

THREE CIVILIANS DIE, 25 SOLDIERS INJURED IN BRUNSWICK WRECK

CAR HITS CONVOY

Elder Pee, Of Wilmington, Held After Crash Near Jackie's Creek

MEN IN HOSPITAL

Soldiers Were Members Of Party Seeking To Locate Downed Plane

Three Wilmington Negroes were killed, and 25 white soldiers from Blueenthal Field Army Airbase, members of a searching party sent to find a plane downed in the Brunswick county swamps Friday morning, were injured when a civilian car bearing the Negroes struck two trucks of the Army convoy eight miles south of Wilmington, on Highway 17, at 11:45 o'clock Friday night.

Elder Pee of 202 South 13th street, Negro driver of the death car, was carried Saturday afternoon to Doshier Memorial hospital, from the Brunswick county jail, Southport, where he was lodged, following the accident, on charges of speeding, reckless driving, and driving under the influence of intoxicating drink.

The dead were Quincy Finklea, Georgia Hemmingway, of Ninth and Wooster streets, and Lou Pearl Woodbury, of 1103 Princess street.

Names of the soldiers, a few of whom were said to be seriously, but not critically, injured, had not been disclosed Saturday night by the Airbase public relations office, because of the Army policy of first notifying next of kin. The men were undergoing treatment at the base hospital.

Pee, who was not thought to be seriously hurt Friday night, appeared to be suffering some Saturday at noon, according to Deputy Sheriff F. L. Lewis of Brunswick county. Pee was arrested by State Highway Patrolman M. S. Parvin, whose car preceded the

OUTPUT OF ARMOR HALTED BY STRIKE

6,000 Members Of CIO Union At Great Lakes Steel Corp. Are Idle

DETROIT, Feb. 26.—Production of armor plates for U. S. Navy landing barges was at a standstill today as 6,000 employees of the Great Lakes Steel Corp. in suburban Ecosee remained idle in a strike that began Friday.

Thomas Shane, district 29 director of the United Steel Workers of America, CIO, in a statement urged appointment of an impartial umpire to rule on the discharge of an employe, which precipitated the walkout.

At the same time Shane said the major cause of the strike was that for "the last 18 months the men have been working short-handed crews." He said the workers had not been compensated for the extra work.

A corporation spokesman termed Shane's request a "subterfuge" and said that while the union's working contract called for the naming of an umpire when a disagreement occurred, it also re-

Acting Ministers Named By New Argentine Rule

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, Feb. 26.—Amid indications of considerable tension in Buenos Aires the government headed by Gen. Edelmir J. Farrell announced today the appointment of Gen. Diego Luis Mason as Acting Foreign Minister and Gen. Juan Pizarini as acting Navy minister.

Airbase Groups Pre Hunt For Missing Plane

Ground and aerial parties from Blueenthal Field Army Airbase continued their search Saturday for a P-47 fighter plane, piloted by Second Lieut. Arthur A. Seppanen of Trenary, Mich., said to have crashed through the fog Friday morning, somewhere north of Southport.

According to the pilot of a plane accompanying the lost plane, Seppanen's ship flew into the dense fog, several hundred feet thick, and failed to return. It was impossible, because of lack of visibility, to establish whether the two were flying over Brunswick county swamp-land or over the ocean, the Field's public relations office advised.

Roosevelt Orders Review Of All Draft Deferments

FASTER RATE SEEN

Asks Speedy Start In Making Up 200,000-Man Deficit In Inductions

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—A sharply accelerated draft rate appeared in prospect tonight as a result of President Roosevelt's order for an immediate review of all occupational deferments and a speedy start on making up a 200,000-man deficit in Army inductions.

Moving toward that end, Selective Service already has tightened rules for deferment of agricultural workers and draft officials told Congress this week that it may be necessary to rule out industrial deferments for all men under 26. The minimum age for industrial deferments now is 22.

Sent to State Chiefs

Selective Service headquarters sent copies of President Roosevelt's order to all state directors immediately after its issuance at the White House today and directed that it be transmitted to all local boards and appeal boards.

The state directors were directed to review the cases of all men between ages 18 and 37 deferred in classes 2-A, 2-B, 2-C and 3-C.

In considering reclassifications, local boards were instructed to give "particular attention to registrants under 26 years of age in view of the President's statement that agriculture and industry should release the younger men for military service."

Noting that nearly 5,000,000 men have been deferred for occupational reasons, Mr. Roosevelt declared he was convinced "that in this respect we have been overly lenient, particularly with regard to the younger men."

Memorandum

In a memorandum to Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, and Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, the President said the "crucial campaigns" of this year will determine the length of the war and its costs in men and materials.

"The present allocations of personnel to the armed forces cannot be further reduced," he said, adding that "there is a very real danger in our failure to supply

received that Gen. Ramirez had resigned under compulsion. This opened up the question of United States recognition of the Buenos Aires regime.

The resigned Suero was a childhood friend of General Ramirez, and rumors have been circulating that Ramirez refused to sign the document by which he "delegated authority" to Gen. Farrell.

Both Mason and Pizarini now are charged with two ministries. Mason already holds the agriculture portfolio and Pizarini is public works minister.

Germans Flee On Northwest Russian Line

Soviets Capture Two Railroad Stations On Roads Leading To Pskov

NEARING LATVIA

Great Advance Moving At Rate Of 10 Miles Daily In Some Locations

LONDON, Sunday, Feb. 27.—The German army appeared to be retreating rapidly from all of Northwestern Russia today as Moscow announced that Soviet forces yesterday had not only captured two railway stations on the roads to Pskov but had overrun 318 localities and ousted the Germans from 105 miles of a north-south railway less than 70 miles from Latvia.

The great Russian advance—which in some places was moving at the rate of ten miles a day—was nearing Pskov, communications center and key to the Baltic states, from three directions Moscow said. In addition, to the south, the Russians were declared to have won complete control of the 105-mile section of the Leningrad-Odessa trunkline between Dno and Novosokolniki.

Both of these advances were made on a continuous 175-mile front extending from the shore of Lake Pskov, and running about 20 miles north of Pskov to the Leningrad-Pskov railway where the station of Novoselie, 26 miles northeast of Pskov was captured yesterday.

Then the line swings to the southeast across the Leningrad-Pskov

COST OF LIVING CLAIMS ASSAILED

BLS Takes Labor's Charges Apart, Says They Are 'Absolutely Wrong'

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics took labor's cost of living claims apart today and concluded that they were "absolutely wrong."

The bureau submitted to the president's cost of living committee a 25,000-word analysis of the "recommended report" of the committee's labor members, George Meany and R. J. Thomas, with this comment:

"The claim of the Meany-Thomas report that the cost of living has risen 43.5 per cent (in three years) is not supported by their data. Rather there is conclusive evidence that they are absolutely wrong in asserting that the rate in the cost of living is nearly twice as great as the BLS shows it to be (23.4 per cent).

"The report contains many errors of fact, and makes use of unrepresentative data to support its general conclusions. It does not meet the high technical standards which usually have characterized trade union research. Could the labor members of the committee, who assumed responsibility for

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Message to Readers

The management of the Star-News regrets that it has recently been unable to publish all of the advertising submitted to it and also to accept new subscriptions, due to the rigid restrictions placed upon both the Star and the News through newsprint allotments by the War Production Board.

Because of the tremendous shortage of newsprint we have been forced to reduce the number of pages per issue. Despite this curtailment we are going to furnish as broad news coverage and as many features as we have been publishing, even though we are compelled to curtail our advertising volume to do so.

This condition is general from a percentage basis of newsprint allotments to all papers, but the dailies on the East Coast, whose communities have had large population increases have been hit hardest, particularly Norfolk, Charleston and Wilmington.

During last week we were forced to reject 1680 inches of advertising and many new subscriptions, in order to maintain our news and feature service and protect old subscribers. We hope this condition may soon be remedied and that more normal operation permitted by the War Production Board.

We are glad to do our bit in the war emergency, and solicit the patience and long continued friendship of our readers, in the assurance of an expanding program when conditions ease up.

BATTERED NAZI AIR INDUSTRY CANNOT MEET FIGHT LOSSES; FOE ON DEFENSIVE AT ANZIO

ENEMY REGROUPS

Has Suffered About 15,000 Casualties Since Allies Landed Jan. 22

MANY ARE CAPTURED

Garrisons In France, Yugoslavia Weakened To Meet Threat To Rome

By KENNETH L. DIXON

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, Feb. 26.—The Germans have suffered about 15,000 casualties on the beachhead at Anzio since the Allied landing Jan. 22 and the ten Nazi divisions there have now been thrown temporarily on the defensive while they are regrouping, an Allied spokesman announced tonight.

The spokesman, reviewing the Anzio situation "now that the enemy's first reaction is over," said that the German casualty figures included 2,816 prisoners.

The German attacks on the Allied positions on the beachhead have been "supported by a larger weight of artillery than had been encountered hitherto in the African and Italian campaigns," the spokesman said, but he added that the attack had been defeated.

Program Upset

As a result, the German program for relieving a number of top divisions for the west has been upset, ten enemy divisions have been forced to remain on the beachhead sector and German garrisons in France and Yugoslavia have

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POST-WAR PLANS TO BE DISCUSSED

Dr. Gus Dyer, Of Nashville, Will Speak At Meeting Here March 23

A joint meeting of the city's civic clubs, chamber of commerce and Junior Chamber of Commerce will be held at 1 p. m., March 23 national post-war plans.

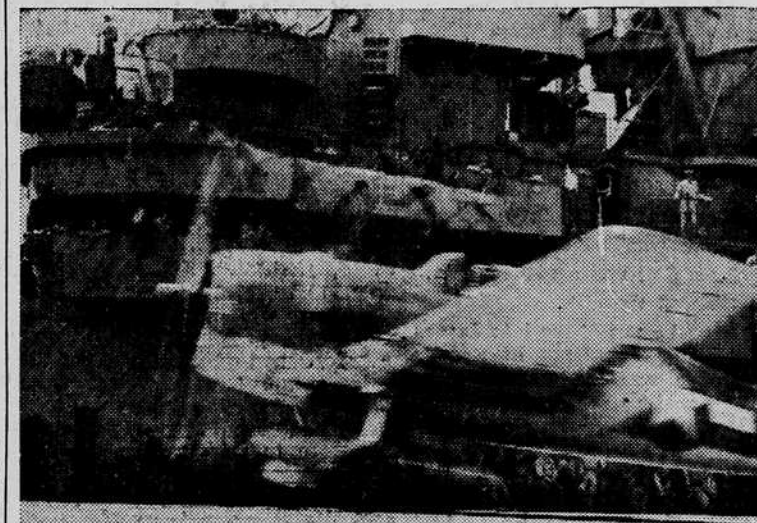
Dr. Gus W. Dyer of Nashville, Tenn., chief of the speaker's bureau of the Southern States Industrial Council, will be principal spokesman.

Some civic clubs have already agreed to the joint meeting and it is expected that others will soon.

Dr. Dyer will appear here under the auspices of Associated General Contractors of America, Carolinas branch, U. A. Underwood, general

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Ever See A Ghost Flying?



Looking like a ghost in flight, a Grumman Hellcat fighter presented this weird appearance as it took off from U. S. carrier to strike Japanese bases in the Pacific. Plane was too fast for even speedy newscamera lens to "stop" the action.

Americans Shell Kavieng As Bombers Blast Rabaul

SINK ONE SHIP

Axis Radios Report Violent Battle Being Fought For Guam Island

By LEONARD MILLMAN

Associated Press War Editor

American destroyers shelled Kavieng for the third time this month and bombers blasted the heart of Rabaul, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today as Axis radios reported a violent battle was being fought for Guam.

The United States Navy department offered neither confirmation nor denial of a Berlin broadcast that a fight "for possession of the Pacific island of Guam" has been underway for days.

Destroyers, unhampered by Japanese warships or planes, sank one ship and left two in flames in Kavieng harbor on the northern tip of New Ireland, about 650 miles south of Truk. Another cargo vessel was left sinking off nearby New Hanover island.

Japanese were reported pulling out of both Kavieng and Rabaul, were Adm. William F. Halsey's bombers turned from blasting the airfields to hitting "the weakening enemy base" in the city itself. A munitions dump, a power plant and many buildings were demolished.

On the opposite flank of the Bismarck sea medium bombers and attack planes destroyed ten Japanese aircraft at the Wewak air center on New Guinea, damaged 13 others, hit ten barges and silenced four gun positions.

More than 2,000 miles north of Wewak, Tokyo radio said in a

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BRITAIN ACCUSED OF BOND SCHEME

Arrested For Conspiracy In Unlawful Negotiation Of Securities

What U. S. Secret Service agents termed the largest case of conspiring with War bond holders in the unlawful negotiation of the securities was revealed here yesterday following the arrest of Benjamin Franklin Brittain, 56, of 105 Castle street, by the officers on conspiracy charges. He was later released on bond of \$10,000 to await action by the Federal grand jury.

They said Brittain centered his activities at the yard of the North Carolina Shipbuilding company. Officials of the shipyard had notified federal authorities of "suspicious activities," saying that they felt, "from a patriotic point of view," something should be done, the officers reported.

Agents said they seized about \$2,500 in War bonds from the personal effects of Brittain. They added that, in approximately 60 days, he had negotiated War bonds with a total value of more than \$7,500. It was estimated by federal authorities that more than 300 checks were mailed from the Federal Reserve bank of Richmond to various payees, all addressed to Brittain's residence.

Saturday, the defendant was

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15 CENTERS HIT

Greatest Sustained Air Assault In History Leaves Plants In Ruins

ENEMY LOSSES HEAVY

Allies Lose 3,500 Men On 400 Bombers And 50 Fighters Destroyed

By W. W. HERCHER

LONDON, Feb. 26.—(AP)—Giant fires burned themselves out in Augsburg tonight and the ruins of at least 14 other centers of German aircraft production gave smouldering evidence of the greatest sustained aerial onslaught in history — an onslaught that a high American air force spokesman said had rendered Nazi factories unable to keep up with combat losses.

The Germans in six days have lost 641 planes in air combat with the American invaders alone, plus many more new ones on the ground outside factories, and uncounted others in process of completion in the bombed works.

The cost to the Allies has not been negligible: About 3,500 airmen on 400 heavy bombers and 50 fighters lost, roughly \$100,000,000 worth of planes, but the loss was described as economical in view of the aggregate of 17,000 sorties and the great damage done to the enemy.

Started With Leipzig

The offensive which began one week ago tonight with 2,900 long tons of bombs hurled on Leipzig by the RAF, was rounded out with a 1,700-ton RAF overnight blow against Augsburg. The week's bomb tonnage was estimated at 17,500 dropped by the Americans and RAF together.

(Since the tonnage figures usually are given in British long tons of 2,240 pounds each, this would be slightly less than 20,000 American tons of 2,000 pounds each.)

Operations went into a temporary lull today, with Typhoon patrols over the French coast as the only activity reported. These cost the Nazi two planes.

The factories no longer are believed able to make up air losses, said the American spokesman. He disclosed that since Jan. 1 twin-engine fighter production in the Reich has been cut 80 per cent and single engine fighter production 60 per cent. These figures may be revised upward as they are based on latest reconnaissance and are still only preliminary.

Greatest Damage

The greatest damage of all was probably done in the past week, he said, when the Eighth U. S. Army Air Force alone dropped 7,935 tons of bombs in Germany—a greater amount than that force dropped during its entire first year of operations in the European theater.

With the tonnage of the Italy-based 15th U. S. Air Force, the American total rose to 9,425.

The spokesman expressed belief that Germany had lost her last hope of maintaining a successful air defense. She cannot prevent the strategic bombing of any target in Germany, he declared, coupling this flat assertion with a promise

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100 Russian Planes Stage Helsinki Raid

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 26.—(AP)—Approximately 100 Russian planes raided Helsinki tonight, reports reaching the Swedish press said.

An indication of the attack was given when telephone service between the Finnish capital and Stockholm was broken at 6 p. m. and connections had not been restored at midnight.

A short time after the Finnish raid was reported, anti-aircraft guns in the Stockholm area went into action against an unidentified plane that flew high over the Bromma airport on the southwestern outskirts of the city.

FINLAND MAY GET PEACE THIS WEEK

Diplomats Keep Attention On Country's Negotiations With Reds

LONDON, Feb. 26.—(AP)—Peace may come to war-weary Finland early next week with acceptance by the Finns of Soviet Russia's six-point terms, diplomats agreed tonight as they kept their attention on negotiations between the two countries.

One big stumbling block in the terms, which circulated here unofficially, was said to be a Russian demand for the interment of 100,000 German troops in northern Finland.

Another serious problem was posed by Russia's reported demand for restoration of the 190 borders, beyond which Finnish troops have advanced.

The Stockholm Aftonbladet's Helsinki correspondent said this provision was a shock to the Finnish people because many thousands of Karelians already have moved back into the land of the Karelian isthmus between Lake Ladoga and the Gulf of Finland which was ceded to Russia in 1940.

"If peace with Russia is to guarantee Finland's independence then the country's boundaries must not

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Churchill's Son Confers With Tito In Yugoslavia

LONDON, Feb. 26.—(AP)—Capt. Randolph Churchill, son of the Prime Minister, is conferring with Marshal Josip Broz (Tito), the Yugoslav guerrilla leader, after presumably parachuting into Yugoslavia, it was learned today.

Capt. Churchill, 32, was the first member of Parliament to become a paratrooper. He went to the Middle East with a commando unit in 1941 and later was seriously injured in an automobile crash. He returned to action in North Africa in 1942.

The purpose of his mission to Tito was not announced but presumably it is a part of the British effort to give all possible aid to the Yugoslav partisans.

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