FORECAST

Cloudy and cooler. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 76—Low, 64.

Wilmington Morning Star

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Re-Deployment Of European Troops Ordered; Liberation Of Prague Announced By Stalin; Goering And Kesselring Surrender To U. S.

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Small Groups Still Resist In Slovakia

Russian Troops Join Americans In Anstetten Area Of Austria

LONDON, Thursday, May 10.—(AP)—Marshal Stalin announced the liberation of Prague yesterday and said that while a small group of die-hard Germans still was resisting in Szechoslovakia, "we must believe that the Red Army will succeed in bringing it to its senses.

Just after midnight the Moscow radio broadcast a Soviet communique which stated that the capitulation of the Germans was proceeding on all fronts except in Czechoslovakia, where a group of German troops, "avoiding capitulation to Soviet forces, is retreating hastily to the west and southwest."

The Moscow communique said Soviet troops had linked up with Americans in Austria in the area of Anstetten.

Shortly before Stalin announced that Prague had been freed the Prague patriot radio broadcast an invitation to President Eduard Benes and the national government to return to Prague from Kosice.

The German high command in what the announcer on the Flensburg radio said was the "last communique" announced tonight that all German arms had ceased firing on order of Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz.

"We have achieved great victories but also heavy defeats—we

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DIPLOMATS TALK OF POLISH ISSUE

Soviet Commissar Molotov Leaves Peace Parley For Moscow

SAN FRANCISCO, May 9.—(AP)—Soviet Commissar Molotov left for Moscow today and Secretary of State Stettinius and British Foreign Secretary Eden huddled immediately with top advisers on the Polish problems.

Molotov boarded a Moscow-bound plane in mid-morning. No sooner had he left than the British and American foreign ministers got together with W. Averell Harriman, U. S. Ambassador to Russia, and Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, Britain's envoy to Moscow.

Apparently they reviewed the entire question of broadening the Polish government. And apparently, also, Harriman and Kerr got their instructions on how to procede on this issue from now on. They were leaving tonight for Moscow by way of Washington and London.

Sitting in on the conversations in Stettinius' Fairmont hotel penthouse was Charles E. Bohlen, State Department Russian expert and liaison man with the White House, who also is flying back to Washington.

It was learned that the British and Americans still have received no reply from the Russians to their demand for a full explanation of the arrest of 16 Polish underground leaders. They are reported standing firm on their insistance that this explanation be provided, with Britain and the United States maintaining a united front.

A Russian reply is expected within a few days, however. Stettinius and Eden are known to feel there can be little, if any, progress on complete adjustment of the Polish issue until it comes along.

Then new discussions could proceed in Moscow between Molotov, Harriman and Kerr.

Conference delegates heard, too, that Prime Minister Churchill was urging Eden to return to London because of the situation raised by Germany's surrender.

But with the second large-scale issue of trusteeships over dependent lands still unsettled, Eden is reported to be delaying his departure until later in the week.

Guns Of Victory Roar Over Russian Capital

Stalin Says Soviet Union Does Not Intend To Destroy Germany; No Mention Of Japan Is Made

LONDON. May 9 —(AP)— Marshal Stalin climaxed Russia's jubilant VE - Day celebration tonight by personally announcing Germany's unconditional surrender and Moscow's victory guns roared out their greatest salute—30 salvoes from 1,000 guns.

Stalin, declaring that the final act of capitulation was signed yesterday in Berlin after a "preliminary act" at Reims, made no reference to Japan or the far eastern conflict, and he reiterated that Russia "does not intend to destroy Germany."

The victory ended a Soviet-German conflict of four years and 10 1-2 months, one of the most gruelling struggles in history. Both sides suffered millions of casualties, and in a two-year march from Stalingrad to Berlin the Red Army fought its way back 1,360 miles—the airline equivalent from New York to Oklahoma City.

"This is no longer a mere scrap of paper," Stalin said of the surrender. "It is the actual capitulation of the armed forces of Germany. . . .all the suffering. . . .of our people in defense of our motherland was not in vain.

Stalin made his announcement as thousands of Russians jammed the streets in front of the American embassy in Moscow, toasting the United States, President Truman, and the American people.

"Hitler declared three years ago 'we shall destroy Russia.'" Stalin said. "But Hitler's insane ideas

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City Auditorium Plans Discussed By Council

A two-man committee was appointed today by Mayor W. Ronald Lane to confer with City Manager A. C. Nichols on the possible post-war construction of a city auditorium, with the thought of designating it as a memorial to Wilmington's war dead.

Councilman Garland S. Currin and Robert S. LeGwin, who were elected Tuesday for another two-year term, were told to bring the Council a recommendation. following study of plans mapped four years ago and investigation into the building and operation of similar structures in other cities.

It was generally conceded that "public sentiment" favors erection of a municipal auditorium, which also would contain athletic facilities.

Its location would be at the site of the old Marine hospital, property now leased to the Federal government by the city and utilized as a German prisoner of war internment camp. Work could not start until termination of the lease.

City Attorney W. B. Campbell explained that plans already evolved call for the building of an auditorium, with an athletic field and equipment, at the hospital site, a two-block area bounded by Ann, Church, Eighth and Tenth streets.

In opening the discussion before the Council, Mr. Currin declared "there is one thing very important to the citizens of Wilmington, and that is a City auditorium. I think it's time we make some plans, so that when the war is over we can start it. I'd like to see us get in there and make plans for an up-to-date auditorium."

Mr. Currin asked for the appointment of a committee and suggested that it possibly should be designated as a memorial to the Wilmington men who have given their lives in the war.

The possibility that Federal funds might be available to help with the cost of construction, and other methods for carrying on operation of the municipal project, were advanced by City Manager Nichols.

SOUTH PICTURED AS SCIENCE AID

Two Areas Forecast To Lead America To New Industrial Riches

CHAPEL HILL, N. C., May 9—(AP)—The South and the Pacific northwest were pictured here tonight as leading peaceful America through science to a new era of industrial riches.

The forecast was made by Dr. Wilson Compton, president of Washington State College at the University of North Carolina's celebration of its 150th birthday. He spoke at the opening of a conference on research and regional welfare. He is the brother of Dr. Karl T. Compton, president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and of Dr. Arthur H. Compton, Nobel prize winner in physics, of the University of Chicago.

Dr. Compton said that the South's forests alone can yield a pulp and paper production four times their present volume, and can make wood sugar equal to half the world's present production of sugar. Wood sugar makes fodder for livestock, many plastics and scores of basic chemicals.

"The South's forests and forest industries," he declared "can be made to provide more employment than was ever provided by cotton in its hey-day. The humble pine tree, as a successor to cotton, and capable of producing four times as much cellulose per acre per year, is the South's finest richest store house of industry and employment".

Mines, farms and water power he listed as the other great southern resources. In explaining the scientific wealth in these sources, he said that the south has been living off of its resources instead of off its ideas.

Selective Service Bill Is Signed By President

WASHINGTON, May 9.— (AP) — President Truman today signed into law the bill extending the Selective Service act one year, and it was officially announced that draft calls "will continue to be large."

The latter announcement came from the Office of War Mobilization, which said:

"Deferments for men under 30 will continue to be relatively few and will become fewer as more veterans return to industry and the farms."

President Truman, in signing the draft law extension, made plain he would have vetoed. if he could, a section forbidding the use of 18-year-olds in combat without six months training. He objected that this "places added restrictions on the War and Navy Departments in their management of the fighting forces."

"I signed the legislation only because the immediate extension of the Selective Service Act is of compelling necessity in the continuance of military operations against Japan," he said in a statement.

The bill extends the draft act for 12 months beyond May 15, 1945, or until the end of the Pacific war, whichever comes sooner.

In a report on "phase two" of

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

First Of Top Nazis Taken By Doughboys

Former German Air Chief Says He Was Sentenced By Hitler

By A. I. GOLDBERG

KUTZBUEHEL, Austria, May 9 — (AP) —Reich Marshal Hermann Wilhelm Goering, whose Nazi air force once frightened the world, and Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, German commander-in-chief on the Western Front, have surrendered to Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's American Seventh Army.

Goering, a self-professed fugitive from the wrath of Hitler, surrendered near here last night with his wife and six-year-old daughter and was flown today to Gen. Patch's headquarters. Details of Kesselring's capture were not immediately given.

The first of the top Nazis to fall into American hands, Goering said he was sentenced to execution by Hitler April 24 when he suggested that he, Goering, take over the crumbling Reich.

He declared that his air force followers shot their way through SS troops who were guarding him at Berchtesgaden and spirited him away to a hideout in this area. It was with relief, apparently, that the Nazi leader surrendered last night to Brig. Gen. Robert Stack, assistant commander of the U. S. 36th Division.

Another of the original Nazis to fall into the 36th Division's hands

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CURFEW LIFTED IN NIGHT SPOTS

Wilmington Retailers Advised They Can Use Display Lights

The lights went on again and the midnight "curfew" was lifted in Wilmington and elsewhere throughout the country last night as part of the reconversion program of War Mobilization Director Fred Vinson.

Walter Cartier. executive secretary of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce; advised retailers that they can once again use window, outside and display lighting, and added that restaurants, cafes, and other places which were effected by the 12 a.m. curfew can now go back to their accustomed hours.

Although New York's Mayor La Guardia and others questioned

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Reconversion Picture Brightened By Vinson

WASHINGTON, May 9.— (AP) — The Government notified its civilians today they must remain in virtually full war harness until Japan is beaten, but abolished immediately, the racing ban and midnight curfew on entertainment places.

"Some reconversion" to civilian goods production was promised at once by War Mobilization Director Fred M. Vinson.

But he laid down the policy that nearly all the economic controls imposed for the two-front war—price ceilings, many manpower and production controls — should be maintained in force until the last shot is fired in the Pacific.

Vinson warned at a news conference of a dire struggle still ahead, predicting that Japan would not surrender unconditionally without a "successful and complete invasion" of her homeland.

This means that "a great part" of the war worker force must stay on the job and that munitions production will finally stabilize at not less than two-thirds of the present huge armament rate, Vinson stated, in his first meeting with the press since he became director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion.

The Army will reduce strength by 1,300,000 men in the next year, but slowly at first. The Navy will not cut, he said. Draft calls will continue to be heavy and deferments for men under 30 "will continue to be relatively few."

Probably 1,500,000 war workers will lose their jobs in the next six months, Vinson predicted, perhaps 3,000,000 more in the following half year. But reconversion should soak up most of them, leaving 2,500,000 unemployed in twelve months compared with today's 1,000,000 jobless.

On the optimistic side of the picture, he forecast:

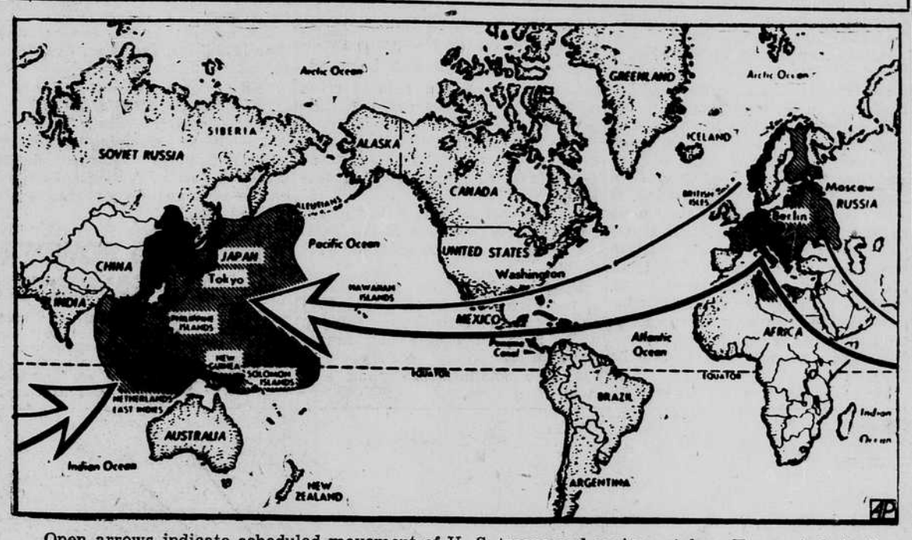
A few new passenger cars coming off assembly lines in six to nine months, an immediate start on moderate numbers of refrigerators and washing machines; and

An increase in gasoline rations perhaps amounting to 50 per cent for A-card drivers; just when, he could not say. Commercial users, and perhaps B-card motorists, will get an increase too.

In a report released at the news conference, entitled "the war—phase two," Vinson gave the War Production Board encouragement to start gradual its relaxation of industrial controls as soon as ar-

(Continuide on Page Three; Col. 2)

German Surrender Focuses Attention On Pacific



Open arrows indicate scheduled movement of U. S. troops and equipment from Europe in both directions toward the Pacific area to throw Allied power into the war against Japan following the unconditional surrender of Germany. Black areas are those under Axis control in both Europe and the Pacific at the time of German surrender, and shaded areas indicate greatest extent of Axis holdings during the war. (AP Wirephoto).

2,684 YANKS DIE ON OKINAWA ISLE

Casualties through Monday Total 16,425, Nimitz Reports

GUAM, Thursday, May 10—(AP)—American casualties on Okinawa total 16,425 through Monday, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said today.

Japanese casualties for the same period — beginning with D-Day, April 1, on Okinawa and a week earlier in the Kerama island group nearby—were 36,535, Nimitz announced earlier.

American casualties were 2,107 soldiers and 577 Marines killed; 10,402 Soldiers and 2,800 Marines wounded, and 501 Soldiers and 38 Marines missing.

Nimitz's last figure on American casualties, as of May 3, was 2,337 killed, 11,432 wounded and 514 missing—a total of 14,383. That figure was not broken down into Army and Marine casualties.

Two unidentified units of the British Pacific fleet suffered "minor damage" yesterday in a Japanese retaliatory air attack after the British sent carrier planes to assault Miyako and Ishigaki islanda in the Sakishima group, of the southern Ryukyu chain.

British pilots destroyed two planes in the air and one on the ground as they attacked airfield installations.

Supported by heavy Naval and aerial bombardment, Doughboys on Okinawa "continued to move south" yesterday, Nimitz said without any details, after having been held to no gains Tuesday because of adverse weather. Associated Press Correspondent Vern Haugland reported from Okinawa that heavy rains had bogged down vehicles.

Samal Invaded By U. S., Aussies Seize Api Hill

MANILA, Thursday, May 10—(AP)—Samal island in Davao gulf was invaded and virtually cleared by the 24th Infantry Division Tuesday while on the Mindanao mainland the Japanese near Davao City fought bitterly, apparently intent on a bloody stand.

The invasion of Tarakan island, off Borneo, near completion as Australian and Dutch troops seized Api hill and closed in on the Djoeata oil field.

Tarakan City, in the middle of the rich Pamoesian oil field was totally in Allied hands. Derricks had been destroyed but the wells appeared salvagable.

Elements of Maj. Gen. Roscoe Woodruff's 24th Division occupied Sama island to protect the flank during the drive up the western coast of Davao gulf. The landing was unopposed and few, if any, Japanese, were believed on the island.

Samal, about 22 miles long and

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WAR CONTINUES WITHIN SERBIA

Former Pro-Axis Premier Continues To Fight Stalin's Victory

KITZBUEHEL, Austria, May 9.—(AP)—Field Marshal Milan Nedic, former pro-Axis premier of Serbia, declared today he and his forces would continue to wage war against Marshal Tito and "fight any victory for Stalin in our country."

"Maybe the big powers can live together — England, the United States and Russia," he said, "but Balkan politics is something entirely different and we will continue to fight any victory for Stalin in our country."

It was suggested to him that he may have no troops left, and that realism might dictate that Balkan politics bow to the welfare of Europe.

The former Premier asserted "we fought with (Gen. Draja) Mihailovic against Tito and against the communists and against Stalin. We have been here seven months, coming out of Bosnia when the pressure of the Russian and other armies forced us west."

He and his brother, Col. Gen. Milutin Nedic, former Yugoslav minister of war, were in a hotel room here when the premier made his statement, in which his brother concurred.

FDR MOURNING ENDS

WASHINGTON, May 9— (AP) — By order of President Truman, Acting Secretary of State Grew today fixed the end of the period of official mourning for President Roosevelt at sundown, Monday, May 14. Flags will remain at half staff until then.

YANKS IN ITALY LEAVE FOR JAPAN

Movement To Pacific War Area Will Be Via The United States

ROME, May 9.— (AP)—Some American combat troops already have been transferred direct from Italy to the Pacific war zone, Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, commander of U. S. forces in the Mediterranean area, disclosed today.

Only a relatively small number of the troops in this area will be demobilized and these probably won't leave Italy for several months, McNarney said in a V-E Day broadcast.

Most of the soldiers in Italy, the commander said, would be needed either for European occupation assignments or for more campaigning in the far east.

The movement to the Pacific theater, he said, would be via the United States.

"For most of you," McNarney told the troops under the his command, "your return to civilian life will come only when Japan has been utterly and finally defeated."

45,000 Will Be Returned During May

Occupation Force of 400,000 Will Remain, War Department Says

WASHINGTON, May 9.— (AP) — Approximately 2,837,000 troops will be moved out of Europe within nine months, the Army discloses today.

Within 12 months, the Army excepts to have out of Europe 3,100,000 troops, leaving only an occupation force estimated at 400,000.

The majority of these soldiers will come to the United States for redeployment to the Pacific area or for discharge from the Army. The others will be routed direct to the Pacific.

About 45,000 soldiers, including many who have been prisoners of the Germans, will be returned to this country by air and surface ships during this month.

Maj. Gen. Charles P. Gross, chief of the Army Transportation Corps, outlined at a news conference this schedule for the movement of troops from the European and Mediterranean theaters:

Approximately 1,185,000, or an average of 395,000 a month, will be moved out during the second three months.

About 807,000, or 269,000 a month, will be shifted during the third three months.

After that, the redeployment will be carried on until only the occupation force of some 400,000 is left. Gross said that all of those troops who are destined to be brought out under the redeployment program should leave Europe within a year.

After the last world war it required 10 months to evacuate 2,000,000 troops.

U. S. troop ships not required in the Pacific, many British troop ships, more than 400 converted cargo ships and 800 transport planes will be used to transport the troops. Gross said that by using captured enemy passenger ships the movement of troops may be speeded up by as much as 60,000 men during the second three months of the redeployment and by 117,000 men during the third quarter.

Gen. Brehon Somervell, chief of Army Service Forces, told the news conference that once the troops arrive in this country they will be sent to 22 Army personnel centers distributed throughout the United States. Wherever possible, the soldiers will be sent to the personnel center closest to their home.

Within a week after arriving in this country, Somervell estimated, the soldiers should reach home for furlough, or permanent release, as the case may be. Furloughed men, on completion of their leaves, will go back to the personnel centers, will be formed into groups and sent to assembly points for reassignments and special training.

The personnel centers to which the troops will go after reaching this country follow:

Camp Atterbury, Ind., serving the states of Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee; Camp Beale, Calif., serving northern California; Camp Blanding, Fla., serving Florida; Fort Bliss, Tex., serving Arizona, New Mexico and

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

400 Superforts Smack Jap Industrial Center

WASHINGTON, May 9.—(U.P.)— A fleet of more than 400 American Superfortresses, probably the largest bombing force ever sent against Japan, today blasted industrial military and air installations on the enemy home islands of Honshu and Kyushu.

The massive strike bore out the promise made yesterday by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz that, with the end of the war in Europe, the aerial pounding of Japan would be stepped up immediately.

A 20th Air Force announcement said the massive daylight attack, made Thursday, Japanese time, was directed in part at strategic targets not previously hit by the big bombers.

One very large task force of Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Lemay's Marianas-based Superforts concentrated on industrial and military areas on the southern tip of Honshu on the inland sea and apparently in the vicinity of Shimonoseki.

Other B-29's of the 21st Bomber Command made another of the almost daily 'neutralization" attacks on air installations on the southern most home island of Kyushu.

Confederate Memorial Service Will Be Held At Oakdale Cemetery

The annual Confederate Memorial Day service will be conducted at 4 p.m. today at the Confederate monument in Oakdale cemetery.

The Rev. W. J. Stevenson of Temple Baptist church will deliver the address and invocation will be offered by the Rev. A. S. Parker. Louis T. Moore will act as master of ceremonies.

Music will be under the direction of Lt. Eugene Laycock and the High school ROTC band, and the concluding portion of the rite will be "Taps" by George Darden, bugler.

The entire service is sponsored by the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.