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Wilmington Morning Star

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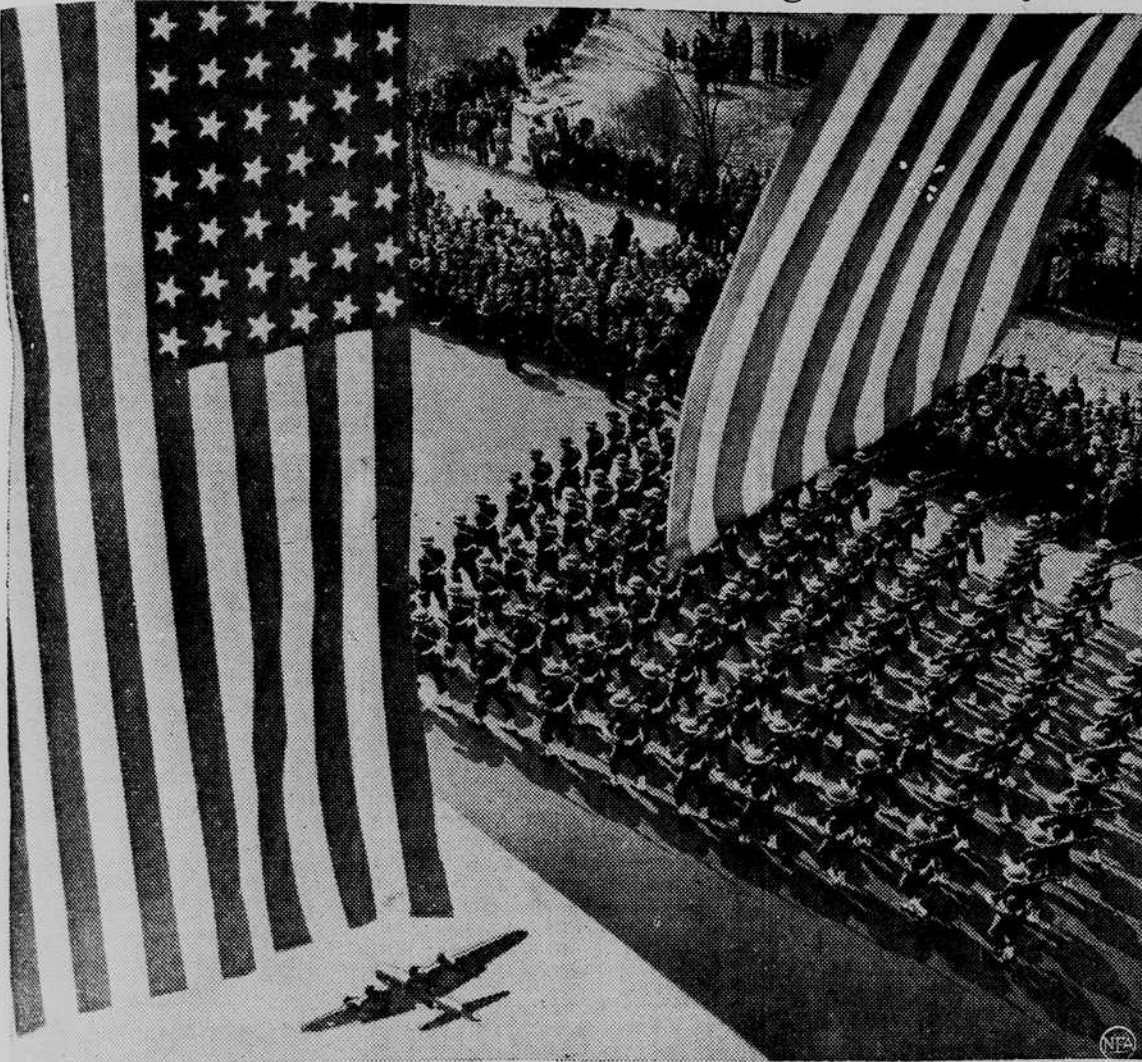
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ARMY DAY: They Fly And Fight For Flag And Country



To honor "the men of the United States Army who have carried the flag of the United States and the ideals which it represents to every part of the earth, and who with their brothers-in-arms from the nations united with us are offering their lives for the future of America and the world" President Roosevelt has proclaimed April 6 Army Day. Here with the flag under which they fight, are a Flying Fortress on a mission in Tunisia and a column of American troops on the march.

America Plunged Into First War Of Nations 26 Years Ago Today

Local Newspaper Of April 6, 1917, Devoted Much To War Stories

"American Nation Called to Arms" The headlines were deep across the front page of the "Wilmington Dispatch" Friday afternoon April 6, 1917—24 years ago, the day that Woodrow Wilson pledged the nation into the first World War.

"Now therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim, to all whom it may concern, that a state of war exists between the United States and the imperial German government," read the document of the president.

"War Act is Signed and Clarion Call Has Sounded," was the caption on the vivid Associated Press story that recounted the Congressional resolution to which Wilson affixed his presidential signature at 11 p. m., April 6, 1917.

Only two inches of space on the front page of that issue of the Wilmington Dispatch was devoted to news of a non-war flavor—"America Seizes All German Ships in Ports," "German Subs Now Lurking in Mexican Waters," "America's Lead to Be Followed by Other Nations" ran the black headlines.

Inside the paper was the story of Wilmington's first taste of the war—the seizing in the Cape Fear River of two German vessels, the "Kiel" and the "Necaria," by armed blue-jackets from the Coast Guard cutter, "Seminole." (Completely cut were the German captains, Lemke and Hollasch, the story ran. They rode off to the Marine hospital for treatment, in a carriage provided by Col. Walker Taylor; they were smoking fat cigars.)

The only hint of the affect of war on the state of North Carolina as a whole was the article from Goldsboro explaining that orders had been received to split up the Second Regiment and to send the men from it to guard duty to all parts of the state.

Bold on the editorial page was the caption "America is Now at War." The patriotic message ended with the assurance: "Today America stands united to beat Germany into the dust."

The bitter news that Wilmingtonians read over their supper tables

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WEATHER

FORECAST: North Carolina: Cooler Tuesday. (Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday. Temperature: 1:30 a. m., 54; 7:30 a. m., 53; 1:30 p. m., 63; 7:30 p. m., 62; Maximum 74; Minimum 49; Mean 62; Normal 59. Humidity: 1:30 a. m., 66; 7:30 a. m., 46; 1:30 p. m., 51; 7:30 p. m., 51. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches. Total since the first of the month, 0.89 inches. Tides For Today: Wilmington: High 11:03 a., Low 5:48 a. Moore's Inlet: High 11:23 p., Low 6:00 p. Moore's Inlet: High 9:52 a., Low 2:40 p. Moore's Inlet: High 9:09 p., Low 2:54 p. New Topsail Inlet: High 9:24 a., Low 2:50 p. All times Eastern Standard Time. Sunrise, 5:32 a. m.; Sunset, 6:36 p. m.; Moonset, 7:14 a. m.; Moonset, 8:33 p. m. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

FLYING FORTRESSES PULVERIZE SAMPLES WITH TONS OF DESTRUCTION; BIG BELGIAN PLANE PLANT SMASHED

KEEPING PROMISES

Americans Living Up To Eaker's Prediction To Match RAF Attacks

ANTWERP IS OBJECTIVE

Erla Repair Works Target Of Large Scale Raid By Big Bombers

LONDON, April 5.—(AP)—Living up to Major Gen. Ira C. Eaker's recent promise to match the RAF blow-for-blow in a withering aerial attack on Hitler's industrial Europe, a huge force of American Flying Fortresses and Liberators pounded the Erla airplane repair works near Antwerp in Belgium today to follow up a heavy British assault on Kiel, Germany, last night.

Today's attack by the high-flying, precious-bombing American ships was declared to have been carried out with "good results." A DNB dispatch broadcast by the Berlin radio said the raiders scored direct hits "on blocks of houses, which caused fires and destruction and severe losses among the civil population" of Antwerp.

RADIO STATIONS SILENT

Radio stations in Munich, Stuttgart, Koenigsberg, Luxembourg, Lausanne and Burgomunster, Switzerland, went off the air late tonight, indicating Allied bombers were over the continent again.

COUNTY APPROVES CAA RESOLUTION

Commissioners Pass Measure To Guarantee Use Of Airport After War

A resolution presented to the board by the Civil Aeronautics Association, acceptance of which guarantees county sanction of the development of Blueenthal airport for civilian use after the war, was approved by the New Hanover County Commission at its meeting Monday afternoon.

The agreement with CAA does not bind the county to any financial outlay or responsibility but will simply indicate county sponsorship of the project. Under the terms, citizens of New Hanover county will have equal rights, with the Army, for usage of the field when the war is over.

The former county airport was taken over by the United States Army for the duration, and has been considerably enlarged and improved for Army operation.

The huge, modern runways and buildings on the field were constructed under supervision of the Wilmington U. S. Engineers' district. CAA funds are allotted through the War Department for development of airports for civilian use, it was revealed at the county meeting.

Tunisian Stick-Up



Two Italian soldiers, hands upraised and one with a white flag, surrender to an officer of a Highland regiment. The photo was made when the British Eighth Army captured Gabes, Axis supply port in Tunisia after chasing Marshal Rommel's troops out of the Mareth Line. (NEA Radiophoto)

LARGE FIRES SEEN

Heavy Smoke From Raid Blacks Out Combustion Of Mt. Vesuvius

24 VESSELS CRIPPLED

Main Airport Of Vital Italian Port Left In Rubble Of Wrecked Craft

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA

April 5.—(AP)—Nearly 100 American Flying Fortresses loosed 200 tons of bombs on the southern Italian port of Naples Sunday setting fires whose billowing smoke blacked out the combustion of nearby Vesuvius and leaving the harbor littered with 24 crippled vessels and the main airport in a rubble of wrecked planes.

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's communique today told of this greatest destruction yet heaped on Naples, the Tunisian supply key. The assault overshadowed all the land fighting in Tunisia where the second American Army corps of Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., won a number of commanding hills near the Gabes-Gafsa road and pressed on to the east for an eventual junction with the strengthening British Eighth Army.

Americans Fight On

The Americans, 12 miles or more southeast of el Gueitar, fought on against strong German opposition and turned back a counterattack in which elite German troops tried to recapture the lost hills. Patton's command still was about 40 miles from the British Eighth Army, which was deployed against Axis positions along the Wadi el Akarit 20 miles north of Gabes.

GIRAUD-DE GAULLE PARLEY POSTPONED

Gen. Eisenhower Requests Delay Of Projected North African Meet

LONDON, April 5.—(AP)—The long-awaited North African meeting of Gen. Charles de Gaulle and Gen. Henri Giraud for the fusion of all French into fighting unity was postponed indefinitely today at the request of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in what some diplomatic observers interpreted as a master plan for an agreement closely timed to come between the Tunisian cleanup and the Allied invasion of Europe.

The Soviet forces, however, were reported to have repulsed both attacks, disabled four tanks and annihilating about a company of infantry.

On one sector of the narrowing German bridgehead in the north Caucasus, a Russian unit broke into a fortified Nazi zone in a swampy district and captured two lines of trenches.

A German infantry regiment counterattacked, but was repulsed with heavy losses, Moscow said, including hundreds of dead and wounded left on the battlefield and four guns, 3 machineguns and other war material captured.

On the western front Soviet fighters were reported to have raided a railway station in the enemy rear, putting the station out of commission and demolishing the tracks.

"The raid proved so unexpected that German anti-aircraft gunners opened haphazard fire after the (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

TEN JAP BASES HIT BY ALLIES

M'Arthur's Warplanes Hit Many Enemy Strongholds In Pacific

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA

Tuesday, April 6.—(AP)—Allied warplanes bombed ten Japanese strongholds Monday, including a three hour harrasing raid on Buka, General MacArthur reported today.

The far-flung attacks followed a three-day assault on enemy ships concentrations at Kavieng, New Ireland, during which 12 Japanese vessels, including seven warships of the cruiser or destroyer type, were sunk or damaged.

"Our medium bombers executed an extended night harrasing raid on the airfield and adjacent town areas," the communique said in (Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

Draft Head Declares Many Factors Affect Induction Of Fathers

WASHINGTON, April 5.—(AP)—Major General Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, expressed doubt today that the Army will soon call for the general drafting of men 38 or over and asserted he was unable to say precisely when it might become necessary to induct fathers.

So many factors are involved he told a press conference, that it is impossible to say definitely that drafting of fathers will begin July 1 or any other date. He previously had told a Congressional committee that induction of fathers might start about July 1.

Factors contributing to the uncertainty, he said, include the extent of calls for men by the armed service, the percentage of physical rejections and the number of men deferred as essential individuals in essential work.

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OPA Control Over Meat Sales Is Tightened By Setting Ceiling Prices For All Grades

WASHINGTON, April 5.—(AP)—OPA tightened its controls over meat today by setting retail cents-per-pound ceiling prices, effective April 15, for beef, veal, lamb and mutton, and forbidding stores to reduce point values of any rationed meats and fats without also cutting prices.

The two actions are designed, officials said, to eliminate confusion arising from store-by-store variations in ceilings, help stamp out black markets in meat, and guard against abuse of the privilege granted by reducing point values in order to sell perishable rationed items.

They predicted the new ceilings will mean "in most cases less than the prices which consumers have been paying recently."

Heretofore, ceilings on beef, veal, lamb and mutton for each store have been the highest prices it charged in March, 1942. Today's order divides the country into 12 regions and fixes uniform ceilings in each except that small independent stores are allowed to charge one to three cents a pound more for various cuts than are the bigger outlets. The higher prices may be charged only by stores which did no more than \$250,000 worth of business last year.

This price differential is intended to preserve the historical price relationship between smaller stores and the larger ones able to hold down unit costs by volume sales.

Since it is the usual practice to reduce prices when items must be sold quickly to avoid spoilage, OPA said, the regulation should work no hardship on retailers who, in good faith, avail themselves of the point-lowering privilege.

Altogether, 102 different cuts of beef, veal, lamb and mutton are covered by the price ceiling order. Price variations are set forth, too, for five grades of beef, four of lamb and three of mutton. These grades are the standard ones adopted by the Agriculture Department, and in common use in the packing industry. Retailers were directed not to remove grade markings from any meat, and must post in a prominent position a list of ceiling prices.

Work On Revised City Ordinances Progresses

Work on the recodification of the city ordinances, a project in progress for the past year, is advancing at a satisfactory rate, City Manager A. C. Nichols said Monday night.

The goal of the project is a printed and bound copy of all city ordinances as a reference for the police department, recorder's court, lawyers and citizens here.

The city manager, however, did not estimate when the laws would be ready for the printer.

Completion of the project has been delayed by the fact that the text of each separate ordinance is being reviewed by City Attorney W. B. Campbell, the city manager and other city officials prior to being passed for the new book.

It is also being delayed so that new ordinances, brought about by legislation adopted in the last general assembly, may be included.

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.