

WAR LABOR BOARD CAUTIONS AGAINST INFLATION WAGES

FDR REVEALS PLAN President Discloses Search For Reorganization Of Economics CONGRESS TO DECIDE Regardless Of Idea Solons Will Have Final Word On Program

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—The War Labor Board solemnly cautioned labor today against seeking "inflationary wage increases" even as President Roosevelt disclosed that the Administration is endeavoring to reorganize the defense against inflation with a new price control and economic stabilization program.

While acknowledging that no ideas have been agreed upon yet, the president told a press-radio conference that whatever decision is reached, Congress will have the final word because — it will cost money.

Follows Labor Plea Mr. Roosevelt's announcement formula declares in general that labor asked him for a retail price rollback to September 15, 1942, levels or abandonment of the WLB's "little steel" formula. This formula declares in general that wage increases granted to compensate for higher living costs shall not total more than 15 per cent of wages paid on January 1, 1941.

The board announced today it has no intention of scrapping the little steel formula although "other divisions of the anti-inflation army may weaken."

About 170,000 Farmers Expected To Vote For Weed Referendum Today

RALEIGH, July 23.—(AP)—Dean I. O. Schaub of the N. C. State college extension service division, estimated today that 170,000 North Carolina growers, tenants and sharecroppers were eligible to vote in the referendum for flue-cured tobacco quotas tomorrow.

Lists of eligible voters have been compiled, Schaub said, and are in the hands of county AAA committees. He urged, however, that farmers who think they are eligible to vote, but have not been advised to that effect, go to the polls and cast their vote. The county and state AA committees will determine later if the vote is valid.

Secret ballots to be used in tomorrow's voting will determine (1) whether marketing quotas are approved for three years, (2) approved for one year only, and (3) are rejected for next years, crop.

Polls will open not later than 9 a. m., and close not later than 5 p. m., Schaub said. To become effective quotas must be approved by at least a two-third majority.

Quotas in effect on the 1943 crop were approved in 1940 for three years by 123, 863 farmers.

76 CASES SLATED FOR COURT TERM

Seven Murder Charges To Be Heard At One Week Session

Seventy-six cases, including seven murders, are on the docket for the one week criminal term of superior court which opens at 10 a. m. Monday with Judge John J. Burney of Wilmington, presiding.

However, because of the time involved in each, Solicitor Clifton L. Moore of Burgaw, is expected to have most of the murder trials carried over to the special criminal term which the solicitor has requested for August 16.

Monty On Va



Commander of the British forces in Sicily and hero of the North African campaign, Gen. Bernard L. Montgomery is shown during a brief vacation at his home in London. His forces are battling fierce opposition around Catania in eastern Sicily. (International)

RAF Bostons Assault Two Power Stations In Occupied Belgium

LONDON, July 23.—(AP)—Two power stations in Belgium were attacked today by RAF Bostons which dropped delayed-action bombs from a height of only 50 feet.

The Air Ministry news service quoted returning fliers as saying that all bombs "completely destroyed" the main buildings at one power station. The attack was carried out in ideal weather.

Enemy planes were reported over southwest England and Wales last night, marking their first appearance over Britain in a week, but a communique said no bombs were dropped.

RAF Typhoons, Mustangs, Spitfires and Hurricanes of the Fighter Command made day-light sweeps over occupied Europe today, attacking enemy transport.

Four Hurricane pilots reported they destroyed two locomotives and damaged three others and shot up barges and motor trucks, the Air Ministry news service said.

FLEET UNITS HIT ENEMY ON KISKA

Jap Positions Heavily Bombed; Return Fire Ineffectual

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—Pacific fleet task force which possibly included battleships heavily bombed Japanese positions on Kiska island yesterday, the Navy announced today. Enemy coast defense guns returned the fire but failed to damage any of the warships.

The shelling, seventh of a deadly series probably designed to soften up enemy defenses for the Battle of Kiska, followed by 24 hours an American bomber raid aimed at knocking out the newly completed air strip on the island. Numerous hits were scored on the runway and camp area, and several fires were started, a communique said.

Meanwhile, in the South Pacific, the Japanese for the second time in two days bombed the American base on Funafuti island in the Ellice group on Thursday. The second raid apparently was heavier than the first, in which only three bombers participated and which resulted in no damage or injuries to personnel.

In Thursday's attack two of the Japanese bombers were shot down and the Navy communique said that while damage to American installations has not been reported here there were some personnel casualties.

The strategy behind the Japanese air attack on Funafuti was a subject of no little speculation. Some persons here regarded it as the beginning of an enemy counter thrust directed at the center of the supply route between the Hawaiian islands and the Somons-Australian area. By such action the Japanese might hope to tie up American forces in a new battle zone and relieve the pressure on their positions in the Solomons is-

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Big Japanese Ship Sunk By Allied Planes

Latest Enemy Attempt To Run Supplies To Buin Is Frustrated

DESTROYER DAMAGED Fighter Planes Try Interception But Are Shot Into Sea

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Saturday, July 24.—(AP)—Allied bombers smashed a Japanese attempt to run supplies to their strong base at Buin on Bougainville island Thursday night, sinking a 9,000-ton enemy seaplane tender and damaging one of four escorting destroyers.

The seaplane tender, of the "Nisshin" class was sighted off the coast of Bougainville island just at dusk. Heavy torpedo and divebombers, protected by a strong force of fighters, sped to the attack and sent the tender to the ocean bottom. Japanese Zeros, in force, attempted to ward off the attack but they were driven away by our fighters. Five of the enemy planes were shot down. Three of ours are missing.

Planes Find Good Hunting Two-engined bombers and fighters found good hunting in heavy bombing and strafing along the coast of New Guinea and New Britain destroying 12 enemy barges between Hanish harbor, just east of Lae, and Cape Bushing, near the western tip of New Britain. At least 14 other barges were destroyed or seriously damaged.

Today's communique from General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters contained no information on the progress of American troops closing in on the Japanese airbase at Munda, New Guinea. It said merely that "divebombers attacked enemy gun positions in support of ground troops" in that area.

A surprise attack on enemy installations at Rekata bay on Santa Isabel island, northeast of New Georgia, was carried out by our fighters and bombers.

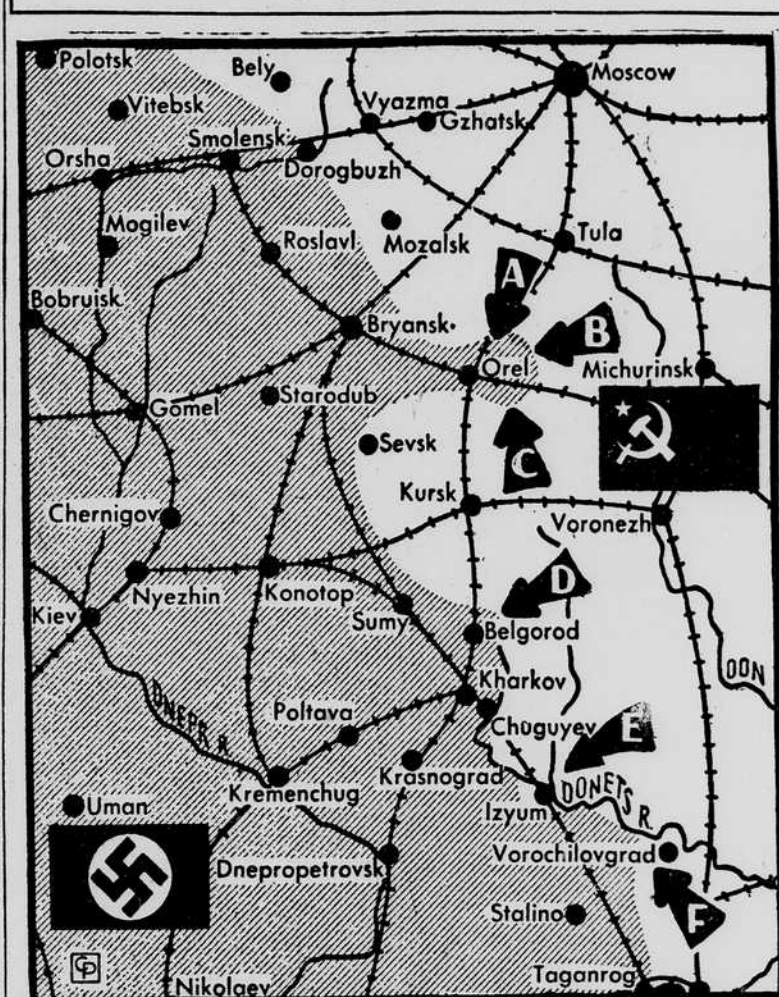
In Vella Gulf, between Kolombangara and Vella Lavella islands, Allied light surface units intercepted four Japanese barges attempting to run supplies to Kolombangara. Two of the barges were set afire.

A strong force of four-engined bombers, escorted by fighters, dropped 61 tons of bombs on Bogadjim, a village 20 miles south of the big Japanese base at Madang, New Guinea. Many direct hits were scored on buildings and installations and large fires resulted.

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AXIS ARMY REPORTED EVACUATING SICILY; U. S. SEIZES PALERMO

Reds May Trap Nazis At Orel



Russian troops have driven to within nine miles of Orel which Hitler had ordered held at any cost, capturing 39 towns northeast of the city (A). Another 50 localities were liberated east of the city (B) and advances were made in the south (C). New progress is reported at Belgorod (D). Red troops captured a fortified height which had changed hands four times near Izyum (E) and drove a wedge into German defenses southwest of Vorochilovgrad (F). More than 250,000 Nazis may be trapped at Orel. (International)

BERN GIVES STORY

Stockholm Newspaper Publishes Scant Tale Of Enemy Withdrawal

45,000 TROOPS TAKEN About Four-Fifths Of Resistance Seems Ended On Italian Isle

LONDON, Saturday, July 24.—(AP)—A Reuters Stockholm report said today that Axis forces had begun evacuating Sicily.

Reuters said the source of the report was a Bern, Switzerland, dispatch to the Svenska Dagbladet.

AMERICANS HIT HARD ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, July 23.—(AP)—An American armored column striking with deadly speed to the north coast has captured Palermo, capital of Sicily, to trap 45,000 or more Axis troops and apparently end Axis resistance in four-fifths of the island.

The U. S. Seventh Army tanks and cars which thundered into the sixth largest Italian city from three sides already had begun fanning out to mop up thousands of Axis troops.

The sledgehammer blow caused consternation among the surprised defenders and spread demoralization throughout the Axis camp.

Another Reverse Implicated (A Rome radio broadcast reported by NBC implied another Axis reverse on the eastern coast of Catania. "Our forces have re-adjusted their positions around Catania to the rear," said the broadcast referring to the area where crack German troops have put up a stubborn defense against the British Eighth Army.)

An official announcement today said the Americans had applied their modern tank and plane tactics to capture the big city, which is the political and cultural center of Sicily.

One armored column hooked into the Sicilian capital from the southwest, another hit it from the south and southeast, and a third cut northward to intercept enemy forces withdrawing from Palermo toward the east.

It's estimated that approximately three divisions, 45,000 men, now are cut off in western Sicily.

Repercussions of the lightning seizure came from all over Italy and the Balkans.

Madrid dispatches said Italians demonstrated in the streets of Rome, Venice, Milan, Turin, Florence and Trieste, shouting "peace."

Russian Forces Crash Across River At Orel

LONDON, Saturday, July 24.—(AP)—Russian forces crashed across a river directly east of Orel, killing 2,000 Germans massed on the west bank, and scored fresh gains of two to four miles on the north and south sides of the beleaguered German central front pivot, Moscow announced early today.

German broadcasts said 18 Soviet divisions had begun a powerful offensive south of Leningrad, but official Russian dispatches were silent on developments there.

The river crossing at Orel appeared to have put the Red army within eight miles of the city after a three-mile drive from Zolotarevo, the last village to fall in that area. Another Russian column was less than nine miles northeast of Orel.

Several more villages fell to the advancing Russians who knocked out scores of German tanks and killed thousands of enemy troops yesterday in fighting raging clear down to the Sea of Azov, said the midnight bulletin recorded by the Soviet monitor.

North of Orel the Russians beat down several fierce German counterattacks near Bolkhov, wiping out a regiment of enemy infantry. Bolkhov, keystone of a strong Nazi defense network 35 miles above Orel, fell to the Russians Thursday.

The Soviet drive on the north also was wheeling behind Orel, endangering the railway running northwest of Bryansk. One dispatch said Karachev, midway between the two cities on the railway, already was threatened.

A special communique said 92 German tanks were knocked out and 112 planes shot down during Thursday, and the midnight bulletin said that 5,400 enemy troops

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Catholic Publication Places Responsibility Of Rome Raid On Foe

BALTIMORE, July 23.—(AP)—The Catholic Review, official organ of the archdiocese of Baltimore and Washington, in an editorial today placed upon Mussolini entire responsibility for the bombing of Rome.

"Mussolini did contrive cunningly to place arsenals of destruction near the churches that we love, in the city which is home to all of us as Catholics," the editorial stated, continuing:

"We believe that the bombing of Rome was determined on in agony of spirit—not through the wish to bomb it but through the conviction it had to be done—done, with every effort to spare the sacred places.

"There has been some hypocrisy in some circles in the protests against the bombing of Rome, just as there has been protests from some hypocrites concerning the bombing of other cities and the destruction of churches in other lands. Hitler, who has tried to drive Christ from Germany and other lands, has raised a cry of protest against churches destroyed in Germany though his men wrecked churches, in England, in Poland, in Holland, in other invaded countries. He is the same Hitler who, with his atheistic destructionists has lamented the crumbling of churches."

COUNTY SALARIES TOTAL \$41,843.58

New Hanover Auditor Releases Figures On Wage Expenditures

A total of \$41,843.58 was expended by New Hanover county during the past fiscal year for salaries in offices of the register of deeds, clerk of court, sheriff, and constable, J. A. Orrell, auditor, said Friday.

A breakdown shows that \$523.92 was spent for constable service; \$11,680.50 for the register of deeds' office; \$10,683.40 for clerk of court; and \$18,955.76 for the sheriff's office. A total of \$25,666.57 in fees was collected by these branches to be applied to expenses.

Mr. Orrell also reported that the officers' relief pension fund netted \$6,182.66, and that \$2,341.48 was disbursed by the fund.

Walter Lippmann Says: Next President Faces Tremendous Obligation

By WALTER LIPPMANN

Any man who is fit to be president in 1945 must, when his name is mentioned today, feel very humble indeed. For he will have the responsibility of making certain that our dead shall not have died in vain. That will be his task. The man who can hope to be equal to it will look upon it not as a dazzling ambition, but as a stern and awful duty.

He will have to comfort the stricken, bind up the wounds of war, show millions upon millions the way back to private peace and personal security and redeem with honest measures the hopes they have paid for with their sweat, their blood and their tears. Much will be asked, much will be expected, of the next president of the United States. The citizen, then, must shudder when he sees the hack politicians who talk as if they were calculating the odds on a horse race which they hope their favorite will win because the other horse, breaks his leg.

There is a wide gulf opening up between the professional hacks and the people who fight, who work, who wait anxiously for their sons and their husbands. The people watch these hacks arguing about who can win the election. The people, the great mass of them, find life much too serious to give a tinkler's damn about party politics. They are concerned about who can govern the country. These are times that try men's souls, and the actions which will have to be decided upon in the years beginning in 1945 will

shape the destiny of the nation and of the world for generations to come. To reduce all this to the dimensions of a contest in a political precinct is vulgar trifling with the lives and the fortunes of the people.

That is why so much hangs upon the movement within the Republican party to make it a party which is fit to govern. It is possible that the Republican party might win the election not on its own merits, but by the default of the Democrats. War brings hardships, and hardships make grievances, and demagogues can exploit them. But if the Republican party is led by men who want to win that kind of election, then the result will be another Harding administration. As this war is an immensely greater war than the last, involving the whole life of our people more profoundly, so will the scandal and disaster be greater too.

And even if, as seems likely, our people remember 1920 and are forewarned against it, the fact that the Republican party conducted a campaign at the Harding level would drag everything else down to that level. Fire will be fought with fire. When claptrap is the order of the day, it will be met with buncombe — nonsense with nonsense, trickery with trickery. And no matter who emerges the winner from the orgy of bombast and bamboozlement, the nation will surely be the loser.

Moreover, the party which comes into power in such an election

GERMANS OFFER SICILIAN ALIBI

Axis Reports Losses But Endeavors To Make Adequate Excuse

LONDON, July 23.—(AP)—The Axis reported today the triple loss of Palermo, Marsala and Trapani, but sought to mask defeat by presenting movements of their forces as planned concentration in the northeastern part of Sicily.

Capt. Ludwig Sertorius, German military commentator, said in a broadcast over the German overseas radio, recorded by the British Ministry of Information, that the "systematic evacuation" of western Sicily was "according to plan" and that Allied moves attempting to hamper the Axis "disengagement" action and to trap large forces have been "successfully repelled."

Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels in his weekly article in Das Reich, blamed "acts of God" for recent Axis reversals, but at the same time endeavored to assure the German people that

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WEATHER FORECAST NORTH CAROLINA: Moderate temperature today. (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

Lewis Recognizes WLB And Agrees To Meeting

WASHINGTON, July 23.—(AP)—Ending, at least temporarily, a long and bitter feud, John L. Lewis formally recognized the War Labor Board today and agreed to a contract which, he hopes, will be a model for settlement of the entire labor controversy.

Lewis' written offer to come before the board, which the president of the United Mine Workers previously has scorned, apparently removed one of the major obstacles toward settlement of the dispute by getting both sides to sit down to discuss the situation.

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.

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