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Marshall and Hopkins in London



Staff General George C. Marshall (left) and Land-Lease Administrator Harry Hopkins, who arrived in this country yesterday after making a mission to England, are shown above leaving the U. S. Embassy in London. They are said to have discussed plans for invasion of the continent, which General Marshall declared are not far off.

Two Plead Guilty in Revenue Trial

Former State Employees Enter Pleas as Trial Opens; Four Others Plead Innocent; Witness Says Damage Paid With Check.

Raleigh, April 20.—(AP)—Two former deputy commissioners of the North Carolina Department of Revenue—Lee C. Taylor and Charles C. Hunt—pleaded guilty today to charges of embezzling funds.

Funds of innocent were embezzled, however, by four other former employees. They are Robert L. Ward, Jr., former chief of the division of accounts; Fred W. Drake, former chief of the tax division; Harry S. Ward, former cashier in the accounts division; and Redney Carter, former junior auditor.

Attorneys for Howard and Ward lately moved to quash indictments returned against their clients. Action was taken immediately by Judge E. Don Phillips, who is presiding over Wake Superior court. Major developments in the case today came immediately after Hunt's plea of guilty. This plea was testimony by a witness that Hunt had been paid to repay a portion of the shortage with a bad check.

A witness was C. H. England, director of the department's audit division.

England said that Hunt, whose name was in Statesville, was paid to be about \$2,400 short. Hunt admitted the shortage at the time, England said, and was ordered to resign. England testified that a bonding company paid \$2,000 of the alleged shortage and that Hunt gave the bonding company a check for the balance of \$400. The check was worthless, England added, and was not good until the recent investigation of the Revenue department.

The investigation started several months ago, with the arrest of Charles W. Sneed, former deputy commissioner, on charges of embezzling \$30,000. Sneed turned state's evidence and sentence has not been pronounced on him as yet.

MEMBER DESTROYED BY FIRE AT FIELD

Delhi Field, N. Y., April 20.—Fire today destroyed a member of the fire department being warmed up for a game of football but none of its equipment was injured.

Lieutenant Harry Kelliber, Mitchell field public relations officer, said the plane's right motor burst into flames at 5:20 a. m. WPT and fire and over the entire field, causing moderate explosions. He said no evidence of sabotage.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Continued rather cold tonight with scattered frost.

With Japs Jittery From Saturday Bombing,

M'ARTHUR PLANS OFFENSIVE

Luftwaffe Hurlled Against Russia

Bad Weather Holds RAF In England

Large Flights of German Bombers Attack Objectives on West Front; Show of Action Made by Nazis on Southern Front.

(By The Associated Press) Adolf Hitler, observing his 53rd birthday at eastern front headquarters, was reported by the Russians today to be trying to put the old blitz back into the air war with attacks by as many as 50 planes against single secret objectives.

The signs were that he had marshaled the bulk of his air force on that front, at the expense of his air strength in western Europe. Poor visibility over the continent last night, however, caused a pause in the British offensive in the west.

Small RAF fighter forces swept over northern France yesterday without opposition and the best the Germans could muster today against Britain was a three-plane strafing and bombing of a train and a south coast town. Three persons were killed and several injured.

German bombers ranged the vast Russian front, smashing at railway stations, airbases and front line positions. They were impelled to this activity by improving weather, the hope of starting a general offensive some time and perhaps also by the widening breach which the Russians were exploiting against the Finns above Leningrad.

On the southern front the Germans were making a show of action by tank-plane teams, the Russians said, but failed to restore positions pierced by the Red army.

The German high command said its bombers had hit again at harbor installations and utilities on the Caucasian coast of the Black sea, with one big Russian tanker damaged. German fighters were credited with destruction of 22 planes without loss in the southern sector.

McNutt Plans Mobilization Of Manpower

Washington, April 20.—(AP)—Secretary of War Donald B. McNutt today would create a system of labor priorities, assigned to get necessary war materials, but declared he did not contemplate a wartime flight method of forcing men into war production.

Charged with responsibility for allocating manpower and womanpower among factories, farms and the armed forces, McNutt today would create a system of labor priorities, assigned to get necessary war materials, but declared he did not contemplate a wartime flight method of forcing men into war production.

McNutt told a press conference he favored a program of "group" government, executive service induction, although acknowledging that such a program might conflict with present selective service procedure, and would require legislation to effect.

Such group determinations, excluding men of certain skill qualifications from military duty, would be upon not only an occupational group basis but also upon a regional basis, McNutt said, in order to take care of local shortages of trained labor. No specific legislation is now in his mind, the manpower chief added.

Justice Department Files Suits to Enjoin Violations of Priorities

Washington, April 20.—(AP)—Attorney General Biddle announced today that Justice department had filed suit in federal district court at Wilmington, Del., and Pittsburgh, Pa., seeking to enjoin the Carnegie-Illinois Steel corporation and the Jones and Laughlin Steel Corporation from violating priorities fixed by the war production board.

The suits, involving more than one-third of the total steel production of the nation, were the first to be instituted under the war production board's priorities program.

Princess Elizabeth Is 16



This is the sixteenth birthday picture of Princess Elizabeth (left) of England, shown with her mother, the queen, and her younger sister, Margaret Rose. The princess chose an English gardener as the setting for her birthday picture. (Central Press)

Planes And Guns Batter Corregidor

Nazis Shoot 30 Hostages

Vichy, April 20.—(AP)—German occupation authorities at Rouen have ordered the execution of 30 French hostages for bombing of a German troop train in which a "large number" of Nazi soldiers were killed. It was officially announced today.

Eighty more hostages will be shot if those guilty of attacking the train are not turned over for punishment by April 25, a German notice said.

In addition, 1,000 "communists, Jews, and sympathizers" were ordered deported to eastern Europe.

From now on the Germans instructed, a number of French civilians will be forced to accompany German soldiers on all troop trains to assure the latter's safety.

Burma Front Victories Reported

American Planes Which Raided Japan Believed to Have Come from Carriers and Continued Flight to Landings in China.

(By The Associated Press) With the Japanese still trying to figure out how they were bombed in their own islands Saturday, the United Nations drew up plans today for an Australia-based counter offensive in the southwest Pacific and the struggle in Burma took a favorable but still indecisive turn against the enemy.

Chungking reported that Chinese troops swooping down from the northeast had recaptured Yennangwang, Burmese oil center, and in two days of bitter fighting had released a British force of several thousand from Japanese encirclement.

General Douglas MacArthur and his dispersed offensive plans today with Australian plane action, John Curtin, of Canberra. It was the first of a series of facilitating conferences between him, as confirmed commander for the United Nations in the southwest Pacific, and Curtin, in a concurrent capacity as defense minister.

Japan showed signs of flitters over the raids. Two more alarms sounded yesterday, evidently with no real basis, and Dorei Japanese news agency said the government was trying to control "baseless rumors" concerning the Saturday offensive.

By their latest official account, the Japanese appeared fully convinced that the raiders were United States medium bombers launched by London, April 20.—(AP)—Reuters reported today in a dispatch from Chungking that the planes which raided Japan on Saturday had arrived safely at their destination. It said no details were yet available but that this information came from "well informed quarters" in the Chinese provisional capital.

(Continued on Page Three)

FDR Plans Letter, Talk

President to Set Forth Views on Necessary Anti-Inflation Measures

Washington, April 20.—(AP)—Congressional leaders announced today President Roosevelt would send a message to Congress in a week or ten days setting forth his views on necessary anti-inflation measures.

House Majority Leader McCormack said this message probably would be followed shortly by a fireside radio address on the same subject.

Although he avoided use of the word "inflation" to which the President had expressed objection, McCormack said the message to Congress would deal with "the cost of living during the war" and with "the factors that enter into it."

Three Dead In Accidents

Charlotte, April 20.—(AP)—Violent deaths totaled at least three in the state over the week-end.

Four-year old Carolyn Jean Gibson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Gibson, was fatally burned at her home in Laurinburg. Her clothes caught fire while she was standing beside an open fire in the yard.

Coughlin Responsible For Magazine

Royal Oak, Mich.—April 20.—(AP)—The Rev. Charles E. Coughlin, Royal Oak priest, in a public statement today assumed personal responsibility for control of the magazine "Social Justice," its policies and its contents. "If Social Justice, as Attorney General Biddle is reported to have declared in his press conference, is clearly seditious," Biddle announced Friday at Washington that a special District of Columbia grand jury would investigate all phases of the publication of "Social Justice," a magazine which Father Coughlin founded in 1924, but with which the priest has disavowed any connection since 1940.

The attorney general's action followed an order from the postmaster general barring the periodical from the mails for alleged seditious statements.

The priest's statement assuming responsibility for the magazine's pronouncements was issued in a press conference this morning at the rectory of the Shrine of the Little Flower here.

Soviet Guns At Smolensk

Long Range Artillery Within Range of German Held City; Reds Attack Heavily

London, April 20.—(AP)—Soviet long range artillery was reported today to be thrown up within range of Smolensk, 230 miles west of Moscow.

Furious new Russian attacks were reported launched along the Volkhov river front south of Leningrad and against the heads of the Svir river, between Lakes Ladoga and Onega.

The Germans were reported throwing all the available might of their air force into support of counterattacks to prevent the Red army from gaining a solid foothold west of the Volkhov before the ice melts and the stream becomes a great barrier protecting the flank and rear of the German siege forces before the old capital.

The Russians claimed to have advanced two miles against the Finns at one point after battering down new defense works.

The Russians and Germans both were silent about the precise situation in the Smolensk region, but Reuters dispatches said General Gregory Zhukov's troops were advancing from the northeast and were within 18 miles of the city.