

North Carolina: Fair and continued cool Thursday and Thursday night. Friday increasing cloudiness and slightly warmer, followed by rain in west portions Friday night.

Subsidy Foes Win Victory In The Senate

REJECT PROPOSAL Vote Comes At End Of First Day Of Debate ON Bill

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Foes of consumer food subsidies won a major preliminary victory over the administration today when the Senate turned down, 49 to 26, a proposal to permit the spending of \$1,500,000,000 on such subsidies in 1944.

The proposal was made by Senator Maloney (D-Conn.) in the form of an amendment to the pending bill by Senator Bankhead (D-Ala.) which would kill the subsidies.

The subsidy payments, without specific Congressional authority, now are costing about \$1,000,000,000 a year. Administration leaders backed the Maloney proposal, designed to put a \$1,500,000,000 ceiling on the expenditures.

The vote came at the end of the first day of debate on the revived issue which produced a charge from Senator George (D-Ga.) that the subsidy program constituted "politics of the rawest kind" and a prediction from Maloney that without the payments there will be "a hue and cry or wage increases the like of which we have never seen."

George elaborated on an "inflation" protest already raised by Bankhead, and told the Senate that the whole plan was basically one of labor appeasement at the expense of the farmer.

The entire administration argument, George said, is "sheer nonsense."

To continue the subsidy system, he declared, would "amount to appeasement because we are repeatedly warned that if we break the law labor is going to demand constant increases in wages."

"Senators may vote appeasement if they want—but the moment you do you open the floodgates for inflation."

Administration backers have insisted that inflation will result if Congress kills the program of paying subsidies to farmers and processors to hold down prices to consumers. The Bankhead bill would call a halt to the payments June 30.

Before the vote Senator Taft (R-O.) suggested a compromise, saying the Maloney limitation was "too high" but favoring limited subsidies.

"Here is a bald proposition to (Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

Soldier's Body Found In Hotel

CHARLOTTE, Feb. 9.—(AP)—A soldier tentatively identified as Pvt. Lee M. Riley of Blunenthal Field, near Wilmington, was found strangled to death in a hotel room here today.

Twisted tightly around the neck was the sleeve of a sweatshirt. The body, sprawled on a bed, was nude.

Police Chief Walter F. Anderson, said the tentative identification was obtained from the hotel register, which indicated the soldier checked in about midnight Monday.

Anderson said strangulation was the cause of death. He said there were indications of a struggling in the room.

Drive To Simplify U. S. Tax Structure Underway

Both Sides Of Capitol Work On Plan In Effort To Help Nation's Taxpayers

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—A drive toward simplification of the Federal income tax structure got under way on both sides of the Capitol today, but there appeared little likelihood of action in time to help 50,000,000 taxpayers with the 1943 final returns they must file by March 15.

The fast-moving developments included: 1. Chairman George (D-Ga.) of the Senate Finance Committee proposed that Senate and House committees work together to hasten the processes of simplification.

2. Republican members of the tax-framing House Ways and Means Committee aligned themselves behind a streamline measure by Representative Carlson (R-Kas.).

3. Representative Knutson (R-Minn.), Ways and Means Republican leader, is proposing a bill to make income tax returns easier to assist congressmen in their efforts to assist taxpayers.

Virtually all the planning for simplification pointed toward getting the job done before March 15, 1945.

The Internal Revenue Bureau gave a cold shoulder to a proposal by Representative Robertson (D-Va.) that small taxpayers file with the government only essential information as to their 1943 income.

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 3)

Interior France Battered By U. S. Bombers

LONDON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The steady bomb barrage along the French "invasion coast" lifted suddenly today and arched 100 miles inland with more than 200 U. S. Medium Marauders striking heavily at railroad yards and repair shops at Tergnier.

All the bombers returned safely. The daring attack was the Marauders' deepest penetration of the European war, and apparently a great surprise to the Germans who had been allowing Allied planes to pound the coastal area with virtually no opposition in the last few weeks.

It was executed simultaneously with blows by other Marauders against the Pas-de-Calais area, and by British Mitchels, Bostons, Mosquitos, Hurricanes and Typhoons which carried out missions against other targets in northern France without loss.

The Marauders now have made more than 580 sorties over enemy territory without loss since dawn yesterday.

The operations against the Atlantic wall continued throughout the day until weather forced suspension, but not until the RAF had made 750 sorties across the channel using six types of aircraft. One British plane was reported missing against two enemy planes destroyed.

The Germans' surprise was evidenced by the fact that the hundreds of planes returned without a single encounter with enemy fighters.

"All our bombs dropped into the yards (at Tergnier) which looked like a pin-cushion spiked with bright pins," said Lt. Theodore J. Ziembra, bombardier of Cranford, N. J.

"The bombs crashed in the center of the freight yards, ripped up a large section, and blew a number of freight cars sky high," added Lt. Joseph C. Dick, Akron, Ohio, a bombardier.

The new daylight raids followed (Continued on Page Five; Col. 2)

Search For Amelia Earhart In Pacific Proposed By Solon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Rep. Heffernan (D-NY) proposed today the Army and Navy search for possible evidence that Amelia Earhart landed in the Marshall Islands on her round-the-world flight in 1937 and that her fate had been concealed by the Japanese.

The famed American aviatrix was lost on a flight from Lae, New Guinea, to Howland island, 2,356 miles distant and on an airline route south of the Marshalls.

Heffernan wrote Secretary Stimson and Navy Secretary Knox that Miss Earhart may have flown over the Marshalls, have seen the Japanese "illegal operations," and then have been forced or shot down.

New Attack On Little Steel Formula Launched By Labor Members Of WLB

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—A new attack on the administration's wage stabilization policies was launched today by the four AFL members of the War Labor Board who declared the time has come to junk the "Little Steel" formula for a new, "realistic figure based upon the actual cost of living."

The demand coincided with the start of Senate debate on proposals to outlaw use of subsidies to hold down consumer food prices. It was based on the contention that price control has fallen so far short of goals that "the only recourse left to workers is to obtain wage rate increases."

The "Little Steel" formula, so named from its first application in a steel wage case, limits general wage increases to 15 percent above the level of January, 1941. The WLB adopted it originally in the summer, 1941, on its own initiative and on the grounds that the rise in living costs between January 1941 and May 1942 amounted to 15 per cent.

Since then, however, the formula has been incorporated in wage stabilization orders from President Roosevelt.

The craft union members—George Meany, Matthew Woll, Robert Watt and James Brownlow—petitioned the board to request that the President modify his order.

They said the government's own statistics on the cost of living are sufficient to warrant ditching the formula—citing that the Bureau of Labor Statistics' index stands today at 123.4 percent of the January, 1941, level.

Actually, they argued, living costs have risen far more than this index indicates, and they pointed to an AFL-Congress Industrial Organizations study released last week.

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

Americans Open Full Strength Drive On Cassino Bottleneck; Reds 8 Miles From Krivoi Rog

U. S. Bombing Of Maloelap Atoll In The Marshalls



Flames leap and smoke belches as bombs from a low-flying Mitchell medium bomber of the 7th Army Air Force find their mark during a raid on Japanese coastal defenses at Maloelap Atoll in the Marshall Islands. The raid on this atoll, southwest of Kwajalein, took place late in January. This picture has just been released by the Army. (7th Air Force photo from NEA Telephoto)

Reds Threaten Key Ore Center

LONDON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The Red Army, forcing battered German forces from at least 57 more communities along the Nazis' crumbling front in the southern Ukraine, closed in hard upon the important iron ore center of Krivoi Rog today with a swift 14-mile stab from the southeast which carried it to within eight miles of the city.

Other Russian forces drew closer their ring around ten German divisions encircled in the Lower Dnieper area near Shpolia and pursued beaten Nazi forces through eight populated places in the mud flats and swamps near Nikopol.

Far to the north the railroad center of Lugva, on the Leningrad-Pskov-Warsaw line, was under attack as the Russians swept up 30 more towns and hamlets and reached Bolshoye-Zamoche, 13 miles northeast of Lugva.

In the Ukraine Russian forces were moving up from Apostolovo, captured Monday, toward Krivoi Rog, taking the town of Radushnoye, 14 miles to the northwest, in a drive that took 40 populated places.

In the Nikopol area eight more towns were captured and in the Zvenigorodka-Shpolia area where the Germans were surrounded nine more Gorodische, 18 miles north of Shpolia.

The Germans for several months have been able to keep the Russians at least five miles from their last railway supplying Krivoi Rog, a line running to the northwest through the junction of Dolinova, but with the new breakthroughs of the past week in the Nikopol area and with the general deterioration of the German southern position, that thin thread of supply seemed doomed.

The Russians also were sweeping westward south of Krivoi Rog. (Continued on Page Five; Col. 4)

Child Recovered Following Cavein

PITTSSTON, Pa., Feb. 9.—(AP)—The body of two-year old Julie Ann Fulmer, who was swallowed up by the earth in a mine subsidence yesterday afternoon, was recovered at 7:25 tonight.

The spot where the body was found had been by-passed by a huge gasoline shovel which replaced miners who had removed tons of dirt, bucket by bucket.

As the arm of the shovel swung down for another load, it struck the side of the excavation. Loose earth trickled down and the child's arm and leg became visible.

Men reentered the pit and carefully freed the body, which was borne to the surface by Mine Inspector Andrew Wilson of Hazleton, Pa.

Doctors at the scene said the child apparently had died of suffocation.

Betts Is Named Gas Coordinator

RALEIGH, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Governor Broughton today appointed W. Z. Betts, director of the division of purchase and contract, as State Petroleum Coordinator.

Betts will deal only with the matter of availability and distribution of gasoline in those sections of the state which from time to time experience shortages, the governor said. He will not deal with individual cases, the governor added, but only with situations which affect the various areas in the state. The work will be in addition to the regular duties of the department of which he is director, the governor said, and Betts will receive no additional compensation.

Betts already has been handling many phases of the gasoline problem, as affecting availability of gasoline for school buses and other state equipment and facilities.

He will confer within the next few days with federal authorities in the state representing the Office of Defense Transportation and the Petroleum Administration for War, the governor said, and will keep in close touch with these agencies throughout the period of emergency.

Earlier today Governor Broughton asked PAV to make available an additional allotment of gasoline for the Vance, Warren and Franklin areas to relieve an acute shortage.

Mining, lumbering, pulpwood and farming work in the three-county area has caused a serious drain on available gasoline supplies, the governor said.

Residents Urged To Match Patriotism Of Serviceman

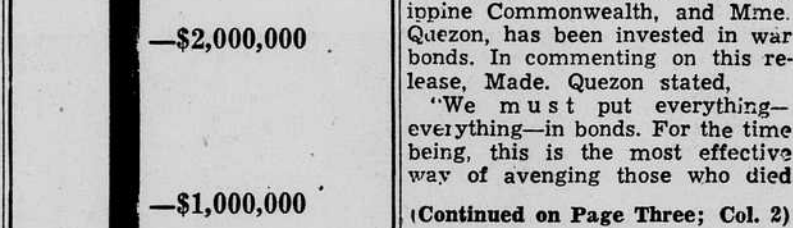
At the same time that local officials in the Fourth War Loan drive are making a desperate last-minute appeal to residents of New Hanover County to increase their bond purchases because the figures at present indicate that only about \$10 per person in the county has been invested in bonds, when individual purchases of \$50 are demanded, the Treasury department revealed that two citizens, one of whom is a soldier fighting overseas, are making tremendous investments in bonds every month.

Can you match the patriotism of Corporal Max I. Baker, of Camerton, Indiana, present address unknown, who returns all of his pay to the United States Treasury?

How does your record in the bond drive compare with that of Richard B. Dulle of Palo Alto, California, who has notified Secretary Morgenthau that he wishes to relinquish all claim to \$1,600 worth of War Bonds already purchased?

Treasury Department officials have also revealed that every cent of the personal savings of Manuel L. Queen, President of the Philippine Commonwealth, and Mr. Quexon, has been invested in war bonds. In commenting on this release, Made. Quexon stated: "We must put everything—everything—in bonds. For the time being, this is the most effective way of avenging those who died (Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

County War BOND GOAL \$4,859,000



'Ghost' Carrier Very Much Alive

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—She's a ghost ship on Nazi records, but the aircraft carrier Ranger is very much alive and a continual threat to German shipping.

Ten months ago Hitler boastfully reported the Ranger sunk by torpedoes and announced decoration of Lieutenant Otto Von Bulow for the exploit.

Today the Navy made the decoration look a little ridiculous by releasing an account of the Ranger's war exploits since then.

Six months after she was "sunk" the Ranger daringly struck into enemy waters off Norway, the Navy reported.

When the planes returned, more than 40,000 tons of Nazi shipping including four merchantmen and a tanker lay on the bottom, blasted by better than 30,000 pounds of bombs. Two enemy planes had been shot down. The Ranger had not been damaged; only three of her planes had been lost.

"It was a very fine attack, and many German troops were (Continued on Page Five; Col. 2)

Prospective Owner Of Tide Water Stock Has No Plans Now, He Says

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Warren W. Bell, former vice president of Northeastern Water Company, Jersey City, N. J., and prospective owner of the common stock of Tide Water Power Company, Wilmington, N. C., told the Securities and Exchange Commission today that he has no definite plans for the latter company at present.

Since taking over an office in the Tide Water Building two weeks ago, Bell said, he has been "studying the affairs of Tide Water" and that he "hasn't planned on any associates."

Bell has contracted with General Gas and Electric Corporation to buy the Tide Water common stock for \$55,000 subject to the commission's approval.

Questioned by Sec Counsel David I. Bursten, Bell outlined the capitalization of the Tide Water preferred stock, acquired from Northeastern.

Marshall Isles Being Pounded

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Feb. 9.—(AP)—New and secret blows against Japan's remaining holds in the Marshall Islands are being struck by the United States air and naval forces which hit the defenses of Kwajalein atoll so hard that it virtually fell of its own weight into the lap of ground troops.

Because Japan's communications with its isolated garrisons in the Marshalls probably have been disrupted, the Navy adopted a policy of not identifying the targets of bombs and shells.

In the newest air and ship attacks, announced last night, only one atoll was named, Jaluit, at the southern end of the Archipelago. Several enemy boats were sunk in the raid there last Sunday. Jaluit already had been attacked 16 times this year.

Other atolls under attack may have included those that have been bombed most frequently—Wotje, Mill and Maloelap.

One of the objectives of the Seventh Army Air Force bombers in the latest raids was the "pet fighter field" of the Japanese, reported Paul Beam, Associated Press War correspondent. He was aboard a dive bomber that blasted the runway. Not a single burst of heavy anti-aircraft fire was encountered. (Beam may have referred to the enemy airfield on Tarao islet of the Maloelap atoll. In the pre-invasion raids on the Marshalls, that atoll was the center of greatest enemy air resistance. Virtually every raid there brought up a (Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

Allied Ship Losses At The Lowest Ebb Of The Entire War

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The Allies destroyed more German submarines in January than in December, a joint Anglo-American statement said tonight, while merchant ship tonnage sunk by enemy U-boats was "among the lowest monthly figures for the whole war."

The statement, issued under the authority of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, said the higher toll of Nazi undersea craft was expected despite diminishing opportunities to attack them.

It advised that German claims of sinking Allied ships should be ignored "they are grossly exaggerated" and issued for propaganda purposes.

The Finnish foreign office today denied that the Finnish legation in Washington had issued a statement that Finland would not surrender even if Helsinki were razed by bombs.

The foreign office said its Washington legation had advised that no such comment was made on the warning of Secretary of State Hull that Finland must drop out of the war, or take the consequences.

(The Finnish legation official in Washington who on Tuesday had said that Finland would not surrender even if Helsinki were razed by bombs, declared today when informed of the Helsinki disclaimer that he had "no comment" to make.)

The Finnish radio said the evacuation of Helsinki was continuing, with mainly old persons and children being removed to safer areas. (Moscow warned that the Sunday night air attacks on the Finnish capital were only a forerunner of what is to come. The Soviet newspaper Pravda said "the Finns declare with insolence that they intend to protect Finland east of Petrozavodsk. The Finns will soon realize that the Red Army will protect the borders of the Soviet Union in the district of Helsinki. The Red Army will give the Finns what is due them.")

(A Swiss newspaper, quoting German diplomats, said the Finnish government had held a secret session last night to discuss Hull's warning, and that Moscow had (Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

VIOLENT FIGHTING

Nazis Claim U. S. Using 30,000 Men And 400 Tanks

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Feroocious crag-crag fighting raged on heights overlooking Cassino on the main Italian front today as American troops opened a full-strength assault to destroy that Nazi hornet's nest which was holding up their push to relieve beleaguered Allied forces in the Anzio bridgehead 50 miles away.

(Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark's main Fifth Army is slugging violently at the Cassino defenses, declared the German-controlled Vichy radio, "with 30,000 men, 400 tanks and powerful artillery.")

American riflemen, charging up the steep cliffs of Monte Cassino west of the town through a hell of machine gun fire, at one time reached a point only 75 yards from the ancient Benedictine Monastery which crowns the crest of that key height, dispatches from the front disclosed.

Inside Cassino itself the sweat-stained doughboys fought into several more fortified buildings, but after a week of fierce house-to-house combat the Nazis still held about three-fourths of the stronghold and their line of supply was unbroken.

The long-delayed breakthrough at Cassino can come none too soon to serve Allied strategy. From the shell-pocked beachhead below Rome, Daniel De Luce of the Associated Press wrote that "no one in the beachhead is under illusions as to the grimness of the struggle now unfolding. Anywhere in the area you are liable to be shelled, bombed or strafed."

"It is a very small beachhead. German power still seems to be mounting."

A broadcast by the Nazi high command claimed gains of "several kilometers" through a British-defended sector of the beachhead and claimed that 700 Allied prisoners were taken.

Seeking to relieve some enemy pressure against the landing forces, American planes heavily bombed and strafed German positions around the Appian Way town of Cisterna, 14 miles northeast of Anzio, which the Nazis are said to have converted into a powerful fortress. Not a German plane appeared over the beachhead yesterday, the enemy apparently not having relished the loss of 19 fighter-bombers over the area the previous day.

The renewed Allied assault on Cassino's defenses began before dawn yesterday, following a day of comparative inactivity during (Continued on Page Five; Col. 5)

Finns Disclaim Surrender Talk

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