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MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY SOUGHT BY STETTINIUS

American Republics Are Invited to Join in a Mutual Defense Agreement by Secretary of State; Action to Be Taken at End of Frisco Meeting

San Francisco, May 15—Secretary of State Stettinius announced tonight the United States plans to invite other American republics to join in a mutual defense treaty arrangement under supervision of a proposed world peace-keeping organization.

In a statement proposing regional arrangement amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks formula, Stettinius said this government would ask its Western Hemisphere neighbors to join in negotiating a treaty "consistent with the charter of the world organization."

He said this action would be taken at the conclusion of the United Nations conference here.

Stettinius' announcement implied approval by the Latin-American nations of a formula under which the wartime inter-American defense agreement would be placed in operation under the proposed world organization. Further treaty agreements of the same nature would be carried out under the wing of the international league.

Truman Against Tax Cuts Till Nip Defeat

Washington, May 15—President Truman served emphatic notice today that he will fight any tax reductions until Japan is defeated, but top congressional tax managers divided on the question.

Chairman Doughton of the house ways and means committee, promptly took a stand with the President. Senator George, of Georgia, insisted there should be a downward adjustment "based on all the factors, and not on consideration of the end of the war alone."

Mr. Truman told his news conference he wanted it distinctly understood there can be no reduction in taxes until the war is over. There are 85,000,000 individual bondholders who must be protected, he said, adding that the only way to protect them is by taxation.

Doughton said "I agree with the President," and asserted that, with the huge debt and high cost of the war in the Pacific, the people should patriotically respond to the situation. Doughton conferred with the President during the day.

George said there should be a reduction as soon as possible, adding that "otherwise there is danger of an economic nosedive when the war with Japan ends." He conceded that there can be no drastic cuts, and that taxes probably will be high for a long time.

Mrs. Sarah Caroline Smith Dies at Age 81

Mrs. Sarah Caroline Smith, age 81 years, died at her home at Vilas on Wednesday of last week, after a long period of declining health.

Funeral services were conducted Thursday from the Willowdale Baptist church by Rev. J. C. Canipe, of Boone, and interment was in the neighborhood cemetery, Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home taking care of the details.

Mrs. Smith, one of the most esteemed ladies of her neighborhood, was the widow of John C. Smith, and a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Mast. She is survived by a son and daughter, Don Smith, Rogerson, Idaho, and Mrs. Jennie Jenkins, Vilas.

July 1 Last Day to Get Far Slaughter Permit

July 1 is the last day for farmers to obtain slaughtering permits under OPA's meat control program.

Farm slaughterers who sell or transfer meat after May 14 must have obtained a permit and a quota from the War Price and Rationing board, Gordon H. Winkler, chairman, explained. However, a farmer may have until July 1 to register if he does not wish to slaughter and sell meat between May 14 and July 1.

"The program to bring about a fairer distribution of the nation's meat supply was planned by representative farmers, distributors and the government," he added. "It is up to patriotic American farmers to help solve this American food problem as they have done in war food production so far."

Jack Edmisten Injured in Logging Accident

Mr. Jack Edmisten, well-known Boone lumberman, received serious injuries to the left leg Friday when he tried to escape a rolling log.

Mr. Edmisten suffered a broken knee cap and minor injuries when he fell, after having eluded the timber.

Wounded



Pfc. Joseph A. Eggers, who was slightly wounded in Germany April 9th, according to word reaching his wife, Mrs. Marjorie Eggers. He has been in service since December, 1942, and went overseas in February, 1944. He served in both the Third and Ninth armies on the western front, and now is in a hospital in France. Pfc. Eggers is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Linville Eggers, of Sugar Grove, and his wife and daughter, Dorothy Lee, reside with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Millard Greene, of Reese.

Appalachian High Senior Play To Be Given Saturday Night

Thursday evening at 8 o'clock the curtain will go up for "The Valiant One," a three-act drama, produced by the senior class of Appalachian high school, at the high school auditorium.

The play, written by Rachel Crothers, is being produced by special arrangement with the Northwestern Press. A complete new set has been worked out by the dramatics class at the high school.

The following seniors have parts in the play: Mary Kathryn Wilson, J. R. Brendell, Rhea Farthing, Mary Alice Moretz, Rachel Anne Vance, Patsy Ellis, Gordon Phillips and Jean Wilson.

Price of admission is 40 cents for adults and 25 cents for children and high school pupils.

Canning Sugar Available On Basis Current Needs

Sugar for home canning purposes will be issued on the basis of current needs, not to exceed a maximum of 15 pounds per person, Gordon H. Winkler, chairman of the Watauga War Price and Rationing board, said today.

This action was made necessary, Mr. Winkler explained, so that persons planning to do home canning later on may be assured of an adequate supply.

In view of the necessary cut by War Food administration of 450,000 pounds in the allotment of sugar for home canning this year, OPA has been requested to take steps for rationing the allotment fairly among customers, he said.

Robbers Break Into Western Auto Store

The Western Auto Associate Store was entered last Saturday night, and about \$25 in cash taken, together with some tire ration certificates, which undoubtedly were mistaken for currency. Mr. J. C. Cline, the owner, thinks that there is little or no merchandise missing.

Entrance to the store was made through the front door, the portion of the door holding the lock being splintered. There are no clues as to the identity of the guilty person.

Gets Bronze Star



Pfc. Walter South, son of Mrs. Ida M. South, who was awarded the Bronze Star medal for heroic achievement with the First United States Infantry division in Germany.

FACTS ON WAR STRESS URGENCY 7TH WAR LOAN

Difficulties of War Against Japan and Vast Distances Involved are Cited; More Machinery Needed; Problems of Peace Take Cash

Dates: May 14 through June 30, 1945.

Goal: \$14,000,000,000, of which \$7,000,000,000 is to be raised by individuals, \$4,000,000,000 in E bonds alone.

Individual Goal: Persons earning from \$140 to \$180 a month, at least \$100 war bond; from \$180 to \$200, \$125 worth; \$200 to \$210, \$150 extra; \$210 to \$225, \$175 extra; \$225 to \$250, \$200 extra; \$250 and up, \$250 and up.

Insignia: Based on the flag photograph taken at Iwo Jima.

The 7th War Loan started May 14. Americans as individuals are taking on their biggest quota to date—seven billion dollars, four billions in E bonds alone.

You may be wondering, "Why this biggest of all individual quotas now? Haven't we already reached the peak?"

A fair question—requiring a straight answer.

The Money Is Needed for War. The Battle of Japan has just begun. It must be backed up, paid for, fought for by a free people, intent on sweeping the Pacific clear of fascist hate—forever.

With the war in the West our first and major concern, we have not yet been able to go all-out in the East. But neither has the Jap.

The war to crush Japan will be bigger, tougher and longer than most Americans expect. The allied military command has estimated that it will take years, not months.

The destruction of Japan's armies has not yet reached the annual rate of normal replacements—between 200,000 and 250,000 men a year. And the Jap, as our men in the Pacific know, fights to the death.

As far as Japan is concerned, the outer empire—and the men who defend it—are expendables. The Jap will fight the Battle of Japan from inside the inner empire, of which Iwo Jima was an outpost. And Iwo Jima, according to Admiral Nimitz, was a pattern of the resistance our forces may expect to meet in future offensives.

New Tasks, New Needs. The single greatest obstacle to our crushing of Japan is distance. While in the Battle of Europe supply ships from our bases in England had only an overnight run to make, ships in the Pacific have long-reach round trips taking up to five months to make.

To crush Japan will take time, heroic and backbreaking effort, overpowering equipment. Millions of fighting men—freshly outfitted and equipped—will have to be moved from Europe halfway around the globe; and supplied day in, day out by hundreds of new ships now building.

More of everything will be needed. More B-29s. More tanks, half-tracks, jeeps and trucks. More rockets, mortars, airborne radar.

A whole new air force is in creation—huge new bombers dwarfing the Superfortresses—fast new jet-propelled combat planes, the P-80 or "Shooting Star," coming off the line by thousands.

These are just some of the 101 ways in which your dollars are (CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

Local Anglers Bring In Record Catch Trout

A group of local fishermen spent Sunday in Taylor's Valley, Va., and brought back the finest catch of rainbow and brook trout seen in this locality in many years.

The rainbows predominated, the largest taken being 20 inches in length and weighing 4½ pounds, the smallest nine inches in length. The 23 trout attracted considerable attention when displayed at Hollar's Grocery Monday.

Those fishing were: Paul A. Coffey, Ab Mullins, Kenneth Linney, Bert Ellis, Lionel Ward, Sgt. John E. Ward, Harry Michael and Tom Cushing, of Asheville.

Complete Figures on Blowing Rock Election

Following are the complete returns from the recent municipal election in Blowing Rock:

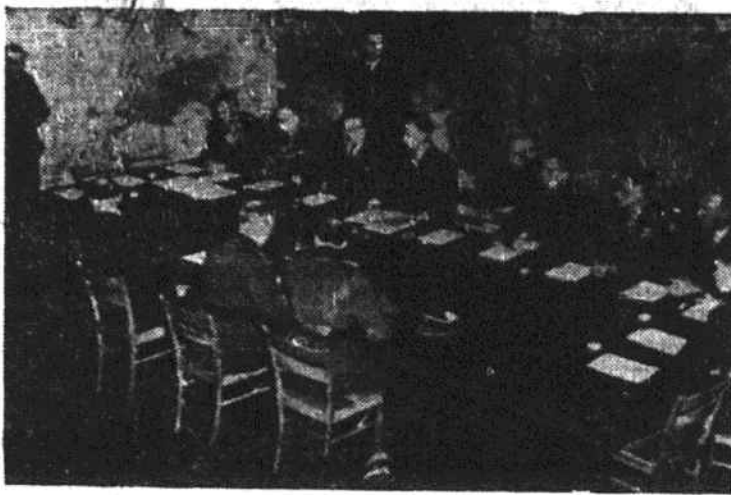
For mayor: Winkler 131, Robbins 110; for aldermen: Holshouser 190, W. B. Castle 175, Bill Lentz 178.

An erroneous report published last week gave the successful mayoralty candidate, Mr. Winkler, a vote of 231.

Senior Play to Be Staged at Cove Creek

The annual stage play of the senior class at Cove Creek high school will be given Friday evening, May 18, at 8 o'clock, it is stated. The title of the play is "A Pair of Country Kids."

End of the World's Greatest War



Col. Gen. Gustaf Jodl, German chief of staff, with back to camera, center, is shown signing the document under which all remaining forces of the German armies were bound to lay down their arms in unconditional surrender. The scene is supreme headquarters of the allied forces, Rheims, France. Across the table from Jodl are (left to right) Lieut. Gen. Sir Morgan, Gen. Francois Sevez, Admiral Bummough and Lt. Gen. W. B. Smith, chief of staff to General Eisenhower; Lt. Ivan Sherstaef, Gen. Ivan Susloparoff, Gen. C. A. Spaatz, Marshal J. M. Ross, Gen. H. R. Bull and Lt. Col. Ivan Zenkovitch.

Prisoner of Nazis



Pvt. Vester R. Warren, right, and an unidentified friend, Pvt. Warren has been a prisoner of Germany. He entered the army in January, 1944, went overseas in June of the same year, and was captured by the Nazis in August. He is the husband of Mrs. Annie Warren, of Zionville, and father of Beulah Jean, 5, of Zionville.

Chamber of Commerce To Hold Dinner Meet Here Thursday Night

Mr. H. W. Wilcox, president of the Boone Chamber of Commerce, has announced a banquet meeting of the organization to be held at the Gateway cafe Thursday evening at 7:30, and insists that there be a full attendance of the membership, for the discussion of pressing matters of civic concern.

The membership drive for the current year is being closed, and the committee in charge has done an excellent job, with usual co-operation from everyone.

Dr. C. M. Stenwall, of St. Petersburg, Fla., will be a speaker at the banquet.

Legion to Make Plans For Memorial Day

At a meeting of Watauga Post American Legion and Auxiliary Friday evening, May 18, plans will be formulated for the observance of Memorial Day as well as for the annual Poppy Day sales.

In Germany



Pvt. Chas. R. Rominger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Coy Rominger, of Rominger, is with the Ninth army in Germany. He is 19 years of age and entered the service last June.

Sgt. Clyde Love Gets Oak Leaf Cluster

Sgt. Clyde J. Love, son of Dr. and Mrs. W. J. Love, of Sugar Grove, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal, Oak Leaf cluster, for meritorious service in the European theatre. The citation reads as follows:

"Sergeant Clyde J. Love, 34116792, field artillery, while serving with the army of the United States, distinguished himself by meritorious service in action. While serving with his tank destroyer, he displayed courage and devotion to duty. When the enemy overran his position, he moved his tank destroyer to the rear and intercepted the enemy armor, destroying two tanks. In search of other enemy tanks, he encountered enemy infantry and inflicted heavy casualties on the enemy with his .50-calibre machine gun. His actions were in accordance with the highest standards of military service."

Mrs. G. E. Hayes Dies At Home Wednesday

Mrs. Minnie Brown Hayes, 75 years of age, died at her home on Boone Route 2, last Wednesday, after having been in ill health for some time.

Mrs. Hayes was a daughter of the late Thomas and Mrs. Brown, and was reared in the section in which she died, where she was held in the highest regard.

Funeral services were conducted from the Three Forks Baptist church Friday by Rev. Raymond Hendrix, and interment was in the cemetery in the Sands neighborhood. Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Surviving are the husband, Geo. E. Hayes, and four sons: Lloyd, Thomas B., and Oscar Hayes, of Boone, and Luther G. Hayes, Royal Oak, Mich.

Alfred Triplett Dies; Rites Held Thursday

Alfred L. Triplett, 83 years old, a resident of Triplett, died at the home Tuesday from a lingering illness.

Funeral services are to be conducted Thursday morning at 11 from the Mt. Ephraim Baptist church, by Rev. Roscoe Greene, and interment will be in that neighborhood by Reins-Sturdivant Funeral Home.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Gertie Carroll, and 12 sons and daughters.

Free From Nazi Camp, Local Man Returns

Mrs. Gilbert Edmisten has received word that her husband has been liberated from a German prison camp, together with a telegram telling of his arrival at Camp-Lee, Va. He will be home soon.

Pvt. Edmisten, who is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Edmisten, entered service in October, 1943, and was captured by the enemy in Italy 23, 1944.

Ration Guide

MEATS, FATS: Red Stamps Y5, Z5, and A2 through D2 expire June 2; Red Stamps E2 through J2 expire June 30; Red Stamps K2 through P2 expire July 31; Red Stamps Q2 through U2, expire August 31.

PROCESSED FOODS: Blue Stamps H2 through Mt expire June 2; Blue Stamps N2 through S 2 expire June 30; Blue Stamps T2 through X2 expire July 31; Blue Stamps T2 through X2 expire July 31; Blue Stamps Y2, Z2, A1, B1, C1 expire August 31.

SUGAR STAMP 35 expires June 2; Stamp 36 expires Aug. 31.

SHOES: Airplane stamps Nos. 1, 2, 3, in Book Three, continue valid indefinitely.

WATAUGA COUNTY WAR LOAN EFFORT OFF TO GOOD START

Initial Response to Appeal of Government for Funds Satisfactory; Meeting of War Loan Campaign Workers Perfects Plan for Campaign

The Seventh War Loan campaign got off to a rather good start in Watauga county this week, and initial reports indicate considerable interest in the effort to raise the largest quota thus far assigned to this locality. A good many coupon bonds were sold in the early stages of the campaign and several large purchases of E bonds have already been made.

Members of the war savings staff gathered at a dinner at the Gateway Cafe last Friday and finished perfecting the organization, laying plans for a vigorous campaign to sell the \$175,000 in government securities, and everyone will be given an opportunity to invest.

In insisting on united support of the Seventh War Loan, Clyde R. Greene, chairman, has this to say:

"We are entering a critical period in the war and in the history of the nation. As we move toward total victory over our last enemy, demands for equipment will increase, and the needs of the army and navy will become increasingly greater. At the same time scarcity and demand will go hand in hand to make an even greater threat of inflation. "One way we can help win the war against our enemy and stave off inflation is to put every possible cent into war bonds. I urge everyone to buy bonds to the greatest extent possible. We have been asked to reach a record quota, which will require more effort and greater sacrifices. We must all give time and effort to make this campaign the success it must be. Watauga has thus far stood solidly behind the war effort. We must not fall behind at this critical period."

U.S. Planes Smash at Jap Home Airfields

Guam, May 16—Carrier planes hammered 18 Nipponese homeland airfields and destroyed, damaged or strafed 357 enemy planes in a sweep beginning Saturday night and continuing through Monday.

Admiral Nimitz, announcing the carrier raids on the fields from which Japan has been staging aerial onslaughts on the American forces at Okinawa, said fierce ground fighting continued there today.

A strong Japanese counterattack on the west flank was beaten back by the 22nd marine regiment of the Sixth division, while 77th division troops captured "Chocolate Drop" hill about 1,800 yards northeast of Fortress Shuri after five days of bitter fighting.

The three-day attack on Kuushu and Shikoku was the first American carrier strike in force since the Inland Sea raid of March 19. Radio Tokyo previously had reported 900 planes were involved.

American Legion Will Elect New Officers

A new slate of officers for the coming year will be named at a meeting of Watauga Post, American Legion, Friday evening at 8 o'clock. All members of the Legion are invited to attend and take part in this important meeting.

To the People of this Community

You have a D-Day this week. You won't die, lose limbs, sight or mental faculties in battle. Your assignment is to buy extra War Bonds.

There have been many D-Days in this war. D-Day on the Normandy beaches, D-Day on Tarawa, D-Day on Guadalcanal, D-Day on Iwo Jima, D-Day on Okinawa.

What is it like for your sons, brothers, husbands, friends facing a D-Day in the battle zones? It's prayer and nervousness, nightmarish tension and thoughts of home.

What's it like for you facing another home front D-Day? You are the only person who can answer this question. No matter what the final story is in this community, you will not have met your responsibility unless you have bought more bonds than ever before in a war loan.

The opening of the mighty 7th War Loan is an opportunity to rededicate yourself to the task of nailing down the victory.

THE EDITOR