

SMITH CONTINUES TRIAL OF HIGGINS

Negro Charged With Transporting Liquor From South Carolina

The trial of John Otto Higgins, Wilmington Negro, charged with transporting whiskey was continued until Tuesday by Judge H. Winfield Smith in Saturday's session of Recorder's court.

Higgins was arrested for transporting whiskey by ABC Officers B. W. White and M. F. Cooke as the Negro stepped from a train at the Atlantic Coast Line railroad depot here Friday afternoon.

The officers said Higgins, whose address was listed as 614 North Ninth street, was carrying a case of bottled in bond whiskey, bearing South Carolina tax stamps, in his suitcase.

The trial of Lattimore Ballard, Negro, arraigned for receiving goods stolen from a cafe at 406 Nixon street owned by Dr. Roseman, Negro physician, was also continued.

Two persons were fined for speeding and one was acquitted on a similar charge.

For speeding 38 miles an hour in the business district with his truck, Lloyd G. Pope was fined \$25 and costs while N. H. Jackson received the same fine for speeding 39 miles an hour.

NEW INCOME TAX BILL IS OFFERED

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tax obligations on the basis of the lower rates and the higher personal exemptions of 1941.

3. Application of payments already made on 1942 taxes to the tax bill on income earned this year.

4. Provision that the payments of last years taxes may be spread over a three year period to lighten the load.

5. Discount of six per cent, however, for those who pay off their complete '42 obligation by March 15, 1944, and of two per cent for those who have paid in full by that date in 1945.

40 SOLONS FAVOR TRADE PACT SETUP

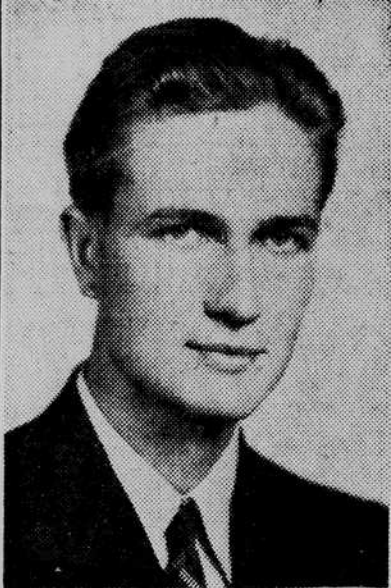
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then the administration must find nine votes among the uncommitted senators—17 democrats, republicans and a progressive.

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Missing



Alonzo George Ward, (above) electrician's mate first class, United States Navy, has been reported missing in action since March 24. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Ward of Bolton. Ward enlisted in the Navy through the Wilmington recruiting station in January, 1940, and has been on submarine duty since finishing a Navy service school early in 1940. He attended Bolton High school and Louisiana college for a year before enlisting.

WILDCAT STRIKE HITS TANK PLANT

Unauthorized Walkout Closes Detroit Arsenal For Almost Eight Hours

DETROIT, April 24.—An unauthorized strike in protest against discipline of a worker who left his machine to smoke, closed the Detroit tank arsenal of the Chrysler corporation for nearly eight hours today.

Production was resumed with the afternoon shift, and Leo LaMotte, director of the Chrysler division of the United Automobile Workers (CIO), termed the stoppage the "stupid action of a few irresponsible workers."

A Chrysler spokesman said one worker who left his machine yesterday and went out of the plant to smoke, against company regulations, was laid off and that tank assembly workers this morning demanded that he be reinstated immediately. When the company refused, the men stopped work, and the arsenal was closed.

In a telegram to UAW-CIO officials Robert W. Conder, Chrysler director of labor relations, said the workers' action "stopped production of tanks vitally needed by the armed forces" and that the production "lost because of this unpatriotic action cannot be regained."

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MILITARY PRESS STUDY IS URGED

Senator Ferguson Assails Barring Of Newspapermen From Food Parley

WASHINGTON, April 24.—(AP)—Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo) today urged a study of army and navy press conference methods, while Senator Ferguson (R-Mich) called the barring of the press from working sessions of the forthcoming international food conference "a direct blow by the administration against the bill of rights."

O'Mahoney, citing instances which he said showed a conflict of authority between the office of war information, headed by Elmer Davis, and other government agencies said he would propose Monday that the judiciary committee authorize members to attend press conferences held by heads of a number of government departments.

Among the conferences which should be studied, he said, are those of the army, navy, and office of coordinator of inter-American affairs, headed by Nelson A. Rockefeller. Last Wednesday the judiciary committee attended Davis' OWI conference. O'Mahoney said that session developed "a much better understanding" between Davis and the senators.

"The difference between the reporting of facts and the dissemination of opinion must be clearly marked out so the people, when they receive information from any government press relations bureau will know whether it falls into one or the other category," he said.

O'Mahoney listed some of the things he wanted to find out about the government's handling of publicity. These included: "The policies which govern the dissemination of facts and information by radio . . . the plugging of ideas of commercial programs . . . the procedure by which stories are written and cleared and by which radio scripts and campaigns are undertaken . . . the responsibility for decisions on the relationship between OWI and the coordinator of inter-American affairs in the dissemination of facts and opinions in Latin America by way of press releases, radio and motion picture films."

The Wyoming senator said he thinks the government has been doing "a particularly effective job in organizing the country for war" but feels the people are entitled to an even better job.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS WILL NOTE EASTER

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thronged London's holiday-crowded streets today for a day of sight-seeing on Easter eve.

Men stationed elsewhere in Britain, while awaiting the call to battle for the liberation of Europe, also will commemorate the day.

To the men already engaged against the enemy over France and Germany, Methodist Bishop Adna Wright Leonard of Washington, D. C., will deliver a morning sermon at an outdoor service at the Eighth Air force headquarters.

At one station hospital, Lieut. Col. William O'Connor, Catholic chaplain, will celebrate mass in a rock garden, using the same missal, vestments and chalice he had in France in World War I.

In an open field at a division headquarters, soldiers will bare their heads before a large altar banked with vines and Easter lilies. Chaplains James R. McAllister of Boynton, Va.; Maurice A. Kidder of Durham, N. H.; Charles A. Reed of Cleveland, Ohio; Asa Gardner of Baltimore, Md., and Robert H. Poole of Elizabethtown, N. C., will participate in the Protestant service. Chaplain John Griffey of Collingswood, N. J., will celebrate the Catholic mass and Chaplain Gerard Taggart of New Rochelle, N. Y., will preach.

Two English clergymen will assist in services at Cheltenham, where soldiers will join townspeople in worship at one of the city's parks. Chaplains John I. Rhea of Bristol, Tenn., and Edwin R. Carter of Richmond, Va., will deliver the sermon and benediction.

SERVICES IN MIDDLE EAST

CAIRO, April 24.—American soldiers in the Middle East will attend special Easter sunrise services in base and forward camps tomorrow.

Chaplain Francis J. Early of South Bend, Ind., will conduct Catholic services and Chaplain Sherwood S. Davis will preach at a Protestant service at the base depot near Cairo.

Many enlisted men, nurses and officers were given four-day leave from Egypt to visit Jerusalem. Several camps in Egypt are planning Easter parties. Red Cross clubs in Cairo and Alexandria are sponsoring Easter programs with special Easter menus.

U. S. MAKES NEW RAIDS IN SOLOMONS

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dive bombers and Corsairs bombed and strafed Japanese positions at Rekata bay, a sea plane base on Santa Isabel island.

All American planes returned from the various missions of Thursday and Friday, the communique said.

AMERICANS, FRENCH CLOSE ON BIZERTE

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only 28 miles from Tunis and the key to the Tunisian coastal plain. Long Stop hill, which has been fiercely defended by the Germans for months, guards a pass leading from Medjez-El-Bab to Tunis.

Gain Above Beja While one battle-tempered American unit fought its way toward Mateur, important traffic junction between Bizerte and Tunis, another force of Lieut.-Gen. George S. Patton Jr.'s Second army corps was reported to have hacked its way through stubborn enemy opposition for seven miles northeast of Beja and to the north of the Beja-Mateur road.

An announcement from Gen. Sir Harold Alexander's allied ground troop headquarters tonight praised the speed and secrecy with which Patton's American troops were transferred from the El Gueater sector in southern Tunisia to fall on the enemy in the north.

"This decision involved the moving of large numbers of troops and great quantities of stores and equipment along the whole length of the front, and senior British officers have the fullest admiration for the excellent staff work, particularly for the speed and secrecy with which the move was carried out," the announcement said. The discipline of United States troops also was praised.

Serious Threat While the Americans joined in what General Alexander termed the final phase of the campaign, the Italian army and their Italian allies in Tunisia, the veteran British First army seriously threatened the entire western side of the enemy's mountainous defense arc by gaining six to seven miles in the Goubellat-Bou Arada sector.

Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's prize British Eighth army, after having pounded out initial gains in the Enfidaville sector near the eastern anchor of the axis defenses, contented itself temporarily with vigorous patrol action while the British and Americans coming in from the west kept the enemy guessing as to where the next blow would fall.

Allied bombers and fighter planes made the record number of 1,500 sorties yesterday in support of their attacking ground forces, yet so feeble was axis opposition that only six planes were lost.

"American troops made successful attacks, capturing more than 100 prisoners," said a communique from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters. "In several areas advances of many miles were made in difficult hill country." Patton's men and armor attacked through the heavy brush covering the northern Tunisian mountain-sides at daylight yesterday.

Considerable Advance The communique said the British First army had made "a considerable advance on the whole front between Bou Arada and Medjez-El-Bab despite bitter and strong enemy counter-attacks, which cost the enemy heavily." North of Sebket El Kourzia armored fighting took place," the communique continued. "The enemy was forced to withdraw and a number of his tanks were destroyed."

Sebket El Kourzia is about nine miles northeast of Bou Arada and approximately the same distance southeast of Goubellat, reported taken by the British First army.

The American offensive was sprung from both the north and south sides of the Tabarcia-Mateur road. Units north of the road captured the Djebel Mrata and Djebel Ain Chouma hills and clung to them stubbornly despite costly attempts by the enemy to dislodge them with the support of artillery. South of the road other American forces captured Djebel Rmel, 13 miles northeast of Oued Zerga, a height which commands wide areas both to the east and west and is located in the strategic area flanking the road from Tebourba to Medjez-El-Bab. The Germans counter-attacked fiercely from noon until night without shaking the Americans loose.

Leave Bodies Many twisted bodies of axis troops were left lying on the forward slopes where the enemy had come under the withering fire of the Americans. The Nazis tried all the tricks in their bag in an effort to catch the Americans at a disadvantage, but they found that their tricks no longer worked and that they were up against some of the toughest competition in Africa.

The terrain over which Patton's men were attacking was even more difficult than that faced by the British Eighth army on the Enfidaville front. So far the Americans had made no frontal assaults on the Nazi bastions "green" and "bald" hills, which straddle the road to Mateur. They appeared to be bypassing or flanking these heavily fortified positions.

(The British admiralty announced that 10 more axis ships, including a cruiser, had been destroyed or damaged in attacks by British submarines against enemy supply lines in the Mediterranean. It was not observed whether the torpedoed cruiser sank.)

The strength and determination with which the Germans counter-attacked both here and on the First army's front proved that the enemy did not intend to give up a foot of ground without a stiff fight. His task of holding was made almost hopeless, though, by the terrible and continuous beating he was taking from the allied air force.

Long Stop hill, as it is known to the British, or Djebel Ahmera by its native name, was the strongest known German position between Medjez-El-Bab and Tunis. Dispatches from the front said British troops had captured Long Stop in armored fighting, but at headquarters here it was thought possible that some mopping-up remained to be done.

THREE ACQUITTED OF LYNCH CHARGES

Men Are Freed Following Trial In Federal Court At Hattiesburg

HATTIESBURG, Miss., April 24.—(AP)—A federal court jury freed three Jones county citizens here today of civil liberties charges in connection with the lynching of a Mississippi Negro, thus ending the first federal action taken against white men in a southern lynching in 40 years.

The jury of 12 men was given the case at 10:58 p. m. Friday and returned its verdict of acquittal at 9:14 a. m. today, just 14 minutes after court was convened.

Federal Judge Sidney C. Mize polled the jury and found the verdict was unanimous, acquitting the defendants, Luther Holder, Jones county deputy sheriff and jailer; Barney Jones and Allen Pryor.

"I am a happy man," said Holder and the others.

The three men were accused by the government of conspiring with an armed mob that broke into the Jones county jail at Laurel the night of Oct. 16, 1942, seized Howard Wash, the Negro, and lynched him.

Wash had been convicted a few hours earlier of murdering his wife earlier, Clint Welborn and was awaiting sentence to life imprisonment.

The charges, brought originally against five Jones countians, had been intended by the attorney general to be carried before the supreme court of the United States in a test of application of the civil liberties statute in a lynching case, but the verdict of acquittal apparently closed that avenue.

Secretary Perkins Says Absenteeism Controlled

WASHINGTON, April 24.—(AP)—Absenteeism, one of the bugaboos of U. S. war production, is being "successfully controlled," Labor Secretary Frances Perkins declared today.

"Willful absenteeism is almost negligible," she said as a nationwide survey has revealed.

"The survey shows that illness, accidents, transportation difficulties, poor housing, bad nutrition, lack of child care facilities and other problems which the individual worker alone cannot solve are responsible for most absenteeism," she asserted.

Poor production planning and material shortages are a "serious cause" of absenteeism, the secretary declared, adding that plants should pre-plan work as far as possible.

Hull Asks Continuance Of Trade Agreements

WASHINGTON, April 24.—(AP)—Secretary of State Hull called today for "clear cut continuance" of the reciprocal trade agreements act for three years, without amendment.

Apparently intended to settle any question of whether the State department might be willing to compromise the issue, Hull issued a formal statement saying there should be no amendment to the pending bill to extend the law, to make sure there is no doubt concerning this country's "steadfast determination to cooperate fully with like minded nations in peace as well as in war."

Hearings on the administration bill were ended by a house committee yesterday. The reciprocal trade program was started in 1934 and, by legislation, extended in 1937 and 1940.

HARMON ARRIVES AT FLORIDA FIELD

(Continued from Page One)

his final training before taking over his duties as a pilot for the Army's air transport command.

Harmon told of bailing out when the plane went out of control and started spinning down toward the jungle. Two of the occupants are known to be dead, and the other three are missing.

In an interview at the Dutch Guiana base to which he first was taken, he expressed hope that they would be able to fight their way to civilization. He said he found no trace of them near the wreckage of the plane, which fell near where he landed by parachute.

TO ATTEND CONVENTION

RALEIGH, April 24.—(AP)—Paroles Commissioner Hathaway Cross and Paroles Commissioner Harry Sample will leave tomorrow for Columbia, S. S., where they will attend the annual convention of the southeastern states probation and parole association. The convention will end Tuesday.

The British were reported to have destroyed 16 German tanks in the bloody fighting for the position.

The picturesque little village of Goubellat was declared to be in firm control of the British and the Germans to be cleared out of the Goubellat plain. British tanks were reported pushing on in an attempt to make a breakthrough that would open into the flat coastal plain leading to Tunis. The axis was in a precarious position there.

"BRIDE-ALES"

The old English custom of holding "bride-ales" gave us our modern word "bridal." Bride-ales were wedding festivals at which the bride served ale to the guests and received presents in return.

Two More Baltimore Welders Ordered Held For U. S. Grand Jury

BALTIMORE, April 24.—(AP)—Two more of the nine Baltimore shipyard welders arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on charges of doing improper welding in violation of the anti-sabotage statute, were held for federal grand jury action today by U. S. Commissioner James K. Cullen.

Neither of the defendants—Farrell Houston Smith, 29, a native of Catawba, N. C., and Leonard W. Lucas, a native of Greenwood county, S. C.—testified at long hearings, but defense attorneys in each case contended their clients were merely inexperienced and had no "subversive" intent in doing the reputedly faulty welding.

JEFFERS UPHOLDS RUBBER PROGRAM

Says Other Government Officials Could Well Copy His Methods Of Work

BATON ROUGE, La., April 24.—(AP)—Rubber Director William M. Jeffers said today that other government officials could well copy his methods of getting a job done instead of "sitting around desks and issuing orders and grousing."

Again strongly denying that his rubber production program had interfered with aviation gasoline output, as charged by Under-Secretary of War Robert Patterson, Jeffers contended his plans have been successfully pushed ahead in a manner which has actually spurred on other war production.

Touring rapidly-completed rubber facilities in the Baton Rouge area, termed by him the "cradle of the synthetic rubber industry," Jeffers indicated he would side-track other scheduled plant inspections elsewhere so as to appear in Washington next Wednesday before the Truman committee probing the war department charges.

"I'm not mad, really, I'm just an easy-going Irishman," he said in one breath, though in the next commenting "you know boys, this country would be better off, if some of us did more thinking and less talking." Aides accompanying Jeffers said he had reiterated feelings that his controversy with Patterson should end with the resignation of one or the other.

Jeffers went over with reporters a progress chart on a government butadiene plant, to show how his office had cooperated in getting vital equipment necessary to rush its completion. He said it was a typical instance of his office's "drive behind the job" toward accomplishment.

America's Ace Airman Wants To Visit Tokyo

WASHINGTON, April 24.—(AP)—America's ace pilot in this war, Marine Capt. Joe Foss who shot down 26 Japanese planes in the battle of Guadalcanal — wants to go back to the Pacific "to pay a short visit to Tokyo."

"When," said the one-time South Dakota farm lad who used to whet his marksmanship by shooting skunks, "maybe we could have a short talk about what happened" to the Doolittle pilots who fell into Japanese hands after the raid on Tokyo more than a year ago.

Foss met reporters today at a press conference and made no effort to hide his feelings over the execution of some of those fliers.

But the strapping pilot, whose record of enemy planes downed equals that of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker in the first world war, won't have his wish fulfilled at once. He is to make a tour of pre-flight schools and naval training stations around the country after a short leave at home.

Drawing a contrast to the fate of the Doolittle fliers, Foss said considerable treatment was shown Japanese prisoners, including pilots, in the Solomons.

Of his own exploits, which consisted in the ten weeks he spent on Guadalcanal of downing 20 zeros, four bombers and two reconnaissance planes and then surviving a crash into the sea, Foss said his biggest day was last October 25. He bagged two enemy craft in the morning and three in the afternoon.

Canes which were presented by Abraham Lincoln in 1863 are carried by New Mexico's Pueblo Indian governors as official badges of office.

one of them directly over Henderson field.

Describing American aerial tactics as "like a football team," Foss said the very essence of successful combat is teamwork.

"In my estimation a pilot who hasn't shot down a plane but who up there and protects his buddies rates higher than a pilot with a big score," he added to offset any impression that fliers are in a race to see who can ring up the biggest score of kills.

He said the Japanese fliers are excellent but have a flair for showmanship — they love nothing better than to put on a show. A few of rolls and loops in approximation, leaving a dogfight apparently, makes them very much.

As contrasted to American pilots "Use your own judgment and compare the score," he grinned. The Solomons score is five planes to one, in favor of the Americans.

SEIZE THEATER

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, April 24.—(AP)—An armed group of the Irish republican army seized a movie theater in the national section of the city tonight to conduct an Easter service for "men who died for Ireland" and to protest the presence of American troops in Ulster.

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'Tis Easter once again . . . and our voices are resonant with cheer. 'Tis Easter and we wish you happiness and join in your prayers for Victory! Our greetings, filled with war-winning hope, also express our determination to continue to fulfill whatever responsibilities come our way, in line with the nation's war effort.

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