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Guard Mobilization Bill Passes

Roosevelt Opposes Delay In Conscription Measure

More Men In Army Needed Now, He Says

To Put Off Actual Drafting of Men, Says Roosevelt, Would Delay Whole Defense Program; Senate Debates Bill.

Washington, Aug. 23.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today said that he was "absolutely and completely" in favor of the compulsory military training bill which will be passed by Congress next year.

He said that he had a press conference today and that he had received many suggestions from members of Congress and the public. He said that he was now going to the White House to see the bill.

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GENERAL METTS SAYS STATE'S GUARD READY

North Carolina Units Are Expected To Be Among First Called by President Under New Legislation; Units To Be Expanded.

Raleigh, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts said today that North Carolina's National Guardsmen would be ready "at a moment's notice" to answer a call to active duty for one year by President Roosevelt.

It was believed certain that the state Guard would be summoned to duty since the Senate sent to the White House today a bill authorizing the call by the President.

Metts said War department plans indicated that North Carolina guardsmen would begin their year of active service on September 15 or 16. All of the 1st and 2nd Divisions of the 232nd Coast Artillery, near Columbia, S. C., he said, and the 232nd may be divided between Fort Mottrill, S. C., and Fort Screven, Ga.

At the same time the adjutant general disclosed that the strength of the State Guard, now composed of slightly more than 4,000 officers and men, would be increased by 20 percent if the call for duty were issued by the President.

Volunteers would be asked to swell the state unit, he added. For the first three weeks of the troops—with the exception of the 232nd coast artillery—have been participating in maneuvers in Louisiana and Texas.

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Local Guardsman Is Charged With Throat-Cutting

Raleigh, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts said today he had under advisement a report of an investigation into the throat-cutting of Sergeant J. F. Savage of Wilmington, a National Guardsman.

Metts said the man was slashed by another Guardsman at an encampment near Camp Shelby, Miss. The investigation conducted by Major James C. Dempsey, division inspector, was not made public.

Metts said that when he left the Guard maneuvers on Tuesday, Savage was out of danger and the sergeant's assailant was under military arrest.

The assailant was listed as Private Roy W. Falkner of Headquarters and Service Company, 165th Medical Regiment stationed at Henderson.

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Six Killed In Attacks On Britain

British Long Range Guns Fire "A Few Rounds Across Channel" in Reply to Germans; Italy Threatens Greek Invasion.

(By The Associated Press.) Nazi warplanes dropped salvos of bombs on three densely populated London suburbs today and inflicted a toll of six known killed in attacks of mounting violence elsewhere in England and Scotland.

London reported that British long range guns had fired "a few rounds across the channel," by way of reply to newly disclosed German "big Bertha's" lining the French coast which shelled British convoys yesterday in the Straits of Dover and rained projectiles on Dover itself.

British military spokesmen discounted the nazis' new mode of attack, declaring the big German cannon would not make Dover untenable from a military standpoint. Civilian residents of the channel's "Holl's corner" town began fleeing, however.

Heavy property damage was reported in the pre-dawn raid on the London area—the capital's first night assault of the war. Few casualties were reported.

British bombers countered with raids over western Germany, the nazis high command acknowledged, "without special effect" but "a number of civilians injured."

The rising sun brought new waves of German bombers ganging over the island kingdom, attacking a northeast coast town where a large store was wrecked by a direct bomb hit, a hotel was damaged and patrons of a cafe were trapped under debris when a bomb struck the building.

An Italian threat to invade Greece if the British occupy any Greek islands was reported in a dispatch from Rome.

"If the British move into Greece we will do the same," a high fascist spokesman declared, commenting on rumors that Britain might occupy Crete and Corfu.

Air raid sirens in the British capital sounded a 45-minute alarm ending at 3 a. m. and London's millions heard the bark of anti-aircraft guns and the roar of bomb explosions in the western outskirts.

A British communique said "a small number of casualties" resulted in London, while attacks in other parts of the island kingdom by nazis warplanes "operating singly or in small numbers" resulted in some damage and "a number of fatal injuries."

INVENTORY OF ARMS REVEALS AMPLE SUPPLY

The War Department Shows Supply of All Basic Weapons Sufficient For Army of Three Million Men; Newer Weapons Are Lacking.

Washington, Aug. 23.—(AP)—An official inventory showed today, officers said, that the Army has an ample supply not only of rifles but of all basic weapons for a force of 3,000,000 men—more than twice the number that would be under arms in the first year of a compulsory military training program.

Replying directly to critics who have said that the War department could not equip a conscript army, General George C. Marshall chief of staff, declared flatly yesterday: "We have plenty of material to train all these men."

Although he denied fears that the United States would have a "wooded gun" or "broomstick" army, General Marshall acknowledged without hesitation that adequate supplies of newer lightning war weapons were lacking. He referred especially to anti-tank guns, mortars and anti-aircraft guns.

Taking issue with the argument that conscripts should not be drafted until modern weapons were available, he declared that a soldier's basic training could be given with existing equipment.

"We have enough .30 calibre rifles for 3,000,000 men right now. It makes little difference in the training of a soldier whether he has a Grand rifle or a .30 calibre rifle," General Marshall said.

Backing up General Marshall's statement with its latest count of basic weapons, the War department said it owned 3,000 75 millimeter guns and 75,000 machine guns, which also were sufficient for 3,000,000 men.

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Reservists Subject To Year's Duty

Legislation Provides For Resignation of Married Guardsmen Under Rank of Captain; Re-Employment Is Required.

Washington, Aug. 23.—(AP)—The Senate sent to the White House today legislation authorizing the President to call the National Guard and Army Reserves for active duty for any period of twelve consecutive months.

The chamber completed legislative action on the resolution by accepting without dissent a conference report previously approved by the House.

As finally enacted the measure would make approximately 296,000 members of the Guard, Officers Reserve Corps, enlisted Reserves and other units subject to active service anywhere within the western hemisphere on the Philippine islands.

The legislation provides that any Guardsman or Reserve under the rank of captain, who has dependents with no other means of support, could resign within 20 days after he has been ordered into active service. Guard members under 18 years of age would be given honorable discharge.

Re-employment of those inducted into service would be required of employers after their period of active service ended, with a provision that they should not then be discharged without cause for one year.

Four divisions of the National Guard—the 30th, 41st, 44th and 45th—are expected to be called to active duty next month under mobilization legislation.

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Gunmen Rob Mail Train

Bandits, Apparently Seeking \$100,000 Payroll Shipments, Get Nothing of Value.

New York, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Six gunmen, flourishing six-shooters and automatics in emulation of old western badmen, held up a passenger train in upper Manhattan early today, covered its crew at muzzle point, and looted its mail pouches.

Anti-aircraft guns were declared to have driven the raiders from Amsterdam. Unexploded bombs were said to have injured 13 in another town.

Federal and city officers expressed the belief that the gang sought payrolls aggregating \$100,000 which customarily are sent by registered mail twice weekly from New York banks to Yonkers factories.

They added that the robbers had chosen the right train but the wrong day. Nothing of importance was contained in the stolen pouch, they said.

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Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday; slightly cooler in north- and north central portions Saturday.

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Better Leaf Is Higher

Medium Grades Are Slightly Improved in Price on Border Belt; Growers Pleased.

Better grades of tobacco brought decidedly advanced prices on the 16 markets of the North Carolina-South Carolina Border Belt today and general grower satisfaction was evident.

Quality of offerings at Mullins was improved today. A total of 717,778 pounds was sold at Mullins yesterday for an estimated average of 21.50 cents a pound.

Lugs and primings brought premium prices up to 25 cents at Lake City. A total of 1,775,502 pounds has been sold at Lake City so far this season for an average of 18.33 cents, compared with 2,196,318 pounds and 18.12 cents last year to date.

Top grades were reported bringing premium prices at Timmonsville. More than 500,000 pounds was on the floors.

Sales were blocked at Fair Bluff, where the quality was reported fair. The average price paid there was between 19.75 and 20 cents.

Common and medium grades were plentiful at Fairmont. A total of 885,718 pounds was sold yesterday for an average of 19.38 cents.

Building Boom Continues In July Record

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel.

Raleigh, Aug. 23.—North Carolina's building boom continued at accelerated speed through July, according to figures released today by the Statistical division of the Department of Labor.

Every type—residential, non-residential, additions, alterations and repairs—showed substantial increases as to number of permits; and only non-residential construction dropped off from the corresponding figures last July.

These observations are based on reports from the 21 cities of more than 10,000 population which report their construction programs to the Labor department.

In number of buildings, residences showed the greatest increase, with 329 against 200 for a jump of 64.5 percent. Non-residential permits

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Wilkie Proposes Probe Of Relief Roll Increases

Washington, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Wendell Wilkie proposed today that President Roosevelt order a probe of the relief rolls to determine whether there had been any increase in the number of persons receiving relief since the election years.

Wilkie said WPA figures showed the increase in relief rolls since 1934 was 11.6 per cent from June through October; 1936, 14.4 per cent; 1938, 19.2 per cent; 1940, 90,000 persons in July over June.

Conditions Change So Fast That Statesmen Alter Views Frequently, Stewart Says

By CHARLES P. STEWART Central Press Columnist

Washington, Aug. 23.—Ray Tucker, the celebrated Washington newspaper columnist, rushed into the typewriter room at the National Press club, threw himself into a chair facing a machine and began pounding out a story as fast as the keyboard would let him.

He was so energetic about it that he aroused my curiosity. "You got something hot, Ray?" I asked him.

"I'm writing," Ray explained. "Senator So-and-So's reputation, for tomorrow's publication, of that statement he's handed out to the correspondents this afternoon."

Of course I knew what Ray was hinting at. He was saying diplomatically that, if he had a scoop in his system, he'd reveal it to the general public before handing it out to the comparatively small circle of his journalistic brethren; let them hustle up their own stuff.

All the same, with his remarks he scored a bull's-eye. Conditions are so kaleidoscopic at present that, by the time a politician

has expressed himself definitely on some particular subject, he wishes that he'd expressed himself altogether contrariwise.

I don't really believe that the average statesman, when he coughs up an interview, actually makes sure that he already has a repudiation, prepared in advance, of that same interview, in the hands of the correspondents, to follow it.

FDR Signs Investment Trust Regulatory Bill

Washington, Aug. 23.—(AP)—President Roosevelt signed into law today legislation giving the securities commission authority to regulate investment trust companies and termed it "another milestone" in the administration's "vigorous program" to protect investors.

In a formal statement Mr. Roosevelt used as a good example of "the true meaning of this program" the 1935 public utility holding company act which, he said, was designed to curb "these corporate monstrosities."

During the 1920's, he said, these holding companies had been permitted to pyramid stock holdings on top of stock holdings, until a few men at the top with only a micro-

Argentine Situation Is More Tense

Buenos Aires, Aug. 23.—(AP)—Victor Guillot, a member of the chamber of deputies, died today of what police said was a self-inflicted bullet wound, complicating an already critical internal political situation created by the resignation of President Roberto M. Ortiz.

Guillot's ouster from the chamber had been demanded by a committee investigating the El Palomar land deal, in which the army is alleged to have paid five times the value of a piece of land for an airport. Police said he shot himself in the head with a pistol.

The president resigned because he said the committee report involved his honor without naming him. Police said that Guillot, to whom a senate investigating committee had traced part of the funds which it declared were distributed among officials and former officials, left notes to his family and friends.

Meanwhile, a categorical "no" was expected when a joint legislative assembly meets tomorrow to consider the resignation which Ortiz tendered yesterday. Supporters of the resignation considered it certain that the congress would reject his resignation.