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Hitler Bids For Balkan Peace

Clark Leads Fight On British Aid Bill

Measure Is Called "War Bill"

Missouri Senator Declares Enactment of Measure Would Be "Equivalent to a Declaration of War."

Washington, Feb. 18.—(AP)—Senator Clark, Democrat, Missouri, expected to deliver in the Senate today the first of the pending British aid bills. Clark would be "equivalent to a declaration of war" which ultimately would have to be followed by sending troops abroad.

"This is not a defense bill at all," Clark declared, holding the floor as the first opposition speaker in the Senate debate over the measure. "This is a war bill. This is a bill to support and put in motion processes almost certain to result in war."

"We all know," he said "that that is equivalent to a declaration of a state of war ourselves and must be followed up by sending our ships, our warships, our planes and our guns and ultimately our men. Once committed we cannot turn aside."

Clark spoke after Senator Johnson, Republican, California, asserted emphatically that the bill would make President Roosevelt "a dictator" or worse.

Clark declared that the measure would strip American defense, and "autocratic powers" to the President and reverse traditional American foreign policy.

In a lengthy minority report, Johnson, ranking Republican member of the foreign relations committee, reviewed the bill's provisions which would permit the President to transmit materials to warring "democracies" and declared that Britain needed no aid beyond what she already was getting from the United States.

"No one can read this bill," Johnson wrote, "and doubt that its ultimate effect, if not its declared purpose, will be to take us into war."

Clark saw the bill as a gamble upon the one card of a complete British victory.

"It stakes our national safety on the victory of one belligerent in a foreign war and brings us to the very brink of war, while at the same time permitting the serious weakening of our own means of defending ourselves and our brethren in this hemisphere," Clark declared.

2,000 War Machines in Review at Fort Benning



Here is an impressive view of some of the two thousand tanks, combat cars, scout cars, mobile canteens, trucks and other military motor vehicles that lined up for review at Fort Benning, Ga., in an imposing demonstration of the rapid development of America's streamlined, mechanized army. These are the war machines of the Second Armored Division. Ten thousand troops participated in the review.

Food Exemptions Win

Truce Fails In Strike

Union Members Withhold Ratification Of Agreement Reached In Washington.

(By The Associated Press.)
Officials of the strike-bound Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company plant at Milwaukee, declared the factory would not reopen today despite a truce agreement reached at Washington with representatives of the CIO United Automobile Workers.

Nine thousand employees remained idle and work was at a standstill for the fourth week on \$45,000,000 worth of national defense equipment orders.

Members of the union, holding varying interpretations of terms of the truce reached at Washington, withheld ratification indefinitely.

Union demands for a closed shop in construction of an \$18,000,000 powder bag loading plant raised the threat of a strike at a big national defense project at Charleston, Ind.

The Vandenberg Corporation of America, which produces an important ingredient of many defense articles, was kept out of production at two plants by strikes. Four hundred employees at the Niagara Falls factory withdrew their demands for a closed shop, but still sought wage increases. The strike of 400 workers at the company's Bridgeville, Pa., plant has been termed illegal by both the company and union officials. Nevertheless, workers refused to accept their dismissal as final.

The CIO which already has strikes in progress at two plants of the International Harvester Company, ordered a strike vote today at a third, the company's McCormick works in Chicago.

Marine Base Project Speeded

Senate Passes Revenue Act on Second Reading; Other News of Legislature.

Washington, Feb. 18.—(AP)—Chairman Vinson, Democrat, Georgia, of the House naval affairs committee, today promised speedy action upon the Navy's request for a \$40,000,000 appropriation for a huge Marine base and a Marine air station in Onslow county, N. C.

Vinson announced that legislation providing the authorization for the twin projects probably would be called up in the House tomorrow or Thursday.

Meanwhile, the House appropriations committee had under consideration an item of \$1,500,000 to acquire land for the base and air station.

The project envisages the purchase of about 100,000 acres for the base and another tract of about 11 square miles, some 25 miles away, for the aviation development.

Amendment Is Rejected

Senate Passes Revenue Act on Second Reading; Other News of Legislature.

BRITISH SHIPPING LOSSES REPORTED
London, Feb. 18.—(AP)—British and allied merchant shipping losses during the week ended February 9 were 13 ships totaling 29,806 tons, the admiralty reported today.

At the same time it said total "enemy" losses since the outbreak of hostilities amounted to "over 20,000,000 tons."

Nazi Planes Over Greece

High Flying Planes Provoke Fears of Imminent German Invasion of Greece.

Beloh, Yugoslavia, Feb. 18.—(AP)—Reports from Greece today said high flying scout and reconnaissance planes "positively identified" as German have been flying over Greece, Macedonia in recent days, provoking fears that an invasion by Nazi forces is imminent.

The planes were said to appear each day along the Bulgarian frontier, causing as many as three air raid alarms daily in Greek towns.

One of these reconnaissance planes is reported to have even flown south of Athens.

Greek military observers say the planes come from the direction of Bulgaria, taking off either from Bulgarian or Rumanian bases.

The Greeks remain silent, hoping to avoid provoking an "incident."

Informed sources said the Bulgarian along the Bulgarian-Greek frontier parallels that before Italy invaded Greece from Albania. At that time it duce's planes daily violated Greek territory for weeks, they declared.

Greece made no attempt to mobilize fully her forces along the Al-

Radio Music War Near End

New York, Feb. 18.—(AP)—The end of the radio music controversy involving stations, Authors and Publishers and the government appeared in sight today with the reported passage of ASCAP's board of a contract decree granting the government's last just suit.

The New York Times said that the ASCAP board approved the contract

Arkansas May Keep House Seats

Washington, Feb. 18.—(AP)—Arkansas House members received support from most of their Democratic colleagues today in striving to keep Michigan from gaining one of its seats under congressional reapportionment.

The argument concerned use of two different mathematical systems for determining the number of representatives from each state, but as it developed yesterday afternoon it involved more talk of politics than of science.

The Democratic majority put through parliamentary rule under which there could be no amendments to the Gattings bill providing for use of the "equal proportion" method in fixing state representation. A final vote was set for mid-

Weather

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Generally fair and colder, below freezing to coast tonight; Wednesday partly cloudy, colder in east portion followed by light snow in mountains.

Extended weather forecast from 7:30 p. m. Feb. 18 to 7:30 p. m. Feb. 22—Temperature much below normal in northern part snow over north and rain over south portion beginning about Wednesday night in Thursday.

Japan Would Mediate Differences

Spokesman Declares British and United States Moves In Pacific Have "Caused Anxiety if not Misgivings"

Tokyo, Feb. 18.—(AP)—A Japanese spokesman declared today that the re-orientation of the British and American governments in the Pacific had "caused anxiety if not misgivings" in Japan, and said the situation would be "greatly mitigated" if the United States confined such alleged preparations to the western hemisphere.

The spokesman, director of the cabinet information bureau, declared in a prepared statement to the press that "we are utterly unable to see any good purpose served by prolonging war whatever the motive may be."

"Japan is fully prepared," he said, "to act as mediator or take whatever action is calculated to reestablish normal conditions not only in greater east Asia but anywhere in the world."

The spokesman said later this phrase was not to be interpreted as an offer of mediation but an expression of willingness to accept any invitation to act in such a capacity.

He emphasized that "leading powers" in the world have a "great responsibility for restoring world peace and civilization" and declared "such a responsibility can only be fulfilled by wise and generous statesmanship."

Army Officer Decries Lack Of Defense

Washington, Feb. 18.—(AP)—A field artillery staff officer declared today that the United States might have to pay in "needless death and wounded" and "even lost wars" for failure to modernize its equipment and tactics in the period following the World War.

The artilleryman, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas R. Phillips, urged in an article in "The Infantry Journal" that "conservatives" in the War department be replaced by men who could comprehend the changes brought about by new weapons and altered social conditions.

To illustrate his contention, he declared that possibilities of the tank

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Welles Rejects Japanese Statement

Washington, Feb. 18.—(AP)—In pointed comment on Japanese relations, Sumner Welles, undersecretary of state asserted today that the United States was interested far more in the deeds than in the words of other nations.

Welles spoke in response to press conference questions on a statement by a Japanese spokesman in Tokyo today.

In this, Japan's intentions were deemed as peaceful but it was said that British and American warlike preparations had caused "anxiety if not misgivings." The spokesman suggested the situation would be mitigated if the United States confined her activities to the western hemisphere.

Welles declared that in the very critical world situation which exists today the government of the United States is far more interested in the deeds of other nations than in the statements that their spokesmen may make.

Asked about reports that Japan had assured Great Britain that it had no intention of attacking British interests, or the Netherlands, India, Welles said he did not recall that any such word had been given. The true statement from Japan

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Cold Wave Sweeps Over The Nation

(By The Associated Press.)
Devil's Lake, N. D., chilled the to 31 degrees below zero in impassable roads. High winds nation from the plains states to the Atlantic today.

A foot and a half of snow fell in upper Michigan and eight inches in western New York, blocking roads. Some schools were closed in Minnesota and western New York because of impassable roads. High winds whipped up drifts that barricaded motorists in Wisconsin and made driving dangerous in other states.

The cold mass of air covered the northern plains states, the upper Mississippi valley, the upper Great Lakes region and Indiana. Widespread light to moderate snows fell from the Great Lakes region eastward to southern New England and the southern Atlantic states. With the exception of a slight rise in southern Florida, southern temperatures dropped 3 to 12 degrees over night, the freezing extending to Tennessee and North Carolina. Continued cold was forecast.

Nazi Thrust Into Greece Threatened

Pressure Brought To Bear on Greece To Make Peace—On Mussolini's Terms; Russia Said to Have Agreed With Nazis.

(By The Associated Press.)
Balkan diplomatic quarters reported today that Adolf Hitler has brought pressure on Greece to make a quick peace with Italy—on Premier Mussolini's terms—under threat of having Nazi troops invade the Aegean kingdom.

Dispatches from Sofia, Bulgaria, said the German minister to Athens informed Greek leaders that, with the signing of the new Turkish-Bulgarian non-aggression pact, Greece is now open to attack through Bulgaria.

Nazi Army Ready.

If Greece refused, it was said Hitler's Balkan army, estimated at upwards of 600,000 men, would start rolling from bases in Rumania across Bulgaria into eastern Greece.

An authoritative Sofia newspaper said Soviet Russia had agreed with Germany on the Bulgarian-Turkish pact as a means of preventing the spread of war in southeast Europe.

Air Raids on Britain.

Nazi bombers inflicted an apparently heavy toll of casualties in overnight raids on the British Isles, subjecting London's millions to a three and one-half hour alarm and pounding the East Anglia region in widespread attacks lasting until dawn.

Rescue parties worked for six hours bringing out the dead and survivors trapped when a heavy bomb smashed through the roof of a London air raid shelter. Hospitals in the vicinity were crowded with injured and many were feared killed.

As the rescue work went on it was officially announced that 1,502 civilians were killed and 2,012 wounded by air raids over Britain in January—compared with 3,793 killed and 5,044 injured in December.

British View of Pact.

British officials minimized the significance of yesterday's Bulgarian-Turkish pact.

The agreement "can have little practical meaning for Turkey," authoritative British sources said, be-

Campaign In New Phase

Sharp Blows By Britain Against Italian Peninsula Believed To Mark New Tactics.

(By DRIM MIDDLETON)
London, Feb. 18.—(AP)—Sharp blows by British air, sea and land forces against the Italian peninsula itself were viewed in some quarters today as a possible second phase of Britain's campaign in the Mediterranean.

With Italian invaders ousted from Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Kenya Colony and Egypt and all operations in Africa now going on in Italian possessions, Britain's army of the Nile has completed the first phase of its offensive.

Despite the presence of a British spearhead menacing Tripoli, the only major port in the hands of the Italians in their Libyan colony, General Sir Archibald D. Wavell has given no indication that his army intends to reduce that city as they have Bardia, Tobruk, and Bengasi.

Instead, with Bengasi as a western-most base for operations, a series of local attacks on Italian ports, communications and industrial centers was viewed in informed circles as likely to have better results than extension of British lines.

The Italian railroad center, with thousands of miles of tracks hugging the coastline, it was pointed out, is well within the range of battleship guns as well as bombers.

Quick but faring states at such a cost, the world would have Italy's efforts to reinforce her armies in Africa and Albania might require Germany to divert to Italy additional men, planes and defense guns from the important western front opposite England.

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Senatorial Redistricting Proposal Expected To Stir Fight In General Assembly

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel, By HENRY AVERILL
Raleigh, Feb. 18.—Predicting that the current General Assembly will show any fight on any subject is very much like forecasting that the many bearskin rug that has been relegated to the attic will come downstairs and claw up the family, but it does seem that at last there has been found something over which the boys will bow their backs and grow just a little bit belligerent.

That's because many of them have been hot right where they live in the sensational redistricting bill that has

ITALIANS EVACUATE BASES IN ETHIOPIA

Genoa, Feb. 18.—(AP)—The Italians have evacuated Djibouti and other important points in Goujan province of western Ethiopia as a result of native anti-fascist activities, the British general headquarters reported today.

Italians Form Native Army

Rome, Feb. 18.—(AP)—Organization of a native Ethiopian army to fight invading British colonial forces was reported today from Asmara, Italian Eritrea, by the official news agency.

It said the army would be headed by old enemies of Haile Selassie.

Ras Gugsa, son-in-law of Haile Selassie, who was the first important Ethiopian chieftain to go over to Italy during the invasion of 1935-36, was named the main figure in the native pro-fascist forces.

CONVICTED

Windsor, Feb. 18.—(AP)—George Peete, Windsor Negro, was found guilty of murder in the first degree here this afternoon. The jury deliberated 50 minutes.

Peete was charged with the murder of Ed Gras, 78-year-old store clerk.

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