

Large Shipyard Trades School Will Open Here

BEING PLANNED BY NYA City is Designated As One of Eight Regional Headquarters in U. S.

WILL TRAIN 1,000 MEN Estimated \$60,000 Will Be Spent in Constructing School's First Unit

Designation of Wilmington as one of the eight regional headquarters in the United States for National Youth Administration apprentice training schools for shipyard trades was announced here yesterday afternoon by John Lang, North Carolina state NYA administrator, and Harold M. Peter, Wilmington district NYA director.

BETHLEHEM STEEL STRIKE IS CALLED

Action Taken Following Dispute Over Election by Independent Union

BETHLEHEM, Pa., March 24.—A strike was called late today at the huge Bethlehem Steel company plant where 18,000 employees have been working on defense contracts aggregating more than \$1,000,000,000.

GREEKS REPULSE FASCIST ATTACKS

Italians Suffer Heavy Losses in Attacks Near the Viosia River

ATHENS, March 25.—(Tuesday)—Greek troops fighting in Albania inflicted heavy losses on Italian units in repulsing a series of fascist attacks yesterday near the Viosia river, a government spokesman declared early today.

Senate Passes British Lease-Lend Appropriation By Vote Of 67 To 9

WASHINGTON, March 24.—(AP)—The senate passed the \$7,000,000,000 lease-lend appropriation bill today by a national-unity vote of 67 to 9 and plans were laid to fly it tomorrow to President Roosevelt, vacationing in the Caribbean.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—(AP)—The House of Representatives today passed the \$7,000,000,000 lease-lend appropriation bill by a vote of 377 to 10.

Yugoslav Chiefs Go To Vienna To Sign With Axis

ARE CALLED TRAITORS British Legation Crowded With Serbs Who Want to Join Allied Forces

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, March 24.—(AP)—Yugoslavia's leaders, called traitors and threatened with death for their submission, departed by special train tonight for Vienna to sign up the country with the German-Italian-Japanese military alliance.

MARTIN WILL KEEP GOP CHAIRMANSHIP

Agrees to Continue in Post After Committee Rejects His Resignation

WASHINGTON, March 24.—(AP)—Representative Joseph W. Martin, Jr., of Massachusetts, agreed today to remain as chairman of the Republican national committee after the committee had voted unanimously to reject his resignation.

NAZIS SAY MORE SHIPS DESTROYED

Claim 126,000 Tons Sunk By Submarines Supported by Battleships

BERLIN, March 24.—(AP)—The Germans officially reported today the destruction of at least 30,000 additional tons of British shipping, and issued an avowed eye-witness account of how a long earlier "cat and mouse" drama had ended in the sinking of 126,000 tons by U-boats supported by battleships—a new raiding technique.

Legion Officers Conclude Meeting at Fayetteville

FAYETTEVILLE, March 24.—(AP)—Service officers of the North Carolina Department of the American Legion concluded today a discussion of the problems of rehabilitating World War Veterans.

Commerce Body's Funds Drive Is Well Received

A response described as "encouraging and enthusiastic" was evident last night as a corps of volunteer solicitors seeking to raise a minimum fund of \$15,000 for the reorganized and expanded Wilmington Chamber of Commerce reported first-day results of their two-week campaign.

Reds Give Turks Pledge Of Aid If They Are Attacked By Nazis; Germans Mass Troops In Italy

18 Divisions Reported in Fascist Nation to Prevent Separate Peace ALL ARE INFANTRYMEN Observers' Moves Watched; Foreigners Banned From Northern Italy

BELGRADE, March 25.—(Tuesday)—Foreign military observers heard reports tonight that there now are eighteen or twenty German infantry divisions in Italy to keep internal order and to forestall any attempt by Italy at a separate peace.

Reported Held By British

Dr. Milan Stoyadinovitch, former premier of Yugoslavia and prominent pro-Axis leader, has been handed over to British authorities by the Yugoslav government, according to British sources in Egypt.

First Camp Davis Cadre Of 750 Men Arrives Soon

SCHEDULED APRIL 10 Camp's Strength Expected To Be Near Capacity of 20,000 By Mid-June

CAMP DAVIS, March 24.—Buildings were completed here last week at the rate of one every 33.8 minutes, according to compilations of R. H. Wattlinger, general superintendent for contractors, who reported his compilations to the office of the constructing quartermaster.

Wallace Man Fatally Hurt in Auto Accident

TARBORO, N. C., March 24.—(AP)—Andrew C. Giddings, 39, of Wallace, N. C., and Phoebe, Va., was fatally hurt and seven other persons injured late today when their car skidded and struck a tree two miles north of here.

START ON NEGRO HUT IS DELAYED

City and County Commissioners Postpone Award Of Materials Contract

Further delay in beginning of construction on the \$10,000 negro soldiers recreational hut, to be financed jointly by the city and county, was occasioned yesterday as the city and county boards of commissioners deferred for one week action on awarding contracts for materials.

Commerce Body's Funds Drive Is Well Received

The fund-raising campaign swung into action yesterday morning with an "early bird" breakfast at the Cape Fear, all 135 of the volunteer solicitors being present to receive last-minute instruction.

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James Stewart, 1940's No. 1 man of the movies, produces a snappy salute, just after getting his uniform at Fort MacArthur, Calif., for a year's service in the army. Stewart, who put on 10 pounds to gain admittance to the army, took a salary cut from \$6,000 to \$21 per month.

FORCES ARE INCREASED

Russia Places More Troops Opposite German Masses in the Balkans

REDS HALT NAZI OIL

Rumanian Army Being Mobilized and Sent to Positions on Prut River

ANKARA, March 25.—(Tuesday)—Soviet Russia gave Turkey early today a pledge of benevolent and helpful neutrality in case the Turks are attacked by Germany, and immediately was reported to have increased her armed forces on both land and sea opposite the German military masses in the southeast of Europe.

Thus the Soviet Union took her first concrete step to influence the course of the war since the German-Russian agreement of August, 1939, pact which immediately preceded the conflict. Now she has acted to bar further Nazi penetration southeast, along her western borders.

Oil Supplies Hit It also was reliably confirmed that Russia has halted all supplies of oil to Germany since the beginning of March.

The publication of the friendship agreement in effect assures Turkey of full Russian material aid against German troops should Turkey be plunged into war to defend the Dardanelles, vital water gateway between the Mediterranean and Black seas.

That Germany was acutely aware of the fast-changing Russian attitude was seen in reports from German-occupied Rumania that that little kingdom's army again was being mobilized and sent to positions on the Prut river frontier facing Russia.

The Soviet command then was said to have increased her troops on the land frontier and her naval forces at strategic Black sea ports. Diplomatic quarters here believed also that Russia and Turkey deliberately timed the announcement of their friendship pact to coincide with the departure of Yugoslav ministers for Vienna to sign with the Axis.

Last Act The same sources viewed the declaration as the last act before the curtain goes up on Germany's offensive against Greece in eastern Thrace—and perhaps against Turkey and the strategic Dardanelles.

Russia's cutting off of oil to Germany was seen as a potentially heavy blow since Rumanian crude oil produces an inferior grade of lubricating oil, a pressing need for the Reich's air fleet, navy and mechanized units.

The Turkish press, commenting on Russia's stand toward German domination of Yugoslavia, declared "Russia is certainly now using the most friendly language toward us."

GERMAN SOLDIERS STRAFED BY RAF

Attack Troops at Cherbourg as Follow-Up to Heavy Raid on Berlin

LONDON, March 24.—(AP)—A low-level machine-gun strafing of German troops on early morning parade near Cherbourg was announced by the air ministry today as a follow-up to the 10,000 fire bombs and heavy explosives dropped by night on Berlin.

Attacks on objectives in western Germany, the Low Countries and Continental "invasion ports" also were recounted. A Blenheim bomber of the coastal command returning home from a morning attack on the Nazi-held coast dived to within 100 feet of the Germans and heavily machine-gunned them as they paraded past their barracks on the main street of Barfleur, near Cherbourg, officials said.

This same Blenheim, the air ministry said, bombed the Cherbourg docks and "dived and dealt effectively with light gun positions on the outer mole."

The Germans, their own aerial offensive against England held to a minimum by bad weather, struck at the southeast Kent coast in a pre-dawn attack and made sporadic daylight forays Monday against southwest England and South Wales. One Nazi fighter was downed off the south coast, the government announced.

WEATHER FORECAST North Carolina: Partly cloudy, slightly cooler Tuesday; Wednesday generally fair. (By F. S. Weather Bureau) (Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday.)