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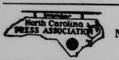
THE NEWS Estab. 1896

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1944

The Underground Rallies

Another indication that the invasion of Europe is not far distant is the news that instructions have gone out from western front headquarters to the vast underground army in that area to launch a campaign to disrupt communications between the existing and potential invasion fronts. This would prevent men and supplies from being moved to the points where the Allies strike. Picked men-not paratroopersare being dropped by parachute into enemy territory to direct the assault from within.

Upward of 500,000 men, partially armed, comprise the underground in Europe and allied planes are providing them with increasing quantities of weapons and

The news that the Allies are now ready to launch a coordinated attack from with in fortress Europe must be disconcerting to the German high command. It reveals unmistakably that their Gestapo has been unable to subdue rebellious elements in Europe and that the Luftwaffe has been weakened to the point that it cannot obstruct the transfer of equipment of these elements in quantities sufficient, in the judgment of the Allied command, to enable them to materially weaken the Nazi grip on conquered nations.

Another phase of the war from within is worth noting and has, of course, been duly assessed by our military leaders. Its primary objective is to prevent the Nazis from reinforcing the point, or points, at which the Allies attack. It is a safe assumption that the Nazis have large forces at these points already, and if the communications behind them are torn up they cannot escape and perforce must die or surrender. The whole Russian strategy on the Eastern front is based on destruction of the Nazi army, and the planners of the underground campaign in Europe may have had the same goal in mind.

Bad News For Japan

A ceremony which took place at the Brooklyn navy yard Saturday must have created considerable anxiety among the warlords of Japan. While 26,000 people looked on, the battleship Missouri, the mightiest yet built by any nation with a displacement of 45,000 tons, slid into East river nine months ahead of schedule. Senator Truman told the assemblage that "the christening and launching of this greatest warship of all time illustrates the decisive answer which the democracies of the world are making to the challenge of the aggressor nations." He also expressed the hope that the ship could avenge the brutalities and indignities practiced upon the heroes of Bataan.

Admiral Ernest G. King sent this message to the men who built the mighty battle wagon: "1944, our year of attack has just begun. Plans have been made for the most extensive and important naval operations ever undertaken. The launching of the Missouri at this time is therefore particularly appropriate."

Ensign Eddie Varner, who is here on leave, told the writer of this article a few days ago that he had visited this ship several times. For obvious reasons, but little can be told about the Missouri, especially those improvements which, in addition to its enormous size, make it the mightiest fighter afloat and practically unsinkable.

Buy Bonds . . . And Hold Them

Americans are being urged to buy war bonds. It seems that a considerable, and growing, percentage of them should be admonished to hold them. It is obvious that bonds held only a few weeks and then converted into cash are mighty little help in financing a war that is costing bil-

Total redemptions of all war savings bonds sold from May, 1941, through December, 1943, amounted to \$2,051,000,-000, or around eight per cent. The monthly redemptions have continued to rise until they reached a peak of \$207,000,000 last December, or 24 per cent of the sales for that month. In November \$150,000,-000 worth of Series E bonds were cashed, which accounted for 88 per cent of all redemptions.

It is inevitable that a certain percentage of bonds will be redeemed, but the ratio is entirely too high. Where intensive selling methods are employed, as in the war bond drives, people will buy more bonds than they can hold. But the redemptions in December suggest that there were many people who repossessed their money to buy Christmas gifts.

We don't know the extent to which this practice is prevalent in Transylvania county, but we do know that more than a few of our people are surrendering their bonds. That is their privilege, of course. Still, the fellow out there on the fighting front has no such option. He can't change his mind when confronted by hardships - hardships more real than any that might arise on the civilian front. Money invested in war bonds, we think, should be pledged for the duration, at least, unless some urgent necessity develops.

The Savage Jap

The American people were stunned and enraged a few days ago when the army and navy released a story telling of the unbelievable atrocities inflicted upon America and Filipino fighting men after the fall of Bataan nearly two years ago. The information was supplied by three American officers who were taken on Bataan and Corregidor and who escaped after a year's imprisonment to reveal for the first time the unbridled savagery of the Jap. All told, some 7,700 soldiers died of torture, thirst and outright murder in Jap

Congressmen, infuriated, were quick to call for full reprisal and in many parts of mystifying attack on Mr. Willkie, the public what is going on. the country sales of war bonds soared.

Mention is made in the officers' story of the "march of death" from Bataan to San Fernando and Camp O'Donnell. Raymond P. Cronin, chief of the AP bureau in ish government and upon Mr. Will- ti-Soviet influences." The Daily buttal to Mr. Hull's offer of medi-Manila, who was imprisoned in Manila from January, 1942, until last September, obtained from trustworthy sources much information relative to this grisly "march." The story of the three officers, Cronin says, "tells only part of the bitter tale" and he proceeds to supplement it with incidents of Jap cruelty.

Cronin estimates that 4,000 men died on Bataan as victims of Jap brutalities. Hundreds of others succumbed as they were marched out. Sick men were routed from hospitals on the peninsula and were forced to march. When they dropped from exhaustion, they were beaten and bayonetted. Soldiers who paused to ease their suffering also died under Jap bayonets. The Japs, Cronin says, always made sure the victim was helpless before they attacked him. Soldiers who in the excitement of the surrender forgot to throw away a few bullets were beheaded. Men maddened by thirst had to look on as Jap soldiers emptied canteens on the ground.

Why these stories were withheld from the public so long we do not know, but their publication along with a speech by Anthony Eden, British foreign secretary, revealing mistreatment of British subjects in prison camps coincides with unmistakable indications that operations against Japanese strongholds are being speeded up and enlarged. To our way of thinking this shocking narrative was not needed to impress upon our people the pressing and inescapable-and at the same time difficult—duty of exterminating the enemy in the far east.

Buy Bonds Today!

Sale of war bonds in Transylvania county is picking up, but we are still a long way from the goal and the Fourth War Loan drive will end soon, on February 15. With victory not even in sight, our men in uniform certainly can't quit and neither can we here on the home front.

"FACE" ON THE BARROOM FLOOR



By PAUL MALLON

Washington, Feb. 2 - Messrs. allowed (in effect):

are reconciled to the fact that the a statement a few weeks ago say world after this war will be no ing the final battle line would be more pink.

He did not know of our use of the word "pink," as the story goes among diplomats here who accept it as authentic. When the translator finally conveyed the precise Russian equivalent for Churchill's rainbow.

Whether the world is to be rainow or pink, Russian diplomacy was simply a Russian diplomatic land a similar deep hue.

particularly.

There may or may not have been some incident behind the peace negotiation rumor. Both Russia and Britain are supposed to have conducted some indirect talks with Nazi peace bearers from time to time in order to sound out the enemy for military purposes. These, however, in no way impair the genuineness of the agreement among the United Nations for unconditional surrender.

To the contrary, some negotiations are proceeding now between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin Russia, Britain and the United were sitting around chatting at States for occupation of Germany Teheran after work was done, when victory finally is won. It is when Mr. Churchill, with his typi- being decided what part of Gercal sly humor, is supposed to have many, Russia will occupy no matfer who gets to Berlin first. (In-"There is no doubt about it. We cidentally, a Russian general made the Spree river, which runs It had to be explained to Stalin, through Berlin, although he referred to military operation rather claims than to political occupations.)

But this is not the most omportant phase of last week's sensation. This country is entering a new era of diplomacy in which official meaning, Stalin chuckled. Mr. Russian newspapers may be used Roosevelt intervened with: "The by Stalin to stir up whatever dipworld will be all colors of the lomatic pot he chooses to bring to

American news reading and American diplomacy must be adlately has been pure red. It is now justed to the different conception Stalin simply would not print it clear the "Pravda" charge that the of news from Russia. There, it is in Russia and the agitating pur-British were attempting to make used for official purposes and not separate peace, as well as the necessarily or primarily to inform his "news" as possible truth.

This time, as usual, it was acmove to make the Curzon part of companied by agitation from the Czechoslovakian treaty, etc.) no Poland, the Baltic states, and Fin-communist elements in both Lon-criticism of Mr. Roosevelt or any Stalin turned the heat on the from the British and American True, the Pravda agitation came as kie who has advocated more in- worker long has been gunning for ation, but, in general Stalin and dependence for the Baltic states assistant state secretary Berle, for Roosevelt get along far better than instance, mainly because, in state Stalin and Churchill.

Some Japanese two-man submarines, says a report, are disguised Factographs, remains in the air

Those retreating Nazis in Poland, says Betcha Dollar Dyer, are showing a lot of early foot but he's betting they'll be collared in the stretch.

to return the compliment. Too

dangerous.

Grandpappy Jenkins says he will devote the next 11 months to planning a revenge on the relatives who gave Junior a tool set for Christmas

A Pennsylvania woman claims she has worked 18,000 hours during the last 15 years solving crossword puzzles. The union of crossword puzzle makers-uppers should send her a suitable reward-say, an emu or, at least, a printer's measure.

Berlin has been raided 100 imes. But in this case - as the Berliners will discover - the first 100 will prove not nearly as hard to take as the next.

Folks of a Canadian town claim they saw a butterfly this week. Zadok Dumkoph thinks it was just a snowflake camouflag-

Even that nimble-tongued alibiace, Herr Doktor Goebbels, must be having a devil of a time explaining to the Germans how the Russian front happens to be in

The absurd suggestion that interned Japs could show midwest farmers how to bathe naturally has everybody in a la-

department councils, he is supposed to have resisted some Russian

Obviously, if domestic communists are going to help conduct Russian pressure diplomacy by agitating against officials who are not putty in their hands, you would think the American press well might retaliate by advising Stalin bitterly as to who should be dropped from his official family.

This, of course, would be practically ineffective. If our press did, pose would be lost. But we publish

Incidentally, in all this series of Moscow agitations (including the don and the United States to drive of his actions has been involved.

The flying fish, according as whales. Don't expect the whale but 30 seconds. That's plenty long enough for it to realize the life of a bird isn't all it's cracked up to

> When your doctor asks where you prefer to have your prescription filled, say: VARNER'S, because: Filled only by registered pharmacist, as written and at reasonable prices. (Advt.)

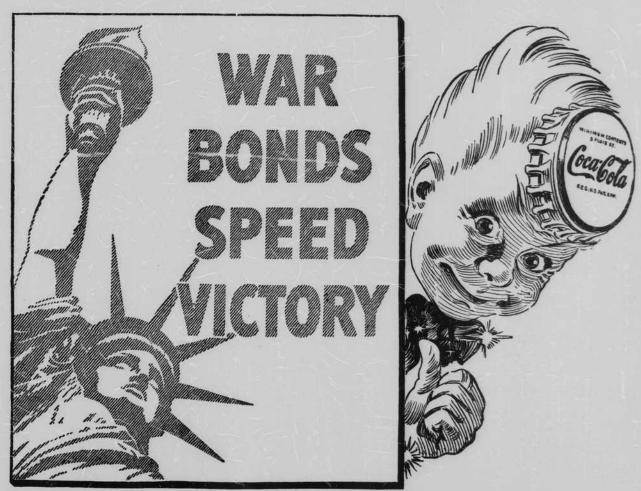


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can help his dream come true sooner-by doing the little things asked of us to speed Victory. We can buy bonds, and more bonds, and keep them, and keep on doing it-till the boys come home.

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