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First U. S. Attack Is Made On Jap Held Guam Island; Messerschmitt Plant Is Hit

NIP FLEET UNSIGHTED

Six Planes Are Lost
And Not A Ship Damaged In Raid

By LEONARD MILLIMAN
Associated Press War Editor

The first American attack on Guam was made simultaneously with the daring bombardment by carrier planes Tuesday of Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas islands, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz reported yesterday.

Forwarded Japanese put up a fierce ground and aerial defense of the three islands, and subjected the United States force to constant attack. Nevertheless 135 Japanese planes were destroyed. The attackers lost only six planes and not a ship was hurt.

Two enemy ships were sunk and nine damaged, but there was no sign of the Japanese fleet.

No Raid Details

Nimitz gave no details of the air-borne raid on Guam—the first strike at this southernmost of the Marianas since overwhelming numbers of Japanese took it from a United States Marine garrison early in the war.

One raid was made on Guam by Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's bombers and torpedo planes that ignored heavy Japanese fire. Two were made on Saipan and Tinian, 100 miles to the north.

Nimitz also disclosed land-based Army and Navy bombers raided Kusaie, in the eastern Carolines, an hour atolls in the Marshall Islands Wednesday.

Rabaul Defenseless

On the same day Rabaul, temporarily defenseless enemy base on New Britain, for the fourth successive day failed to put up fighter planes to oppose American bombers from the Solomon islands.

General Douglas MacArthur announced today that other bombers made the circuit of the remaining enemy key point around the Bismark sea—New Ireland, the Admiralty islands, and New Guinea, air and shipping points on New Guinea.

American troops took two more villages in their advance toward Madang up the northeast New Guinea coast.

Chain Of Reverses

The unending chain of Japanese reverses in the Pacific was reflected in Tokyo where the cabinet here on Friday.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

TOBACCO WORKERS READY FOR STRIKE

DURHAM, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Approximately 2,000 employees of the Durham plant of the American Tobacco Company tonight still were preparing to walk out of their jobs Monday morning, unless the firm signs a union shop contract with them before that time.

A three-man hearing panel of the Federal War Labor Board is slated to hold tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock here on the dispute, which has been running for some three months.

Members of this panel are Albert S. Keister of the University of North Carolina, who will represent the public on the panel and also will act as chairman; Marion W. Heiss of Greensboro, who will act as representative of industry; and James A. Scoggins of Charlotte, who will represent labor's viewpoint.

This panel hearing had been ordered prior to the action of the firm in voting almost six to one to strike earlier this week.

The strike vote was conducted under the auspices of the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike law, and 1,896 votes were cast in favor of striking with only 321 employees voting against a walk-out.

Industrial Deferments For Young Men May Be Ended, Hershey States

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(AP)—More than half the draft registrants now being called up are flunking the physical tests. Selective Service said today, and hence it has become necessary to take drastic steps to meet Army quotas.

This is the situation, Congress was advised.

The armed forces need 1,200,000 men to reach the desired goal of 11,300,000 by July 1. They must come from the father group, those deferred because of their jobs, the 4-F's who can do limited service and the youngsters reaching 18.

When all the normal possibilities are exhausted, the total still will be 200,000 short. So—

The deferments granted men over 22 in industry may be can-

Succumbs



SEN. CHARLES McNARY

SENATE MINORITY LEADER SUCCUMBS

Charles L. McNary, Top Ranking GOP, Dies In Florida

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Charles L. McNary of Oregon, the 69-year-old leader of Senate Republicans, died today in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., where he had gone several months ago to rest after an operation to remove a brain tumor.

The death of McNary, who had been reported to be recovering, came as a shock to many of his colleagues and apparently left wide open the choice of a successor in the leadership post.

Senate Republicans only yesterday completed a reorganization in which the reelected McNary chairman of their conference and minority floor leader but provided for a full setup of officers for the first time since 1936.

At that meeting, Senator Vandenberg (R-Mich.) was elected vice chairman of the conference and Senator White (R-Me.) was chosen assistant leader and acting leader during McNary's illness. White has served in that post since McNary was stricken. Vandenberg, White and Senator Taft (R-Ohio) were most prominently mentioned as a possible permanent successor.

Known to politicians from coast to coast, McNary was a confidant of presidents and those who aspired unsuccessfully to the Presidency. In 1940 he reluctantly accepted his party's nomination for the vice presidency on a ticket headed by Wendell L. Willkie.

Appointed to the Senate in 1917 to succeed Harry Lane, who died in office, McNary gained national attention in the years after the First World War with his co-sponsorship of the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill. He became Senate Republican leader in 1933.

His death reduced the minority contingent to 36, but since Governor Earl Snell of Oregon is a republican he is expected to appoint a successor who is a member of that party. Snell himself has been mentioned as a possible senatorial aspirant, and thus may appoint a successor inclined to serve only until an election is held. McNary's term expires in 1949.

Don Whitehead, AP War Writer Returns To U.S.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Don Whitehead, Associated Press correspondent who in the past 17 months has covered the North African campaign, the Sicilian invasion and the Italian invasion, said today he doubted that the Allied forces could be ejected from the Anzio beachhead below Rome.

called soon. The minimum age may be raised to 26.

Farm labor must be screened again and those who cannot show they are producing "substantially" to the total amount of food for the nation are to lose their deferment.

The problem was outlined to the Senate Agriculture Committee by Major General Lewis B. Hershey, draft director, and to a House Military Subcommittee by his aide, Lieut. Col. Francis V. Keesling.

Hershey said the 4-F situation had complicated the problem greatly of late. There are 3,500,000 men now classified thus, which means they have defects mitigating against military service.

"I'm sorry to say that number is rising too rapidly," Hershey asserted.

The rate now is running up to 60 per cent of all those sent to induction centers. Hershey said this probably was because the average age of the men now being called is rather high.

Hershey was questioned largely about the tightened farm labor rules. Four agriculture groups have complained that it would mean the drafting of more than 50 per cent of the deferred men now on the farms. Hershey said he doubted that "seriously." The farm groups said the proposal, if carried through, would demoralize 1944 farm production.

Thus Stamp No. 30 in Book 4, scheduled to expire March 31, will be good indefinitely, as will Stamp 31 which becomes valid April 1. Both have a five-pound value.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

GREAT AIR OFFENSIVE

Works At Regensburg,
Deep In Germany, Raided By Allies

LONDON, Saturday, Feb. 26.—(AP)—American heavy bombers flying south from England and north from Italy in an unprecedented coordinated attack blasted Messerschmitt airplane works at Regensburg deep inside Germany yesterday, and early today Berlin reported that RAF night bombers struck Frankfurt, carrying in to the seventh day the mightiest aerial assault of the war.

Thirty-one heavy bombers from the Britain-based Eighth Air Force failed to return and three escorting fighters were reported missing, a communique announced. Fighters accompanying the bombers from Britain shot down 27 enemy aircraft, the communique said, adding that the number of German planes destroyed by the bombers was not available yet.

The British-based bombers were also disclosed to have bombed a ball-bearing works at Stuttgart and a Messerschmitt assembly center and experimental station at Augsburg and a major airframe components factory at Furth, five miles northwest of Nurnberg.

The Regensburg raid marked the third time this week that British-based planes and Italian-based planes have hit at enemy targets at the same time, but it was the first time they have both hit at the same target simultaneously thus welding the U. S. Strategic Air Force in Europe into a single smashing weapon.

Bombers from the Fifteenth Air Force arrived from their Italian bases over Regensburg first and the target was filled with smoke and flame when the Flying Fortress from the Eighth Air Force roared in to deliver the coup de grace.

The British-based Fortresses were escorted by large forces of long-range Mustangs and Lightnings as well as RAF, Canadian and Allied fighters of the Allied expeditionary air force.

The Americans flying from Britain reported little enemy fighter opposition but some of the big Liberators flying north from Italy were under attack over an hour by about 100 Nazi planes of which more than 25 were claimed to have been shot down.

Last night Berlin's long-wave transmitter went off the air, it was reported.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

CONDITION OF 2 YOUTHS SAID FAIR

JIMMY HEATH and Billy Burns, youths in the 1940 Ford car that crashed into the side of a Seaboard engine at Acme early Thursday morning killing one person and injuring five, had regained consciousness and were described as being in "fair condition" by hospital authorities Friday.

Hospital authorities stated no variation in the conditions of Lillian Williams, Helen Marks and Johnny Marks as termed "fair," "some better" and "satisfactory," respectively, Friday.

Mary Frances Hilburn was fatally injured in the accident. The youths, all under 19 years of age, were reportedly returning from a party at the home of friends when the accident occurred. According to a statement by John Marks, occupants of the automobile did not see the locomotive switching on the siding near the Acme Manufacturing company until it was too late. The car was demolished and the engine damaged to the extent of \$35.

OPA May Eliminate Expiration Dates On Sugar Coupons

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(AP)—The War Food Administration allocated six per cent less sugar today for civilian use in 1944 than last year, but indications were that household rations may not be cut.

From sources in the Office of Price Administration it was learned that rations of some industrial civilian users will be trimmed as much as 10 per cent, however.

A price official said that in an effort to avoid a household ration cut entirely, the OPA will eliminate expiration dates of sugar rationing coupons, thereby to prevent "precipitous buying."

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(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

Farrell Made New President Of Argentina

POLICY IN DOUBT

Ramirez Out By
Colonel's

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Uruguay, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Argentina's new anti-Axis policy was suddenly thrown in to doubt today as the reactionary "Colonel's Lodge," led by Col. Juan Domingo Peron, forced out President Gen. Pedro Ramirez and replaced him with vice-president Gen. Edelmiro Farrell.

(Serious concern over the coup, a few weeks after Ramirez broke relations with the Axis, was taken in Washington where Acting Secretary of State Stettinius said questions "affecting the security of the hemisphere" might arise. He indicated American nations might "review the recognition of Argentina's government once information on developments is complete.")

Pro-Democratic Power

John Lloyd, president of La Prensa Asociada, Latin American affiliate of the Associated Press, said Ramirez had been regarded as perhaps the most pro-Democratic influence in the military coup that came into power last June and that if he has lost power "a toughening in Argentina's foreign policy in a sense not favorable to the wishes of the United Nations could come."

The Ramirez government broke with the Axis last month and issued a report of Axis espionage in that country. When Foreign Minister Alberto Gilbert followed up with a statement in favor of declaring war on Germany he was ousted last week by the "colonels."

Reports from Buenos Aires said that Ramirez had planned to infuse new blood into his cabinet, seeking to drop the ultra-nationalistic group which has favored the Axis.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

DEMURRER FILED IN CHAPLIN CASE

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Charlie Chaplin's attorneys filed a demurrer today to indictments charging the actor with Mann Act violations, on the ground that the Federal laws was intended to prevent commercial vice and traffic in women, and not to govern private acts.

The attorney, Jerry Giesler, also filed a motion to quash the indictments, charging that women were discriminated against in not having been permitted to serve on the Federal Grand Jury which returned them.

He cited a five to three decision of the United States Supreme Court in which the minority held with his contention concerning the purpose of the Mann Act, and quoted Rep. Mann of Illinois, author of the law, as declaring such was his intention.

U. S. Dist. Judge J. F. T. O'Connor continued the hearing on both the motion to quash and the demurrer until tomorrow (10 a. m.).

U. S. Atty. Charles H. Carr declared his willingness to stipulate that there were no women on the Grand Jury which indicted Chaplin, but refused to stipulate that such omission of women constituted discrimination against them.

Judge O'Connor suggested that Carr and Giesler meet with the clerk of the court and the jury commissioner and seek to reach an agreement as to whether such discrimination existed.

Chaplin is charged with having transported Joan Berry, his 23-year-old former protegee, to New York and back to Los Angeles for improper purposes.

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(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

Senate Completes 'Revolt' By Approving Tax Measure; President Is Taking A Rest

LEAVES WHITE HOUSE

Door Closed On All But
Most Vital Outside
Contacts

WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Although his health is generally good, President Roosevelt is taking a badly needed rest away from the White House.

By advice of his physician, the President has closed the door on all but the most vital outside contacts.

When the revolt over the tax bill veto broke in Congress reporters who cover the White House journeyed to the President's retreat, to find that no queries or messages would be accepted there or, thus, answered.

First disclosure that Mr. Roosevelt had slipped away from the turmoil of Washington came from the White House itself. The President's message to Senator Alben W. Barkley urging him not to resign as majority floor leader over the veto issue was delivered in writing by Presidential Press Secretary Stephen Early. This was because the President was out of town, it was explained.

Then it was recalled that Vice Admiral Ross T. McIntire, the White House physician, had been urging the executive to shed the cares of Washington because he had been recovering too slowly from an influenza attack. Mr. Roosevelt lost 10 pounds from the illness.

In Washington, Early criticized the correspondents for following the President.

"They were told by this office in confidence where he was and they knew therefore where to go. They were also told that if the President had any news to give out, it would be given out by this office and not by the staff accompanying him," Early said.

"The President," said Early, "is in instantaneous and immediate communication with the White House and developments of a news nature have been given immediately to the press and would have been given to the correspondents who are absent, had they remained here. This is the news out of the record."

RUSSIAN ARMIES DRIVE ON PSKOV

LONDON, Saturday, Feb. 26.—(AP)—German commanders hurled fresh reinforcements into 14 counter-attacks north of Rogachev in White Russia yesterday but their effort to repair the gap torn by their lines guarding the upper Dniester River and Minsk failed with a loss of 2,500 men, Moscow announced today.

At the same time advancing Russian forces in the north rolled the Germans back on Pskov in a great arc reaching points 20 miles on the northwest, 23 miles on the northeast and 50 miles on the east.

One Berlin radio report that Germans had evacuated the White Russian citadel of Vitebsk was apparently premature for neither the subsequent German and Russian communiques made any mention of the area.

In the fighting for Rogachev, captured by the Russians Thursday, Moscow announced that 6,000 Germans were killed, and 26 of their tanks and self-propelled guns, 86 field guns, and 140 trucks destroyed. The Russians said they captured 68 guns, more than 2,000 rifles, 80 trucks, eight tanks and many stores of munitions and food.

Advancing northward from this town yesterday the Russians met determined German resistance, bolstered by large numbers of men rushed into the area. But the broad-based midnight communique, recorded by the Soviet monitor, said several populated places were captured and the Germans thrown back.

A quantity of German equipment was seized by the Russians, including 13 tanks, 40 guns and 8,000 mines, the bulletin said, and many prisoners were taken.

In the north another 1,100 Germans were killed as the Russians captured 54 localities in their march on Pskov. In the northwest and north they were 20 miles away from that great communications center at Erekhneva, and 22 miles away at Lutovo and Ploschina. In the northeast they captured the railway station of Lapino 36 miles away and also reached Keskba, a town.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 7)

Join Tax Revolt Against FDR

Rep. Robert L. Doughton (left) of Laurel Springs, N. C., 80-year-old chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Rep. Wesley E. Disney of Oklahoma, who joined the Congressional revolt against President Roosevelt's veto of the new tax bill, hold copies of their House speeches in protest, as they confer after condemning the White House action. Doughton said the President was asking Congress to accept "dictation," and Disney called the veto message "usurpation of the rights of the people."



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Allies Better Positions In Italy, Repulse Attacks

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Allied troops steadily improved their positions on both fronts in Italy yesterday and threw back several German attacks of company strength, headquarters announced today.

It was disclosed that German forces ringing the Allied beachhead near Rome had been swollen by another infantry division brought down from northern Italy, bringing the total Nazi strength in that sector to 10 divisions.

Both sides, sensitive to the prospect of another big German attempt to drive the Americans and British off the beachhead, engaged in active combat patrolling all around the 30-mile perimeter of the battleground. Opposing artillery rumbled constantly.

(A Berlin correspondent of the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet said the Germans regarded the situation on the beachhead as "the calm before the storm.") The same writer said the Allies were bringing up heavy reinforcements on the Cassino front and were expected to launch a new attack there momentarily.

Indications were that both sides were awaiting only a let-up in the miserable weather conditions to renew their respective assaults—the Nazis against the beachhead

and the Allies against Cassino's stubborn defenses. Rain had turned the beachhead into a veritable swamp over much of its area, hamstringing the Germans' 60-ton "Tiger" tanks, while a seven-inch snow around Cassino proved an equal handicap to the attacking Allies there.

(Friday's German high command communique made no further reference to the previous day's claim that an Allied force had been cut off south of Aprilia on the beachhead front. It said long-range Nazi guns were steadily shelling Anzio harbor, where Allied reinforcements were being unloaded.)

The Germans made two "feeler" attacks yesterday southwest of Carroceto, which is 10 miles north of Anzio, and both were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy. A company of infantry—usually about 200 men—was estimated to have participated in each of these thrusts. An Allied spokesman said that "nuisance" enemy infiltrations south of Carroceto were being kept under control.

Allied artillery, which was credited with doing deadly execution in the course of the Germans' second big assault against the beachhead last week, caught a group of

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 6)

BLAZE DAMAGES APARTMENT HERE

Considerable damage was caused Friday afternoon when fire was discovered in the Sorosis apartments, next to City Hall.

Chief J. Ludie Croom reported that the alarm came in at about 4:45 p. m., calling out Headquarters company, Company No. 3, 4th and Campbell streets, and the hook and ladder truck, which answers all calls in the downtown district.

Firemen reported that the blaze apparently started on the top floor of the brick building probably from a cigarette left smouldering on the bed in an apartment belonging to E. D. Montgomery.

Most damage was caused by smoke which penetrated the upper floors. However considerable damage was caused in the bedroom of the Montgomery apartment, where the fire started, according to Chief Croom.

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FOREGONE CONCLUSION

Vote Of 72 To 14 Sets
Capstone On Great Rebellion

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(AP)—The Senate set the capstone of the great Congressional tax rebellion into place today with a 72 to 14 vote enacting into law the revenue measure which President Roosevelt rejected with scornful language.

An anti-climatic close of the dramatic revolt found only 13 Democrats and one Republican—Senator Langer of North Dakota—voting to sustain the President's veto.

The outcome had been a foregone conclusion since the House voted 299 to 95 yesterday to override, and with completion of the Senate vote at 12:49 p. m. (EWT) the tax bill—second wartime revenue measure—became law.

The legislation boosts the income tax taken from individuals and business firms, raises some postal rates, and increases taxes on liquor, furs, cosmetics and many other items, effective April 1. Congressional tax experts estimate it will return \$2,315,000,000 a year, raising the Treasury's annual income to over \$42,000,000,000, but President Roosevelt disputed the prospective return.

Scintillating drama, a noisy crowd filled the Senate galleries for the final act of the White House-Congress battle but got practically no show at all.

An interested spectator standing in the rear of the chamber was 80-year-old Rep. "Muley" Bob Doughton, North Carolina Democrat, who led the House turn against the President on the tax issue.

Senator Pepper (D-Fla.), an administration stalwart, launched into a protest, his voice heavy with emotion, against the rebuke to the President which most of his Democratic colleagues were ready to deliver.

He was afraid, Pepper said, that the defeat of the chief executive on the tax issue might alter "the permanent course and character of our party."

Whatever mood Pepper may have hoped to create in the Senate was swept away, however, by that interruption and a following brief speech from Senator Lucas (D-Ill.), usually a firm supporter of administration policy.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

NEW TAX RATES EFFECTIVE SOON

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Effects of the \$2,315,000,000 new tax bill enacted by Congress today over the veto of President Roosevelt will not be felt by most people until March 26 when local letters will have to carry three cents postage instead of two.

The first tax to go into effect, however, is a 20 per cent retailer's tax on luggage. Replacing a former 10 per cent manufacturer's levy, it is effective March 1 and applies to traveling bags, suit cases, trunks, toilet cases, hand bags and wallets.

Most of the other excise taxes—higher levies on movie admissions, club dues, liquor, cosmetics, etc.—become effective April 1.

The legislation contemplates a total annual yield of \$1,051,000,000 from increases in such levies.

The remainder of the total to be raised by the bill is divided in this manner:

Individual income taxes—upped \$664,900,000 on 1944 income. Present rates remain unchanged but elimination of the earned income credit and removal of deductions for excise taxes paid out will mean increased tax payments for most

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 6)

Greatest Air Escort Ever Dispatched Used To Protect Raiders

AT A FIGHTER BASE IN BRITAIN, Saturday, Feb. 26.—(AP)—The greatest U. S. Army Air Force fighter group ever dispatched from British bases—estimated at more than 1,000 planes—escorted heavy bombers on a round trip of 1,100 miles to Regensburg, Stuttgart and other German industrial targets yesterday to complete the deepest American fighter penetration into enemy territory.

The fighters, three of which are missing, destroyed 27 enemy fighters.

RAF, Dominion and other Allied fighters also took part in the escort mission.