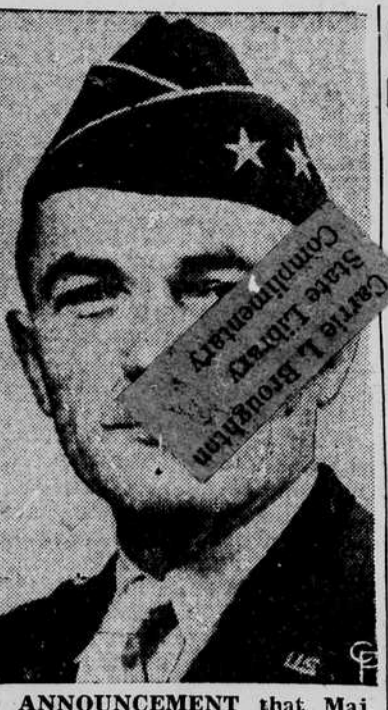


Wilmington and vicinity: Considerable cloudiness and mild with scattered showers today; Friday, partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

Truman Takes Quick Action

Directs Forrestal To Take Oath As First Defense Secretary

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—James V. Forrestal took the oath today as the nation's first secretary of defense without awaiting President Truman's return to Washington.



ANNOUNCEMENT that Maj. Gen. Willard G. Wyman (above) will become Chief of Staff of the U. S. First Army, Oct. 1, succeeding Maj. Gen. William B. Kean, has been made in Washington by Gen. Courtney H. Hodges, Commanding General of the First Army.

YUGOSLAV TROOPS ISSUE ULTIMATUM

American Officer With Small Detachment, Refuses To Move

TRISTE, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—Yugoslav troops issued an ultimatum to a second United States Army outpost today in an attempt to grab Italian territory West of the new frontier.

Britain Faces Doom In Any Atomic War

SCHOOLS CLOSED

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Noted Scientist Warns That Nation Has Reached Crossroads

By DANIEL L. THRAPP United Press Staff Correspondent LONDON, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—Great Britain is doomed to destruction in any atomic war unless she manages to remain neutral, a top British scientist warned today.

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Japanese Refugees Take Off In Assault Boats; Deaths Mount

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Storm Lashes Fort Myers, Gulf Coast; Marshall Blasts Russia In U. N. Speech; U. S. Cuts Grain Tonnage For Europe

Food Prices Up; Causing Concern

Republicans Call On Truman To Lead Conservation Move

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—Obviously concerned over rising food prices at home, the government today slashed the amount of grain destined for shipment abroad during November.

Secretary Urges Little Assembly

United States Seizes Initiative With Plan To Curb Veto

NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—Major developments today at the United Nations Assembly:

Southern Florida Beats Hurricane

Miami, Palm Beach Escape Major Damage; Citrus Belt Hard Hit

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Red Cross Committee Still On Duty Although Danger Here Past

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OPERA STAR HERE — Norman Cordon, North Carolina's well-known Metropolitan opera baritone who will appear at New Hanover high school in two concerts today at 3:30 (for children) and 8 p.m. is shown in rehearsal yesterday accompanied by William G. Robertson, pianist and organist at the St. James Episcopal church. (STAFF PHOTO)

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DECLARED to have been illegally seized by Yugoslav authorities in the Trieste area, Lt. John C. Dwyer (above), an army doctor from Chicago, was being held in the Trieste area, Italy, despite appeals for his release. He was rescued by Sgt. William Smith, Waycross, Ga., when taken prisoner.

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Court Relieves Minds Of "Gretna Green" Pairs

RALEIGH, Sept. 17.—(U.P.)—The North Carolina Supreme Court today secured the marriage knots of 2,608 "Gretna Green" couples whose wedded bliss was threatened by a chance it might not be legal.

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The Weather FORECAST: South Carolina—Considerable cloudiness and mild with scattered showers today; Friday, partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

And So To Bed One of the most amazing of the countless storm stories related here during the hurricane alert was told by Ken Noble of the publicity firm here which bears his name.