

Served By Leased Wire Of The ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS AND FEATURES With Complete Coverage Of State And National News

Wilmington Morning Star

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR AND BATAAN

VOL. 49.—NO. 132. WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 1943 FINAL EDITION ESTABLISHED 1867.

MEATS AVAILABLE IN CITY ONLY 41 PER CENT ENOUGH TO SUPPLY PUBLIC DEMAND

OPA MAKES CHECK

Survey Reveals Serious Shortage Of Food In Area At Present

SUGGESTIONS OFFERED Official Proffers Idea To Alleviate Critical Situation Here

Consumers in Wilmington are able to buy from their retail meat markets only 41 per cent of the amount of meat they seek to purchase, a survey made by the district OPA office revealed here Wednesday.

A cross-section of eight groceries was used, according to the OPA official, and the question asked them was: "What percentage of rationed meats are you receiving in relation to your customer demands?"

Prompted by Complaints

The survey was prompted by the action of local cafeterias and restaurants in declaring that lack of sufficient rationing points and lack of available meats and meat substitutes would enforce more frequent closings.

"If the rationing authorities were to increase the points to restaurants, it will simply mean that without meat unless there is an increase in the available supply," the OPA district office reported to the State OPA in Raleigh by letter.

"The restaurants are undertaking to serve meats on the same basis as they did before meat was rationed. At the present time, everybody is being served meat in the restaurants, while the housewife here is unable to find any meat in the market," the report continued.

According to the OPA spokesman, the survey of local markets "would seem to confirm the opinion that restaurants are receiving a greater proportion of meats than the average family eats at home."

In answering the query put to them by the OPA, dealers reported their ability to purchase only from 25 per cent to 50 per cent of the amount needed to fill customers' orders.

On beef and lamb, they declared

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

KISKA IS POUNDED

WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—American airmen pounding Kiska on a now-or-never schedule have stepped up the fury of their attacks to 15 raids in a single day, the Navy announced today.

The urgent need for telling results in the aerial offensive against the enemy outpost in the Aleutians was believed by informed persons here to result from evidence that the Japanese are about ready to finish converting the rocky island into an airbase of their own.

Not since the Japanese first moved into the western Aleutians last June have they been able to put into the air anything other than clumsy float-type planes for combat purposes. Employment of Kiska as a base for efficient land types, both to attack American bases and to oppose American raids on Kiska, would greatly complicate the problems facing the American air command in the North Pacific.

Health Officer Urges Proper Trash Disposal

The sanitation side of the Clean-Up campaign being conducted this week in Wilmington received the spotlight Wednesday from Dr. A. H. Elliot, city-county health officer, when he appealed to suburban and city residents to cooperate in the matter of garbage and trash disposal.

Dr. Elliot said: "We especially solicit your aid on the subjects of garbage and trash disposal and a careful removal from each individual yard and premises anything that will hold water and breed mosquitoes. Putting all garbage in metal containers with properly fitted covers and the removal

of all water containers will do endless good in keeping down flies and mosquitoes, and also rats and roaches. If we continue to feed them, they will be with us.

"I would like most sincerely to encourage the planting of Victory Gardens. This should be an interesting and profitable way of cleaning up yards and vacant lots. Attractive gardens will replace many eyesores, provide physical exercise, and will produce much wholesome food. (Most adults sadly neglect routine exercise. The great majority of us will feel much more physical-")

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

TAX COMPROMISE PLAN COLLAPSES

Friendly Efforts Of Parties On Move Falls Through For New Fight

WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—The friendly Democratic-Republican efforts to devise a compromise pay-as-you-go tax system collapsed completely tonight, with the two parties agreeing to take the issue on income tax abatement, including the Ruml skip-a-year plan, to the House floor for another finish fight.

Their truce broken, the two parties again aligned themselves at opposite poles on the amount of taxes that should be abated to achieve a current tax basis for the 44,000,000 income taxpayers.

Immediately after the breakdown of the bipartisan conference, Speaker Rayburn (D-Tex.), Democratic Leader McCormack, and the majority party members of the tax-framing Ways and Means committee conferred and announced the Democratic members would support a bill to tax 1942 income at 1941 rates and exemptions and including a withholding levy against the taxable portions of wages and salaries, to be effective July 1.

The Republican Ways and Means members also conferred and issued a statement announcing that a bill will be brought forward

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 6)

8 WOMEN HURT IN WRECK HERE

Passenger Car And Bus Collision Causes Injuries To Group

Eight women were injured late Wednesday afternoon in the collision of a Tide Water Power company passenger bus and an automobile at the intersection of Second and Castle streets, police headquarters revealed Wednesday night.

All of the eight women, as far as investigating officers could determine, were released from local hospitals after treatment for bruises and shock.

The bus, driven by Roy Roberts, of 209 Walnut street, was traveling west on Castle street when it collided with the automobile, driven by William G. C. King of 2308 Market street.

Police said the left front of the bus was damaged slightly while the right side of the car was damaged extensively.

Five passengers in the King car,

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

MOTHER IN CITY HIGHLY HONORED

Mrs. Walter Sprunt Chosen 'Mother Of The Year' By State Group

Mrs. Walter Sprunt, of this city, wife of a prominent cotton exporter, was named Wednesday as North Carolina's "Mother of the Year" by the North Carolina State Mothers' committee, sponsored by the Charlotte Observer, it was learned here Wednesday night.

Mrs. Sprunt's name will be placed before the Golden Rule American Mothers' committee in New York as North Carolina's nomination for the American Mother of 1943.

The North Carolina State Mothers' committee met in Charlotte Wednesday and at a four-hour session considered the numerous nominations.

F. E. Crawford of the Charlotte Observer wired the local woman: "Congratulations. We are pleased to tell you that the State Committee on American Mother of 1943 has selected you for the North Carolina mother."

Mrs. Sprunt is the mother of four sons and two daughters. Lieut. Walter Sprunt is the commander of a mine sweeper in the Atlantic; Lieut. Charles Worth Sprunt is a flight surgeon with a naval squadron in the Pacific; Hugh Sprunt is undergoing midshipman training at Columbia University for the Navy; David Sprunt is a ministerial student at Union Theological Seminary at Richmond, Va., and

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

Former Resident Wounded During Fight In Africa

Lieut. John A. Cary, 2216 Princess street road, of the United States Army Air Corps, has been reported by the adjutant general of the War Department as "wounded in action in North Africa," according to word received here by Mrs. Cary, Wednesday.

Lieut. Cary was said to have received his wound, the seriousness of which has not yet been disclosed, on April 6.

The Air Corps lieutenant, a West Point graduate, has been in foreign service since June.

He is said to have been "in the thick of the fighting," having been stationed in Gibraltar for some time. Lieut. Cary was a flight companion of Captain Hugh Williamson of this city, before Williamson's recent capture by Germans in Tunisia.

Formerly stationed at the air base here, he married Miss Mary Saunders, a Wilmington girl.

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

Shipyard Here Ranked 1st In Efficiency

Local Firm Ranks With Kaiser's Oregon Plant In National Honor

LOWEST IN SHIP COSTS

Nine Vessels Delivered In January At Expense Of \$607,827 Each

The Senate's Truman Investigative committee, in an extensive report on the shipping and shipbuilding situation, has named the North Carolina Shipbuilding company here as one of the two most efficient producers of Liberty ships in the nation, according to an Associated Press dispatch from Washington Wednesday night.

The other yard named was Henry J. Kaiser's Oregon Shipbuilding company.

Citing the yard here as the lowest in the country in dollar cost and second in man-hours per ship, the Truman report said the yard here delivered nine Liberty ships in January at an average cost of \$607,827 a ship, exclusive of materials furnished by the Maritime Commission (which amounted to \$700,000 a ship) and also exclusive of the contractor's fee. The average man-hours per ship were 450,807.

Officials of the shipbuilding company here, which delivered 10 Liberties from its nine ways with an average construction time of 37.3 days per ship in March, said the Truman report "spoke for itself."

They predicted that the yard here would equal or surpass the March record this month.

The North Carolina yard, a subsidiary of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock corporation, now files the Maritime Commission "M," the commission's equivalent to the Army-Navy "E," and six stars.

Each star is equivalent to the award of an additional "M."

The Liberty ship, the Truman report also revealed, is being redesigned into a "Victory" ship with more powerful engines, 50 per cent higher speed and greater cargo-carrying capacity.

The change, scheduled to be completed early next year, will not affect the yard here, officials pointed out, since the yard will be completely converted to C-2 ship production by that time.

The shipbuilding company has received contracts totalling 128 Liberties in the two years since it was established here.

The first Liberty, the Zebulon B. Vance, was launched on December 6, 1941, and the 88th Liberty, the Waigstall Avery, will be launched at noon today.

The Victory ship, intended to eventually replace the Liberty, will have a speed of 15 to 17 knots, depending on the type of fuel used, as compared to the Liberty's 11, the committee report said.

It said its increased speed would then make it more difficult for U-boats to attack successfully and quicker voyages would result in greater cargo-carrying efficiency.

WEATHER

FORECAST: North Carolina: Little change in temperature. (Eastern Standard Time) Meteorological data for 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday. Temperature: 1:30 a. m., 57; 2:30 a. m., 52; 1:30 p. m., 60; 7:30 p. m., 54. Maximum 64; Minimum 46; Mean 58; Normal 64. Humidity: 1:30 a. m., 57; 7:30 a. m., 56; 1:30 p. m., 62; 7:30 p. m., 76. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches. Total since the first of the month, 1.94 inches.

Table with 3 columns: Location, High, Low. Rows include Wilmington, Masonboro Inlet, Moore's Inlet, New Topsail Inlet.

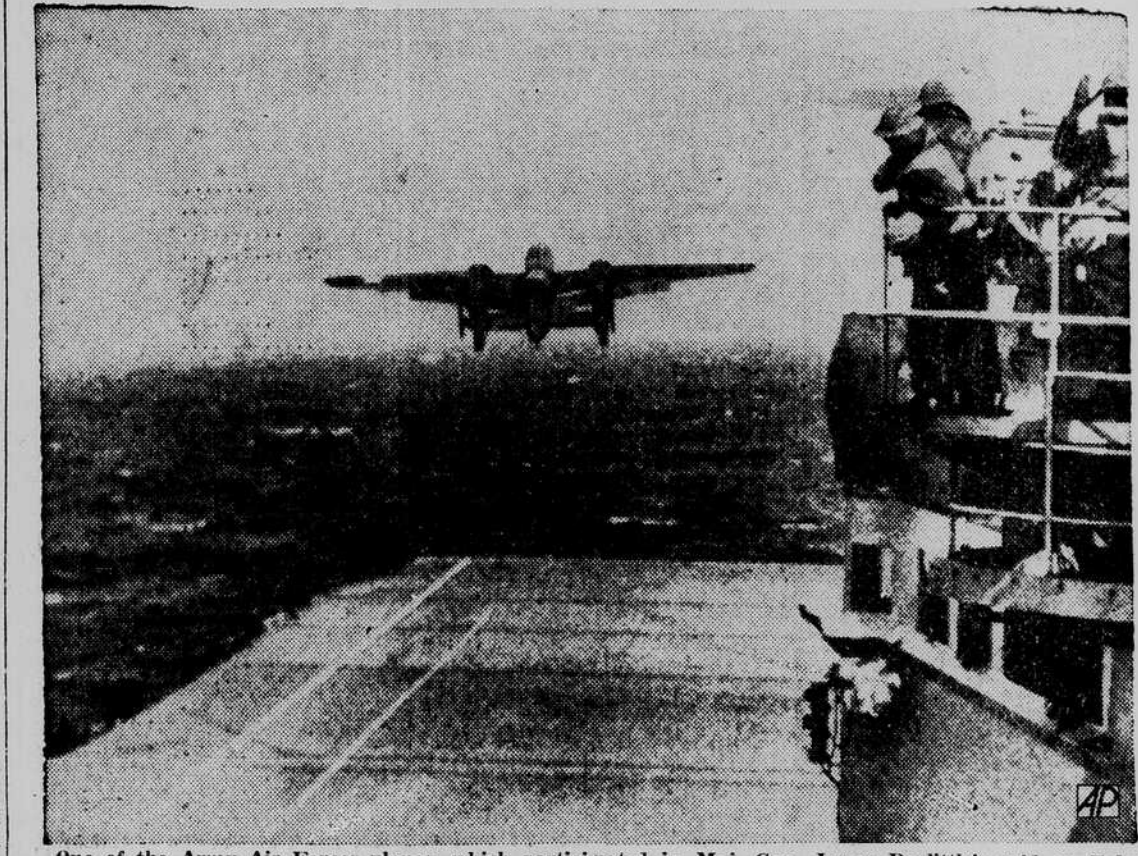
WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—General Henry H. Arnold pledged the Army Air Forces tonight to the utter destruction of Japan's "inhuman war lords" in vengeance for the execution of American fliers captured after last year's raid on Tokyo.

"We must not rest—we must redouble our efforts," the air forces commander said in a message to all his personnel a few hours after President Roosevelt disclosed the Japanese had acknowledged putting to death some of the eight Americans—they did not say how many—and were treating other fliers as criminals, denying them all rights as prisoners of war.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

27 MORE C-2 FREIGHTERS TO BE CONSTRUCTED HERE

Tokyo Raiders Take Off From "Shangri-La"



One of the Army Air Forces planes, which participated in Maj. Gen. James Doolittle's raid on Tokyo April 18, 1942, takes off from "Shangri-La," revealed the night of April 20, 1943, as the deck of the U. S. aircraft carrier Hornet. Members of the Hornet's crew watch as the plane rises from the deck and heads for Tokyo. (Associated Press Photo from U. S. Navy.)

Enfidaville Is Captured As British Smash Ahead

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, April 21.—(AP)—The British Eighth Army has captured the Axis coastal pivot of Enfidaville, has swung five miles northwest to storm the mountain citadel of Takrouna, and also has gained two miles in the Djebel Garci area farther inland amid "very severe fighting," it was reported tonight.

Striking along a 10-mile front after a tremendous artillery barrage, Eighth Army infantrymen armed with knives for close-quarter fighting, scaled the enemy's mountain positions at some points only 45 miles south of Tunis, while the British First Army gained slightly in the Medjez-el-Bab sector 35 miles west of the Tunisian capital.

(The Morocco radio—sometimes premature in its announcements—said tonight, in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, that the Djebel Garci, 10 miles inland from the coast, had been captured after a final 90-minute assault.)

Allied headquarters announced the capture of Enfidaville, 50 miles below Tunis, and said "all initial objectives" were captured yesterday after fierce fighting which began with Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's tremendous artillery barrage Monday night.

"Four enemy counterattacks have been repulsed," said the communiqué. "Fighting continues."

Field dispatches said Enfidaville fell without opposition after a British column raced around the city on its coastal side.

(Official Axis communiques had not conceded the loss of Enfidaville, but Capt. Ludwig Serlorius, Berlin radio commentator, appeared to be preparing the public for such an announcement. In a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press he said General Montgomery had concentrated huge numbers of reserves for an assault on the Axis anchor point, and that the battle for the city Wednesday afternoon still was going on although "with changing fortunes.")

(Serlorius again stressed the "gigantic masses" of Allied war material and said that Allied air superiority also made it "a rather unequal struggle.")

Sleet and snow storms closed over a large part of the Axis mountain strongholds in northeastern Tunisia

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

TOTAL NOW AT 87

Larger Cargo Vessels To Be Built As Soon As Present Work Ended

CONVERSION STARTED

Changing Of Yard Facilities To Accommodate Ships Is Underway

The North Carolina Shipbuilding company here has received contracts for 27 more C-2 cargo ships, the Maritime commission revealed last night in announcing the award of contracts for 469 merchant ships to yards over the nation.

Negotiation of contracts for 60 C-2 vessels, larger and faster than the Liberty ships which the yard here has built since its establishment, was revealed by the commission last month and the new award brings to 87 the number of C-2's for which the North Carolina company now holds contracts.

88th Ship Ready Now

The eighty-eighth Liberty ship will be launched by workers at the yards at noon today. The company, which launched its first Liberty on December 6, 1941, has contracts for 38 more of that type.

Complete conversion of the yard to C-2 construction is now underway and, officials of the company said, should be completed by late in the summer.

The yard's nine ways are being lengthened to facilitate construction of the 459 foot long C-2's. The yard's machine shop is being renovated and additional facilities are scheduled for installation in order to effect the changeover.

Propelled by steam turbines instead of reciprocal engines, the C-2 has speed of more than 14 knots in comparison to the Liberty's 11 knots. It has an overall length of 459 feet, three inches, a length of 435 feet between perpendiculars and a beam of 63 feet.

In making the announcement, the

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)

GAS ATTACK SEEN

LONDON, Thursday, April 22.—(AP)—The British government in an extraordinary announcement met such in that it had received reports that "Hitler is making preparations for using poison gas against the Russian front," and warned that such a development would find the British retaliating with the same weapon "upon German munitions centers, seaports and other military objectives throughout the whole expanse of Germany."

There was a sharp note of urgency both in the timing and method of the warning to Germany. Newspapers were summoned to the Ministry of Information after midnight where a statement issued from Prime Minister Churchill's residence at 10 Downing street was read to them.

The statement recalled Prime Minister Churchill's previous warning to Germany against any use of poison gas against Britain's ally, Russia and pointed out that "British resources and scale of delivery have greatly increased since last year" in case the Germans decide to employ gas.

The Air Ministry announced tonight that railway yards at Abbeville were bombed in one of the day sweeps that also hit objectives in other sections of France.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

BRITISH BOMBERS FIRE NAZI PORTS

Perfect Flying Weather Finds Big Planes Smashing At Germany

LONDON, April 21.—(AP)—Sweeping out in force in perfect flying weather, British bombers last night blasted manufacturing and other war installations in the Baltic ports of Stettin and Rostock, left Berlin alight with fires, and ranged widely over other sections of occupied Europe today in one of the war's biggest air assaults on German communications.

Simultaneously, a mass raid by Russian bombers on the east Prussian railway center of Tilsit last night started fires visible nearly 100 miles away, Moscow announced.

The broadcast said the fires merged into "one huge conflagration" at Tilsit, and that big explosions "were particularly numerous" near munitions dumps, among railroad installations and around the harbor and airfield.

All Soviet planes were said to have returned safely from the raid, the fifth big attack by the Russian forces on the northeast German area since long range bombing from the east was resumed April 10.

Thus in a single night, Allied bombers left widespread destruction in three essential points on the German supply line to the Russian front, both Rostock and Stettin being important links in that chain. In Rostock, the British also blasted factories producing Heinkel bombers.

Enemy bombers struck back at Britain tonight, losing high explosive and incendiary bombs on a northeast Scotland town. One bomb hit a tenant building and caused a number of deaths. A heavy barrage met the raiders as they flew in with machineguns blazing.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

Air Force Chief Pledges Full Destruction Of Jap War Lords In Revenge For Killings

WASHINGTON, April 21.—(AP)—General Henry H. Arnold pledged the Army Air Forces tonight to the utter destruction of Japan's "inhuman war lords" in vengeance for the execution of American fliers captured after last year's raid on Tokyo.

"We must not rest—we must redouble our efforts," the air forces commander said in a message to all his personnel a few hours after President Roosevelt disclosed the Japanese had acknowledged putting to death some of the eight Americans—they did not say how many—and were treating other fliers as criminals, denying them all rights as prisoners of war.

"Remember those comrades when you get a Zero in your sight—have their sacrifice before you when you line up your bombsight on a Japanese base.

"Let your answer to their treatment of your comrades be the destruction of the Japanese air force, their lines of communication, and the production centers which offer them opportunity to continue such atrocities."

President Roosevelt announced the American government has solemnly warned Tokyo that for this and any future "acts of criminal barbarity" just punishment will be administered to the responsible Japanese officials.

"This recourse by our enemies to frightfulness is barbarous," Mr. Roosevelt said in a statement to the American people. "The effort of the Japanese war lords to intimidate us will utterly fail. It will make the American people more determined than ever to blot out the shameless militarism of Japan."

Roosevelt And Camacho Finish Talks At Big Texas Air Station

CORPUS CHRISTI, Tex., April 21.—The presidents of the United States and Mexico said farewells today to their precedent-breaking conferences after President Avila Camacho had been welcomed at the vast Naval training center here and President Roosevelt had called the occasion "one of the great American historical meetings."

The president of Mexico and Mr. Roosevelt inspected the multitudinous activities at the busy training station, and saw a brilliant aerial display by a formation of Catalina patrol boats and a squadron of dive bombers. Finally they rode back to the railroad siding

and said their farewells in Mr. Roosevelt's private car. President Avila Camacho was repaying promptly a visit to Monterey, Mexico, yesterday by the American chief executive, which Mr. Roosevelt described as "one of the highlights in my life."

They ate with 250 cadet officers, and Mr. Roosevelt spoke briefly and informally after the meal, through a public address system that carried to all parts of the station.

"I am glad that the cadets are hearing what I have to say," he asserted, "because I want to tell you I regard this as one of the greatest American historical meetings."

"I think you will remember it just as long as you live, for we are receiving on American soil the president of one of our sister republics."

He said he was happy to greet Avila Camacho at the training center because a large number of Mexican cadets are receiving flying instruction there, along with others from other American nations.

"From the point of view of continental defense and unity of purpose," the President asserted, "this kind of military training means a wide and long step forward in the relations of this hemisphere."

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

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.