

18-Year-Old Boys May See Army Service

Congress To Get Proposal To Cut Minimum To 19 And Possibly To 18 TO BE OFFERED SOON

It Is Estimated There Are Approximately 1,200,000 In Each Group

By EDWIN B. HAAKINSON WASHINGTON, May 24.—(P)—A proposal to lower the minimum age for compulsory service in the armed forces to 19, and possibly 18 years, will be put before congress soon, a usually informed source reported today.

Although saying the War Department was convinced the draft age should be lowered, this informant who asked not to be named said he did not know the form the request would take. It might be made in a message from President Roosevelt, a letter from Secretary of War Stimson to Congressional leaders or simply by War Department witnesses raising the question. Congressional hearings on some pending legislation affecting the Army.

President Roosevelt has ordered a selective service registration June 30 of youths 18 and 19. Under present law, however, they cannot be drafted into the armed services. It is estimated there are about 1,200,000 in each age group.

When Congress revised the selective service act in the first month after Pearl Harbor, the War Department recommended that 19 years olds be made subject to the draft. The Senate agreed, but the House voted to put the minimum age at 21. A compromise was then worked out permitting 20 year olds to be drafted.

Chairman May (D.-Ky.) of the House Military Affairs committee said in an interview that he believed the House might be willing now to lower the age minimum, adding "I would not be surprised if that is in the offing."

On the other hand, Senator Hill (D.-Ala.), the Democratic whip, said he did not expect any draft of boys 18 and 19 in the immediate future. Senator Austin (R.-Vt.), assistant Republican leader, said he had not made up his mind "because there is a human side to this."

Salvaged Suit



Salvaged suit — June Starr of Seaside Heights, N. J., wears a swim suit made of discarded muslin shower curtain. The occasion was the opening of Ocean county bathing season.

N. H. H. S. FINALS BEGIN ON SUNDAY

Commencement Day Sermon Is Delivered By The Rev. Mortimer Glover

In speaking on "Choosing at the Cross Roads", the Rev. Mortimer Glover, rector of St. James Episcopal church, advised the approximately 200 prospective graduates of New Hanover high school "to choose certain things by which to live" at the commencement sermon delivered Sunday evening in the First Baptist church.

"No one deliberately makes wrong choices," the Rev. Mr. Glover declared, "but some choose the second best so consistently that they come out at the wrong end."

The speaker's text, "Choose You This Day Whom You Will Serve," is from Joshua's farewell address to the Hebrew people. He related the history of the Hebrews and told of the necessity of the choice of a new country which faced them.

Prayer at the service was offered by the Rev. Sankey L. Blanton, pastor of the First Baptist church. Music was furnished by the high school choir.

55 Men From Ship Picked Up

Sailors Rescued By Small Argentine Steamer In South Atlantic NO DETAILS RELEASED

Argentines Decline To Tell Size Of Warcraft; Italians Claim Battleship

BUENOS AIRES, May 24.—(P)—The state merchant fleet said today the small Argentine steamer Rio Iguazu had picked up 55 persons at sea and newspaper reports declared the rescued were sailors from a United States warship of unstated size.

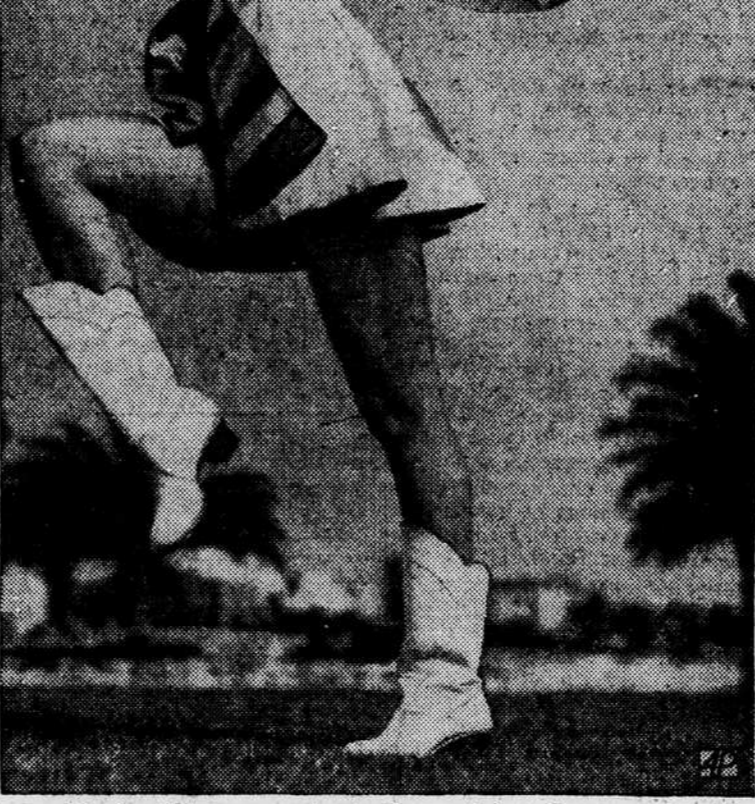
Merchant fleet officials declined to say what sort of ship the survivors came from. They told of the survivors in response to inquiries made after the Italians had renewed their claims of having sunk a U. S. battleship with a submarine in the Atlantic off Brazil.

The German radio, quoting an official Italian announcement Sunday, said the Argentine ship had picked up 55 survivors from the battleship.

The newspaper Noticias Graficas, quoting a merchant fleet source, said the Rio Iguazu two or three days ago picked up two lifeboat loads of sailors from a North American warship but could not say whether it was a battleship, cruiser or destroyer.

The state merchant fleet made public part of the text of a wireless report from the captain of the Rio Iguazu, saying: "I picked up 55 survivors on the high seas."

'Yankee Doodle Girl'



Evelyn Dinsmoor struts through her drum majorette act after she was chosen "Yankee Doodle Girl" at a home defense exposition at Long Beach, Calif. She led Rainbow Majorette Corps as part of patriotic ceremony.

U. S. Planes Blast Japanese Shipping

Three Enemy Fighters Destroyed During Attack On Ambonia Base

By C. YATES McDANIEL ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Australia, May 24.—(P)—Great American bombers piloted by Australians made a 1,200 mile roundtrip bombing raid on the Japanese occupied Dutch island of Amboina and shot down three Zero fighters in flames after blasting enemy shipping in the harbor at dusk last night, a communique said today.

It was the second raid in ten days on the jungle-clothed island which lies about halfway between New Guinea and Celebes in the exotic South seas.

Other raiders struck at the much-bombed Japanese base at Lae in the northeast shore of New Guinea demolishing airframe buildings and severely damaging two grounded Japanese bombers. Eight fighters rose to challenge the Allies and shot one attacking plane from the air.

RED ARMIES RETURN TO THE OFFENSIVE ON KHARKOV FRONT

Wrest Initiative From Germans, Again Advancing; Fierce Defensive Action Fought On The Izyum-Barvenkova Sector NO IMPORTANT ACTION ELSEWHERE

Soviet Air Force Reported To Be Mercilessly Battering Enemy; Black Sea Fleet Bars German Crossing Of Kerch Strait

By HENRY C. CASSIDY MOSCOW, Monday, May 24.—(P)—Marshal Timoshenko's armies of the Ukraine have wrested the initiative from the Germans on the Kharkov front and again are advancing, while in the Izyum-Barvenkova sector to the south fierce defensive battles are being waged against Nazi tank and infantry attacks, the Russians announced officially at midnight.

Resumption of the advance upon the great industrial city of Kharkov was announced in the Soviet midnight communique following a temporary halt in which the Germans threw huge forces of men and machines into a mighty counter-attack.

In the Izyum-Barvenkova sector the Russians said their forces were inflicting enormous losses upon German infantry and tank units trying desperately to flank the Russians' Kharkov wedge. Frontline dispatches said the Ukrainian hills in that area were strewn with mounds of Nazi dead.

The Soviet communique gave this brief picture of the fighting on the southern front: "During the night our troops in the Kharkov direction waged offensive battles and advanced. Fierce Defense

"In the Izyum-Barvenkova direction our troops conducted fierce defensive battles against enemy tanks and infantry. In the course of these battles German Fascist troops suffered heavy losses."

British Pound Axis Airports And Shipping

Motor Transport And Other Targets Hit In The Cirencaian Area

CAIRO, Egypt, May 24.—(P)—Axis aircraft, motor transport and shipping in the Cirencaian area were heavily attacked by British bombers and fighters yesterday in a burst of widespread raiding, the RAF reported tonight.

This increased scale of air activity in North Africa was said by observers in the Egyptian capital to coincide with efforts of both the British and the Germans to build up their strength for the next desert campaign.

The British reported shooting down six German and Italian fighters over Libya and Malta at a cost of four missing RAF planes.

The Italian high command announced that the RAF had suffered heavy losses in Cirencaia, putting the British losses on Friday and Saturday at 33 planes in Libya alone. The British, however, have reported only eight missing planes for those two days, four on Friday and four Saturday.

Jap Bombers Heavily Raid Chinese Bases

Bitter Fighting Is Reported In Progress In Chekiang Province

CHUNGKING, China, May 24.—(P)—Japanese bombers based on Burma raided the heart of the important Burma road city of Paoshan and other points in western Yunnan province today while, far to the east, Chinese and Japanese soldiers fought savagely in Chekiang province.

Chinese dispatches said eight bombers escorted by six fighters bombed Paoshan. The results of the raids there and in other Yunnan points were not stated in the reports.

Paoshan is the next objective of Japanese forces fighting on the Burma road in Yunnan province. The Japanese columns in Chekiang province are aiming at Kinkhwa, provisional capital of the province, and Lanchi, on the south side of Chientang river and only 12 miles northwest of Kinkhwa.

The bloody battles at three towns 25 to 35 miles northeast and east of Kinkhwa, where the armies last were reported locked in combat, all have ended in Japanese victories, a Chinese communique indicated.

SHIP TORPEDOED OFF TIP OF CUBA

Submarine's Crew Waves Nazi Flag And Gives Survivors German Salute

KEYWEST, Fla., May 24.—(P)—A submarine crewman waved the Nazi flag and gave the German salute to United States seamen swimming for their lives in the Caribbean sea after their merchant ship was torpedoed off the tip of Cuba May 18.

Twenty-eight survivors of the medium-sized ship told their stories here. Six others, including Captain Charles D. Bryant of Houston, Tex., are missing and presumed to be dead. The Navy announced the attack today.

"They wanted to make darned sure that we knew their identity," said Leonard Shearer, third assistant engineer from Newcastle, Pa., "for a member of the crew raised the Nazi flag on a flagstaff at the stern immediately after she broke the surface."

"He turned and gave the German salute to some of us who were swimming nearby."

WEATHER FORECAST: NORTH CAROLINA AND SOUTH CAROLINA — Continued mild Monday.

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

1:30 a. m. 60; 7:30 a. m. 61; 1:30 p. m. 76; 7:30 p. m. 72; maximum 78; minimum 56; mean 68; normal 72.

J. S. McEACHERN 61, DIES SUNDAY

Funeral Arrangements For Prominent Citizen To Be Announced Later

John S. McEachern, 61, of 21 North Eighteenth street, died at 7 o'clock Sunday morning at the James Walker Memorial hospital after a brief illness.

Nation-Wide Gasoline Rationing Causes Howl

WASHINGTON, May 24.—(P)—Administration talk of extending gasoline rationing to the whole country brought a protesting outcry from oil-hill today.

Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) told reporters that "perhaps the principal source of this trouble is that Congress has surrendered too much of its authority to executives who don't understand conditions in the country."

DR. WM. CROWE INSTALLED HERE

Minister At Presbyterian Church Delivers Sermon On 'The Way Of Peace'

"The Way Of Peace" was the subject of the sermon delivered by the Rev. William Crowe, D. D. of Tallapoosa, Ala., Sunday morning at installation services for son, the Rev. William Crowe, Jr., D. D., as pastor of the First Presbyterian church.

Duration Dormitories Planned In War Areas

By FRANCIS M. LEMAY WASHINGTON, May 24.—(P)—Blocks of "duration dormitories," highly temporary in structure but affording essential accommodations, soon will begin to rise in crowded work areas as an answer to critical building material shortages the Federal Public Housing Authority disclosed today.

Meanwhile, John B. Blandford, National Housing administrator, said he knew "of no plan to abandon any housing project already under construction."

Allied Ship Fired When Jap Plane Falls On Deck

Decks were machine-gunned and three bomb hits were scored before the Japanese bomber struck the ship's funnel.

Raid Alarm Sounds At Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES, May 24.—(P)—The Army Fourth Interceptor command gave an air raid warning at 8:49 p. m., Pacific war time tonight, as an all-clear signal was sounded at 9:42.

Nation-Wide Gasoline Rationing Causes Howl

ordered the Office of Defense Transportation to prepare plans for nation-wide gasoline rationing as a tire conservation measure.

Duration Dormitories Planned In War Areas

Dispatches yesterday from the Izyum-Barvenkova front said that the Germans' week-long diversion offensive there had been fought

Duration Dormitories Planned In War Areas

that housing of any permanent nature "is out," and that in addition to the construction of dormitories the government might have to turn to billeting of workers in private homes near defense plants.

Duration Dormitories Planned In War Areas

Director Howard Strong of the Homes Registration Division said, however, that any forced billeting would be done "only as a last resort." Strong's division now operates offices in 305 congested work areas for the voluntary registration of spare rooms that can be used by workmen.