

Partly cloudy and cooler today with probable showers. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 79—Low, 65.

Wilmington Morning Star

Served By Leased Wires of the ASSOCIATED PRESS and the UNITED PRESS With Complete Coverage of State and National News

Yank Carrier Planes Attack Japanese Fleet In Home Waters; 15 To 17 Warships Damaged; U. S. Seventh, Third Armies Join In Saarland

Three Cities Taken; Enemy Force Broken

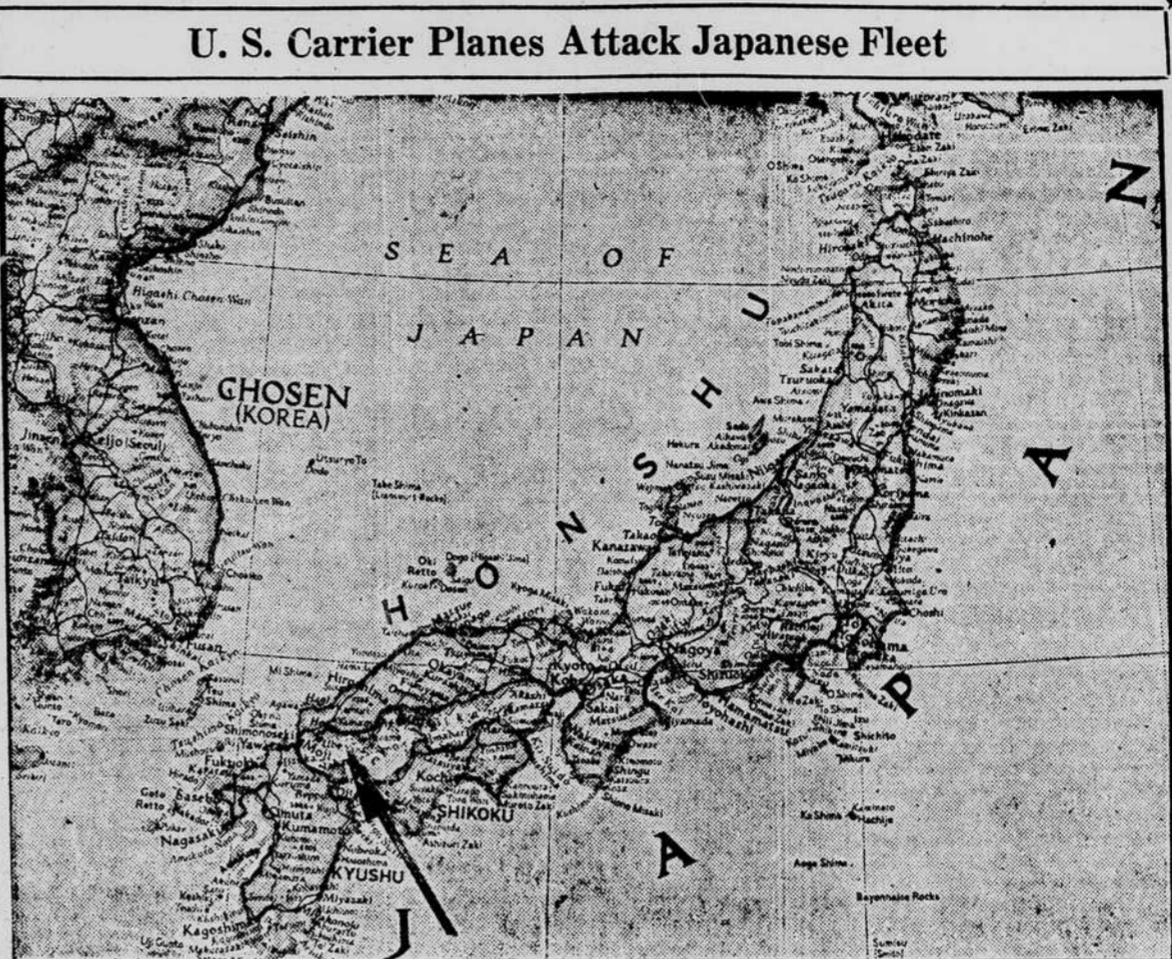
Mainz, Worms and Zweibruecken Swept Up In Rapid Drive

Guaranteed Wage Plan Study Ordered By FDR

President Also Indicates He Is Not Planning Action Against LaGuardia for Violation Of Curfew Edict

Reds Capture Altdamm And Wipe Out Foe

Other Soviet Forces Slash Into Pocket South Of Koenigsberg



Enemy Fails To Sink Any U. S. Vessels

Daring Attack Inflicts Crippling Damage, Nimitz Says

PARIS, Wednesday, March 21.—The U. S. Seventh and Third Armies formed a junction in the Saarland yesterday in a great coordinated assault that virtually wiped out the last German resistance west of the Rhine and captured the historic cities of Saarbruecken, Zweibruecken and Worms.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today ordered a study of plans for a guaranteed annual wage, described by the War Labor Board as "one of the main aspirations of American workers."

LONDON, March 20.—(AP)—Russian troops, laying open flaming Stettin to a final assault, today captured the Pomeranian capital's last outpost of Altdamm, 70 miles northeast of Berlin, and wiped out the powerfully fortified German bridgehead there on the east bank of the swampy lower Oder river, Moscow announced.

American carrier planes, attacking the Jap fleet in its home waters, have driven into Japan's inland sea (arrow at bottom) to severely cripple the remnants of that once-mighty armada.

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Wednesday, March 21.—(AP)—American aircraft, flying from the highest carrier fleet ever assembled, attacked the Japanese fleet in the empire's inland sea Monday in one of the boldest exploits of the war, and damaged 15 to 17 enemy warships, including one or two battleships, and destroyed at least 475 planes.

JUNIOR COLLEGE MEASURE PASSED

County Salary Amendment Also Approved By Senate

RED CROSS AIDE STRESSES NEED

Rotarians Hear Plea For Continued Support In Drive

ALLIED BOMBERS HIT U-BOAT PENS

Jet Planes Fail To Block Attack On Nazi Oil Refineries

Yanks Drive Into Iloilo Outskirts; Filipino Troops Take San Fernando

BRITISH FORCES SEIZE MANDALAY

Ancient Fortress of Burma Taken After 12-Day Siege

The N. C. State Senate last night approved a bill providing for a junior college in New Hanover county and likewise passed a measure which would permit the board of County Commissioners to increase salaries of County employees.

At the Tuesday meeting of the Rotary club, Harry Bliss, staff member of the American City Bureau of the American Red Cross, who is heading the current Red Cross drive in Wilmington, made an appeal for contributions to the organization's war funds.

LONDON, March 20.—(AP)—Allied heavy bombers, defying savage attacks by Nazi jet-propelled planes, struck U-boat yards, oil refineries and rail centers in northwestern Germany today, and tonight RAF Mosquitos gave Berlin its 29th straight night assault.

CARRIER MIDWAY IS CHRISTENED

World's Mightiest Will Bear New Type Navy Aircraft

Japanese Put Torch To Capital City of Panay Island

BRITISH FORCES SEIZE MANDALAY

The fall of Saarbruecken and Zweibruecken foretold the possible swift evacuation of all Germany west of the Rhine.

While no definite site has been located for the college, reliable sources indicated last night that the Lake Forest housing project if abandoned by the Federal Housing Authority after the war, would make an ideal location. It also was pointed out that the Lake Forest school building, one of the County's most modern, was ideally suited for this purpose.

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NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 20.—(UP)—The mightiest of all aircraft carriers—the 45,000-ton Midway—was christened today, but an uncooperative tide delayed the actual launching.

MANILA, Wednesday, March 21.—(UP)—U. S. 40th Division troops have driven into the outskirts of burning Iloilo, capital of newly-invaded Panay island, and cut all Japanese escape routes with a 25-mile sweep around the northern side of the city, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today.

MANDALAY, March 20.—(UP)—The ancient and fabled city of Mandalay fell to the British today after two years, 10 months and 12 days of Japanese occupation, and Adm. Lord Louis Mountbatten, Allied Southeast Asia commander, Maj. Gen. Rapp Brush's troops pushed seven miles eastward along the coast to enter Iloilo and struck inland on a 15-mile front in the 25-mile drive that cleared the Panay plains and made contact with Filipino guerrillas in the hills.

Thousands of Germans were captured, one front dispatch saying that the Third Army alone bagged possibly 20,000.

Another measure, a County Boxing Regulation bill, was not included in the Associated Press report on the Legislative Record but Rep. LeGrand earlier yesterday expressed the opinion that it would pass with ease.

Returning pilots reported Saar roads were jammed with hundreds of vehicles in a veritable "mob scene." The highways were filled with hundreds of vehicles, moving three abreast to the east in scenes reminiscent of the Ardennes retreat.

The christening proceeded as scheduled, however.

Smashing triumphs also were announced for the Yanks and Filipinos on the island of Luzon. There, the Filipinos seized the big northwest port of San Fernando, 30 miles north of Lingayen Gulf, and American 33rd Division troops drove ten miles northward along the coast to seize the town of Balingu, six miles south of San Fernando. That was the most northerly point on Luzon yet reached by the Americans.

The report of the sinking of six small freighters and damaging 22 other ships, the latter mostly combatant vessels, was described as preliminary. This indicated the likelihood of even greater damage or a revision of types of ships blasted by the Yank bombs and torpedoes.

At the same time, German resistance east of the Rhine seemed to falter and Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army broadened its east bank bridgehead to 24 miles with advances measuring up to 4,000 yards.

At the meeting which heard his speech, "Leaders Are Not Born," was presided over by W. Elliott O'Neal and favored with preliminary remarks by Lewis F. Ormond, comptroller of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co., who suggested as a Jaycee project, the effort to "fix in the community's memory" veterans of World War II.

Another oil refinery at Hemmingstedt, some 60 miles north of Hamburg on the Danish peninsula, also was blasted in perfect bombing weather. Last attacked on September 1, the Hemmingstedt refinery had been restored to production.

At the same time, other forces struck inland for an overall advance.

They also seized Carpenter's bridge across the Iloilo river which runs through the city.

This is the preliminary report from Admiral Spruance, who was in tactical command of the fleet forces:

The attention of medium and heavy bombers and fighters, however, was directed mainly at mauling the Germans fleeing from the Saarland in wild disorder.

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Swedish Writer Says German People Hate Nazi Leaders And Wait Revenge

(Editor's note: Christer Jaederlund, for 17 years Berlin correspondent of the Swedish newspaper Stockholms-Tidningen, has just returned to Stockholm with the latest first hand account of conditions in Germany. Jaederlund left Berlin because he found it no longer possible to work there.)

ruined house to prevent the spread of infection from this district, which once was the center of Berlin's flourishing clothing industry.

Likely targets were Sasebo and Nagasaki, naval bases on Kyushu. Sasebo is by reputation one of the four great naval bases of Japan. It has a large fleet anchorage with extensive machine shops and repair facilities as well as several drydocks and considerable arsenals.

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

(Continued on Page 10; Col. 7)

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

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