

Party Split Observed On Tax Measure

Democratic Leadership In House Cracks On Abatement Issue

CONFLICT IN ACTION Majority Leader Acts In Contrast To Members Of Committee

WASHINGTON, April 1.—(P)—The Democratic leadership in the House split apart tonight on the issue of tax abatement, with Majority Leader McCormack (D-Mass.) calling for quick action to skip part of 1942's income taxes, and Chairman Doughton (D-N.C.) of the Ways and Means committee sharply brushing aside the suggestion.

Compromise Urged During the day McCormack had issued a statement calling for a quick pay-as-you-go compromise abating part, but not all, of 1942 taxes. He said a pay-as-you-go measure with a withholding levy on wages and salaries, should become effective July 1.

The Democratic leader's action directly conflicted with the stand of a majority of his party's Ways and Means members who opposed any tax abatement, and he drew a sound rebuff from the 79-year-old committee chairman.

"I did not have any advance information about Mr. McCormack's statement regarding tax matters," Doughton said in a formal statement. "He did not consult me as chairman of the committee on Ways and Means. Neither, so far as I know, did he consult any majority member of the committee before issuing his statement."

The chairman announced that the committee, before turning again to tax matters, would consider measures to continue the bituminous coal act and to extend reciprocal trade agreements. Indications were, he said, that pay-as-you-go would not come up again until the committee begins consideration, probably in late spring or summer, of a new general measure, pursuant to President Roosevelt's recent recommendation that \$16,000,000,000 additional be raised through new levies and compulsory savings.

These developments came shortly after nine Republican Ways and Means members issued a statement demanding immediate reconsideration of pay-as-you-go legislation and gave notice they would continue to battle for the Ruml skip-a-year plan, rejected by the House Tuesday.

Earlier, Treasury Secretary Morgenthau expressed doubt that a 20 per cent withholding levy against the taxable portions of wages and salaries could be made operative before January 1. Morgenthau said he was hopeful a "new and complete" tax measure, embracing both additional revenue and a withholding plan, could be enacted by fall.

Induction Of Fathers May Begin By July

Selective Service Head Expresses Wish Of Delaying Draft But Feels Desire Is 'Largely Sentimental'

WASHINGTON, April 1.—(P)—Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey said today he would like to postpone induction of fathers as long as possible, but acknowledged that calling them in is likely to begin about July 1.

Hershey told a press conference his desire to put off drafting fathers was largely "sentimental." He said the ban against their induction would be lifted in advance of the time they actually would have to be called up in order to meet quotas.

Asked about reports that present draft classifications might be overhauled, Hershey said the subject was "currently under perpetual" consideration but no changes have been ordered thus far, at least. Reports, emanating from informed sources who declined to be named, had said strong attention was being directed to revising the classifications so that:

All the childless married men would be reclassified out of 3-A and 3-B to 1-A (available for induction when their order numbers are reached) except those "individually essential" in their present jobs or those whose induction would mean undue hardship on dependents.

The 3-B classification, which now includes both fathers and childless married men engaged in essential activities regardless of whether they are "essential individuals," would be eliminated.

The 3-A classification, now including fathers and childless married men in activities not listed on either the "essential" or "non-deferred" list, would be reserved exclusively for fathers, including those formerly in 3-B.

The 2-A and 2-B classifications, which cover men individually essential in essential activity, regardless of whether or not they have dependents would be retained, and persons who meet that standard but are now in other classifications such as 3-B, would be transferred to 2-A or 2-B.

A new classification would be created for men whose induction would impose undue hardship upon them. (Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

SOLDIER IS HELD FOR AUTO THEFT

21 Year Old Air Base Man Wrecks Car After Larceny In City State highway patrolmen swore out a warrant for Merle H. Redmond, 21-year-old Wilmington Army Air Base soldier, Thursday afternoon on charges of larceny of an automobile after Redmond allegedly stole the vehicle here Wednesday night and wrecked it in a collision involving a freight train and two other automobiles on the Market street road.

ENEMY MAKING DESPERATE EFFORT TO AID ROMMEL BY FLYING MEN INTO TUNISIA UNDER RAF ATTACK

FOE STRIKES BACK

Nazis Attack British East Of Sedjenane In Counter Drive

MUCH MATERIAL HELD

Axis May Be Trying To Reclaim Huge Stores Left In Flight

ON THE NORTHERN TUNISIAN FRONT, 10:55 A. M., April 1.—(P)—Axis troops attacked British positions a few miles east of Sedjenane early today after being thrown into a precipitate flight yesterday and losing huge quantities of equipment.

The scale of the fighting was not immediately reported. It appeared to be an attempt by the German and Italian troops to retrieve big stores of material they had abandoned in a little mining town near Sedjenane.

U. S. POST WAR AIMS DOUBTED

Sumner Welles Says Policy Proving Source Of Mistrust In World

NEW YORK, April 1.—(P)—Undersecretary of State Sumner Welles today termed the post-war policy of the United States a source of "one of the gravest doubts that exists in the minds of the United Nations."

In an address before the chamber of commerce of the state of New York, broadcast by NBC, Welles said this nation's allies recall that after the victory of 1918 the United States "withdrew from almost every form of practical cooperation" in reconstruction tasks and "made no effort to win the peace."

"Our allies are asking themselves now whether we will again follow that same course," Welles said. "In a very real sense the decision that will be made with regard to the renewal of the trade agreements that will be regarded by peoples throughout the world as an acid test of our future intentions."

"They will see in that decision a clear indication as to whether the people of the United States have determined upon a policy of international cooperation for the future, or whether they will once more turn back to that road of isolation which leads to inevitable disaster."

Creation of a reliable and permanent peace is the greatest single objective of the nation, Welles said, but added that "one of the gravest doubts that exists in the minds of the partners of the United Nations today is the doubt as to what the policy of the United States will be when the victory is won."

He said he was convinced that "unless the American people are willing to assume their fair share of responsibility for the maintenance of peace in the world of the future, by joining in the exercise of police powers when that may be determined by international agreement to be necessary and by participating in such other forms of international cooperation as may effectively prevent the rise of economic or political dangers, the peace of the world cannot be maintained."

It will be necessary for this country to aid those made destitute by the war "not only for humanitarian reasons but for reasons of pure self-interest," Welles said.

Urging that devastated nations be placed on "a self-reliant and a self-sustaining basis as rapidly as possible," he added:

U. S. Tank Destroyers On Rommel's Trail



While on the lookout for some of Rommel's retreating tanks, crew members of these M-10 tank destroyers rolling through an Arab farm in Tunisia do some rubbernecking. The M-10's large guns are turned to the rear and cannot be seen. These destroyers are knocking out Rommel's tanks. (International)

Reds Report Successes On 3 Big Battlefronts

LONDON, Friday, April 2.—(P)—Russian troops have captured several more areas in the continuing drive to wipe out the bridgehead at Novorossik, have reduced another stronghold on the Smolensk front, and held firmly on their Donets river defense line, Moscow announced early today.

The midnight communique also reported that German troops had penetrated to the western outskirts of one populated place in the Sevsk area, 170 miles northwest of Nazi Kharkov, but said a Russian counterattack threw back the enemy and killed 200 Germans.

The Germans announced the capture of Sevsk, 80 miles below Bryansk, sometime ago.

The resumed Russian Caucasian drive presumably was in the area of captured Anastasevskaya, 33 miles north of Novorossik. The communique recorded by the Soviet monitor said five enemy guns, 19 machineguns, eight mortars, 13 supply-laden trucks and other booty had been captured yesterday.

Anastasevskaya, only 10 miles from a road junction connecting Novorossik on the Black Sea with Nazi forces holding the western tip of the Taman peninsula opposite the Crimea, fell to the Russians Wednesday. The Red army push there threatens to trap the enemy troops holding Novorossik.

Other Russian units operating in the Abinskaya area are only 20 miles northeast of the former Soviet Black Sea fleet base.

South of Bely on the central front, the Russians said, one of their units forced a German garrison into a hasty retreat after threatening to encircle it. The Germans nevertheless left 150 dead in their wake, the bulletin said.

Soviet artillery also supported an infantry operation which toppled another stronghold on the same front, and the communique said German officers taken prisoners reported that many formations of the 36th Nazi infantry division had lost 70 or 80 per cent of their men in recent fighting on the ex-haunting front where heavy rain and mud had hampered the Red army advance.

In the sector east of Axis-held Kharkov the Russians continued to hold their defense line along the upper Donets river. The communique said one German infantry company had been wiped out by Soviet mortar gunners and snipers during the day in this positional warfare where artillery duels are frequent.

A further suggestion that the Italians have accepted the fact that the war is coming home to them was contained in a Tass dispatch from Lausanne, Switzerland, broadcast by the Moscow radio.

The Tass report said transport and hospital ships and railway trains have been concentrated in southern Italian ports, indicating "that Italian authorities are preparing for mass evacuation of Axis troops from Tunisia." Emergency hospitals have been set up in Naples, the report added.

The Berlin radio, quoting the Transocean Rome correspondent in another broadcast, said withdrawal of Axis troops from the el Hamma and Gabes areas of Tunisia "was

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USAAF HAS HEAVY MONTH IN ENGLAND

March Was Eighth Air Force's Busiest Period In 8 Months

AT UNITED STATES EIGHTH AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, April 1.—(P)—March was the Eighth Air Force's busiest and most successful month in its eight months of bombing Europe with a record of more raids, the biggest weight of bombs dropped in any one raid, more targets hit and nearly twice as many enemy planes brought down.

The month's nine raids topped by one the total made last August, the busiest previous month. The March raids covered 15 targets, four of which — Amiens, Abbeville, Longueau and Poix — were bombed on the March 13 raid alone.

Flying Fortresses and Liberators dropped the U. S. Army Air Forces' record weight of bombs on the U-boat yards at Vegesack on March 18. The weight of the bombs dropped has not been specified, but during the raid 52 enemy planes were knocked down, which was four more than the total Axis losses in the 117 bomber raid on Lille on October 9, 1942.

During March Germany lost 112 fighter planes as against 75 losses last October which was the previous high month.

Nineteen American bombers were lost last month. This was one less than the total for the five raids conducted in February.

The operations during the last eight months have cost the U. S. Air Force nearly 1,000 men killed or missing. Over this period some 60 targets were bombed in 53 raids.

The March 8 raid on the Rennes railroad yards was called by transportation experts the best operation of its kind in the whole war.

The most pounded target last month was Rouen, railroad junction for the east-west lines feeding France, Holland and northern Germany which was attacked three times, bringing the total American assaults on it since the first fortress raid of August 28, 1942 to six.

The port of Rotterdam, with its big Wilton shipyards serving enemy surface craft, was hit twice in March. The U-boat bases at Brest and Lorient and the Wilhelmshaven naval base also were attacked last month.

The Allied Spitfire escort, which up to March had not been so effective, suddenly started clicking. It knocked the German fighter defense for a loop in three successive raids over France in a week.

The month brought a declaration (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 5)

PRISONERS TAKEN

New Reinforcements Reveal Only Few Days Presence In Africa

CAGLIARI IS SMASHED

Allies Ruin Big Axis Base On Sardinia To Forestall Evacuation

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, April 1.—(P)—The Axis is desperately flying fresh troops into Tunisia, it was disclosed today, and the Allies have thrown a mighty, overpowering aerial fleet into a campaign, to forestall such reinforcement, to wipe the enemy from Africa and to destroy his potential means of escape.

The presence of air-borne reinforcements for Marshal Erwin Rommel's hard-pressed troops was revealed with the capture of more than 700 Italians and German grenadiers during a renewed American push east of el Gueitar toward the coast. Some of the prisoners said they had been in Africa fewer than 10 days.

100 Flying Fortresses Hit Nearly 100 Flying Fortresses, the greatest force of the big four-motored bombers ever massed for a war operation, bashed the important Axis supply base at Cagliari on Sardinia yesterday. Seriously crippling its usefulness to the enemy, while swarms of other American and British planes turned Rommel's retreat up the eastern Tunisian coast into a nightmare of destruction.

Telling of the great blow at Cagliari, an American pilot said: "If there was anything we did not hit then it must have been buried." "I saw thousands of bombs bursting," said another. "They seemed to be exploding on every hit of the harbor."

Any hopes the Axis might have entertained of using Cagliari as the base for a "Dunkerque" evacuation of divisions now enclosed in a great Allied trap, apparently were wiped out by the concentrated assault of the Fortresses, which hit five merchant ships and 21 smaller craft, damaged or destroyed 71 enemy planes ground and in the air, and spread acres of fire across the city's port area. Not a Fortress or an escorting Lightning fighter was lost from the raid—adequate proof of the Allies' control of the air over North Africa and the Mediterranean.

The bulk of Rommel's forces trying to beat their way north for a junction with Col. Gen. Jürgen von Arnim's troops were reported today continuing their tortured retreat under a rain of bombs and bullets while a rear guard dug in about 24 miles north of Gabes on the coast; highway in an effort to fend off the pursuing British Eighth Army.

The new German line was said here to be about 12 miles north of newly-captured Oudref and well above the Gabes bottleneck. Eighth Army patrols were reported already engaging in preliminary skirmishes with this protective Axis force.

Although slowed down by thousands of mines strewn by the retreating enemy, armored American units of Lieut. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr. were reported pushing steadily eastward from El Gueitar pass for an imminent junction with Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's Eighth Army forces.

The British First Army in the north, aided by French troops, was (Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

WAR IS COMING HOME TO ITALY

Preparations For Military Rule In Country Bring Struggle Closer

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS The Berlin radio asserted last (Thursday) night that preparations for setting up military rule in Italy had "a decidedly favorable echo" among all citizens and said that Italians realize that "the whole of Italy now is a war zone."

The broadcast, quoting a Transocean correspondent in Rome, was recorded by the Associated Press. "Up to now," the report said, "there still were groups in Italy believing the war was being waged a long distance away from Italian soil."

Apparently referring to the steady Allied advances in Tunisia and the probability that Axis forces must soon withdraw from their last African stronghold, the broadcast declared that "this approach of war on Italy itself failed to bring about any panicky attitude among the Italian people."

The radio report pointed out that Italy's new military law, the text of which was disseminated through the country Wednesday, will place civilian groups, both men and women, "under military law the same as soldiers at the front."

One of the factors tending to induce the populace of Italy to accept the law, the broadcast said, was the report made by Aldo Vidusso, secretary of the Fascist party, that every city and town in Sicily has been converted into "a fort" against the threat of invasion from Tunisia.

A further suggestion that the Italians have accepted the fact that the war is coming home to them was contained in a Tass dispatch from Lausanne, Switzerland, broadcast by the Moscow radio.

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The Berlin radio, quoting the Transocean Rome correspondent in another broadcast, said withdrawal of Axis troops from the el Hamma and Gabes areas of Tunisia "was

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Highway Patrol Finds 72 Men Without Draft Registration Papers

State highway patrolmen operating a standard checking station for highway violations near Rocky Point last week discovered 72 men, either drivers or passengers in the vehicles halted in the course of the day, were not carrying their Selective Service registration cards and their notices of classification as is required by the Selective Service act, Sgt. J. R. Smith, head of the state highway patrol here, revealed Thursday.

He said the names of the 72 men were turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to be checked.

The act requires that all registrants under Selective Service carry the two cards with them at all times.

Local law enforcement officers said Thursday that the U. S. Attorney's office for the eastern district of North Carolina would prosecute future violators of the regulation if persistent abuses continue.

The majority of the 72 found without cards last week were employees of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company, patrolmen said.

Motorists Warned On Yellow Traffic Light During Fire

A flashing amber light on any city traffic signal is a sign to all motorists to pull over to the curb and stop to clear the street for fire Department trucks, Lieut. John Davis said Thursday in commenting that a number of motorists failed to heed the warning Thursday afternoon when the department answered an alarm in the 200 block of North Front street.

The alarm was turned in for a trash fire back of the People's Furniture store which damaged a corner of Hyman's warehouse slightly. The time of the fire was 6:05 p. m.

The department answered two other alarms, both occasioned by sparks on the roof, Thursday. The first was to the home of Annie Huggins at 414 Harnett and the second to the home of Willy Davis in Love's grove.

WEATHER

FORECAST North Carolina: No change in temperature. (EASTERN STANDARD TIME) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

2,454 Persons Placed In Employment Here Last Month By U. S. Job Service

By sending 2,454 persons to jobs during March, the local branch of the United States Employment Service marked up one of the best monthly placement records in its history, Felix A. Scroggs, manager of the office, announced Thursday.

Not since the days when Camp Davis construction activity accounted for heavy traffic at Employment Service headquarters here have so many persons found jobs through the local agency. March also represented the best placement month experienced by the service since Mr. Scroggs came to Wilmington in August, 1942 to assume management of the employment office.

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RAF Celebrates Its 25th Anniversary By Blasting Two West German Sectors

LONDON, April 1.—(P)—The RAF celebrated its 25th anniversary today by attacking two towns in western Germany where startled Germans stood gaping in the streets at swift British Mosquito bombers which dipped as low as 10 feet to plant their delayed-action explosives on industrial objectives.

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NOTICE!

If your carrier fails to leave your copy of the Wilmington Morning Star, Phone 2-3311 before 9:00 a. m. and one will be sent to you by special messenger.