

WEATHER

Fair and warmer today and tonight. Sunday increasing cloudiness and mild followed by showers in mountains Sunday evening.

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONES 1100

VOL. XLIII-43

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

SHELBY, N. C.

SATURDAY, FEB. 24, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES—5c

- State Theatre Today -
"GIRL RUSH"
Frances Langford — Wally Brown
Also "THIS IS AMERICA"

Allied Offensive Gets Good Start

OPPOSITION ON TWO IS 'PRACTICALLY UNYIELDING'

2,146 Civilian Internees Rescued In Daring Foray 25 Miles Behind Jap Lines

MANILA, P. I., Feb. 24.—(AP)—American paratroops in a daring airborne rescue 25 miles behind Japanese lines rescued 2,146 civilian internees from the Los Banos internment camp on Luzon Island, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced in a special communique today.

It was the fourth brilliant mass rescue of prisoners in the Luzon Island campaign and the second sortie well behind Japanese lines to release internees.

Selected paratroopers of the 511th regiment of the 11th airborne division leaped directly into the camp.

The paratroop jump was the signal for a three-way attack—by the parachuting column, guerrillas, and other paratroopers who had crossed a lake on which the camp sits during the night.

The Japanese commander, his staff and the entire enemy garrison of 243 were killed.

Two of the attacking force were killed and two wounded. Only two internees were slightly injured.

A defense cordon was promptly thrown around the camp while

motor vehicles rolled up to carry out the cases.

The surprised Japanese were taking morning setting exercises when the Americans billowed down out of the skies and the yelling guerrillas swarmed in from the sides.

The majority of those rescued were Americans. Others included 300 British, and small groups of Australians, Canadians, Dutch, Polish and Italians.

The carefully coordinated raid was led by Col. Robert H. Soule.

For several nights the guerrillas filtered into the hills around the camp, deploying for the attack.

Their movements were so cautious

See 2,146 Page 2

MARINES INCH FORWARD WITH HEAVY ATTACK

Backed By Bombardment From Aircraft And Naval Guns

SUPPLIES IMPROVING

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET

HEADQUARTERS, GUAM, Feb. 24.—(AP)—Backed by a

terrific bombardment from heavy artillery, aircraft and naval guns of fleet units standing offshore, Marines on two islands opened their most concentrated attack of the six day battle today but were only inching forward against virtually unyielding enemy opposition.

The tank-supported attack was launched from the southwestern tip of the airdrome in the morning and by noon was making slow progress. Admiral Chester W. Nimitz reported.

Terrific resistance from Japanese artillery, small arms and automatic weapons made every inch of ground gained a bitter, costly affair.

The Marines appeared, however, to have reached the turning point in their conquest of the island, having taken Mt. Suribachi at the southern end of the island and now being engaged in mopping up operations against remnants of the garrison at that one-time enemy strong

See MARINES Page 2

WARREN REFUSES N. C. JUDGESHIP

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—(AP)—Declaring he cannot leave his position which carries "increased responsibilities by reason of war," Comptroller General Lindsay Warren declined yesterday to consider appointment to a North Carolina federal judgeship.

His statement was made public by Senators Bailey and Hoyer, who had endorsed him as a successor to Judge Isaac M. Meekins as district judge for eastern North Carolina.

The senators declared "the attorney general of the United States was prepared to recommend Mr. Meekins to the President. There was no question of his appointment and confirmation." They said the vacancy would be filled "within a reasonable time," but not until after the return of the President to this country.

They added that they are giving "the utmost consideration" to each of the many letters and endorsements they are receiving.

Hitler Proclaims Reich 'Unshakable'

LONDON, Feb. 24.—(AP)—Adolf Hitler told the Nazi old guard today, on the 25th anniversary of the formation of his national socialism program, that Germany was an "unshakable community of people," Berlin radio announced.

Hitler sent a message saying he could not be with the party stalwarts as "my sense of duty and work prevent my leaving headquarters even for a moment." The German news agency DNB said Hitler's message was read by Secretary of State Hermann Esser at the "festive hour held at Munich."

"Providence shows no mercy to weak nations but only recognizes the right of existence of sound and strong nations," the message said. It declared that without the "National Socialist Reconstruction there would neither be a German Reich nor a German people today."

"Not at a talking shop in Geneva nor by any other convention will Bolshevism be beaten back, but solely by our determination to win victory and by the strength of our arms," the message said.

THREATENED In a harangue against capitalism, Bolshevism and the Jews, Hitler said that the "enemy whom we (the Nationalist Socialist party) declared war against on Feb. 24, 1920, because he wanted to pre-

serve our nation" was the same one threatening to engulf the world today. He said "the same coalition of irreconcilable enemies was fighting against the German people at that time, just as they are fighting Germany now."

It was just a quarter of a century ago that Hitler began drafting the Nazi program in a prison cell, to overthrow the German republic which the allies had sanctioned in the hope of keeping world peace.

"If the Germany of 1920 had only a fraction of the resistance of the Germany of today it would never have collapsed," he asserted.

The Nazi assumption of power after a 13-year fight, Hitler declared, "was the result of a tough fanatical battle which often seemed completely hopeless."

"I recently read in British papers that the allies intend to destroy my berghof (Hitler's mountain house)," he said. "I almost regret that this did not happen so far, since my personal property is of no greater value than that of

See HITLER Page 2

Enemy In Manila Still Holding Out

Street-By-Street Battle Rages Inside Intramuros; Many Civilians Killed

MANILA, Feb. 24.—(AP)—Three regiments of 37th Division infantrymen fought from building to building inside the ancient Intramuros today, clearing the last Japanese from Manila amid tragic scenes of Japanese brutality.

Fierce fighting in this closing phase of the three-week battle for the Philippine capital was announced by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who also disclosed American troops had invaded a second small island, Biri, to complete control of San Bernardino straits between Luzon and Samar.

Half-starved, bayoneted, beaten and raped civilians, held by the doomed Japanese garrison inside the centuries-old Intramuros during the two-week American siege, were treated at field hospitals, but many non-combatant dead remained among the rubble.

The Japanese commander of the city had not replied to an American offer that he and his men could be permitted honorable surrender if the civilians, held as virtual hostages, were released.

The enemy appeared determined to fight and die there. The wall was breached in two places after this most concentrated ground shelling of the Pacific war. Once inside, veteran Yank street fighters began the job of building-by-building cleanup.

Two-man tommygun teams could be seen darting into a rubble-filled building entrances, spraying the hallways and firing bursts as they

See ENEMY Page 2

J. C. McNEELY SHOOTSELF

Well Known Merchant Rushed To Hospital In Serious Condition

J. C. McNeely, a well known merchant, was rushed to Shelby hospital in a serious condition early this afternoon from two gunshot wounds self-inflicted in his chest at his home, 407 South LaFayette St.

Suffering ill health for some while, Mr. McNeely had accompanied his family to lunch but professing no desire for food he went into his bedroom from which shortly were heard the two shots. Members of the family rushed to the room to find him in serious condition and arranged for his immediate removal to the hospital.

At 2 p.m. no word had come from the hospital as to Mr. McNeely's condition.

the way and darn near flew right through him." After this action, the four photo planes flew to the huge Heto airfield in southwestern Formosa and began making level runs for vertical photographs of the installation.

FIGHTERS "All the time we were taking pictures," Lieutenant Bridges continued, "we were playing with a bunch of Jap fighters. They would dive down on us one at a time from the overcast. We tried to knock them down but they would dip back into the clouds and we would level out and return to our photo runs.

"We were at about 13,000 feet when I spotted a fighter circling 100 feet below us and ahead of my division. I had to pour on the coal to beat the other guys to him."

"He didn't even see me until I was within range, on his port beam. Then he dipped his nose and tried to turn into me. It was too late. My first burst started his engine burning and the second set the whole plane afire. He managed

See LT. BRIDGES Page 3

Great Tank Battle Rages Below Goerlitz

LONDON, Feb. 24.—(AP)—Marshal Ivan S. Konev's First Ukrainian army engaged the Germans in a large-scale tank battle today in the no man's land region of Goerlitz southeast of Berlin as the Russians assaulted in force the enemy's Neisse and Spree river lines.

BUS LINE WOULD SERVE GROVER

Shelby Assured New Bus Station As Soon As Building Restrictions Lift

The Greyhound Company, one of four bus lines applying for franchise from the State Utilities Commission for expanded Shelby service, has withdrawn its application and will apply for permission to establish a schedule between Shelby and Grover where schedules will connect with bus service north and south on Federal highway No. 29.

The hearings on the applications by carriers to serve Bolling Springs from Shelby continued for two days in Raleigh this week and a number of witnesses went from Cleveland county in behalf of the applicants, the Rutherford Transit

See BUS LINE Page 2

Russian attempts to establish bridgeheads on the west bank of the Neisse were beaten back, the German communique said. A Moscow dispatch declared that Konev's troops were bucking a defense system some eight to 12 miles deep in trenches and anti-tank ditches.

While Soviet dispatches did not put Konev's troops far beyond the Neisse it seemed they might be holding several salients well on the Berlin side.

The German war bulletin said the Russians were thrown back to the north at Goldberg, 13 miles southwest of Liegnitz and 36 miles due west of the by-passed and surrounded Nazi stronghold of Breslau. Konev's assault troops have broken into the southern defenses of Breslau, and have rolled the Germans back into the direction of Hirschberg, in the Katsbach mountains on the road to Prague.

To the north Konev's tanks and tommygunners surged into the streets of Guben and Forst, 51 and 57 miles southeast of Berlin, against German veterans and Volkssturm units. Associated Press correspondents

See TANK BATTLE Page 2

Lt. Johnnie Bridges Gets His Fourth And Fifth Jap Planes

ABOARD VICE ADMIRAL McCAIN'S CARRIER TASK FORCE FLAGSHIP, Off Formosa.—(Delayed)—Lieutenant Johnnie Bridges, U.S.N.R., 26-year-old former school teacher from Shelby, N. C., shot down his fourth and fifth Jap aircraft today during the initial sweeps of the Navy's two-day carrier attack on Formosa and Okinawa.

Lieutenant Bridges, who lives with his brother and sister-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Jesse B. Bridges, Elizabeth Street, Shelby, is leader of a division of four photo-fighter planes, pilots of which have now destroyed 13 airborne enemy planes although their primary mission is reconnaissance.

BAGS FIRST ONE

"We were snooping down the western coast of Formosa," Lieutenant Bridges said in telling of today's exploit. "All of a sudden a Jap twin-engine transport pops up only 200 yards away, coming at us abeam from the right. I had just a second to turn and a second to give him a burst.

"His starboard engine started to burn right away. I curled in behind him and sent in



LT. BRIDGES

two more bursts and he started flaming all over. He went down in a huge flame. I stuck on his tail, taking pictures all

Yanks 4 Miles Beyond Roer, Nearing Cologne

PARIS, Feb. 24.—(AP)—American troops smashed more than four miles beyond the Roer river today, and there still were no signs of a German stand against the huge offensive now within 19 miles of Cologne and 12 of Muenchen Gladbach.

General Eisenhower asserted the goal of this two-army push was to destroy the German army west of the Rhine on this northern end of the western front, and that he expected to be able to do it. He termed progress of the First and Ninth armies "certainly satisfactory."

U. S. infantrymen overran 17 towns and the prisoner toll soared above 1,400 as they fought forward across the Cologne plain.

"All objectives are being taken ahead of schedule, particularly north of Linnich on the Ninth Army front where the speed of advance showed a marked increase," AP correspondent Wes Gallagher wrote tonight from the front. These men were a dozen miles more or less from industrial Muenchen Gladbach, and 24 from Dusseldorf.

Bridgeheads had been secured along a 22-mile front, and had been pushed more than four miles beyond the flood-muddled Roer.

Troops crossing between fallen Juelich and besieged Dueren captured Niederzeller, 19 miles short of bomb-rubbed Cologne. Farther north the U. S. Ninth Army's deepest surge toppled Baal, 12 miles from Muenchen Gladbach.

The American battle line was being pressed forward over the trench-slit Cologne plain against an enemy who was stunned by the first shock of the assault.

Berlin broadcasts declared the full force of Gen. Eisenhower's push had yet to be reached, and that "40 Anglo-American divisions are thus far employed in the western offensive."

The German high command reported bitter fighting, but asserted the Americans had been unable "to penetrate to our main battlefield in major depth."

The Germans, staggered by tremendous shelling and hampered by the aerial seal-off of the battlefield, struck back with six tank-led counterattacks which failed to halt the American onrush.

U. S. First Army troops cleared one-fourth of Dueren, on the Roer's east bank 20 miles from Cologne on the Rhine.

But thick and strong defenses lie ahead. German resistance was reported stiffening.

Through the night more men

See YANKS Page 2

WHAT'S DOING

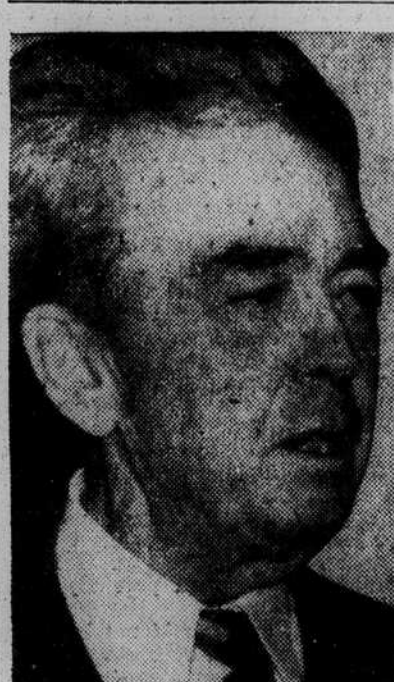
SUNDAY

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

MONDAY

7:00 p.m.—Chamber of Commerce directors meet at Hotel Charles.

7:00 p.m.—Dutch oyster supper for men's Bible class of Presbyterian church at the church.



HOUSE SCUFFLES—Shown here are (top) Rep. John E. Rankin (D-Miss.) and Rep. Frank E. Hook (D-Mich.) who engaged in a one-minute scuffle on the floor of the U. S. House of Representatives after Hook called Rankin a "liar." The legislators tangled when Rankin termed Hook an associate of Communists. Republicans watched happily from the sidelines.

FIVE SURVIVE LINER CRASH

Wreckage Of American Airlines Plane Found In Mountain Area

CEDAR SPRINGS, VA., Feb. 24.—(AP)—Five injured persons, including a courageous woman who walked barefooted for help, survived today in the crash of an American Airlines plane in which 17 were killed in a desolate mountain area of Southern Virginia.

The survivors, taken to a hospital at Marion, were Mrs. Frances Ulen, of Washington; Sally Padgett, stewardess, Nashville, Tenn.; Ensign Leonard J. Ricci of Meriden, Conn.; and Washington; Marine Lt. Erwin Schwartz, Syracuse, N. Y., and Ensign F. L. Midguth, Los Angeles.

Discovery of the wrecked plane on the side of Glade mountain late yesterday afternoon ended a

See FIVE Page 2

JEWS PROPITIATED:

Swedish Newsman Says Hitler 'Forgotten Man' In Germany

By JERGE GRANBERG (Swedish Newspaper Correspondent Who recently returned to Stockholm from Berlin.)

Written for the Associated Press Copyright, 1945, by the Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 24.—Hitler can be dubbed "the forgotten man" so far as the Germans are concerned.

He is discussed more abroad than in Germany. Of course, the people some times wonder where he is living and if he still is deaf as a result of the last July 20 bomb attempt, but on the whole the people talk about him very little.

Goering is as little discussed as Hitler but reports that he is a

prisoner are untrue because he is frequently seen.

More and more you begin to understand that in these grim times each German is being left more and more to his own initiative and resources. He is beginning to look toward the future. In spite of short rations and air raid losses, almost every Berlin family is attempting to scrape together a small store of food and clothing as a reserve for the bitter end.

GROTESQUE TURN

A more grotesque turn to this thought for the future is the fact that some Berliners are attempting to obtain "a guardian Jew."

In spite of Nazi persecution of the Jews it is estimated that between 1,000 and 2,000 Jews or persons

with Jewish blood remain in Berlin.

Persons with big bank accounts and good black market connections are reported competing with one another in smothering these Jews with food, wine and clothing so that "when the moment comes" they will be able to count on their good will and friendly solicitude.

Persons of smaller means are said lately to have offered bread ration coupons to Russian workers and prisoners of war in the hope they might be able to depend on them as guardian patrons.

Although Berliners are visibly frightened of the Russians, they

See SWEDISH Page 2