



Henderson Daily Dispatch



ONLY DAILY NEWSPAPER PUBLISHED IN THIS SECTION OF NORTH CAROLINA AND VIRGINIA

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR

LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

HENDERSON, N. C., MONDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 13, 1942

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON
EXCEPT SUNDAY

FIVE CENTS COPY

Corregidor's Guns Sink Jap Vessels, Beat Off Air Raids

Number of Small Japanese Boats Sunk and Set Afire off Bataan Peninsula; Communication With Cebu is Cut Off.

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—The War department reported today that Corregidor's gunners sank a number of small Japanese boats and kept the enemy air raiders so high over the Philippine island fortress that bombing in a series of new raids caused only minor damage.

A communiqué said the Japanese boats were in the harbor of the fishing village of Mariveles at the tip of the abandoned Bataan peninsula. Several were set afire in addition to those sunk.

Meanwhile, communication between Corregidor and Cebu was cut for the past 24 hours so Lieutenant General Jonathan M. Wainwright was unable to report on the effort to beat off an invasion of the central Philippine island, more than 300 miles south of Corregidor.

The communiqué reported belatedly the sinking by enemy action of two Army freight ships, the Liberty and the Meigs, both of which went down in the southwest Pacific.

The Liberty was torpedoed twice by an enemy submarine January 11 about twenty miles from the Netherlands Indies island of Bali. No lives were lost. The vessel was beached and 53 crewmen and one passenger were rescued by Dutch planes.

The Meigs was sunk February 13 in a bombing raid on the harbor of Darwin, Australia. The master, Captain F. S. Link, died later of wounds. One crew member was killed and eight were wounded.

Ten raids were made on Corregidor in the past 24 hours, the War department said, raising the total to 22 in the last two days.

MANY NAZI PLANES GO TO EAST FRONT

London, April 13.—(AP)—Germany has sent hundreds of new planes into action over the eastern front in an effort to wrest air supremacy from the Russians and blast a path for a ground offensive, Russian dispatches reported tonight.

Pravda, the Moscow communist newspaper, asserted that the German air effort was doomed to failure because the attackers were being shot down at a ratio of seven to one in favor of the defenders.

Seamen Lose On Appeal

Italians Convicted of Tampering With Ships Denied Appeal to Supreme Court.

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—Forty-one Italian seamen failed today to obtain a Supreme Court review of their conviction on a charge of tampering with the navigational appliances of three Italian ships, which they had been laid up at Baltimore and Wilmington for the duration of the war between Italy and Great Britain.

Taken into custody by Coast Guard officers in March, 1941, the seamen contended they had acted "pursuant to the orders both of the owner of the vessel and the Italian naval authorities."

They contended the evidence failed to show that they were "acting for any purpose other than to place their vessel in such a condition that, if she should fall into the hands of their country's enemy, she could not be beneficially used by that enemy for a long time to come."

Their petition asserted also that "an owner's damage or destruction of his own property ... was not embraced within the offense" charged against them.

Thirty-one seamen, from two ships in Baltimore, were convicted in the federal district court for Maryland. Ten apprehended at Wilmington were convicted in the eastern North Carolina federal district court. Sentences ranged from three months to three years.

Amigo Mio!



Josette Daly
(Central Press)

Laval Seeks New Regime

Former Vice Premier Confers at Length With Petain on Wider Collaboration.

Bern, April 13.—(AP)—Marshal Petain and his former vice premier, Pierre Laval, were reported today to have conferred three times since Saturday in an axis-promoted renewal of negotiations for increased French-German collaboration which neutral dispatches from Berlin said were inspired by Nazi fears of an allied offensive against German-occupied western Europe.

Informed diplomatic sources said the aged marshal and his pre-war government minister met for the third time today in preparation for what German dispatches said might be reorganization of the Vichy government probably tomorrow.

Their conversations, these dispatches declared, concerned fresh efforts by Laval, aided by German Ambassador to Paris Otto Abetz, to get back into the French cabinet, revise procedure of the Riom trial of responsibility for France's military defeat and reduce Anglo-American influence in Vichy, particularly before Germany's long awaited spring offensive against the Soviets begins.

The British acknowledged these losses, and the German high command put the cost of the last 24 hours of RAF offensive action at 23-15 downed by day and nine by night.

The German air force increased its pace on the Russian front, in support of light counter attacks by infantry and tanks in a general attempt to feel out the depth of the Red army's positions. Warm weather and slush prevailed in the principal fighting areas.

Russian sappers at one point were reported to have diverted the course of a flood from the spring tides, washing the enemy out of a fortified village.

The war in Africa and the Mediterranean was marked by a German report that a British cruiser had arrived at Gibraltar heavily damaged by attacks at Malta, axis accounts of continued raids on Malta, an Italian claim that axis planes had forced a withdrawal of British air force units southward of El Mechili.

The Italians said that six Curtiss planes were downed by German fighters yesterday over Libya.

The Paris press led loose new attacks on American diplomacy in unoccupied France and charged that United States Ambassador William D. Leahy had "ruined France through intermediaries for 18 months."

German dispatches yesterday reported the resignation of Henri du Moulin de la Barthe, Petain's confidential secretary. Confirmation of de la Barthe's withdrawal may be expected together with "more startling information" in an offend decree tomorrow, German sources said.

UNC Pitcher Hurt In Crash

Winston-Salem, April 13.—(AP)—Francis (Monk) Whiteheart, sophomore pitcher of the University of North Carolina, suffered two broken ankles in an automobile collision Sunday night at 11 o'clock in Greensboro.

Given first aid treatment at Burroughs, he was immediately rushed to City hospital in Winston-Salem.

Accompanied by John Gamble and Frank Norman of Elkin and Miss Clara Haight of New Jersey, Whiteheart was en route to Chapel Hill when the accident occurred. He had spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Whiteheart of Winston-Salem.

None except Whiteheart reportedly were injured.

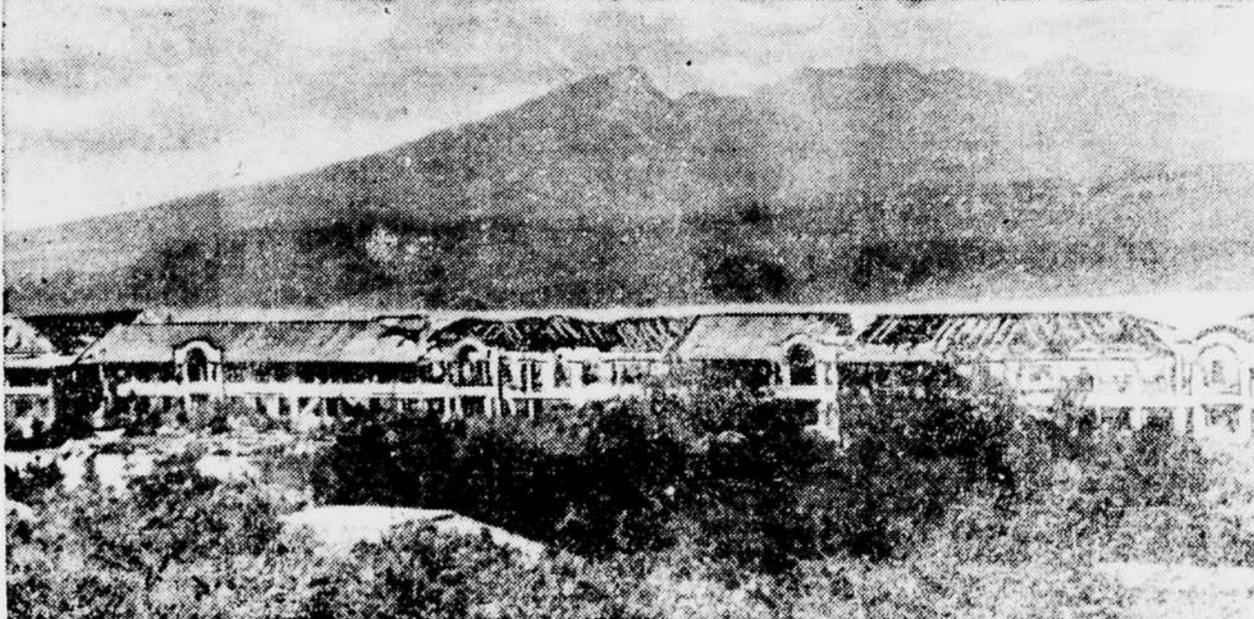
Their car was in collision with an automobile driven by Z. V. Starns of Graham, who was arrested on a charge of drunken driving.

Churchill Discloses Presence Of

BIG JAP FLEET OFF INDIA

Pravda Bluntly Warns Japanese

When Bombs Fell and the Stars and Stripes Still Fly



Japanese bombers, battering away at Corregidor, last weekend of U. S. troops in the Philippines, were repelled this torpedo barrage. In the background across the water is Mt. Mariveles on last Bataan peninsula. The Navy reported that 3,500 marines and sailors who fought on Bataan have been evacuated to Corregidor Bay bacton. This is one of the last planes to come out of the ratat area. (Central Press)

Japan Told To Live Up To Treaty

First Anniversary of Neutrality Pact Brings Warning From Russian Mouthpiece; Aerial Warfare Marks European Front.

(By The Associated Press) In apparently growing conviction that the Red army holds the whip hand on Russia's European front, one of the leading mouthpieces of Russian policy declared sharply today that Japanese "blabbering" about invasion in the Russian east "might damage, first of all and most of all, Japan herself."

Thus, Pravda newspaper organ of the communist party, oddly observed the first anniversary of the signing of the Japanese-Russian neutrality pact, the basis of the unequal peace between the two powers and striking in similarity to the Russian-German non-aggression pact which Germany voided by invasion of the Soviet Union all last June.

Pravda firmly warned Japan to live up to all ramifications of the agreement.

The anniversary and the editorial came while the new Japanese ambassador, Nonaka Sato, and the new United States ambassador, Admiral William H. Standley, were in Moscow to present their credentials.

The RAF smashed at axis airfields in Germany and Italy during the night.

Not a bomber was reported lost on the 1,500-mile round trip today against Turin, a munitions making center of northern Italy, but at least ten bombers and one fighter were lost in the sweep to Pavia. Kampf groups, docks at Le Havre, France and airfields in France and the low countries.

The British acknowledged these losses, and the German high command put the cost of the last 24 hours of RAF offensive action at 23-15 downed by day and nine by night.

The German air force increased its pace on the Russian front, in support of light counter attacks by infantry and tanks in a general attempt to feel out the depth of the Red army's positions. Warm weather and slush prevailed in the principal fighting areas.

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Survivors Reach Brazil

Rio de Janeiro, April 13.—(AP)—Survivors of two torpedoed United Nations merchant vessels have landed at Northern Brazilian ports with reports that a third merchantman also was sent to the bottom by axis undersea craft.

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Labor Law Showdown

Advocates of Restrictions Say Labor-Management Agreement Only Alternative.

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—Advocates of restrictive labor legislation served notice today that only an agreement by unions to waive overtime pay for a 48-hour work week in war industries would serve them in their efforts to force a congressional showdown on this question next week.

Senator Connally, Democrat of Texas, paved the way for such a showdown by inviting those of different mind to argue their case if he is successful in bringing before the Senate his bill to permit the government to take over strike-bound war plants, freezing working conditions and labor relations in such plants.

Connally predicted a majority of his colleagues would vote to consider the measure when the question comes up next Monday.

Senator Lee, Democrat of Louisiana, who has been in the vanguard of those urging suspension of the 40-hour week, said he would welcome settlement of the issue through a voluntary agreement between labor and management. He said, however, that nothing short of such an accomplishment would satisfy him and others of like views.

Administration leaders have been reported seeking such an agreement and Senator Maloney, Democrat of Connecticut, predicted that an understanding might be reached this week. Maloney advocated enactment of legislation to freeze open and closed shops in war industries for the duration of the conflict, an action he said would go a long way toward eliminating present controversies.

Congressional leaders expected to get a fuller outline of this program soon but reports indicated it would include wage, profit and credit controls, a broadening of price fixing authority and possibly tax increases beyond those now recommended by the Treasury.

The cause of the fire, which started at 1:35 a. m. and was declared under control shortly after 6 a. m. was not immediately determined. Officials did not give an estimate of the damage but business interruption losses at more than \$1,000,000. One fireman was slightly injured.

SOLICITOR PRUETTE DIES IN WADESBORO

Wadesboro, April 13.—(AP)—Solicitor Rockford S. Pruett of the 13th district died today of injuries received in an automobile accident last week.

Pruett, the son of Dr. and Mrs. U. R. Pruett of Charlotte, is survived by his widow and four children. Funeral services will be held at 4 p. m. tomorrow.

NOMINATED

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—President Roosevelt sent to the Senate today for confirmation the reappointment of Fred S. Worthy as United States marshal for the eastern district of North Carolina.

Twenty-six survivors of the United States ship Eugene Thayer were landed at Camocim on the north coast of Ceara state and 24 survivors of the Norwegian ship Balkiss were brought to Fortaleza.

None except Whiteheart reportedly were injured.

Their car was in collision with an automobile driven by Z. V. Starns of Graham, who was said to have been torpedoed off Miami.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA Slightly warmer tonight.

Hopkins In Parley With Soviet Envoy

Mussolini Said To Be Out Of Mind

London, April 13.—(AP)—A special correspondent of the Daily Mail in the Italian frontier cabled today that Premier Mussolini was found in a "state of complete prostration" when examined by a specialist.

The dispatch said:

"During the interview which ensued bitterly, then burst into hysterical laughter. The specialist said Mussolini had lost all control of himself and no longer was able to manage his affairs as dictator of Italy, which now are reported in a chaotic condition.

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London, April 13.—(AP)—Harry Hopkins, advisor to President Roosevelt and his lendlease experts, held a long conference today with the Russian ambassador, Ivan Maisky, at the United States embassy.

Hopkins will confer tonight with Prime Minister Churchill and probably present the results of the interview with Maisky.

General George C. Marshall, United States Army chief of staff, was at the embassy frequently during the day, but did not participate in the talks with the Russian diplomat.

Intensed quatrille here have said that the prime objective of Hopkins and General Marshall is to use every means within the power of the United States and Britain to assist Russia in the second battle expected of May 15.

Churchill and Roosevelt could say nothing about the disposition of the British forces in that zone without benefitting the enemy. He disclosed, however, that the British forces had now assumed the command of operations in the second battle by Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham.

With India still not joined for battle with Japan and with further Japanese advances reported on the Burma approach, indications were stronger than ever that the Indian section of the British empire would rank soon with Russia as one of the two most important fronts of the world conflict.

The Japanese threat to Australia.

(Continued on Page Six)

Long War Is Forecast

Colonel Eddie Rickenbacker Says at Least 300,000 Fliers Will be Needed.

Mitchell Field, N. Y., April 13.—(AP)—Colonel Eddie Rickenbacker, American flying ace of the first World War, told the fliers at this air base today that in his opinion this war will last a minimum of five years, barring miracles, with a possibility of its lasting ten years.

"We have no way to function effectively without the superiority in strength of the air force which also goes for the land forces of the army," he said. "We will need at least 300,000 pilots to achieve victory—100,000 as instructors and 200,000 combat pilots, scattered over the four corners of the world."

Colonel Rickenbacker, who has just completed a 15,000-mile survey flight of all our air combat units, said that the men of the U. S. air

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