

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and unseasonably warm today, tonight and Friday, few scattered thundershowers, in mountains Friday afternoon.

The Shelby Daily Star

CLEVELAND COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1894

TELEPHONES 1100

- State Theatre Today - "FRISCO SAL"

Starring Susanna Foster - Turhan Bey

VOL. XLIII-76

ASSOCIATED PRESS NEWS

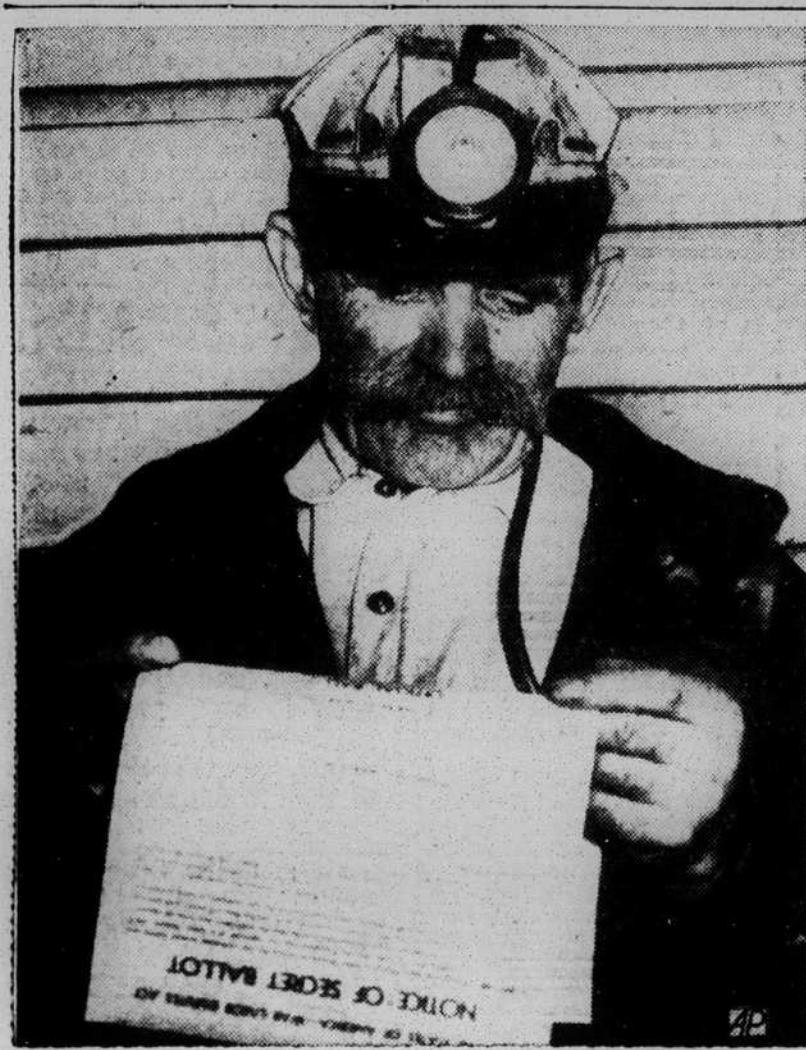
SHELBY, N. C.

THURSDAY, MAR. 29, 1945

TELEMAT PICTURES

SINGLE COPIES-5c

BERLIN -> 142 MILES



A MINER STUDIES STRIKE BALLOT—Peter Sacolovich of Liberty, Pa., a miner for 40 years, studies a sample of the ballot used by 400,000 soft coal miners March 28 in their election to determine whether to strike for John L. Lewis' contract demands, including a \$60,000,000 a year union royalty.

Miners Give Lewis Confidence Ballots

Leaders Hopeful Strike May Be Averted Despite Deadlock As Contract Close Nears

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—A thundering miners' vote to strike at his call today bolstered John L. Lewis' position in the dead-locked soft coal wage negotiations.

EPES ORDERED HELD FOR TRIAL

Army Officer Denies Killing His Pretty Young Wife

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 29.—(AP)—A coroner's jury has ordered Lt. S. C. Epes, member of a prominent Virginia family, held for trial in the death of his wife, whom he denies killing, but admits burying in a foxhole in a moment of panic.

Two Columbia physicians said Mrs. Epes died from an overdose of a hypnotic drug, Lt. Epes, in a statement signed at the time of his arrest and introduced at the inquest yesterday, said he gave his wife the sedative to relieve pain.

REPORTED MISSING When he discovered her dead, he said, he became panicky and buried her in a foxhole near Ft. Jackson, where he was stationed with an ambulance unit. The next day he reported his auburn-haired, 26-year-old wife missing.

That was on January 27. More than two weeks later, his face and throat swathed in bandages—the result, post authorities said, of self-inflicted razor wounds—he led officers to a spot where Mrs. Epes' body was exhumed from the shallow grave.

On the basis of the coroner's jury order, Lt. Epes was held on a commitment paper charging murder. Solicitor T. Pou Taylor said he would seek to try the 29-year-old lieutenant at a term of court beginning here April 9.

Mrs. Epes, the former Mary Lee

Charlotte Taxi Driver Gets Term For Soldier Death

CHARLOTTE, March 29.—(AP)—John L. Robinson, 55-year-old cab driver, was given a five to seven year sentence in Superior court here today for the slaying of Pfc. Theodore Maplet of Morris Field on February 23.

Robinson was convicted of manslaughter by a Mecklenburg county jury late yesterday. After Judge Richard D. Dixon passed sentence today, defense attorneys filed notice of an appeal.

OKINAWA GETS 6TH BLAST IN RYUKYUS RAID

Nimitz Score Sheet Shows 819 Aircraft, 57 Ships In 11 Days

NIPS MAKE CLAIMS

GUAM, March 29.—(AP)—Okinawa underwent its sixth days' bombardment by the U. S. fleet's largest rifles as hundreds of carrier aircraft knifed into its remaining strongholds, Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced today.

Radio Tokyo held to its report that Yank troops landed on the Kerama Islands, asserting a fleet of "20 to 30 transports" is attempting to supply American invasion forces on the islands, 15 miles west of Okinawa. There was no confirmation from fleet headquarters of any of these reports.

Citing preliminary reports of damage inflicted on the enemy, Nimitz' communique said 38 aircraft were destroyed; 19 ships crippled including three destroyers or destroyer escorts damaged, five cargo ships damaged and many small craft wrecked. Military installations including submarine pens and Unten Bay on Okinawa were heavily hit.

The totals make today's incomplete Pacific fleet boxscore for the past 11-day carrier and battleship offensive read:

819 aircraft probably destroyed, 57 or more ships sunk or damaged, including carriers and a 45,000-ton battleship.

Nimitz acknowledged "some fleet units" suffered damage "under enemy air attacks" including "serious damage" to one destroyer, one "larger unit" and another ship, and "minor damage to several others." None of these ships was reported lost.

In further unsubstantiated claims, Japanese imperial headquarters boasted of sinking or damaging "30 warships, cruisers, destroyers and transports" between Monday and Wednesday by "surface units" and planes.

Earlier Japanese press reports said Japanese torpedo boats "sank two cruisers" and "damaged a destroyer."

The fleet's assault on the Ryukyus by air and sea is probably the heaviest in the Pacific and imperial Japanese headquarters implied in today's communique the attack is continuing into the seventh day.

Tokyo also reported carrier plane attacks on the naval base of Kure on Honshu island, early today.

Besides this heavy fleet jabbing, upwards of 200 Superfortresses hit Kyushu Tuesday noon and an unconfirmed Japanese broadcast said other B-29s smacked it again Tuesday night.

Hoey Gives Pair Liberated Nurses Tour Of Capitol

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—Two army nurses, liberated in February from a Japanese prison camp, had Senator Hoey (D-NC) as guide on a tour of the Capitol. The nurses, each of whom wore six overseas service stripes, were Lt. Evelyn Whitlow of Leesburg, Caswell county, North Carolina, and Lt. Helen Gardner of Dayton, Ohio. They were liberated Feb. 3 after nearly three years in Santo Tomas prison camp, Manila, P. I., arriving in the states Feb. 28.

Labor-Management Peace Charter Warmly Received

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—President Roosevelt voiced pleasure today with a labor-employer plan for postwar industrial peace and termed such cooperation essential to full employment when hostilities cease.

Two labor and one business leader worked out a "code of principles" to submit to their respective organizations with the idea of promoting "the maximum degree of industrial peace and prosperity in postwar America."

Mr. Roosevelt was advised of this step in a letter addressed to

Red Army Slashes To Austrian Border

Bratislava Gap Defenses Shattered To Open Route To Vienna 38 Miles Away

LONDON, March 29.—(AP)—The Red army, lancing through the shattered defenses of Bratislava Gap in the Danube valley, has reached places along the Austrian frontier, it was reported from Moscow today.

The big Stalin tanks and armored cars of Marshal Fedor Tolbukhin's Third Ukrainian army, smashing ahead from captured Cornea, hammered at the defenses of Pannhagen, 39 miles southeast of Vienna, St. Johann on the frontier of the northeast and Mosen (Wieselburg), near the Danube 21 miles southeast of Bratislava, Moscow dispatches said.

"Whether the units which fought their way to the frontier planned to remain or whether these were scouting groups feeling out the strength of the much-heralded fortified zone is not known," said a dispatch from (P) Correspondent Eddy Gilmore.

"There are no indications that any of these tanks and armored cars actually crossed the frontier into Austria."

25 MILE ADVANCE The German communique announced a withdrawal north of the Danube to the Nitra river and a 25-mile advance by the Russians from the broken Hron river line. This push in Slovakia, dovetailing with the assault below the great river of southeastern Europe, apparently placed the Russians close to the City of Nitra, 40 miles east of Bratislava, capital of the puppet government of Slovakia, and possibly as close as 30 miles to the border of Moravia.

There was no word of the coordinated offensive of Marshal Ivan Konev from Silesia toward Vienna and Prague from the northeast, but the Russians were heavily bombing Mairisch Ostrau in the Moravian gap in their approach from that direction.

General Clay Designated As Germany's Governor

Will Take Charge Of Civil Affairs Of That Country As Eisenhower's Deputy

WASHINGTON, March 29.—(AP)—Maj. Gen. Lucius D. Clay, who has been with the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, was designated today to take charge of civil affairs in Germany when that country is occupied.

President Roosevelt made the announcement. The appointment, the White House said, was by Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff.

Clay will be deputy to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, the announcement asserted, "to have charge of civil affairs when General Eisenhower, as supreme commander, assumes control under the arrangement agreed upon for the occupation of Germany."

Clay had served at Eisenhower's headquarters before he went to OWMR as deputy director under James F. Byrnes.

The presidential announcement said that Eisenhower had asked for Clay's assignment over civil affairs three weeks ago but that it was delayed because Marshal had agreed to let him remain with OWMR until April 1.

The task of developing an organization for occupied Germany and administering it, Mr. Roosevelt asserted, "is one for which General Clay is particularly qualified by reason of his splendid service in the civilian as well as in the military branches of government."

Clay had charge of material procurement for the army service forces when Byrnes borrowed him last December as his deputy in charge of the war program.

Japs Use Prisoners To Protect Targets From Allied Bombing

LONDON, March 29.—(AP)—Maj. Arthur Henderson, financial secretary to the war office, told commons today that the Japanese were moving prisoners of war camps into close proximity to military installations in an effort to protect the targets from bombing.

WHAT'S DOING

TODAY 6:30 p.m.—Training Union business supper at First Baptist church. 7:00 p.m.—Regular meeting of Kiwanis club at Hotel Charles. 7:30 p.m.—C. A. F. members at the Armory. 8:00 p.m.—Easter Communion service at Central Methodist church.

FRIDAY 12 p.m.—Good Friday Service at Presbyterian church. 12:30 p.m.—Rotary Club meets. 7 p.m.—Chamber of Commerce annual dinner at Hotel Charles. 7:30 p.m.—Holy Week service Ascension Lutheran.

CHURCHILL SAYS SUCCESS NEAR

LONDON, March 29.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill asserted today that the "hour of success" was near.

His prediction came in a letter endorsing a liberal candidate for commons in a special election to fill a vacancy.

"The endurance of the British people and the steadfast devotion of the fighting services have at last brought us near the hour of success," he wrote.

BIG THREE IN CLOSE TOUCH

Coincides With Eisenhower's Sensational Advances

By ALEX H. SINGLETON LONDON, March 29.—(AP)—A sharp increase in the flow of government communications between the capitals of the "Big Three"—often a sign of important developments in the making—coincided today with the sensational advance of Gen. Eisenhower's forces.

There was nothing concrete in diplomatic quarters to support the atmosphere of victory in the air felt throughout London, but reliable reports said members of Prime Minister Churchill's war cabinet had been ordered to remain close to their posts. Arrangements also have been made to call parliament back into session if necessary during the eight-day Easter recess.

The British are preparing for their happiest Easter of the war. Easter is their best holiday of the year.

War plants will be kept working, but nearly everything else will shut down or operate on skeleton shifts. Stores will close from Good Friday until Tuesday.

Women and children are leading the exodus from London for seaside and country today.

Despite their belief that this is the eve of victory, there is not much hilarity among the British. For one reason, Southern England and London still are within range of the Nazi V-weapons, even with the Germans being beaten back.

Everyone is watching Field Marshal Montgomery's rush on the northern sector closely, therefore, because the German rocket-firing sites are believed to be in Holland.

TO HOLD MUSIC FESTIVAL AGAIN

The annual school music festival for the schools of Shelby and Cleveland county will be held again this year after being discontinued for the past two years. This was announced this morning by Superintendent Horace Grigg who said that a committee has been named to prepare for the event.

This committee is composed of J. D. Higgins, of the Polkville school, Mrs. T. F. Templeton, of the Kings Mountain schools and Miss Mollie Moore, of the Shelby schools.

A time quota will be allowed to each school for its part of the program. The date for the event has not been fixed but will be held some time in May.

ACCIDENTAL KILLING

NEWTON, March 29.—(AP)—Glenn Lafon, 12-year-old son of Lawrence Lafon, accidentally shot and killed himself with a small caliber rifle while shooting rats on his father's farm in Cline's township yesterday.

COURT APPOINTEES

RALEIGH.—(AP)—Governor Cherry today reappointed Judge Carl C. Wilson and Solicitor L. Roy Hughes of the Thomasville Recorder's court for two year terms.

7th Army Frees 1100 Miseducated Yank Prisoners

HEPPENHEIM, Germany, March 27.—(AP)—(P)—Eleven hundred emaciated prisoners, including 290 wounded Americans so badly treated by their Nazi captors that they had lost an average of 35 pounds in weight, were freed from a German prison camp when the U. S. Seventh Army infantry captured this town today.

Pathetically happy at their liberation, the men related how they had been subjected to filthy conditions and fed on a slow-starvation diet that made it virtually impossible for the wounded to recover

Allied Armies Pouring Through Wide Break In Lines, Menace Hannover

Duisburg, Mannheim Fall To Plunging Armies Whose Movements Covered By Security Blackout

PARIS, March 29.—(AP)—British and American troops racing today through a wide break in German lines north of the Ruhr were reported menacing Hannover, 142 miles from Berlin, while First Army shock troops raced to a point 207 miles southwest of the capital.

Duisburg in the Ruhr ran up the white flag. All of Frankfurt on the Main except the northern outskirts was captured by the Third Army, whose advance troops operating in echelon with the First Army moved eastward to within 214 miles of Berlin.

Hamborn, Weisbaden, Hanau, Aschaffenburg and the northern half of Mannheim fell to Gen. Eisenhower's victory-



flushed armies fighting up to 145 miles deep in Germany. The full extent of the advances in Westphalia was hidden by a portentous security blackout, but AP Correspondent Ned Nordness said Muenster, Osnabrueck and Hannover all were threatened by the sweeping gains outflanking the Ruhr to the north. Several defensible rivers were crossed easily. Hannover is 112 miles from last publishable British positions on the approaches to Muenster, capital of Westphalia.

The nearest First Army approach to Berlin was at Amoenburg, 85 miles beyond the Rhine and 255 from Russian siege lines in the east. The First and Third Armies scored advances of 20 miles or more overnight, capturing the important Lahn river traffic center of Marburg, without opposition.

The enemy was concerned about operations on the Neckar, which flows behind the easily defended black forest to the south. The Germans blew the bridges east of Mannheim.

CITIES TOPPLING Numerous cities were within grasp of the charging Allies. Among

MANNHEIM TOPPLED

NEW YORK, March 29.—(AP)—American Seventh Army troops have captured Mannheim, the American broadcasting station in Europe said after noon today. CBS recorded the account.

These were Kassel (217,085), 43 miles from the First Army; Essen (660,000), six miles from the Ninth; and Heidelberg (84,650), six miles from the Seventh Army.

Armies in the north were at these positions before the blackout was imposed: Hamm (52,000), eastern exit of the Ruhr, 24 miles away; Mulheim (136,805), 5; Gelsenkirchen (313,000), 6; Bochum (303,000),

See ALLIED ARMIES Page 2

HINES GIVEN LONG SENTENCE

Howard Hines, negro, was sentenced to serve from 25 to 30 years in the state penitentiary by Judge William H. Bobbitt, presiding over Cleveland Superior court, after Hines had tendered a plea of guilty to second degree murder in connection with the killing of his wife.

Hines and his wife had an argument in January over an allotment check which she was drawing against his pay and he shot and fatally injured her at her home immediately afterward.

Maxie Wilson, also a negro who is said to have furnished the pistol and gone with Hines to the scene of the killing will be tried at the next term of court. This case in which he is charged with being an accessory was continued for further investigation.

Hammon Whitworth, negro, was found not guilty of carnal knowledge of a girl under 14 years old. Clyde Morrow on a charge of operating a public nuisance was fined \$25 and given a suspended sentence.

Fred Davis was fined \$25 and costs for assault with deadly weapon. Melvin Watts was fined \$50 and costs for operating a car while intoxicated and was ordered to surrender his driving license. Edward Johnson was ordered to pay the costs for giving a worthless check.

See 7TH ARMY Page 3

NAZIS QUIT POSTS

ZURICH, Switzerland, March 29.—(AP)—Most leading Nazi officials have left their posts and retired to an Alpine hideout, the newspaper La Suisse reported today in a dispatch from the German frontier.