

WEATHER

North Carolina—Partly cloudy and a little warmer today and tonight. Cloudy and rather cool Sunday with light rain over west.

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONES 1100

— STATE THEATRE TODAY — "SERGEANT MIKE" Starring Larry Parks — Jeanne Bates and Mike News—Screen Snapshot—Comedy

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SHELBY, N. C.

SATURDAY, FEB. 3, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES—5c

YANKS BREAK THROUGH FIRST BELT OF WEST WALL NAZIS SAY RUSSIAN ATTACKS ON ODER REPULSED

REDS REPORT ZHUKOV'S MEN NEAR STETTIN

Huge Battle Said Raging South Of Kustrin, Near Frankfurt

FLANKING MOVEMENT

LONDON, Feb. 2.—(AP)—Russian attacks on the Oder river have been repulsed, the German high command declared today as American air fleets rocked Berlin with 3,000 tons of bombs in aid to Soviet troops massing along the river 40 miles east of the capital.

One Berlin broadcast said Marshal Gregory Zhukov's troops had won but later lost a bridgehead over the Oder near Kustrin.

The Moscow radio declared one of Zhukov's columns had speared to within 11 1/4 miles of Stettin on the Baltic. A plunge to Stettin would lop off 13,500 square miles of Northeastern Germany, the Polish Corridor, and the Danzig area. Kustrin is on the Oder 40 miles east of Berlin. A huge battle was reported raging farther south, four miles east of Frankfurt on the historic Kundersdorf battlefield first bloodied in the era of Frederick the Great.

Zhukov's drive on Stettin, 74 miles northeast of Berlin, threatened to cut off great German forces, and to open Berlin for an attack from the north.

The Germans rushed fresh divisions up to the Oder river line. The German military commentator Col. Ernst von Hammer declared the "western bank of the Oder has now been mopped up of Russian forces" after one spearhead had won a temporary bridgehead near Kustrin.

KUSTRIN SHELLED Moscow dispatches said Soviet artillerymen broadly were pumping shells into Kustrin, 40 miles northeast of Berlin. Kustrin and Frankfurt.

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BOMBERS HIT 13 JAP SHIPS

One Of Enemy Fleet Probably Sunk Says Nimitz' Report

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Low-flying Marine Mitchells have damaged 13 Japanese ships, probably sinking one of them, in nightly harassing attacks since Dec. 6 on the Bonin and Volcano islands, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz reported today.

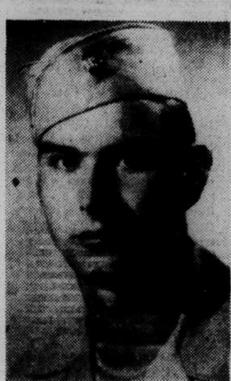
His communique told also of fresh air strikes Wednesday and Thursday against two Ima in the Volcano, protecting the approaches to the Japanese mainland from the Tokyo-raiding Superfortress base at Saipan.

Army Liberators hitting Iwo, which has come in for a daily pounding for months, encountered four interceptors over the tiny island on Wednesday. The Thursday strike left fires visible for 30 miles away.

Yap in the western Carolines and various targets in the Palau islands were bombed by Marine fighters both Wednesday and Thursday.

Statement Canadian Troops Dumped Rifles Meets Challenge

OWEN SOUND, Ont., Feb. 3.—(AP)—John Bracken, national leader of Canada's official opposition party, faced a challenge today to substantiate his charge that draftee troops threw away rifles and ammunition while enroute overseas.



KILLED—Pfc. Ralph Couch, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Couch of near Gainesville, Ga., who made his home with his uncle, R. L. Couch and Mrs. Couch of 113 Shull street, Shelby, before entering the Army, was reported killed in an accident on October 28 while performing his duties as an ambulance driver.

NAZIS URGED TO STAND FIRM

German Press And Radio Exhort People To "Remember 1918"

LONDON, Feb. 3.—(AP)—The German press and radios sounded the theme of "Remember 1918" in appeals today to Germans to stand firm against "battering setbacks and any Allied call for surrender."

Promising nothing, German newspapers declared "all enemy aims cannot be achieved if the German people have the firm will not to capitulate."

Dispatches from neutral capitals and Allied broadcasts said anti-Nazi posters and slogans were appearing on walls in large German cities. Moscow radio said "There is no doubt of panic reigning in many sections of Germany."

Berlin was reported in various dispatches as teeming with refugees, with armed guards trying to shuttle them hurriedly from the capital. One Swiss newspaper's Berlin dispatch said the city was threatened with famine due to overcrowding and loss of huge food stocks to the Russians in the east. Munich, it added, is "hourly becoming more and more the capital of the Reich."

A Moscow broadcast called for an Allied attack on the western front, and declared weather and terrain should not delay it.

"The ground is ripe for a blow at the Germans in the west that would crush the thinned ranks of Hitler's armies stationed there, and the time is also ripe," the Soviet commentator declared.

WHAT'S DOING

SUNDAY 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.—U.S. O. center open to service folk visiting in the city.

MONDAY 10:00 a.m.—Pastors and workers conference of Kings Mountain Baptist association meets at First Baptist church.

12:30 p.m.—Red Cross rally at Hotel Charles.

7:00 p.m.—Junior Chamber of Commerce meets at Hotel Charles.

7:30 p.m.—Piedmont Council boy scout court of honor meets at court house.

8:00 p.m.—Regular meeting of American Legion at Legion building.

COTTON SOUND:

Morgan Convinced Cleveland Can Hold Own By Lower Costs

A conviction that Cleveland county cotton growers can hold their own through careful attention to production costs and by crop diversification against any likely developments threatening changes in cotton production was expressed to the Rotary club's luncheon session Friday by O. Z. Morgan, recently returned from sessions of the National Cotton Council at Memphis.

While in that territory, Mr. Morgan took the opportunity to view delta cotton growing, where mechanized processes are

Berlin Victim Of Massive Bombing Raid

LONDON, Feb. 3.—(AP)—More than 1,000 American flying Fortresses cast nearly 3,000 tons of bombs on the heart of Berlin today in the greatest air blow ever dealt that capital, now teeming with refugees.

The record attack was aimed directly at military and communications targets in the center of the city menaced by Soviet armies which the Germans say are only 40 miles away.

More than 400 Liberators, staging a diversionary attack that confused Berlin's defenders, pounded a synthetic oil plant and rail yards on the outskirts of Bardeburg, 65 miles southwest of Berlin.

The U. S. Eighth air force bombers were shelled by more than 900 Mustangs and Thunderbolts which streamed from Magdeburg to Berlin in a swift, protective shuttle, cutting down fighter opposition to the bombers.

SKY TRAIN Berlin broadcasts declared the bombers and fighters formed a sky train stretching 300 miles from Berlin to the Dutch frontier.

Today's assault was more spectacular than the 1,900-bomber raid by the Eighth air force last June 21, which set the previous record, and more devastating to the core of the city. The strength of the

Two U. S. Columns Race Toward Manila

One Force Less Than 18 Air Miles Away; No Serious Resistance Is Expected

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Luzon, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Two powerful American armored columns raced toward Manila from the north today amid strong indications the Philippine capital would soon be liberated without a major fight. One U. S. force was less than 18 air miles away.

Battle-hardened First cavalry (dismounted) division troops drove a new arrow toward Manila Thursday by sweeping 57 miles in 24 hours down the east flank of the Central Luzon plain to Sabang, within 24 miles of Manila, and beyond.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today this sensational thrust completely severed Japanese forces in the north and south of Luzon.

Even closer to MacArthur's prime objective were elements of the 37th division which led the advance down Central Luzon. These Yanks crossed the Angat river in the environs of Malolos, important communications center just 17 air miles to the north.

A third American spear was pointed at Manila from the southwest, in Batangas province, where the Eleventh Airborne division landed virtually unopposed Wednesday and quickly captured an airfield within 40 miles of the capital.

Neither of the two columns speeding on Manila from the north met anything but scattered, ineffective resistance as they rolled along fine highways which converge a few miles north of the city. There was no indication the

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MARKET ASSURED

Mr. Morgan pointed out that Cleveland county is now producing more cotton on less planted acreage than ever before, a fact which

being introduced on substantial scale, and his opinion is a reasoned conclusion after seeing those significant developments which cause some people to feel King Cotton's throne is tottering, a conclusion with which the local man is not at all in agreement.

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June 21 formations was dispersed over a wide area of the city menaced by Soviet armies which the Germans say are only 40 miles away.

It was the 20th raid of the war on Berlin, and brought the total of bombs there to nearly 50,000 tons—seven times the amount the Germans dumped on London during the aerial battle of Britain.

The RAF has made 22 major heavy bomber attacks, RAF Mosquitos have hit the capital with two-ton blockbusters in 165 night attacks, and American raids account for the rest.

CONFUSION Today's blows apparently caused widespread confusion in the German capital, and the regular German high command communication was delayed more than an hour. Nazi propaganda agencies seemed demoralized.

The raids followed attacks last night by more than 1,200 RAF bombers on rail, and communica-

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Described as being the outgrowth of congressional flood control legislation, the measure, introduced by Rep. J. T. Pritchett, democrat of Caldwell county, would provide the annexation by Caldwell of a portion of three townships with a population of approximately 2,000. The author said the bill was introduced by request.

NON-PARTISAN No party fight is involved in the prospective controversy, representatives of the two counties told newsmen after the session, although Rep. T. E. Story of Wilkes, the county minority leader, said his county would fight the proposed annexation "with everything we've got."

Pritchett said the bill was proposed to him a week ago by a delegation which it represented 90 per cent of the residents of the area involved. He said he had agreed to draw the bill and submit it because his board of commissioners had agreed to accept the transfer if a majority of the residents in the area desired it.

Pritchett said the delegation told him they were not getting the proper benefits in Wilkes county and that, since their children were going to Caldwell county schools, it would be fitting and proper to move the entire community into Caldwell. He added that residents of the community, a mountainous area bounded by Caldwell, Alexander and Wilkes, had voiced apprehension that a dam on the Yadkin river, proposed in national flood control legislation would back water into their section.

On the other hand, Rep. Story

See ASSEMBLY Page 2

Casualties Inflicted In Patrol Activity On Italian Front

ROME, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Allied patrols probing German defensive positions before the American Fifth and British Eighth army fronts inflicted casualties on the enemy yesterday at several points, Allied headquarters announced today.

A headquarters statement said a number of Silesian Poles from the German 148th division had deserted to Fifth army lines.

Despite unfavorable flying weather, medium bombers of the Mediterranean Allied Tactical Air Force attacked rail bridges on the Brenner route into Germany and bridges in North Italy.

Pope Receives Two U. S. Emissaries

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Pope Pius XII received Myron C. Taylor, President Roosevelt's Vatican representative, and Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, commanding general of the Mediterranean Allied Air Force, in a 20-minute audience today.



YANKS TAKE A REST—U. S. infantrymen rest on the outskirts of a Filipino village after hitting the beach in their invasion of Luzon.

ASSEMBLY HAS BRIEF SESSION

Attention On Bill To Transfer Part Of Wilkes County

RALEIGH, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Both branches of the North Carolina general assembly met briefly today to consider bills of purely local interest, as the assembly completed the fifth week of its session.

As the sixth week of the wartime legislature loomed, so did the prospect of what may develop into a bitter legislative fight over a bill which has been tossed into the house hopper to annex a portion of Wilkes county by contiguous Caldwell.

Described as being the outgrowth of congressional flood control legislation, the measure, introduced by Rep. J. T. Pritchett, democrat of Caldwell county, would provide the annexation by Caldwell of a portion of three townships with a population of approximately 2,000. The author said the bill was introduced by request.

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News Blackout Veils Action Of 'Big Three'

By The Associated Press A security blackout veiled the movements of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Marshal Stalin today (Sat.) as Axis capitals speculated that the Big Three conference was under way in Romania.

A dispatch from the Swiss border town of Chiasso to the Geneva newspaper La Suisse quoted Fascist sources in Italy as saying that the conference had begun in the Romanian Black Sea port of Constanta.

One German broadcast had fixed the site as Bucharest, the Romanian capital, while the German transoceanic agency said the Allied leaders were conferring at a Romanian port on the Black Sea.

Recent dispatches from London and Rome passed through censorship, had speculated that the meeting would be held close to or within the borders of the Soviet Union, since Stalin is personally directing the Russian offensive.

EAST OF LONDON A dispatch from London last night said there was every indication that "the fate of Germany was being decided by the Big Three somewhere east of London."

Workers returning to the Spanish town of La Alnea from Gibraltar brought rumors that Churchill arrived there by plane Wednesday night, a Madrid dispatch said.

U. S. Secretary of State Stettinus and Harry Hopkins, both of whom possibly may attend the conference left Rome by air Wednesday for an undisclosed destination.

Pfc. Raleigh Gordon Killed In Belgium

Another Cleveland county boy gives his life for his country while serving in the Army in the European theater of operations as casualties mount in this section.

Pfc. Raleigh B. Gordon, son of Mrs. Lydia Gordon of route 1, Mooresboro, died as a result of injuries received in a vehicle accident in Arlon, Belgium, according to a telegram received today by his mother.

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New GOP Move Casts Shadow On Wallace Nomination

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—(AP)—A Republican move to freeze government agencies against a presidential transfer cast a new shadow today over Henry Wallace's nomination for Secretary of Commerce.

Just when Wallace's adherents were settling back to await expected confirmation of the appointment after March 1, the house Republican leadership popped a proposal to alter the senate-approved George bill.

This Wallace—saving measure would transfer the \$45,000,000,000

ROCKETS USED AGAINST YANKS

Germans Throwing Long-Range Buzz-Bombs At Third Army Front

By LEWIS HAWKINS AT THE BELGIAN-GERMAN FRONTIER, Feb. 3.—(AP)—The Germans started throwing long-range rockets into rear areas of the U. S. third army front recently.

The effects of this harassing fire are not being disclosed, but it can be said that the rockets have not been particularly destructive or deadly so far.

The projectiles, presumably being fired at a range of about 25 miles, may well be the same type of rocket artillery brought into action in the last few weeks against the first and ninth armies. They are not particularly heavy and probably are in about the same category as an eight-inch shell.

LARGE VERSION They may well be a larger version of the Nebelwerfer and Wurfkoerper rockets which have been employed in considerable number against third army frontlines areas recently at ranges of from one

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CAR DRIVERS ARE HELD FOR HIGHER COURT

Miss Sarah Wilson and Horace Addington, drivers of the automobiles which collided near Patterson Springs about two weeks ago, fatally injuring Miss Katherine Mauney, were bound over to Superior court under \$500 bond each, following hearing held this morning in Cleveland Recorder's court. Both were charged with reckless driving.

Witnesses who testified included the drivers of the cars, A. G. Burroughs, of Gastonia, owner of the car which Miss Wilson was driving and other occupants of the automobiles.

Addington testified that he was driving his car about 20 miles an hour while Burroughs said that Addington was proceeding at a high rate of speed.

The accident took place on a curve near Patterson Springs where several other wrecks have transpired in the past few years.

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TWO-THIRDS OF WAY THROUGH WHOLE SYSTEM

Americans Run Into Stiffening Resistance On 40-Mile Front

FIGHTING HEAVY

PARIS, Feb. 2.—(AP)—Two American divisions burst completely through the first pill box belt of the double Siegfried line today and surged across open country two-thirds of the way through the whole defense system. Some troops gained as much as three miles.

The German high command reported lively air activity and increasing artillery fire in Holland and on the front along the Roer river in Germany, amid rising indications of an impending allied offensive.

Field Marshal von Rundstedt gave this cryptic command to his troops: "Orders for what we have to do have been given. Comrades, now more than ever we must be watchful."

The Americans along a 40-mile attack front have run into stiffening resistance. One front dispatch declared Germans were springing to the counterattack at points from concrete bunkers, and termed the fighting the heaviest since the height of the Germans' December breakthrough into Belgium.

The battle was particularly fierce in the area 10 miles southeast of Monchau, where the 82nd airborne division seized Udenbreth and heights dominating the Siegfried line 1 1/2 miles inside Germany.

Fighting forward east of Monchau, the First Army's second infantry division had cracked the west wall at one of its widest points 30 miles southeast of Aachen, and driven 10 miles inside Germany. Pushing on, the Sec-

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Noncompliance With WLB Orders Is On Increase

ATLANTA, Feb. 3.—(AP)—Employer noncompliance with WLB orders has shown "an alarming increase" in recent months, Chairman M. T. Van Hecke said as the fourth regional war labor board ordered the Cocker Machine and Foundry Co., of Gastonia, N. C., to put into effect by Tuesday noon a previous wage decision.

Van Hecke said the situation of companies failing to observe WLB rulings was becoming acute in the southeast. He said there were 36 such cases in the eight states in the region, 15 of which have been transmitted to the national WLB.

"The tendency toward noncompliance by employers has shown an alarming increase during the past few months."

"There were 36 uncontrollable strikes in the region, you would see a tremendous pressure brought to bear by public opinion alone."

COMPANY'S CASE Officials of the Cocker company told the board it had not complied with an order calling for union recognition, overtime over eight hours a day, voluntary maintenance of membership, and wage adjustments retroactive to last June 7, because it had appealed the decision and felt that the appeal should be heard, although the WLB has refused to hear it on "technical grounds" that the company has not furnished the unions with copies of its appeal.

The fourth regional WLB in an unprecedented action yesterday declined to order the two unions involved to return to work at the Cocker plant until the firm puts the previous decision into effect. If the company yields by the Tuesday deadline, the unions will order their members back to work Wednesday.

The board acted unanimously in finding the Cocker company had not complied with the wage ruling but the industry members dissented to the deadline order, saying the action impliedly condoned the strike.