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REDS PENETRATE NAZI LINES IN NORTH

Indian Negotiations Feared Breaking Down

Jap Bombers Raid Cities Along Coast

Louis Johnson, President Roosevelt's Envoy, Reports to White House as India Hesitates to Accept British Offer.

(By The Associated Press) With Japanese bombers already attacking her cities, leaders of invasion-threatened India's 390,000,000 still shied at full wartime cooperation with Britain and the United Nations today amid signs that negotiations again were breaking down.

In the Philippine theatre, a War department bulletin reported that heavy casualties on both

sides marked furious fighting along the Bataan peninsula front, with Japan's invasion forces continuing to score "some success."

The communique said that the Japanese were hurrying repeated heavy attacks against the center of Lieutenant General Jonathan Wainwright's American-Filipino defense lines and that aerial bombing of the rear areas and the Bataan south coast was particularly severe throughout yesterday.

American anti-aircraft gunners were credited with destroying a Japanese amphibian plane in Manila Bay.

The War department also quoted Dr. Hubertus van Mook, acting head of the Dutch East Indies government, as saying that two Dutch forces of considerable size were continuing to resist the Japanese invasion of Java.

Dr. van Mook informed General Douglas MacArthur that the Dutch troops, well supplied with food and munitions, were engaging the enemy in fierce fighting in the interior jungles and mountains of Java.

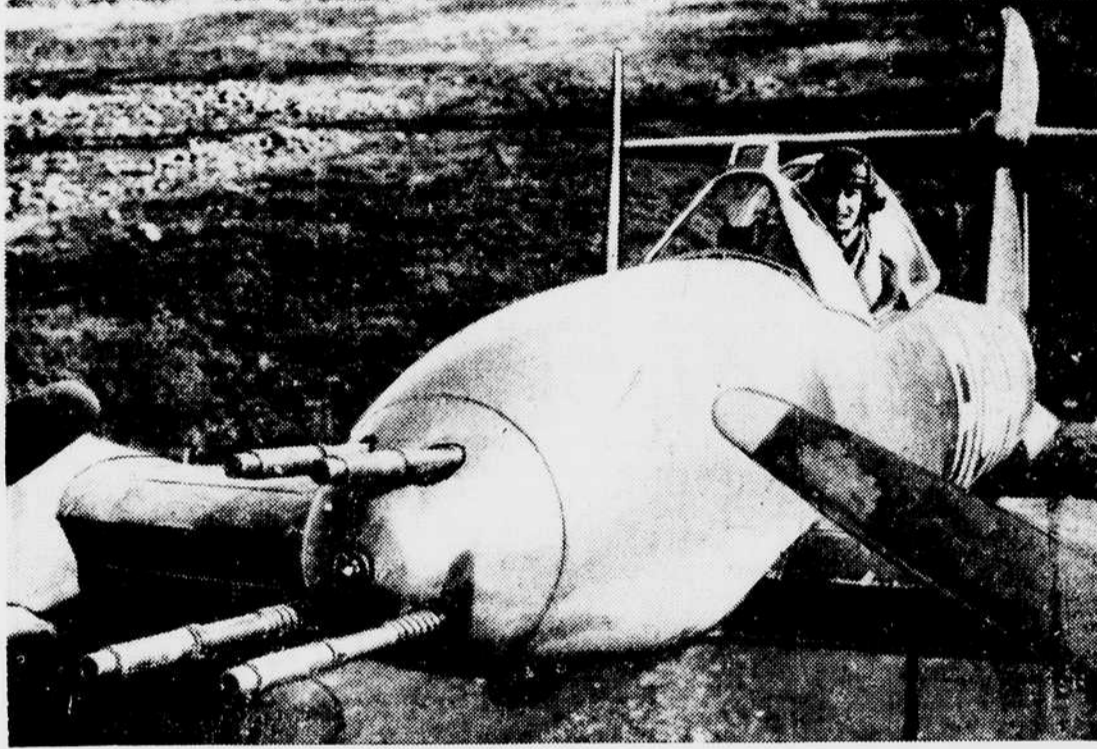
Anglo-Indian negotiations aimed at mobilizing India's vast manpower on the side of the allies were reported to have reached a critical new stage.

In an apparently eleventh hour attempt to prevent a collapse of the discussions, President Roosevelt's envoy, Louis Johnson, was disclosed to have been in touch with the White House regarding developments.

As the negotiations continued, the city of Madras, on India's Bay of Bengal coast, underwent its first air raid alarm, lasting an hour and 25 minutes.

In Burma, British headquarters acknowledged that British troops again had fallen back to new positions only 65 miles below the main oil producing section of Minbu after demolishing oil installations at Thaymyo and Allamyo.

England's New Death-Dealing Fighter Plane



Britain's new nemesis of the Messerschmitts, the Whirlwind, is pictured for the first time after a demonstration somewhere in England. According to the Ministry of Information it is a twin-engine single-seater with a high tail and a nose filled with four cannon capable of knocking enemy aircraft out of the sky with little trouble. The propeller blade (right) belongs to one of its engines which are said to eclipse the speed of those used in the famed Spitfire fighter. (Central Press)

All Industry On War Basis By May 31

Washington, April 7.—(AP)—Production of most consumer durable goods will be stopped by May 31, Donald M. Nelson, war production head, disclosed today.

Declaring that "history will record whether we have moved too fast or too slow," in the drive to curtail civilian industries and convert them to war production, Nelson said the high point of the program would be reached in a few days with issuance of orders halting most private building construction and prohibiting use of iron and steel in hundreds of items.

"Their impact here and abroad will be widespread and sweeping," the WPB chief predicted, adding that the two orders were part of a pattern, carefully planned by WPB, which changes "the face of American industry."

The scale of the program is a "sound but lean civilian economy," Nelson declared, adding that no one yet knew how "lean" it can be but that it will "get leaner and leaner as the war program goes on."

"We're taking away from the people things which make the standard of living," Nelson said in his discussion of the changes but "this is the way of total all out war and the price of early victory."

Cotton Prices Turn Lower

New York, April 7.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 10 to 40 cents a bale higher.

Around mid-day the list was 10 cents higher to 15 cents lower.

AIR RAID WARDEN KILLED IN CRASH

Wilmington, April 7.—(AP)—J. William Fuchs Jr., 40, air raid warden at Carolina Beach, is Wilmington's first civilian defense casualty of the war.

Fuchs died yesterday at a local hospital from injuries suffered Saturday night while on duty at the resort.

British Apprehensive Over Vichy's Policies

London, April 7.—(AP)—Apprehension over the path the Vichy government will play in the momentous events of this year is growing in view of the emergence of Pierre Laval from the shadows.

The reappearance of Laval, former vice premier, was called "ominous" by qualified sources. It was asserted the Germans had chosen him to press Vichy for the surrender of all or part of the French fleet to German control.

Laval's hand was said to be strengthened in this aim by a new factor—a growing agitation in the German army for direct control of all France by the Germans. This agitation is especially marked in that part of the army concentrated in occupied France and commanded by General Otto von Stuelpnagel, it was asserted.

Chief of State Petain and Laval conferred recently and an official announcement indicated they had reviewed the question of collaboration with Germany. However, advices reaching foreign diplomatic quarters in Bern, Switzerland, said Petain had declined to take Laval back into his cabinet.

Vichy was said to be fully conscious of the feeling of the German army and this, plus the old instrument of blackmail through the control of the lives of thousands of French prisoners in Germany, makes Laval's position stronger.

The French fleet, plus the Italian navy, probably would give the axis numerical superiority in the Mediterranean at the moment it is believed intending to launch a drive on the allied Middle Eastern bridge to the Caucasus and Russia.

Commerce Secretary SAYS Synthetic Rubber Manufacturing Facilities Provided.

Washington, April 7.—(AP)—Secretary of Commerce Jones asserted today that there had been no delay in development of synthetic rubber by the government, adding that there were now arrangements for domestic manufacturing facilities sufficient to produce more than 700,000 tons of synthetic rubber annually.

Testifying before the Senate defense investigating committee, Jones said that this rate of production could be readily increased if necessary but declared "even with this production civilians must conserve tires and rubber in order to meet our military needs."

"We have persistently worked at the problem of acquiring and producing rubber," Jones declared. "There has been no delay; on the contrary, the program has been pushed."

Auto Union Offers Wage Proposals

United Auto Workers (UAW) Suggest Legal Limit of \$25,000 on Incomes; Would Accept Defense Bonds for Overtime.

Detroit, April 7.—(AP)—United Automobile Workers (UAW) executive board proposed today a legal limit of \$25,000 a year on family and individual incomes for the war's duration, in return for which union workers would accept non-negotiable defense bonds in lieu of all overtime pay for more than 40 hours a week.

The UAW-CIO international board presented these proposals in what it termed an "equality of sacrifice" program to a special war conference here of delegates from local unions.

Other parts of the program included rigid price fixing on all necessities and limiting war production profits to 3 per cent on capital invested.

Union delegates were called here to act on the CIO's executive board recommendation that double time wages for Sunday and holiday work be waived in response to suggestions from President Roosevelt and Donald M. Nelson, chairman of the war production board.

Acceptance of this was recommended by the auto union board provided that time and a half were paid for work over eight hours a day or 40 hours a week, time and a half for a sixth consecutive day's work, and double time for a seventh.

The board recommended that the union reaffirm its pledge against strikes during the war, that the union increase production "to the utmost" and that swing shifts be established for 24-hours, seven-day week operations.

Government To Protect Labor Savings

Detroit, April 7.—(AP)—President Roosevelt, in a letter read to a special war conference of the United Automobile Workers (UAW) here today, stated the government's intention "to renegotiate contracts with the employers wherever necessary to insure that the savings from the relinquishment of double or premium time go not to the employer but to the nation."

The letter, addressed to R. J. Thomas, UAW-CIO international president, said:

"The provision in some union contracts requiring double time or other premium pay for week-end and holiday work is quite understandable in peace time. But in war time it puts a brake on production. It causes factories to close on Sundays and holidays. It helps our enemies."

The President's message to Thomas came after the union's international executive board had proposed that for the war's duration individual family incomes be limited to \$25,000 a year, in return for which labor would accept non-negotiable defense bonds in lieu of an overtime pay for more than 40 hours a week.

Today's UAW-CIO conference of delegates from 600 local unions was called to act on the national CIO's recommendation that double time

(Continued on Page Four)

White House Guest



Sgt. Carl Platt, Jr., 24, of Chevy Chase, Md., salutes before he left Fort Meade, Md., for the White House to be guest of President Roosevelt over the Easter holidays. The sergeant who has been one year in the service was chosen from a field that narrowed down to nine men for the honor of representing all selectees in the Army.

War Profits Still Debated

Senate Seems Inclined to Turn Problem Over to Joint Conference Committee.

Washington, April 7.—(AP)—Administration supporters offered a compromise in the Senate today in an effort to avoid a showdown at this time upon a welter of proposals dealing with profits, labor and other proposed controversial riders to the \$19,212,773,260 war appropriations bill.

Senator McKellar, Democrat, Tennessee, floor leader for the measure, suggested that a "sliding scale" of profit limits, previously approved by the Senate appropriations committee, be abandoned and that the huge appropriation be passed without this or any of the numerous pending proposals.

Because the Senate committee already had struck out a House provision for a flat 6 per cent profit limitation which federal officials would not work, McKellar said that a joint Senate-House conference group would be able to work out details on the profits restrictions later.

McKellar noted that it would require approval of two-thirds of the Senate present to write any amendment into the appropriation bill, that by dropping the "sliding scale" proposal all others would be eliminated until the Senate returns to routine sessions in about ten days.

Leaders said there were grave doubts that proponents could muster the necessary support of two-thirds of those present for consideration, especially since Senator Pepper, Democrat, Florida, was seeking by the same method to bring before the Senate proposals to freeze all prices and wages and to prohibit the collection of union fees on government property.

Democratic Leader Barkley of Kentucky said he was undecided whether to support the committee's motion because he personally favored dealing with the profits question in the forthcoming tax bill—a stand also taken by Chairman George, Democrat, Georgia, of the Senate finance committee.

Stock Market Fails To Rally

New York, April 7.—(AP)—Some stock market favorites continued to exhibit comeback tendencies today but the rally sap oozed out of many leaders.

The list turned a bit hesitant at the start. Activity was about on par with that of Monday and near the fourth hour gains and losses running to a point or so were pretty well avoided.

Nazi Planes Cloud Skies Over Russia

Hitler Launches Heavy Aerial Attack as Prelude to Spring Offensive; Soviets Claim 415 German Planes in Eight Days.

(By The Associated Press) Russia's armies have broken into German lines southeast of Lake Ilnen on the bloody Staraya Russa battlefield, the Berlin radio acknowledged today, while Soviet dispatches indicated that Adolf Hitler now was throwing clouds of warplanes into the struggle as a prelude to the Nazi spring offensive.

Red army dispatches said the intensified aerial assault cost the Germans 415 planes in eight days, with Soviet losses held at 81. On Easter Sunday alone, dispatches said, Russian fliers and gunners destroyed 119 German aircraft in sky combat and attacks on Nazi airdromes.

A Berlin broadcast said strong, tank-led Russian forces smashed into Nazi positions in the Lake Ilnen sector, where remnants of the German 16th army have been trapped for many weeks, but declared the Germans had "adjusted" their lines after heavy bayonet fighting.

A bulletin from Hitler's field headquarters conceded that the Russians were pressing attacks "on several sectors" of the logn, snawing front, but asserted that "our own offensive operations brought further success." No details were given.

British RAF bombers, relentlessly continuing their great spring aerial offensive, struck again into the German Ruhr and Rhineland overnight, despite "very bad weather" to blast Nazi war foundries. The attack followed a cross-channel thrust by more than 300 RAF bombers Sunday night.

Sub Attacks Decrease

Knox Reports Lessening of Raids, Says New Measures May Be Cause.

Washington, April 7.—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox reported today that German U-boat attacks on shipping along the U. S. Atlantic coast had dropped off considerably last week and that the drop might be due to protective measures recently adopted by the Navy.

Discussing the submarine situation at a press conference, Knox said that the Navy's experience with U-boat raiders throughout the North Atlantic had shown that they operate in waves.

"In preparing your stories," he told reporters, "it will be necessary to keep that fact in mind because that may be responsible for the decline in coastal attacks last week. On the other hand the drop may be due to a recent measure adopted."

The Navy announced 14 submarine attacks in the western Atlantic and adjacent waters last week, Naval officials said, however, that only two of those, one tanker and a tug with barges, actually had been attacked along the coast during last week. The other attacks occurred either prior to March 29 or else were in the Caribbean area which Knox's statement did not cover.

Latest figures on announced Atlantic coast shipping losses show 116 ships have been sunk since Pearl Harbor. These include 59 off the United States, 23 off Canada, 30 in the Caribbean and four off South America.

Secretary Knox also disclosed at his press conference that the government has "under very careful study" the problem of operating the American merchant marine, "especially those ships on long voyages."

Knox said there had been some difficulties in manning ships but (Continued on Page Four)

WEATHER
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Showers in extreme west portion.

DANIELS DONATES GLASSES TO NAVY

Washington, April 7.—(AP)—Former Secretary of the Navy Joseph Daniels has donated his personal pair of gold plated binoculars to the Navy for war use.

The glasses will soon be sent to a United States Fleet flagship, the department said in announcing the gift today.

DUTCH COMMISSION TO BE ORGANIZED

Sidney, April 7.—(AP)—Lieutenant Governor H. J. van Mook of the Netherlands Indies announced today formation of a Netherlands Indies commission in Australia and New Zealand to deal with all non-military matters.

He said that the principles of Dutch contribution to unity of the war effort had been agreed upon in discussions with the Australian government and the United States command and that he intended to go to London to discuss details with his government.