



The FRANKLIN TIMES



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WAR NEWS

Washington, March 25.—A daring and successful United States naval thrust against the Japanese island outpost of Marcus—only 990 miles from Tokyo—was announced today by the Navy, which disclosed that the attacking forces warmed up for the ambitious venture by smashing at enemy-held Wake Island.

In each instance, the Japanese were caught completely off guard—so much so that some prisoners were taken in the Wake raid, which was dedicated to the gallant Marines who held out there for two weeks before their capture last December.

The double-edge assault, made by a task force of carrier-based aircraft and cruisers and destroyers, cost only two American planes—one in each raid.

Little opposition was encountered and only a few enemy ships and planes were found in the areas.

Wake was attacked February 24 (Wake time) by air and surface craft which smashed shore installations, sank two enemy patrol boats, shattered three large seaplanes and battered runways and defense batteries. Aircraft alone rained 219 bombs on the island which fell to the Japanese December 23.

New Delhi, India, March 25.—Japan reached out for India by sea tonight, occupying the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal, barely 500 miles off the United Nations Ceylon-to-Calcutta supply route, and struck by land toward the riches of Central Burma in heavy fighting which partly outflanked the British-Chinese positions at Toungoo.

The government of India disclosed the seizure of the Andaman group, first actual Indian territory to go to the enemy, in a communique which said the blow was struck two days ago, March 23 and was not opposed. The small British-Indian defense forces had been withdrawn "some days previously."

Much of the population and some of the convicts in the penal settlement on the islands also were removed, the communique said.

The position of the Andamans had been defenseless since the Japanese occupied Malaya, Rangoon and the lower Burmese delta. At their nearest point, the 204 islands lie but 120 miles from the Burmese mainland, Cape Negrais.

Their real significance, however lies in the fact that they afford excellent anchorages—Port Blair and others—and air bases for combined sea and air attacks on Calcutta, Ceylon and the vital ship lanes in between.

The Andamans are but 590 miles from the mouth of the Hugli, most important of the mouths of the Ganges and not much further from Calcutta itself. It is 800 miles from the islands to Trincomalee, the British naval station on Ceylon.

Moscow, March 25.—Red army forces tonight were reported battling within sight of Staraya Russia, trap for the German 16th army, and storming their way from house to house through the blasted suburbs of Stalino—"City of Steel" at the other end of the eastern front near the Sea of Azov.

The army publication Red Star said that the Russian army reducing the German forces at Staraya Russia bit by bit now has liberated 150 of the 300 inhabited points in that area. Heavy tank units leading shock troops of Marshal Semyon Timoshenko's southern army were said to be pushing into Stalino in violent fighting.

(Stockholm advices to London said the Russians began storming the Stalino iron and steel center five days ago. Guerrillas inside the city dug up arms which they had hidden when the Germans marched in and are attacking the German garrison in the rear, the reports said.)

Stalino is 150 miles southeast of Kharkov, another great Ukrainian industrial center to which the Russians have been laying siege, and 70 miles north of the Sea of Azov.

Terror Campaign
The German occupation forces were accused of waging a terror campaign against civilians in the Smolensk area, burning 90 villages and slaying "unconquerable" peasants by the hundreds as the Russians drove closer to that big base.

Washington, March 25.—President Roosevelt tonight ordered the Congressional Medal of Honor awarded to General Douglas MacArthur for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty" for his heroic defense of the Philippines.

The announcement was made in a special War Department communique which said Mr. Roosevelt directed that the presentation be made by the United States Minister to Australia, Nelson B. Johnson.

Announcement of the award was radioed to Major General Richard K. Sutherland, who is MacArthur's chief of staff. Sutherland accompanied MacArthur on his heroic air-sea dash from the Philippines to take supreme command of the united forces in Australia and the southwest Pacific.

The award is the fourth made by the President during the current war.

In a citation accompanying it, the War Department called attention to MacArthur's "conspicuous leadership" in preparing the Philippines to resist conquest and to his "gallantry and intrepidity" in action against the invading Japanese forces as well as his offensive operations on Bataan Peninsula.

Munitions Convoy Asked as Explosion Probe Ends

Smithfield, March 25.—Recommendations that all shipments of munitions over the highways of North Carolina in the future be conveyed either by the Army or the State Highway Patrol and be accompanied by a representative of the United States were made by a coroner's jury here this afternoon as they wrote the final chapter in the explosion near Selma that claimed the lives of seven persons on the morning of March 7.

The jury ended its deliberations with the declaration that "effective action by competent authorities would have lessened if not prevented the tragic loss of life and property that accrued from the explosion."

A report which found "no person or persons criminally liable" and which did not recommend that any one be held for further investigation by the grand jury was filed with Dr. E. N. Booker, Johnston County coroner.

The jury, which first met on the morning of the explosion of the munitions-laden truck on the Smithfield-Selma highway, had been instructed to determine "who was dead, how they met their death, and who was to be held responsible for their deaths."

The report went on to state: "We find that neither of the two employes in charge of the munitions truck were familiar with explosives; that neither had been instructed as to the nature, type, or potential power of the munitions; that the driver had never before transported ammunition of any sort; that the truck was not conveyed, and no member of the U. S. armed forces accompanied the shipment, which was being transported over the highways of North Carolina without adequate safeguards."

The investigating body requested that the recommendations of Governor Broughton, made a short time after the tragedy, be followed in the future. Governor Broughton had recommended that the Army and Navy either provide convoys for shipments of munitions or notify the State so that such shipments could be conveyed by the State Highway Patrol.

Patronize TIMES Advertisers
PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE
The following is the program at the Louisburg Theatre, beginning Saturday, March 28th:
Saturday—Roy Rogers in "Man From Cheyenne" and John Howard in "Tragedy At Midnight." Also Dick Tracy vs Crime Inc.
Sunday—Fred McMurray and Marlene Dietrich in "The Lady Is Willing."
Tuesday—Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake in "Blondie Goes To College."
Wednesday—Joe E. Brown in "Shut My Big Mouth."
Thursday-Friday—Gene Tierney and Henry Fonda in "Rings On Her Fingers."

Two More Ships Sunk by U-Boats

29 Survivors Landed At Southport; Wilmington Man Tells of Torpedoing

Norfolk, Va., March 25.—Continuing their intensive campaign against Allied merchant shipping off the Atlantic Coast, Axis submarines blasted a medium sized American vessel into a V-shaped derelict early Saturday morning, sending her Captain E. V. Peters, of New York, to almost certain death.

The other 36 crew members escaped in four life boats, eight crewmen in two boats were picked up by a rescue ship after nine hours adrift and were landed at Norfolk.

Another ship rescued 29 others and took them ashore at Southport, N. C., the Fifth Naval District said in announcing the sinking today.

First Mate Christian A. Hansen of Wilmington, N. C. told newsmen he believed Captain Peters was lost.

Fell Into Water
"He tried to leap from a ladder into No. 2 lifeboat," Hansen related.

The sea was choppy and carried the boat away from the ship. The captain fell into the water between the ship and the boat. The captain was a good swimmer but the sea was covered with heavy fuel oil. You can't swim in that. It paralyzes you.

"We never saw the captain again. We heard him holler 'Here I am' and we yelled, 'We are coming.' But by the time we could row back toward the ship there was no sign of the captain."

Court Closes

The regular April term of Franklin Superior Civil Court came to a close Saturday after a jury failed to agree in the case of A. H. Fleming vs R. B. Mitchell. Upon the failure to agree the Court ordered a mistrial.

The remainder of the docket was as follows:
A mistrial was made in the case of A. H. Fleming vs R. B. Mitchell involving a question of storage charges in the rental of a storage warehouse.

A divorce was granted Jeanette Blackwell Hatton from her husband Joe C. Hatton.

A divorce was granted Ruth Yergin from her husband Marcus Yergin.

A number of judgments were signed in smaller civil actions.

Men 45 To 64 Will Register On April 27

Washington, March 20.—The government late yesterday ordered the oldest group of men under the selective service law—45 to 64 inclusive—to register on April 27, for possible non-combatant service in the future.

The new registration date proclaimed by President Roosevelt will leave only one group not yet recorded, those of 18 and 19 years. Estimates of the total registration for the 45-64 age group range around 15,000,000.

While none of these comparative oldsters will be taken into the fighting forces, there is the possibility that some or many of them will be assigned eventually to essential war work. Brigadier General Lewis B. Hershey has said that one purpose of the draft law was an "accurate and systematic appraisal" of the supply of man power.

Testifying before a House committee last month, Hershey asserted that "we must have much more control over placements of men than we now have to meet the war manpower problem." It was noted, however, that there is no existing law to compel a work-or-fight policy.

SENIOR PLAY

The FRANKLIN TIMES is requested to state that the Senior Class of Bunn High School will present a play "Hudie in the Hills" on April 2nd, at 8:45 o'clock in the high school auditorium at Bunn. A small admission will be charged for the benefit of the class expenses.

Despite a shortage of labor and other drawbacks, Wayne County farmers are not neglecting terracing their land, reports D. J. Murray, assistant farm agent.

MATERIALS BEING MOVED TO BUTNER

Army of Workers Growing As Contractors Prepare For Full Speed

The growing Army of workers at Camp Butner labored beneath a bright March sun and in a stiff wind yesterday as another step was taken toward putting the construction program into high gear.

A store of building materials is being accumulated on the cantonment site as train cars on the Southern Railway and fleets of trucks haul lumber, and other materials to the scene preparatory to the construction of approximately 1700 buildings.

A comparatively small number of workers are being employed on the project at the present time, pending the completion of work organizations and the placing of supplies of materials which will permit uninterrupted work on the structures.

Heavy machinery continues to work on the roads, railroads and building sites. Rain brought a work stoppage for a couple of days last week on the railroad project, but operations were resumed Monday.

Vehicles carrying workers to the project are being required to operate at moderate speeds over the approaches. Some time will be required to cut and grade the principal road into the camp site. This will be located between the two roads now in use, one entering by Cozart and the other by Lyon Station.—Oxford Ledger.

—On Pay Day, Buy Bonds—

Franklin County 'Salvage for Victory' Committee Makes Splendid Showing

At a meeting of the Franklin County Salvage for Victory Committee, it was reported that 237,300 pounds of metal had been gathered and put into the channels of commerce, and in addition to this, approximately 10,000 pounds of waste paper has been collected and will be disposed of at an early date.

While this is a good beginning, it hardly touches the surface of what can be done if every citizen in Franklin County will be on the lookout for scrap metal, waste paper, old rags and old rubber. At this season of the year the farmers are especially requested to watch carefully as they break their lands for any scrap metal which might be used. If this metal is collected at the home, then it can easily be put into the proper channels.

Although there are yet some members to be added to Franklin County Committee, the following have been doing very effective work: W. O. Lamberth and J. D. Morris for Harris Township; F. C. Mitchell, Youngsville Township; Fred Blount, Franklinton Township; J. T. Griffin, Hayesville Township; N. M. Griffin, Centerville; Sandy Creek Township; B. M. Griffin, Gold Mine Township; L. H. Dickens, White Level Community; Stallings Gin, Cedar Rock Community; E. J. Wheelless, Justice Community; and Arthur Strickland, Seven Paths Community. In addition to the above, W. C. Boyce, Dr. A. Paul Bagby, E. J. Cheatham, Elton Mitchell and G. M. Beam, Chairman, are members of the general committee.

Profits from this salvage are being donated to the various organizations in the community from which the salvage is derived and these organizations are now endeavoring to see that Franklin County does its part in every way to put this salvage into use.

A Chance To Be Like Other Kids



Important in the general program supported by Easter Seals for crippled children is the provision of play opportunities for little fellows like the one pictured above. Buy Seals from your school and the Welfare Department.

LIEUTENANT LUMPKIN



MARINE FLYER—Second Lieut. George T. Lumpkin, of Louisburg, who just received his reserve commission in the Marine Corps. Lieutenant Lumpkin was transferred from the Raleigh Navy recruiting station on July 7, 1941, to the Naval Reserve Aviator Base at Atlanta, Ga., where he began the intensive training of an aviator cadet. He was sent to the Jacksonville Air Station for further training and then to the Miami Air Station where he received his commission as a Marine aviator on March 20. Lieutenant Lumpkin is the brother of State Senator W. L. Lumpkin. The young flyer is a 1941 graduate of Louisburg College and had 100 CAA primary and second hours of flying time before entering naval aviation. Lieut. Lumpkin is now at home on 15-day furlough.

During 1941, life insurance companies purchased more than \$800,000,000 of bonds of factories and industrial plants of America, 35% more than in 1940 and twice the 1939 total.

SMALL CITIES AND TOWNS

LEARN FROM EXPERIMENTS

TO THE EDITOR:—In addition to my experiments with coating old tires with bituminous cement and sand, put on at 325 degrees, the students at Webber College are making some even more valuable tests.

Two of the girls are driving an old Ford with 21" wheels, without any rubber. They have welded 4" iron bands on the four rims after having taken off the tires. Slightly convexing these bands and welding same on both sides gives a spring to the iron tires. They drive comfortably at 35 miles per hour.

Some girls who have only two good tires, continue to use two rubber ones; but also two iron tires. A third good rubber one they are using as a spare tire. They have a modern car with small wheels. These wheels they have built up with wooden blocks to 22", capping the same with iron bands like an old wagon wheel. They also are making another experiment with a rim filled with cement. Young women readers of your paper should write Webber College, Babson Park, Florida for a free report upon this "Rubberless Tire Project."
ROGER W. BABSON.

Band Concert

Quite a good sized crowd gathered at the Court house Wednesday afternoon and enjoyed a delightful band concert given by the Mills High School Band, under leadership of Prof. Jimmie Byerly. Quite a number of popular numbers were featured and their rendition exhibited much excellent talent masterly guided and instructed. The band is doing fine.

The band is expected to visit Raleigh today for check up exercise by one of the big boys in Bandom.

Fountain Visits Louisburg

Mr. R. T. (Dick) Fountain, of Rocky Mount, former Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina, and now a candidate for the U. S. Senate against Senator Josiah W. Bailey, was a visitor to Louisburg Tuesday, shaking the hands of former friends, voters and incidentally informing them he was a candidate. He said he should be elected because he was a strong advocate of the present administration and New Deal policies, and that he would be more of an eastern Carolina representative than his opponent.

Board of Elections

At a meeting of the State Board of Elections held in Raleigh Saturday, Messrs. Phil R. Insoe, R. I. Castalia, L. O. Fragler, R. I. Henderson, and Bland G. Mitchell, of Youngsville, were re-appointed as a Board of Elections for Franklin County for the ensuing two years.

The County Board will meet on the seventh Saturday before the primary (April 11th) for the purpose of organizing and appointing the registrar and judges of election for the several precincts for holding the primary and general election.

We've got Axis to grind. Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps.

Not Invincible

Berlin (From German Broadcasts), March 24.—The Japanese were warned today by a Navy spokesman that Japan "now is on the defensive;" that the United Nations have taken the offensive and may attempt to assault Nippon from aircraft carriers and island bases alike.

As quoted by the German radio, Capt. Hideo Hiraide, writing in the Tokyo newspaper Yomiuri, acknowledged that Japan is not invincible and urged that she strike out for Australian and Indian Ocean bases in preparation "for future wholesale military operations." He said: "Defense alone . . . cannot win the victory. Japan must therefore win the present war in all circumstances by offensive measures."

The Japanese navy for one, he added, "is prepared for its big task and determined to break enemy influence in the Pacific and Indian oceans."

Babson Says They Will Benefit From Rationing

By ROGER W. BABSON

Babson Park, Mass., March 27.—I am greatly interested in our small cities and towns throughout the country.

Due to the decentralization of industry which is now going on and to other factors, they have a great future. Now, with tire rationing, they should immediately benefit provided the local merchants wake up.

This is a clear case of one man's "poison being another man's meat!"

THE BACK TO THE FARM BUG

More and more city people are looking for small good farms. Even the suburbanites are moving "further out." The motives are: a desire to "get away from it all," a wish to live more simply, to cut expenses and to bring up the children in a healthier environment. Certainly our children and grandchildren miss much in wholesome training which many of us oldsters received from doing the simple chores which farm life provides. I get many letters from readers asking advice about buying a farm. It's okay if you can afford it! But there is no living in it unless you are willing to do a hard day's work. However, this distinct migration from city to rural localities has considerable economic significance.

Many city people who purchase farm properties will bid prices up and get royally stuck. Furthermore, they are apt to think the first cost is the last. They will miss the modern conveniences of their former homes and, in the majority of instances, put far more into their farm than they will ever be able to take out. They will find mortgage money hard to get;—not because local banks do not want to lend, but because the average "going farm" is spoiled by too many improvements. If a bank is obliged to foreclose, it usually finds the property useless for the practical working farmer and must wait its chance to resell to another "city hick."

TRANSPORTATION A FACTOR

This country is so full of enterprise and inventive genius that when one industry or process goes out of business, two or more rise to take its place. Washington thought that slapping down on tires would conserve gasoline. It will to some extent but we won't go without transportation. Already one of my friends has announced a new process for making tires that uses only 2% of rubber. I cannot imagine this small amount of crude or reprocessed rubber being refused to him. My prediction is that plenty of new tires of some kind will come on the market later and be available to everyone. If for no other reason, they will come because they are needed by our 48,000 small cities and towns without other means of transportation.

Our city cousins are okay on transportation anyway. After all, they have street cars, busses, and subway, elevated and steam railroads to ride on. Furthermore, their shopping centers are mainly within walking distances and they can do with the exercise. In Boston, apartments are now being opened in office buildings in the heart of the financial and insurance district. For families without children, there is a growing tendency to live as close to the job as possible. This is nothing new to farm and country folks. But this latter group have acquired the bad habit of shopping out of town. This bids fair to change.

LOCAL STOREKEEPERS TO BENEFIT

While we may soon have plenty of tires, their cost will be high and their cost will be high. Hence, country people will have to conserve their tires even more than city residents who at least gain the benefits of smooth pavements for driving. No longer will rural residents drive to the large centers to trade. Instead, they will again patronize the nearest store where they used to buy before they went "high hat". I am certainly bullish on the little local general store. It should take on a new lease of life and again be the center of activity in its community.

I hope that the owners of such stores will stock up, brush up, and wake up! They have an opportunity now to give such good service as will enable them to hold their trade after World War II is over! Certainly, there will be changes in rural buying habits

(Continued on Page Eight)