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ESTABLISHED 1867.

100 KILLED AS TORNADO LEVELS OKLAHOMA TOWN

VIOLENT RAF ATTACK DRAWING NAZI PLANE FROM RUSSIAN FRONT

With Bombings Stepped Up British Experiencing Stiffer Opposition

18 PLANES ARE LOST

Diversion Of Nazi Fighters Means Raids Paying Off, Say Britishers

By DREW MIDDLETON LONDON, April 27.—(AP)

British bombers and fighters smashed violently at German air bases across the channel today and encountered their heaviest opposition of the spring, indicating the RAF was beginning to achieve one of its main objectives by forcing Hitler to divert his aerial strength from the eastern front.

The size and quality of the opposition was emphasized by the loss of 18 British craft—16 fighters and two bombers—against 11 Nazi craft destroyed, and by reports of RAF pilots that their challenges were more experienced and their planes better than heretofore.

If the British offensive has compelled Hitler to withdraw considerable formations from the East to meet the RAF in the West Indies sources said the massive British aerial offensive was paying a big dividend. They added however that it would be the end of the week before it is known definitely whether its purpose has been accomplished.

Hundreds of British planes roared over the channel in six major sweeps from dawn until after dark during today's operations, cutting away at the Nazis' air strength and daring them to make good Hitler's threat of full-scale retaliation.

Blast Rostock

The Germans did strike back, raiding a town in East Anglia tonight, but there were no immediate indications that this was anything like the furious RAF assaults on Mardyck and Le Touquet, followed the fourth consecutive overnight attack.

ROSTOCK GUTTED BY RAF BOMBERS

Swedish Correspondent In Berlin Says 10,000 Families Homeless

STOCKHOLM, April 27.—(AP)—Ten thousand families in Rostock are homeless as a result of the four raids there by the British RAF, the Berlin correspondent of the Dagbladet Nyheter in Berlin reported tonight. He said the damage in Rostock was worse than in Lubeck, previously raided by the British.

The Berlin correspondent wrote that the British had dropped leaflets over Stralsund, about 45 miles northwest of Rostock on the Baltic, warning that similar raids would be made there. He told of planes flying low over Rostock, using machine-guns and cannon.

Great emphasis was being put on new reprisal raids in Berlin, he said, quoting one Berlin source as saying:

"We know exactly where the Tudor houses, cathedrals, Windsor castles and other buildings threatened in Baedeker's (tourist guide) are situated."

The Swedish correspondent's dispatch tallied somewhat with a report from the air ministry in London saying the people of Rostock, after a Heinkel plane factory, were warning out of their devastated city. The air ministry's new agency said pictures taken after the third raid on Saturday night showed great crowds of Germans heading for Rostock's railroad station.

(Radio reports from Berlin likewise emphasized that reprisals would be taken by the German air force for what the Germans called "barbaric attacks" on the Hanseatic cities of)

5,135 Answer Registration To Send Men To War Fronts

All Men In City, County, 45 To 65 Registered For Possible Service

OTAWA, Apr. 27.—(AP)—The Canadian government was given a free hand by Plebiscite today to send conscripted soldiers outside the Dominion and into battle anywhere in the world.

With only predominantly French-Canadian Quebec province dissenting, as expected, the electorate was shown by incomplete returns tonight to favor overwhelmingly the release of the MacKenzie King government from prior commitments promising only domestic service for drafted men.

The Canadian press announced flatly at 10 p. m. Eastern War Time, two hours after the polls closed in the eastern provinces, that the Prime Minister's appeal for a free hand in the use of manpower had won out.

The vote in Quebec where the draft was violently opposed in the last war and where riots broke out in consequence, showed 339,329 negative votes to 109,596 affirmative at the first 2,795 polls reported out of 7,962.

The cry of "A ban on conscription" (down with conscription) was aided in recent disorders among the French-Canadian populace during campaign demonstrations. In contrast to Quebec's opposition, Ontario province voted at the rate of 588,545 to 193,768 to release

U. S. TO PROBE RENTS IN CITY

Investigations Planned To See If It Must Step In And Cut Them

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27.—(AP)—The War Production Board today ordered a 25 per cent cut in the consumption of coffee, because of "uncertainties about future supplies."

The cut was brought about by an order reducing the amount of coffee which may be delivered by roasters and accepted by wholesalers in any month to 75 per cent of deliveries in the corresponding period of 1941.

The government will not attempt to ration coffee at the consumer level, WPB, said, but the wholesalers are "expected to pass the cut along to their customers as equitably as possible."

This action was taken to conserve supplies now on hand for the Army, Navy, and civilian population and to make future supplies go as far as possible," the Board's announcement said.

Young Woman Slain At Filling Station

MARINSVILLE, Va., Apr. 27.—(AP)—Mrs. Josephine Henely, of Spray, N. C., 30 year old mother of three children, was shot and fatally wounded today at a filling station near Boxwood, a short distance from the North Carolina line.

The 20 areas include Bridgeport, Hartford-New Britain, and Waterbury, Conn.; Schenectady, N. Y.; Birmingham, Ala.; Mobile, Ala.; Columbus, Ga.; Wilmington, N. C.; and the area of Hampton Roads, Va.

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FDR Asks Freezing Of Prices, Wages, Limit For Incomes

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27.—(AP)—President Roosevelt outlined to Congress today a broad anti-inflation program which would fix general price ceilings, freeze most wages "at existing scales" and syphon into government coffers all individual income over \$25,000 a year.

These steps, with taxes that would lap up all corporate profits not necessary to continued production, with a reduction in the present legal maximum prices for farm products, with increased war bond buying and debt paying, and with rationing of scarce essentials, would he predicted, avert the cost of living hardships of the First World War.

"We cannot fight this war, we cannot exert our maximum effort on a spend-as-usual basis," Mr. Roosevelt said in a special message to Congress. "We cannot have all we want, if our soldiers and sailors are to have all they need."

By implication he opposed any change in the wage-hour-law, asserting that most defense workers were not working more than 40 hours a week,

and that they should be paid time and a half for overtime, lest there be a reduction in their weekly pay envelopes.

In addition to slashing higher salaries down to \$25,000 by taxation, he foresaw a process of stabilizing wages through protests to and decisions by the War Labor Board, which would "continue to give due consideration to inequalities and the elimination of sub-standards of living." Existing contracts between employers and employees should, he said, be fully honored "in all fairness."

Price Order The Office of Price Administration is expected to announce tomorrow a general price order, freezing prices as of some time in the recent past, probably March. Tomorrow evening, Mr. Roosevelt will make a radio address explaining the program to the people of the nation.

Except for taxes and for reducing the limit on agricultural prices, Mr. Roosevelt said in his message that no new (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

50,000 In America Earn Over \$25,000

F. R.'s Salary With Those That Would Be Limited To Fixed Figure

WASHINGTON, Apr. 27.—(AP)—At least 50,000 persons, including President Roosevelt himself, have incomes over \$25,000 a year—the figure which the Chief Executive said ought to be an individual's maximum after payment of taxes.

In 1940, last year for which income tax studies are available, 50,747 persons reported incomes of \$25,000 or greater. However, probably no more than half that number at most had \$25,000 left after paying the tax collector.

Under present tax laws, a person can earn up to about \$40,000 a year, after paying federal taxes, stay within the President's limit. But in about half the states, state income taxes also take a chunk out of large incomes.

President Roosevelt's salary is \$75,000 and he has additional income from personal property. He pays federal and New York State income taxes. (Incidentally, in connection with the talk of salaries, White House officials said today the Chief Executive is a poorer man than when he became President. While his mother left him an estate of more than \$1,000,000, it is explained, he will not come into possession of it for another year because it is in process of settlement.)

Mr. Roosevelt, however, would be far down any list of persons with big incomes. Treasury reports — the latest available — show that 41 persons paid tax on 1939 incomes in excess of \$1,000,000 but do not disclose their names.

Here are some salaries paid to individuals in 1940 as disclosed by corporation reports to the securities and exchange commission: Louis B. Mayer, \$697,048 as managing director of production for Loew's Inc., motion picture company; Eugene G. Grace, \$478,144 as president Bethlehem Steel Corp. George W. Hill, \$456,415 as presi-

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County Asks State Probe Of Power Co.

Funds To Investigate Tide Water Properties

BOARD DISSATISFIED

Raleigh Hearing Ended 'Just As I Expected,' Gardner Declares

A resolution requesting the state commissioner of utilities to request the governor and council of state "for an allotment from the emergency and contingency fund to defray such expenses as may be necessary in making a thorough, independent appraisal, investigation and audit of the properties and operations" of the Tide Water Power company was adopted by the county commission at the Monday meeting.

The resolution was passed on motion of Commissioner L. J. Coleman after it had been presented by Commissioner Harry R. Gardner.

Before presenting the resolution Commissioner Gardner said the hearing Friday before State Utilities Commissioner Stanley Winborne in Raleigh "came out just about as I expected as we went up there unprepared to defend our cause. The substance of the resolution is to take the expense off the people of this county."

Had No Argument

After pointing out some figures presented at the hearing, Commissioner Gardner said "we had nothing to combat their statements. Only one side of the case was prepared and we had to depend on the weakness of that case."

Commenting after the reading of the resolution Chairman Addison Hewlett said the Utilities commission should have the facts in the case since they are supposed to represent the people.

Following the adoption of the resolution, the commission voted on motion of Commissioner Gardner to send copies of the resolution to officials of towns in the area affected by the rates.

The resolution follows: "Whereas, the Tide Water Power company has, for many years, penalized the commercial, residential and power consumers of New Hanover county and southeastern North Carolina with rates in excess of those charged by the major utility companies of this state in areas similar to New Hanover county and southeastern North Carolina, and

"Whereas, in the opinion of this board such rates have retarded the development of this area of North Carolina and placed this section of the state at a grave economic disadvantage to those areas served by the other major public utilities of the state, and

"Whereas, the history of both the Tide Water Power company and its parent organization, the Associated Gas and Electric company, present a highly involved and complicated financial structure and affords evidence of financial manipulation which has loaded the local rate payers with unfair inequitable light, gas and power rates, and

"Whereas, in the opinion of this board, the public interest will be greatly served by an independent appraisal of the properties of the said Tide Water Power company, the investigation of the legitimacy of its expenses and an independent

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250 INJURED ARE REMOVED TO HOSPITALS

Main Street In Pryor Laid Waste In Storm Lasting Only Few Minutes

EVERY BUILDING HIT

Town In Darkness As Munitions Workers Search Ruins For Bodies

PRYOR, Okla., April 27.—(AP)—A brief, violent tornado reportedly killed at least 100 persons and injured 250 late today in this war boom town, and left the main business district in ruins.

First reports from rescuers containing these figures were received by R. W. Stinson, Muskogee district manager for WPA, in a telephone call from his workers on the scene.

The storm struck at about 5:50 p. m., roaring down the main street, tearing down buildings and leaving the street filled with debris and the dead and dying.

Three persons were reported killed and at least 15 injured near Taitala and another person was killed at Tiawah, southeast of Claremore, as the tornado winds fanned out over this northeastern Oklahoma area.

One eye-witness reported he saw 11 dead and scores of injured after the brief, furious storm struck.

The town was in darkness and phone communications within the city were disrupted, hampering rescue work.

F. C. (Dick) Dickinson, a Grand river dam worker at Langley, Okla., said he had just driven into town when the tornadoic storm struck.

"It was over in a matter of minutes," he said. "My old car was battered and I crouched down on the floor boards and emerged safe."

"I think I'm safe in saying there isn't a two story building left along Main street."

The wind storm was accompanied by hail and rain which witnesses said "fell in buckets."

Dickinson said he counted 11 bodies in five blocks of Main street and saw about 50 persons he believed seriously wounded and 50 others less seriously hurt.

"I couldn't attempt to estimate the number of dead and injured,"

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SCHOOLS MAY LOSE CAFETERIA HELP

WPA Workers Scheduled To Leave Today; Conference Scheduled Today

After hearing a request from representatives of four New Hanover schools, that WPA authorities take a broader view so that helpers in cafeterias in these schools might be maintained", the county commission Monday recessed to meet with these representatives and Miss May Campbell, of Raleigh, state director of Women's WPA work, and Mrs. Gladys B. Proctor, area supervisor, this morning at 10 o'clock.

Mrs. L. W. Porter, representing the Winter Park school, said supervisors of the cafeterias were notified Monday that the WPA help, which had been furnished all winter so that free lunches could be given underprivileged children, would not be available Tuesday. She explained that with the small amount of commodities furnished and the WPA help the schools had been able to give lunches to children who could not pay for them.

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Raid Warden Set Up Will Be Reorganized

A re-organization meeting for all air raid wardens whose residence or place of emergency duty is in Wilmington has been called for 8 o'clock Tuesday night in the high school auditorium by Chief Raid Warden F. P. O'Crowley.

The meeting will be important, Mr. O'Crowley pointed out Monday, because specific duties will be assigned every block and zone and other wardens. Additional volunteers and owners or managers of large buildings may also attend.

The city has been divided into 10 zones, each zone subdivided into 10 to 100 sections by technical advisor, McKean Maffitt. The estab-

lishment of a warden's post for each sector will be discussed, with suitable signs to designate these posts officially so that the public will know where they are located.

Building wardens will be assigned to the larger office buildings, department stores, theatres, hotels and apartment houses. Their particular duties will be to supervise the air raid precautions for these properties. The communications system, both by phone and messenger, between the wardens' posts and the control center will be explained.

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina: Slightly colder east portion and continued mild west portion Tuesday. South Carolina: Continued warm Tuesday except not quite so warm east portion late afternoon. Total since the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday (By U. S. Weather Bureau): Temperature 1:30 a. m. 64. Maximum 86. 7:30 a. m. 63. Minimum 59. 1:30 p. m. 85. Mean 72. 7:30 p. m. 67. Humidity 1:30 a. m. 75. 7:30 a. m. 87. 1:30 p. m. 72. 7:30 p. m. 81. Precipitation Total for the 24 hours ending at 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches. Total since the first of the month 0.87 inches.

TIDES FOR TODAY (From Tide Tables Published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey)

Wilmington	High 7:38a	Low 2:28a
	8:12p	2:47p
Masonboro Inlet	5:16a	11:38a
	5:52p	
Sunrise: 5:28a.	Sunset: 6:53p.	Moonrise: 4:35p.

Cape Fear river stage at Fayetteville on Monday at 8 a. m. 10:25 feet.

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