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Allies Declare Lines Holding

Germans Report Swastika Planted On Mount Olympus; Armistice Move Predicted

Berlin Dispatches Also Report Capture of Larisa, 150 Miles From Athens; Nazi Air Force Pounds Troop Columns.

Berlin, April 19.—(AP)—Nazi troops have planted the swastika on Mount Olympus, fabled home of the gods of ancient Greece, and have taken Larisa, an important rail and road junction forty miles south of it, the German high command said today.

Larisa is well on the road down the narrow peninsula to Athens, about 140 miles away.

Adulterant German political circles indicated a belief that a Greek-German armistice might come as a birthday present for Adolf Hitler, who will be 52 tomorrow.

Reports from Rome that Franz von Papen, German ambassador to Turkey, was en route to Berlin as a Greek intermediary to seek an armistice found no confirmation in the German capital, however.

(Larisa had been abandoned by the civilian population.)

"In thrusts which passed both sides of Mount Olympus," the high command communiqué said, "the rear guards of the British main force were repulsed and the southern exits of the mountain were taken in fighting and sharp pursuit."

The air force, the war bulletin went on, pounded "enemy columns in the region of Larisa and on the road from Ionnina to Arta," in the western sector of the fighting front. Several transport vessels, totaling 20,000 tons, were said to have been destroyed by air bombs in the port of Khalkis, on the southeast coast of Greece.

Informed Germans earlier had said the British were pushed out of strongly fortified mountain positions after stubborn fighting and that the main troops were keeping on the heels of the British despite desperate British efforts to stem their advance by blasting bridges and mountain roads.

Excise Tax Foreseen

Revival of Long List of World War Taxes Expected in Congressional Circles.

Washington, April 19.—(AP)—Revival of a long list of world war excise taxes, such as those on railroad tickets and life insurance policies, was described in congressional circles today as a logical step toward the proposed goal of \$3,500,000,000 in additional revenues.

Some members of the House ways and means committee went so far as to say renewal of such levies was "a foregone conclusion." Those legislators explained that the additional excise taxes would be necessary to make up whatever amounts the prospective increases in income and corporation taxes failed to produce.

Well-informed members said that in addition to producing new revenue needed to finance the defense program, the administration looked to higher taxes for a psychological result—impression on the general public of the gravity of the current situation.

Among the biggest money-raisers in the excise tax group 20 years ago was the levy on the transportation of freight by rail or water, which in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, produced \$140,019,200. This preceding year, the tax on passenger travel by rail or water produced \$98,736,635. Both levies were discontinued in 1922.

Other excise taxes imposed during or immediately after the World War included levies on lighting fixtures, medical preparations, soft foods, cameras and lenses, chewing gum, fire arms, and electric fans.

In the year ending June 30, 1920, the tax on candy brought in \$23,142,033, but the yield dropped to less than half that sum in 1924, the last year it was collected.

FDR, 3rd at the Circus



Franklin Delano Roosevelt, third, enjoys the circus in New York with his mother, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., the former Ethel du Pont. The President's grandson is just another wide-eyed youngster, though, as he watches the circus wonders.

Shuford Lauds Wage Stand Of Textiles

By Staff Correspondent.

Roadville, April 19.—Commissioner of Labor Forrest H. Shuford this morning lauded the attitude of North Carolina's textile industry toward the federal wage and hour law and promised operators "full cooperation" in strict, but fair, enforcement of the statute.

He spoke before Northern North Carolina-Virginia division of the Southern Textile Association.

The commissioner pointed out sharp contrast between recent action of a wage-hour committee of the industry in recommending a 37 1/2-cent hourly minimum and the long-remembered something more than a year ago over a proposal for a 32 1/2-cent minimum. On the recent committee, he cited, there were three North Carolinians and of the 21-member group no less than ten were southerners.

"In my opinion this indicates most clearly that southern representatives of this industry have accepted fully in principle the wage and hour law and have found that the minimum wage and overtime provisions of the act have aided rather than hindered the industry," he said.

He told the convention that complete administration of the wage and hour law in North Carolina has been placed in the hands of the State Department of Labor—the first such agreement in the country.

"I urge and believe that I will receive your full cooperation in this administration," he said. "I say to you that we will offer you every cooperation. It will be my duty to bring willful violators into line with employment policies which are in conformity with the act."

"Only a short time ago it was found necessary to bring criminal action against a textile firm, and a fine of more than \$5,000 was imposed. On the other hand, most firms have come into voluntary compliance, making restitution payments for past violations. Such a method of settling should be preferred by all."

Cotton Closes 2 To 6 Lower

New York, April 19.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 2 to 3 lower. Futures closed 2 to 6 lower, mid-day spot 11.43, nominal off 2.

May	11.22	11.23
July	11.18	11.18
October	11.14	11.12
December	11.15	11.11-13
January	11.10	11.09
March	11.13	11.12

British Women Register

London, April 19.—(AP)—A quarter-million women of 20 and 21 are expected to register today in England's first conscription of feminine labor for war industries.

When Labor Minister Ernest Bevin announced the plan to draft women workers March 16, he declared the registration call was to be heeded equally in the drawing room and the laundry room.

The only exemptions will be for women already serving with the nursing service, full-time air raid preparations and civil defense volunteers, and students at universities, technical and professional schools.

Two or three weeks will be required for classification of today's registrants before the ministry of labor begins interviewing those who will best fit into the nation's humming industrial machine.

Russo-Jap Pact Vague

Interpretations Are as Many as There Are Interpreters, Stewart Says.

By CHARLES P. STEWART
Central Press Columnist

Washington, April 19.—Interpretations of the new Russian-Japanese neutrality pact are as numerous as interpreters are, and the interpreters' number runs into something well-nigh astronomical. No two of 'em agree.

One version is that the dictier doesn't mean much of anything. The Japs and the Russians simply agree mutually that, if either of 'em is attacked, the other will remain neutral; it doesn't promise any help. Pooh! What does that signify? According to this account, Yosuke Matsuoka's rating in Tokyo is pretty low. He's been U. S. foreign minister twice for quite awhile and hasn't tramped up a single international deal that's been worth a cent to the Japs.

Now he has been visiting Berlin and Rome, Nippon's nominal axis partners, and failed to squeeze anything useful out of either Herr Hitler or Signor Mussolini. So, home-bound via Moscow, he absolutely had to take back with him some sort of a document that he can claim as a real (but actually phoney) accomplishment, worth the price of his trip. Accordingly, Commissar Vyacheslav Molotov, at Moscow, perhaps with a certain sympathy with Yosuke, as a fellow foreign minister, made an empty bargain with him, to exhibit as a genuine prize. But shucks! It's mere neutrality. That's the interpretation.

Another one is that Minister Matsuoka scored a distinct point by obtaining Russia's pledge not to jump on the Japs from behind, as the latter undertake Singapore, Malayan and Dutch East Indian grabs. Also maybe the Japs think Comrade Stalin will stop shipping anti-Jap supplies into China overland.

Can Still Supply China

However, Russia didn't agree to stop supplying the Chinese. All M. scow said was that the Soviets would stay neutral if the Japs were attacked. True, the Japs do argue that they were attacked by China, but it will take a lot more interpretation to prove that. China notoriously attacked the Japs in the same way that the Finns attacked Russia. Only, the Russians aren't likely to interpret the Chinese attack on the Japs as they interpreted the Finns' attack on them.

No interpreter surmises that Russia

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Yugoslav Soldiers—Their Fight Over



Yugoslav soldiers by the thousands are shown in this German prison camp, after laying down their arms, according to the caption from Berlin. Yugoslavia surrendered to Germany unconditionally after twelve days of attack which shattered an army of more than a million men, according to the German High Command.

American Mother



Mrs. Dena Shelby Diehl

Election of Mrs. Dena Shelby Diehl, of Danville, Ky., as American Mother of 1941 was announced by the Golden Rule Association. She is a widow and the mother of four children, and by marriage a great-granddaughter of Isaac Shelby, Revolutionary War hero and first governor of Kentucky.

No New 1943 Car Models Expected

Detroit, April 19.—(AP)—General Motors' announcement that it is making no plans for a new model passenger car in 1943 is expected in automotive circles here to be followed shortly by similar decisions by the remainder of the motor car industry.

In announcing his company's decision in New York, Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., General Motors board chairman, said the action had been determined up to that all possible acceleration might be given to the national defense program.

All other companies manufacturing motor vehicles have pledged their fullest effort to the defense materials production program and a decision to forego 1943 model changes has been regarded among authoritative observers in the industry as an "obvious" eventuality.

While the Ford Motor Company and Chrysler Corporation, which with General Motors produce about 85 percent of all the nation's automobiles, have made no definite statement yet of their 1943 plans, their reaction to the Sloan announcement left little doubt of their plans for 1943.

"The entire industry," said a Ford spokesman, "has been of the opinion that there would be no new models for 1943. As far as the Ford Motor Company is concerned, the defense program comes first and we have so stated."

Chrysler's attitude was expressed by K. T. Keller, its president.

"We have been so busy with defense work that we have not had a chance to think about 1943 models," he said. "We have not got out our 1942 models yet."

Highway Death Toll To Record Heights

Greek Premier Dies Suddenly

Athens, April 19.—(AP)—Alexandros Korizis, premier of Greece in the darkest hour of her modern history, died suddenly late yesterday after only 60 days as leader of this fighting nation. He was 55 years old.

The government made only the bare announcement of his "sudden death" and said his funeral would be held Saturday at 1 p. m. Cause of death was not disclosed.

It was only last January 29 that Korizis succeeded his intimate friend, 70-year-old Premier John Metaxas, who died of a throat infection after a three-week illness. Metaxas had personally designated Korizis as his successor to carry on the war then being waged against Italy alone.

Who would succeed Korizis was unannounced, but a short time after his death was announced, a proclamation read over the radio by Christos Cavafis said he had assumed the duties of supreme military government, an order from the war ministry.

Some Stocks At New Lows

New York, April 19.—(AP)—Persistent war fears again spiked the guns of buying forces in today's market and a number of leaders retreated into new low territory since the fall of France last June.

Pressure of offerings was lacking at any time, however, and this apparently was heartening to those with bullish inclinations who argued that the lengthy decline had put the market in a basically healthy technical position from which it could easily rebound on the appearance of reasonably good news.

Closing quotations:

American Radiator	6 1/8
American Telephone	156 1/4
American Tobacco B	63 1/8
Amsonda	22 7/8
Atlantic Coast Line	13
Atlantic Refining	22 1/2
Bentley Aviation	32 7/8
Bethlehem Steel	69 3/4
Chrysler	57 1/4
Columbia Gas & Elec Co	3 1/4
Commercial S. & W. Co	5 1/4
Consolidated Oil Co	5 1/4
Curtis Wright	7 5/8
DuPont	140
Electric Power Light	1 7/8
General Electric	29 5/8
General Motors	38 1/8
Liggett & Myers B	85 1/4
Montgomery Ward & Co	32 3/8
Reynolds Tobacco B	31
Southern Railway	12
Standard Oil Co N. J.	35
U. S. Steel	30 1/4

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Partly cloudy and continued warm tonight, Sunday increasing cloudiness, possibly showers extreme west portion.

Axis Troops Suffer High Casualties

Fighting Intensified Along Entire Hellenic Front, Reports Indicate; Nazi Attacks Reported Thrown Back, But Renewed.

Athens, April 19.—(AP)—British and Greek defenders of the tightest Helene line declared today their front was unbroken and their flanks unharmed under the tremendous onslaught of axis armies bolstered by tank divisions streaming south from Yugoslavia.

As King George II worked to shape a new government—possibly a military cabinet—in an overnight change necessitated by the death of Premier Alexandros Korizis, word from the north indicated fighting had intensified along the entire defense line.

The British army headquarters in Athens declared repeated Nazi attacks by armored formations and infantry "have been repulsed" and said the attackers failed to penetrate the line at a single point.

"Imperial forces are in contact along the whole front," the British headquarters said. "Heavy attacks by armored formations and infantry have been repulsed and many prisoners taken. Enemy casualties are severe."

"Heroic Greek cooperation on our left is playing a valuable part."

"Despite all efforts, our front has nowhere been penetrated and our flanks nowhere turned."

An Australian detachment, surrounded by a German battalion near Servia, northwest of Olympus, was reported to have fought its way back to British lines, taking 150 prisoners. The Germans were said to have lost 300 dead.

Meanwhile, Premier General Dusan Simovic of Yugoslavia, as head of his government in exile, released through the Yugoslav legation in Athens a statement attributing the swift defeat of Yugoslav armies to Germany's speed in striking into Croatia and to lack of "prior collaboration with the allies" by his country.

He expressed determination to "go on fighting at the side of our allies until final victory."

All reports from the front up until noon today indicated the allied lines were unbroken in the last twelve hours, despite relentless Nazi pressure.

"We were then down by the hundreds as they try to climb the steep mountain sides, but as soon as one wave is thrown back, another pushes forward," said a military officer.

"Their losses are tremendous, unequalled, I believe, by anything they have suffered in the European war to date."

BRITISH FORCES LAND IN IRAQ

London, April 19.—(AP)—Britain, racing to forestall an axis thrust toward the prized oil fields of Iraq, has landed strong imperial forces to "open fire on communication" through that country, which was the scene of a government overthrow 15 days ago.

An official British announcement said the troops landed at Basra at the head of the Persian Gulf.

Nazi Attacks Repulsed

Athens, (2:25 p. m. 7:23 a. m. EST) —(AP)—Britain's imperial forces in Greece, declaring their front nowhere had been penetrated, announced today that they had repulsed heavy Nazi attacks by armored formations and masses of infantry with "severe" losses.

"Despite all efforts, our front nowhere has been penetrated," said a communiqué.

It added that many prisoners had been taken.

The imperial troops were reported in action along the entire front as waves of German infantry tried vainly to force a way up the mountains guarding the passes in the face of murderous fire.

Observers said the slopes were strewn with dead and wounded Nazi blitzers.

The mountainous country and stout resistance has put Nazi mechanized warfare in reverse, observers said.

Instead of the German panzer columns breaking through to clear the roads for the infantry, Hitler's legions must fight their way on foot, ahead of the tanks, it was said.

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