axis troops, it is necessary for Yugoslavia to form a new foreign policy in order to maintain her independence and prevent her from being involved in war."

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

JAPAN MAY SEND TROOPS TO SIAM

Concern Arises Over Prospect of Continued Peace In Indo-China Area

SAIGON, French Indo-China, March 20.—(AP)—Rumors spread today that the Japanese are planning to send 100,000 troops from Hainan Island across middle Indo-China to Thailand (Siam), and concern accordingly arose as to the prospect of continued peace in this region.

This story found no official confirmation, but it was accepted by a good many observers as plausible. It was suggested that the Thai government might well allow the movement was to pay off Japan for the recent Tokyo-dictated border settlement with Indo-China, which gave Thailand important territorial gains.

The Japanese, it was reported, had alternative motives in mind: To dispatch their troops to Bangkok and the region bordering British Malaya, where Australian reinforcements for that peninsula and the British naval base of Singapore itself arrived recently.

To send these forces northeast toward the Burma border as part of a maneuver to cut off Chungking, the capital of the central Chinese government, from the military supplies which have been moving over the Burma road.

An attack on China necessarily would involve transit over the British territory of Burma.

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