

WEATHER

Cloudy and mild, scattered showers west and north portions today. Showers, cooler tonight. Sunday cloudy and moderately cool with showers over south portion.

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONES 1100

- State Theatre Today - "Dancing In Manhattan" NEWS - MARCH OF TIME CARTOON

VOL. XLIII-54

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

SHELBY, N. C. SATURDAY, MAR. 3, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES-5c

DOUGHBOYS REACH RHINE ON BROADENING FRONT

Reds Isolate Germans In Eastern Pomerania

U. S. Carrier Planes Pound Ryukyu Isles, Jap Craft Destroyed

UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam, March 3.—(P)—Without enemy air opposition, carrier aircraft of the U. S. Pacific fleet attacked the Ryukyu islands, southwest of Japan March 1, striking at military, naval and air installations and shipping.

Forty-one enemy aircraft were destroyed, 50 more destroyed or damaged, a destroyer, six small cargo ships, 2 medium cargo ships, and four other small vessels were sunk. Probably sunk were one medium cargo ship, six small coastal cargo ships and six luggers.

Twenty-nine other vessels were damaged.

The Japanese radio had previously announced the attack, reporting that 600 aircraft had participated.

Airfield installations, barracks, administration buildings, mills, lumber yards, warehouses and radio and radar installations were also reported as destroyed or damaged in the sweep which included six islands.

U. S. LOSSES American losses were five pilots, three aircrewmen and 13 aircraft.

A breakdown of enemy losses showed: Four aircraft shot out of the air; 37 destroyed on the ground.

About 50 aircraft destroyed or damaged on the ground.

Sunk—One destroyer, one motor torpedo boat, six small cargo ships, two medium cargo ships, one ocean going tug and two luggers.

PROBABLES Probably sunk—One medium cargo ship, six small coastal cargo ships and six luggers.

Damaged—Four destroyer escorts or patrol craft, one medium transport, four medium cargo ships, nine small coastal cargo ships, one small cargo ship and 10 luggers.

Fleet units bombarded Okinawa Aito Jima the night following the aerial attack, starting large fires in the target area.

Islands attacked were Amami, Mimai, Kume, Jima, Okinawa Jima, Tokuno Jima and Okino Yerabu.

J. Lowery Austell Named To National Group's Committee

J. L. Austell, assistant secretary of the Shelby Building and Loan Association, received word today of his appointment to the United States Savings and Loan League's 1945 committee on Savings Association Management.

W. M. Brock, Dayton, Ohio, president of the League, who made the announcement, said that this is the second year of the 53-year-old nationwide organization of the business has had a committee on this subject.

Its principal concern will be the improvement of the efficiency of operation within the offices of the savings and loan institutions and the gearing of their operations to special demands of 1945 conditions.

The committee work in the League this year will be especially emphasized because of the cancellation of the major larger meetings of the business in compliance with the ODT request. All of the regular spring meetings of the League have been called off in view of the transportation and crowded hotel situation.

Lewis Challenges Charges Made Against His Demands

WASHINGTON, March 3.—(P)—John L. Lewis challenged today the claims of bituminous operations that his contract demands would cost the industry \$400,000 a year.

Lewis indicated he will try to upset the figures advanced yesterday by Charles O'Neill, head of the Central Pennsylvania soft coal producers' group.

The operators are negotiating a new contract with Lewis' United Mine Workers.

O'Neill said the 18 demands presented by Lewis would cost more than 65 cents a ton, and asserted

Inter-American Conference Acts On Guarantees

MEXICO CITY, March 3.—(P)—The Inter-American conference acted today to guarantee the territorial integrity and independence of each American republic with the combined forces of the hemisphere.

The act of Chapultepec, modified by the United States from the original declaration offered by Colombia, Uruguay and Brazil, was presented to the commission on Inter-American affairs.

Its passage seems assured in view of the backing given the document by key American nations.

Delegates considered it historic in two ways. The act of Chapultepec is the most far-reaching pact ever reached in this hemisphere to enforce peace and it sets a precedent for the United Nations conference in San Francisco of combining security agreements with boundary assurances.

STATES OBLIGATED The act obliges each American state to contribute to a joint action against any aggression in this hemisphere or invasion from beyond the seas.

The main change from the original declaration was to base the obligation on the United Nations' war effort at present and to provide a permanent treaty later.

This was done primarily to fit constitutional needs of the United States, since a permanent commitment would require senate ratification.

The President, under the special war powers act, has the authority to direct U. S. armed might during the emergency.

The declaration also states the right of American nations to settle their own disputes without interference from overseas, within the Dumbarton Oaks blueprint.

The Dumbarton Oaks plan provides that sanctions can only be taken upon approval of the world security council.

It is understood that the United States is contemplating a request to Britain and Russia that this

WHAT'S DOING

TODAY 7:30 p.m.—Finals in Cleveland county basketball tournament begin at the armory and continue through evening.

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

MONDAY 7:30 p.m.—State Guard drill at the armory.

7:30 p.m.—Regular meeting of American Legion post at Legion building.

7:30 p.m.—Piedmont Boy Scout court of honor meets at court house.

7:30 p.m.—City council meets at city hall.

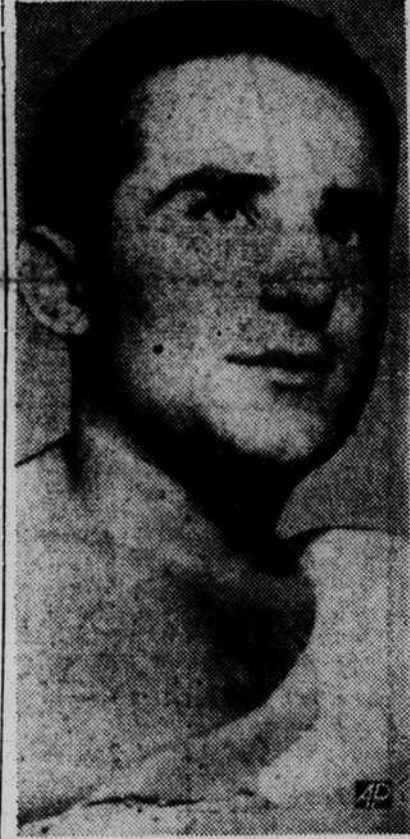
7:45 p.m.—Meeting of board of deacons of First Baptist church at the church.

SECONDRY "Fringe" demands are those regarded by the War Labor board as secondary or auxiliary, as contracted to general wage increases directly challenging the little steel wage formula.

One operator said Lewis' demands are so extensive that "it looks as though Mr. Lewis is throwing the book and laughing at the War Labor board."



MARINE FIELD GUN BLASTS JAPS ON IWO JIMA—Shortly after securing positions on Iwo Jima, U. S. Marines open up with a field gun trained on Jap positions in the distance. This is the first shot from the weapon.



HUMAN BOMB — Dewey Dupre (above) 20, U. S. Navy seaman from Opelousas, La., is no longer a human bomb. Doctors at the Naval receiving station in San Francisco, in a delicate operation, removed a fused 20mm. projectile from his body 47 days after it struck him aboard a battleship in Lingayen Gulf in the Philippines.

SENATOR MOSES DIED TODAY

First Democrat Ever Elected To Represent North Dakota

ROCHESTER, MINN., March 3.—(P)—United States Senator John Moses (D-ND) three-time governor of North Dakota who won his national office by defeating Gerald P. Nye last fall, died early today. Sen. Moses had been undergoing post-operative treatment at the Mayo clinic for an abdominal ailment when an attack of pleurisy complicated his recovery.

Last night it was announced that the 59 year old senator had suffered a setback and that his physician had despaired of his life.

His wife and son, Lt. James Moses, who came here yesterday, were at his bedside. Another son, John, an army lieutenant, is recovering from a shrapnel wound received in France. A daughter, Mary Jean, is in the U. S. Nurses Cadet corps. A third son, Robert, also survives.

Moses was the first Democrat ever elected to represent North Dakota in either house or congress and was one of two men to serve three terms as governor of the state.

S. C. ROCK HILL BALTIMORE, MD. —(P)— A U. S. Maritime Commission victory ship will be launched at the Bethlehem-Fairfield shipyards named after Rock Hill, S. C.

The keel of the S. C. Rock Hill has already been laid.

Rugged Terrain Lies Ahead Of Marines

Only 600 Yards Between Yanks And Last Jap Defense Line On Iwo

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Guam, Mar. 3.—(P)—Only 600 yards of terrain stood today between the Third U. S. Marines and the point at which they may cut the last interconnecting Japanese pillbox line, along blood-soaked Iwo island's northern end.

But it was a rugged stretch, by anybody's definition. It slipped irregularly downward to a cliff which probably will serve as the last stand of the Japanese.

Between the marine outpost and the cliff runs a system of half - underground enemy defense works which, like others the marines have faced in the last ten days, must be taken the hard way.

The third division Leathernecks lunged forward 700 yards Friday to seize a 362-foot hill in the northern part of the island, within rifle range of the cliff, and in position to cut the boomerang-shaped Japanese line in two, approximately at the bend.

The American advance formed a salient pointing toward the inside of the bend. The cliff, running along the northeastern shore about 500 yards in from the water line, is one outside edge of the boomerang.

IN THE OPEN Once the Japanese back up beyond the cliff they will be in the open, between the Devilgods and the sea, and they no longer will have the advantage of connecting strongpoints.

The fourth marines, on the right

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Nazi Flying Bombs Again Over England

LONDON, March 3.—(P)—For the first time in weeks the air ministry announced today that German flying bombs were shot down last night in the sea off the east coast of England.

Recent broadcasts by Nazi propaganda Minister Goebbels summing the Germans to last ditch resistance had promised intensified V-bomb attacks.

WITH THE LEGISLATORS:

Delay On Finance Bill Postpones Adjournment

RALEIGH, March 3.—(P)—Ending the ninth week of the 1945 general assembly, legislators went back to work in a brief Saturday session for the consideration of local measures.

In the meantime, lawmakers who had predicted an early adjournment of the assembly—some of the guesses were as early as March 10 and others March 15—had their hopes damaged somewhat when the \$129,000,000 finance bill hit a snag and was sent back to first reading which is scheduled for Monday afternoon.

The parliamentary tangle occurred when Rep. Stone of Rockingham offered an amendment to the finance bill increasing the tax on all wines \$1 per gallon.

SECOND READING Previously Speaker Oscar Richardson had ruled that other amendments to the bill constituted material changes and put the bill, which was speeding through the house, back to second reading. The major alteration among these amendments was relative to the exemption of insecticides from the sales tax if bought for poultry or

RUSSIANS NOW WITHIN SIGHT OF BALTIC SEA

Enemy's Danzig-Stettin Communications Line Cut By Soviets

NAZI LINE BROKEN

LONDON, March 3.—(P)—Second White Russian army tanks have severed communications between Danzig and Stettin, isolating the German troops being backed against the Baltic in eastern Pomerania, the "Palish corridor" and the Danzig territory, the Berlin radio said today.

The Russians were fighting within sight of the Baltic at three places.

Moscow clothed in a security blackout the exact extent of the Soviet penetration northward in Pomerania, but AP correspondent Eddy Gilmore said in a dispatch from the Russian capital that Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's wedge driven between Rummelsburg and Bublitz southeast of Koelsin "has broken the German's line as a line."

By German account, Russian armored spearheads cut across the Danzig - Stettin communications east of Koelsin, seven miles from the Baltic coast.

Moscow has not confirmed this report nor a German statement that the Russians were in the outskirts of Koelsin.

HAND TO HAND By enemy accounts Russian attempts to widen their wedge were repulsed in wild hand-to-hand fighting while Moscow dispatches said Rokossovsky, when he had driven his wedge as far as he needed it, turned his attention to the flanks and rapidly beat back Volkstrum (home guard) and seasoned Nazi army units.

A German communique announced that Soviet units had thrust northwest of Drumburg, indicated the Russians were making a new smash through Pomerania toward the Baltic. Drumburg is 47 miles southwest of Koelsin.

TANK WEDGE Three Russian spearheads were jabbing for Koelsin and the port of Kolberg, 24 miles to the west. Tanks drove the wedge between Rummelsburg and Bublitz. Stormoviks and medium bombers ranged ahead of these mobile units in good flying weather.

Long range guns hammered the coastal railway running westward from Danzig.

Southwest of the East Prussian capital of Koensigsberg Russian units battled furiously resisting German troops. The German high command said a Russian breakthrough attempt was stemmed in that area near Zinten.

In Silesia Russian storm units fought from building to building against the Germans surrounded in Breslau.

There was no indication whether the plane—presumably the four engine Liberator that Harmon normally uses—was flying through a combat zone and might have been attacked by Japanese aircraft or whether it may have crashed because of operational difficulties.

See GEN. HARMON Page 2

SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS NEW ORLEANS, March 3.—(P)—The U. S. weather bureau in a Marine forecast today said "small craft warnings are displayed from Brownsville, Texas, to Pensacola, Fla.

COSTLY FIGHT ALONG SENIO

Both Sides Are Suffering Heavy Losses; Battle Along Dyke

ROME, March 3.—(P)—Fierce fighting that has been costly to both sides raged today along the east bank of the Senio river in the Eighth Army sector of the Italian front, Allied headquarters announced.

Dispatches said Germans had taken up positions on one side of a high concrete dyke, with Allied forces fighting from the opposite side.

The German communique yesterday reported heavy fighting along the Senio but said Eighth Army attacks had been frustrated.

In the battle along the dyke, the opposing forces at some places were only a few yards apart and engaged in hand grenade duels.

German artillery, meanwhile, unleashed a fresh assault in the Mount Belvedere area west of the Pistoia-Bologna road.

There was normal patrolling activity along most of the remainder of the front.

A deserter from the German lines said Mussolini, wearing a gray uniform without rank, had visited the front.

See DELAY Page 2

Bridges Across River In Duesseldorf Area Blown Up By Germans

WITH THE U. S. NINTH ARMY, March 3.—(P)—German troops blew all the bridges across the Rhine in the Duesseldorf area last night and early today as U. S. soldiers gained a foothold on the western approaches. The new Neuss bridge, built in 1929 with loans floated from the Allies, was among those blown.

PARIS, March 3.—(P)—American troops 250,000 strong, fighting today for control of the Rhine bridges, battered to the river on a broadening front and thrust to within five miles of closing a Canadian-American trap on parts of two German armies.

Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's divisions in the north, making up the first parachute and 15th armies, were reported in headlong retreat behind rear guard defenses.

U. S. Ninth Army men reached the Rhine at new points on a five-mile sector, burst through Krefeld, and in a northward push reached Geldern. The latter is five miles from the Canadian First Army wheeling Germans back across the Rhine.

Just to the south, U. S. First army tanks and infantry spread the battle before Cologne into a dozen more villages and slammed within easy artillery range of the great Rhine stronghold along a curving 20-mile front. Last night they were but 4 1-2 miles from Cologne at one point.

Berlin declared Ninth army forces were attempting to span the Rhine, and unofficial reports reaching London said the Doughboys already had crossed near Neuss, suburb of shell-ripped Duesseldorf. There was no confirmation of this report

from direct field dispatches or supreme headquarters.

In the middle of the western front, the American Third army driving toward Coblenz advanced up to 3 1-2 miles on a 45-mile front, seized 13 more towns and 4,600 prisoners.

AT TWO POINTS The U. S. Ninth army smashed to the river at two points yesterday in a 15-mile advance that toppled all the arsenal cities in the Ruhr basin west of the Rhine, routed the German 15th army, and split Nazi defenses.

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IN PHILIPPINES: Landing On Lubang Is Fourth In Series

Recent Invasions Give Americans Complete Control Of Sea Route Through Islands

MANILA, March 3.—(P)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed today the fourth in a series of rapid-fire invasions—a landing on Lubang island, 35 miles southwest of Manila Bay—giving his forces complete control of the shortest sea route through the heart of the Philippines to Manila.

The western end of a 300-mile passage, through which Manila can be supplied and Luzon transformed into a huge military base facing Asta, was opened by veteran 24th division troops which seized Lubang Thursday.

Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving's Yanks overwhelmed "negligible resistance" on the 18-by-eight mile island at the western exit of Verde Passage, the 18th Philippine island MacArthur has invaded.

"This completes the capture of all key positions through San Bernardino Straits and Verde island passage designed to secure the main navigational channel through the islands for shipping from the United States," today's communique reported.

Within a little over a week, that route was cleared by invasions of Verde island, east of Lubang, and Capul and Biri islands guarding the eastern end of the sea route in San Bernardino Strait between Luzon and Samar.

RAPID MOVEMENT Lubang was the second island invasion in as many days. Yanks of Maj. Gen. Jens A. Doe's 41st division swarmed ashore on Palawan, 250 miles southwest of Manila, Wednesday. Today MacArthur said the 41st has completed occupation of Puerto Princesa harbor, midway along Palawan's 275-mile-long east coast and occupied a third airfield.

In fighting on Luzon east of Manila, where Japanese forces are in slow retreat into mountains of the Marikina watershed, Maj. Gen. Verne D. Mudge's First Cavalry

See LANDING Page 2

Hundreds Of Allied Bombers Over Reich 19th Day In Row

LONDON, March 3.—(P)—Allied divebombers pounded German troop columns seeking a haven today behind the Rhine river as hundreds of Allied heavy bombers thundered over the Reich for the 19th straight day.

The German radio reported at least three bomber formations over western and southwestern Germany before 10 a.m. an hour later the German news agency DNB hurriedly left the air after announcing that one formation was within 60 miles of Berlin.

Last night RAF Mosquitos at-

acked Berlin with blockbusters for the 11th successive night and also bombed the railway center of Kassel, 110 miles east of Cologne, following up yesterday's hammering of the Reich by more than 6,000 Allied aircraft.

JOINED ASSAULT RAF Liberators and Halifaxes from Italy joined in last night's assault, attacking the Portor Vescovo rail yards at Verona and leaving a number of fires in a follow-up to yesterday's blasting

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