

Partly cloudy and mild, probable showers today. Temperatures yesterday: High, 81—Low, 71.

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Big Nations' Power Faces Major Tests

Veto Question And Voting Plan Are Scheduled For Hearing

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17.—(AP)—The power of big nations to do as they please in enforcing peace moved along tonight toward its first major test in the United Nations conference.

That test is coming up in one of the conference committees which now are stepping up their pace in an attempt to finish drafting a charter for a new world organization within another three weeks.

The question of great national veto power and an entire plan for voting on peace-preserving steps was under consideration in a committee working on the structure of a proposed security council.

The 11-member council will be the world organization's strong-arm agency, the one with the right to use armed might against aggression.

The committee has to decide whether each of the big five—France, Britain, China, Russia and the United States—will have the right to block peace-enforcement steps, against themselves or any other country.

The whole charter appears to be shaping up along lines the Big Five might have cut out.

But some small nations still are chipping away at the veto authority. Some want to eliminate it entirely so far as it would apply to action seeking the peaceful settlement of disputes. They may win some concessions.

Another committee, considering functions of an all-nations general authority over selection of a secretary general, who will be the principal official of the world organization. But Russia has complained this committee overstepped its authority, and the question whether it has jurisdiction in the matter has been referred to a conference coordinating body for a decision.

Top statesmen of the Big Five hunted for ways of speeding up the conference, continued a discussion of issues, and hoped Moscow would come through soon on Russia's attitude toward letting regional defense arrangements operate alongside the world organization.

A formal meeting of Big Five foreign ministers was suddenly called off, however, amid indications Russia is not yet prepared to state her position.

The Russian position may determine whether the proposed American amendment to give status within the world organization to the inter-American defense system will be offered to a conference committee tomorrow with the support

Nazi Prisoners Rebuild Europe

PARIS, May 17.—(AP)—German prisoners of war by the thousand already have begun paying in hard work and sweat the first installment on their country's huge debt to the world, and one of their first tasks is aimed squarely at the defeat of their former ally, Japan.

As fast as they can be processed the Nazi captives are being put to work under the eyes of Doughboy guards to speed the tremendous job of transferring American troops and supplies to the Pacific.

Skilled German workers are being used to recondition and prepare millions of items of equipment for the great changeover, while thousands of others are repairing roads over which the American armies will flow to embarkation ports.

They are not getting much in the way of pay, it is not in cash, and in Germany which eventually will foot the bill. Enlisted men get 80 cents a day if they work—otherwise only 10 cents. The 10 cents is in the form of a canteen allowance. The rest is kept in credits, which a defeated Germany eventually will be required to take over and pay to her former soldiers.

WEATHER

(Eastern Standard Time) (By U. S. Weather Bureau) Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday. Temperature: 1:30 am, 71; 7:30 am, 75; 1:30 pm, 80; 7:30 pm, 74. Maximum 81; Minimum 71; Mean 76; Normal 71. Humidity: 1:30 am, 71; 7:30 am, 83; 1:30 pm, 69; 7:30 pm, 88. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 pm, 0.0 inches. Since the first of the month, 0.33 inches. Tides For Today (From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey) Wilmington: High 10:14; Low 2:54; 10:14; 2:57; 10:30; Masonboro Inlet: 12:40; 7:11; 1:31 p; 7:29 p. Sunrise, 5:08; Sunset, 7:08; Moonrise 11:35; Moonset, 12:50. Stage of river at Fayetteville, 10.18.

Tarakan Installations Burning Before Invasion



Tremendous billows of smoke drift upward from shore installations on Tarakan Island, off the coast of Borneo, as a U. S. Naval force pours shells into enemy positions to prepare the way for a landing by Australian troops. The wavy streaks are from phosphorous shells. U. S. Navy photo. (International Soundphoto)

COUNTY FARMERS, BANKERS GATHER

Relative Problems Are Discussed At Wrightsboro Clubhouse

A meeting between New Hanover county farmers and Wilmington bankers was held last night at the Wrightsboro Home Demonstration Club, to establish better relations between farmers and financial institutions and in furthering attainment of the 7th War Loan goal.

Total War Bond sales to date are \$952,989.25, of which \$801,473.75 represents "E" bond purchases it was reported.

Sponsored by the Wilmington Clearing House Association at the suggestion of the American Bankers Association, the meeting was part of a nationwide movement towards more intimate understanding of relative problems.

The first speaker at last night's meeting was Richard S. Rogers, area manager of the War Finance Committee, district six and seven, comprising 14 southeastern North Carolina counties.

Mr. Rogers praised rural contributions to War Bond sales and terms the securities "splendid investments for college educations of children." He said that rural areas had been seriously hampered by two factors, price control and labor shortages. The best way to eliminate these restrictions was to end the war quickly by the purchase of War Bonds, he continued.

J. G. Thornton, co-chairman of the New Hanover county and Wilmington War Finance Committee, expressed the belief that agriculture locally was on a sound basis already, stressing that no farmers had borrowed money from the Wilmington Savings and Trust company. He said that there is hardly any rural district in New Hanover, that it was more of a continuation of the residential areas. He added that the farmers have the same school advantages as city residents.

E. A. Laney, also co-chairman of the New Hanover county and Wilmington War Finance Committee in commenting on the fact that in the past six war loan campaigns, New Hanover county has always gone over the top, said that farmers had more than done their share and that he was confident that likewise he exceeded.

R. W. Galphin, New Hanover county Farm and Home Demonstration Agent and head of the drive in the rural areas, called on local farmers for help in the campaign.

Mr. Galphin reminded those present that the war was only half over, "not half over if we look at the casualty lists," he added. To hasten the end, food must be raised.

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Freeze On Meat Prices By Government Likely

WASHINGTON, May 17.—(AP)—Members of Congress said today the Government is likely to freeze all ceiling prices on meat for at least six months.

The price ceiling freeze—requiring six-month notice of intention to raise or lower cash prices—is described as the keystone of a revamped program being drafted by War Mobilization Director Fred M. Vinson and other government officials to break the growing meat shortage and black market.

Barring last minute changes, the program as reported by legislators would include these other beef-producing incentives:

1. A 50 cents per hundredweight subsidy to feeders of live cattle as an inducement to hold cattle on feed lots until they develop into prime beef.

2. A requirement that all cattle worth \$14.25 a hundred be sold directly to slaughtering plants, intended to keep a supply of good meat moving to market.

Non-congressional sources connected with the planning job said the program outlined was the one most in consideration, but no final decision has been reached yet, particularly on the subsidy proposal.

The new Vinson program—expected before the end of this week—probably will scrap much of a 10-point meat policy issued several weeks ago. The 10-point program failed to break the beef shortage and, Capitol Hill heard, some cattlemen complained that it forced them to take losses on their stock.

Vinson, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones, representatives of the OPA, Commodity Credit Corp. and other Government agencies concerned with meat supplies have been working on the new meat program for more than a week.

The ceiling price regulation would require that the government hereafter give six months notice of intention to shift prices at any level of meat marketing from stock ranges to the butcher counters.

"Backers of the freeze feel it will serve the two-fold purpose of preventing retail counter inflation and encouraging cattlemen to develop prime beef without fear that the market will crack and leave them with a loss."

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Russians Begin Summer Field Training Program

MOSCOW, May 17.—(AP)—The Red army has started wide-scale summer field training, it was announced today, while an editorial in the army newspaper Red Star warned that the Red army must be equal to any tasks standing before it.

Intensive training has begun in the L'vov area and in the Caucasus where thousands of Red army officers and soldiers will carry out every kind of operation.

As history's biggest manhunt for notorious Nazis was pressed from Norway to the Bavarian Alps, an official said the United Nations blacklist of major German War criminals was just about complete.

Eden also told commons that he hoped swift justice would be meted out to Hermann Goering—described by a common questioner as "that loathsome criminal."

He said he had no information on the whereabouts of Joachim Von Ribbentrop, Hitler's foreign minister, but said "every step is being taken to arrest Ribbentrop and bring him to justice."

The foreign secretary was unable to predict when the trials would begin because "the preparation of charges and the making of necessary arrangements for trial involves consultations with our Allies and this is bound to take a little time."

Von Ribbentrop, Heinrich Himmler and Jew-baiter Julius Streicher were the objects of a search in

MARINES SMASH INTO NAHA, PUSHING THROUGH STREETS; JAPANESE FISH FOR PEACE

AMERICANS SAY BID IS FUTILE REPORTS INFORMAL

Enemy Believed Unwilling To Face Unconditional Surrender

WASHINGTON, May 17.—(AP)—Individual Japanese in neutral countries are fishing for signs of peace short of unconditional surrender, but thus far no official peace bid has been received from Japan, it was learned today.

Particularly since the fall of Manila, a number of Japanese have urged neutrals to learn the "real American attitude" but these Japanese specify only that unconditional surrender is impossible for Japan and suggest no definite terms.

Asked about reports that the office of strategic services had received a definite Japanese peace bid, officials here familiar with Japanese affairs said they knew of nothing of that kind.

They stressed the futility of informal, personal peace feelers, representing as they do no authority from the militarists who still control Japan's destiny. All the evidence in American hands indicates that this element has no self-interest in facing the prospect of unconditional surrender and probably will not face it until Japanese military pride has been brought considerably lower.

The cabinet of Admiral Kantaro Suzuki, the new premier, is a strong one composed of some of the empire's best production experts with emphasis on the development of the war potential in Korea and Manchuria.

The reported dissolution of the imperial rule assistance society, Japan's version of a totalitarian party since 1940, caused not a ripple in official circles here.

They saw in it no significance which might suggest that it fore-shadows a real Japanese peace offer.

Dissolution of this organization had been scheduled since before the fall of the last Japanese cabinet. Even before this was definitely decided upon, plans were laid in Tokyo for a much broader totalitarian party, which now has come into existence and is known as the political association of great Japan and theoretically extends membership to every adult Japanese. Its head is General Jiro Minami, one of Japan's best known militarists who long has been associated with empire development.

Until a peace bid bears unmistakably the stamp of Japan's real rulers, it means nothing except possibly to indicate factional and minority trends in Japan, according to the view here.

While one peace inquiry may have originated with the wealthy classes of Japan and another appeared to have been associated at one stage with the Japanese court, both fizzled out because there was no hint that they represented the intentions of the militarists who run the government in Tokyo.

American policy, it is learned, is based on the idea that to give unauthorized attention to such unofficial feelers would lead Japanese

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Advancing Doughboys Reach Valencia Town ENEMY'S SHURI LINE IS BROKEN BRIDGEHEAD FIXED

MANILA, Friday, May 18.—(AP)—Troops of the U. S. 31st Infantry Division, in a new six-mile gain in central Mindanao, have reached the town of Valencia and are closing in on its important airbase, while 1st Cavalry Division units advanced to the edge of Port Lampon on Luzon's east coast, it was announced today.

The 31st, gaining 11 miles in two days along the central highway, rolled up to the town which is near the two airfields American forces built early in 1942. The main drive was from the south, but the Doughboys were driving the enemy back into the hills to the north and east of the main Yank column.

The 31st was only 31 airline miles from a junction with the 40th Division, bearing down from the north along the same highway. The Cavalrymen gained 30 miles in their latest push toward Lampon, a seaplane anchorage 40 miles east of Manila.

The communique said that the 43rd Infantry Division was drawing its lines tighter around the isolated enemy force in the Ipo dam pocket northeast of the capital, while in northern Luzon the 25th and 32nd Divisions were steadily driving the enemy back from the Baletta pass area toward Santa Fe.

It was disclosed that two-engine transport planes had started freighting supplies to the Maramag airdrome, a dozen miles south of Valencia. Maramag's capture by the 31st was announced five days ago.

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz reported that seven enemy planes were destroyed on the ground, two others were probably destroyed and 33 were damaged. One fighter plane shot down by intense anti-aircraft fire thrown up around the airfield. But there was no mention of aerial opposition and it appeared that the all-out air offensive against Japan has reached a stage where the enemy is hard pressed to challenge effectively the ever-increasing strikes.

The Nagoya B-29 assaults spread fires through the heart of that great city which was hit with more than 1,140,000 incendiary bombs. Full analysis of damage caused in the two-day punch was not yet available but it appeared that the key industrial center may have been knocked out at least temporarily.

(Japanese broadcasts, reporting that the new B-34 super liberators had gone into action from Aleutian bases, said that a formation of

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Wilmington Man Leads Tank Push

First Lt. Leon F. Andrews, 27, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Andrews, of 1501 South Third street, was the leader of a tank column yesterday, which fought to a point 500 yards north of the center of Yonabaru town on Okinawa, in some of that campaign's hardest fighting thus far, according to a United Press dispatch.

A member of the 96th Division, Lt. Andrews joined the National Guard in 1935, and became a member of the headquarters' battery of the 252d Coast Artillery.

After the National Guard was called into active service, he went to Trinidad in 1942, after which he returned to the States and entered Officers Candidate school at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Commissioned a second lieutenant, Andrews then went to California for training in desert warfare. He was sent to Hawaiian Islands, where he saw service with the Intelligence branch of the Army. Afterwards he participated in the Leyte invasion in October of last year. On Leyte he was promoted to first lieutenant, and later joined the invasion forces which landed on Okinawa on D-Day.

In a letter to his parents, Andrews said that his tank, which is named "Bushmaster," was shot out.

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FORMER SOLICITOR SURVIVES BOMBING



Lt. W. A. Simon Hospitalized After Jap Raid On Franklin

Special to The Star NEW YORK, May 17.—Lt. W. A. "Bill" Simon, 35, son of W. A. Simon, of 1110 South Fourth street Wilmington, N. C., only officer of 13 to escape from the air operations compartment aboard the aircraft carrier U. S. S. Franklin, when it was struck by enemy shells 50 miles off the coast of Kyushu, Japan, is recovering in a hospital here, it was learned last night.

A former prosecuting attorney in New Hanover county, N. C., Lt. Simon was wounded when the Franklin was attacked, and was part of the crew that saved her and brought the vessel back to port. He was awarded the Purple Heart and cited by Admiral Mitscher. He was attached to the 58th task force.

Simon has seen three tours of duty, going first to Attu and Kiska in the Aleutians, and joining the personnel of the Franklin in January of this year.

He is married to the former Miss Mary Louise Mickey of Wiston-Salem. After recovering from his wounds, he is expected to go to his home in Wilmington on convalescent leave.

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Eden Reports Doenitz Is Under Investigation

LONDON, May 17.—(AP)—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden disclosed today that Grand Admiral Karl Doenitz—Hitler's successor branded by Moscow as a war criminal—was "under investigation" and "according to newspaper reports" had been arrested.

As history's biggest manhunt for notorious Nazis was pressed from Norway to the Bavarian Alps, an official said the United Nations blacklist of major German War criminals was just about complete.

Eden also told commons that he hoped swift justice would be meted out to Hermann Goering—described by a common questioner as "that loathsome criminal."

He said he had no information on the whereabouts of Joachim Von Ribbentrop, Hitler's foreign minister, but said "every step is being taken to arrest Ribbentrop and bring him to justice."

The foreign secretary was unable to predict when the trials would begin because "the preparation of charges and the making of necessary arrangements for trial involves consultations with our Allies and this is bound to take a little time."

Von Ribbentrop, Heinrich Himmler and Jew-baiter Julius Streicher were the objects of a search in

Yanks Halt Yugoslavs Along Disputed Border

TRIESTE, May 17.—(AP)—American Doughboys manning machine guns and anti-tank artillery halted Yugoslav soldiers and their Italian followers along the disputed Italian border today and took from them property stolen during wholesale looting west of the Isonzo river.

Roadblocks were set up by U. S. troops at several points in the vicinity of Gorizia, 20 miles northwest of Trieste, as the Yugoslav partisans carried out an order of Marshal Josip Bros (Tito), their leader, to evacuate all territory west of the Isonzo. The Americans stopped foot soldiers and animal-

drawn vehicles, some of which were heavily laden with loot. The majority of partisans crossing to the eastern side of the river were members of a brigade of Italian communists of the Garibaldi division who are followers of Tito.

British military authorities said the withdrawal order was being carried out slowly. Tito still controlled Trieste, Gorizia and other cities of the Istrian peninsula despite the presence of American troops and British naval forces in the vicinity.

Over 1,000 Die As Ship Is Hit

WASHINGTON, May 17.—(AP)—More than 1,000 members of the crew of the aircraft carrier Franklin were killed or wounded March 19, the Navy disclosed today, when a Jap dive-bomber scored two direct hits that set off the ship's er fire load of explosives and turned the flattop into a floating hell.

But the survivors of the heroic crew, with dead and dying at their feet, kept afloat the 27,000-ton mass of flaming, twisted wreckage and brought her home from three miles of the tragedy, only 6 cents off the Japanese coast.

The casualty toll was the biggest ever suffered by any American Naval vessel in a single engagement. It included 341 dead, 43 missing and more than 300 wounded.

Now the charred and battered hull that once was a proud flagship of Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher's Tokyo-busting task force has found refuge in Brooklyn Navy yard after a 12,000-mile cruise, most of it under her own power, from the scene of her victorious fight for life.