



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., SATURDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 25, 1942

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY.

FIVE CENTS COPY

Rostock In Ruins After Raids

Japs Threaten Left Flank In Burma

Japanese Casualties Are Heavy

Nipponese Forces Drive Nearer Vital Allied Base of Mandalay, Imperiling Burma Road Link From Mandalay to Lashio.

(By The Associated Press) Tank-led Japanese troops were reported threatening to roll back Lieutenant General Joseph W. Stilwell's Chinese-held left flank in the battle of Burma today as furious, confused fighting raged within 100 miles of the vital allied base at Mandalay.

"It is fairly clear that the (Japanese) drive has made progress," a communique said today.

Capture of Mandalay would virtually cut off the last allied-held link in the Burma road, imperiling the 100-mile stretch from Mandalay to Lashio, and would also secure the Japanese drive for a possible land drive into India.

Chinese dispatches said the invaders were paying a bloody toll in their sweep to the north, asserting that 6,000 Japanese had been killed against 1,300 Chinese casualties in a single week's fighting.

Latest front line reports indicated that the outnumbered Chinese were still fighting stubbornly in an attempt to halt the nearest Japanese penetration to Mandalay.

A further Japanese advance in the sector would not only directly threaten Chinese communications on the Salween river front, to the west, but also would place the invaders' main roads running into Mandalay and Lashio.

British headquarters said Japanese bombers attacked Mandalay for the second time in two days.

In the battle for the approaches to Australia, General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reported that allied fighter planes "successfully intercepted" seven Japanese navy fighters over Port Moresby, frequent-

(Continued on Page Two)

BRITISH DESTROYER DAMAGED IN CLASH

Berlin (From German Broadcast), April 25.—(AP)—A British destroyer was damaged by close range fire in a clash with German naval patrol units in the English channel last Thursday night, the high command said today.

Norwegian Merchantman Fights Off Sub

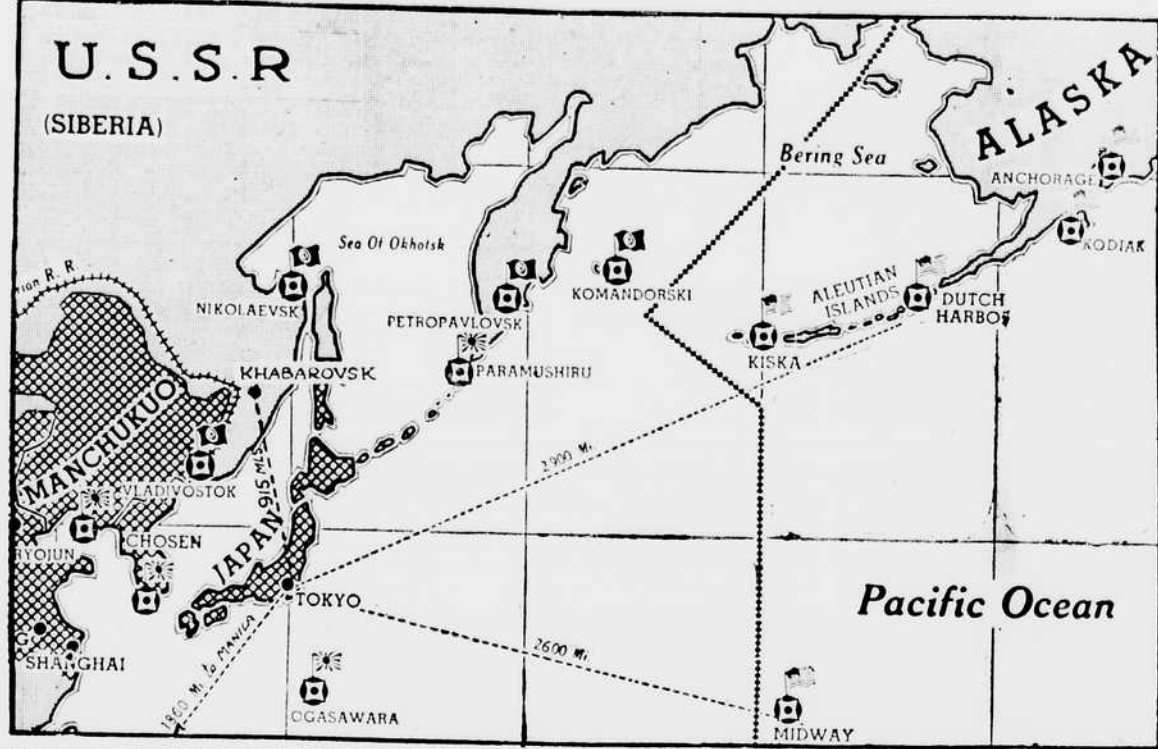
New York, April 25.—(AP)—A medium-sized Norwegian merchant ship traded shots with an Italian submarine, it was revealed today, and U. S. destroyers and airplanes appearing on the scene forced the submarine to retreat. The ship reached New York harbor safely with one dead and two wounded.

The Norwegian captain said the submarine was sighted early on the morning of April 23 from 80 to 100 miles off the Atlantic coast. The ship turned her stern to the submarine, which began firing shells. The first few shells had no effect but the fourth set fire to the crew's quarters and killed the boatswain.

The ship, meanwhile, returned the fire and shot 14 shells before her ammunition was exhausted as fire below decks exploded the ammunition compartment. The submarine fired 50 or 60 shells in less than 30 min, scoring hits with about a quarter of them.

A U. S. plane warships and a barge were attracted to the scene by the noise and depth charges were dropped near the submarine.

U. S. Bomber Lands in Siberia



This map shows how close to Japan a U. S. bomber made a forced landing after participating in a raid on Tokyo. The report of the plane's landing came from Khabarovsk, in Siberia, only 915 miles away. The Aleutian Islands are the nearest known Allied bases to the area. Announcement was first confirmation of Japan's frantic report of the bombing. (Central Press)

Solicitor Says Graft Rampant In State Revenue Department

Woman Spy Discloses Fuel Cache

Mexico City, April 25.—(AP)—The newspaper Novedades reported today that an attractive woman spy, arrested after a gun battle at Merida, gave authorities the clue to a cache of aviation gasoline and submarine fuel on the Isle Mujeres off the tip of the Yucatan peninsula.

The newspaper identified the woman as a member of the German-American bond in the United States, and said she was arrested on information from the United States, and had been returned there by plane after questioning.

No one was injured in the gun battle, which occurred when the woman returned from a purported overnight fishing trip off the coast, the newspaper added.

It said 100 soldiers guarded the fuel cache until Mexican tankers arrived and pumped it dry.

TWO MERCHANTMEN HIT BY TORPEDOES

Washington, April 25.—(AP)—Two medium-sized merchant vessels have been torpedoed off the Atlantic coast, the Navy announced today. Survivors have been landed at an east coast port.

CONNALLY TO WED SENATOR'S WIDOW

New Orleans, April 25.—(AP)—Senator Tom Connally, of Texas and Mrs. Lucille Sheppard, of Texas, Tex., widow of Senator Morris Sheppard, today obtained a marriage license here and it was announced they would be married at 1 p. m.

Drastic Measures Considered To Curb Vice In Bragg Area

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, April 25.—Once again federal authorities, including high ranking military officers, are considering drastic measures to curb vice in the vicinity of military camps in this state.

It is reported here that for the first time since its enactment by Congress the M. Y. Act will be invoked in the Fort Bragg area. This act, which can be invoked only by the War department upon the request of the commander of a camp, gives military authorities the power to police wide civil areas and arrest prostitutes, panderers and others engaged in commercial vice.

Money Embezzled and Later Repaid by One Employee Was Stolen a Second Time, Bickett Charges in Argument to Jury.

Raleigh, April 25.—(AP)—Solicitor William Y. Bickett charged today that graft was so rampant in the North Carolina revenue department that money embezzled and later repaid by one employee was stolen a second time before it could be deposited. Bickett made the accusation in his argument to the jury in the trial of Robert L. Ward, Jr., former chief of the division of accounts, who is charged with embezzlement and with aiding and abetting in embezzlement.

The solicitor said that Lee C. Taylor, another former employee, who pleaded guilty to embezzling \$1,006.65, had repaid this amount to the State some time ago. The money was turned over to Ward for deposit, Bickett said, but Ward deposited only a part of it and embezzled \$203.95.

"It beats anything I ever saw," shouted the solicitor, who is a son of former Governor Thomas W. Bickett. "One man steals from the State and tries to repay it. But before the money can be deposited to the credit of the State, someone else steals the money that Taylor tries to repay."

Bickett also charged that Clarence W. Sneed, former deputy commissioner who has pleaded guilty to embezzling approximately \$6,000, "divided" some of his gains with Ward.

Indications were that the case would go to the jury this afternoon. On Monday, the trial of Fred Brown Drake, another former employee, is slated to get underway.

Immediately after the Drake trial, Judge F. Don Phillips of Rockingham will pass sentence on the defendants who have pleaded guilty and those who have been convicted.

President To Register Chief Executive Not Exempt From Listing Among Nation's Men 45 to 65 Years Old.

Washington, April 25.—(AP)—President Roosevelt will register in the cabinet room of the White House Monday morning in the nationwide counting of men between 45 and 65 to ascertain availability of manpower for non-military war duty.

Stephen Early, a White House secretary, told reporters today that investigation by the selective service system had disclosed the President was not exempt from registering even though he is commander in chief of the armed services.

Other members of the White House staff, including Harry L. Hopkins, who lives at the Executive Mansion, are expected to register with members of the same local board who will supervise the President's listing. Hopkins is 52, eight years younger than the President, who was 61 last January 30.

The nationwide registration of the 45-to-65 year was already underway today and will be completed by Monday night.

Japs Suffer Heavy Losses In Shipping

(By The Associated Press) Japan has lost a total of 167 warships and 49 commercial ships since the war began. Associated Press records showed today based upon official announcements by the United Nations and Japanese official admissions.

All tonnage was incomplete since official announcements by the United Nations in most cases gave neither the name of the ship nor its tonnage. However, announced tonnage totaled 114,230 tons of warships and merchant losses totaled 130,667 tons.

The figures represented only ships announced as sunk by either planes, submarines, naval action or mines. The largest number of Japanese ships lost were transports which totaled 74, and the next largest merchant vessels which totaled 44.

No tonnage was announced on 14 cruisers, 22 destroyers, nine mine sweepers, 69 transports, one auxiliary and 24 merchantmen.

President To Register

Chief Executive Not Exempt From Listing Among Nation's Men 45 to 65 Years Old.

Marines Train Glider Force

Washington, April 25.—(AP)—The Marine Corps disclosed today that Marine officers and men had been in training in glider operations since the summer of 1941.

Lieutenant Colonel V. M. Guyman, a native of Redding, Idaho, is commanding officer of the Marine glider group, based at the Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.

Marine headquarters said naval aviators of the Marine Corps were being trained as glider pilots and ground crews also were receiving training. There have been few accidents and no fatalities, the announcement said.

The Marines said glider troops could be air-borne infantry, or special weapon troops, or paratroopers.

Bailey Says Shipbuilding Not Lagging

North Carolina Senator Declares United Nations to Outbuild Germany and Japan in Ships and Airplanes.

Washington, April 25.—(AP)—Discounting reports that the maritime construction program was lagging, seriously, Senator Bailey, Democrat, North Carolina, declared today that the United Nations were fast forging the weapons which would crush the axis by outbuilding Germany and Japan in ships and planes.

Bailey, who is chairman of the Senate commerce committee said his investigation had convinced him that the cargo ship construction program was going ahead rapidly despite hindrance in the form of material shortages and some labor disturbances.

He pointed to a recent report that the United States alone produced 3,300 military planes last month and said he learned that Britain also was making tremendous production strides.

"We are going to beat the axis by producing enough ships and planes to smother Germany and Japan," Bailey told reporters. "We're going to have the ships to carry the war equipment and the men and we are going to have the planes to protect those ships and to blast the enemy off the seas."

Asserting that the convoy system of transporting materials to England and Russia had proved highly successful, Bailey said he regarded submarine sinkings along the Atlantic coast as disturbing but not yet a serious threat to the war effort.

His chief effect, he predicted, would be on the civilian economy, requiring the rationing of gasoline and other measures of that nature.

Supplies Being Flown To Chinese

New Delhi, April 25.—(AP)—An American air service employing both private and U. S. army facilities is supplying China from India today with an increasing load of essential military goods once carried over the Burma Road.

Within a few months—certainly by next autumn—the planes will be delivering many thousands of tons monthly and approaching the capacity of the mountainous old trails, road winding between Lashio and Kunning, declared an American assistant in the operations.

Only the highest priority material now is being flown in, but it includes all varieties of small arms, light ammunition, tools, machinery and medical supplies.

Aerial movement of most essential supplies was made necessary by Japanese occupation of Rangoon, the Burma supply port.

Marines Train Glider Force

Washington, April 25.—(AP)—The Marine Corps disclosed today that Marine officers and men had been in training in glider operations since the summer of 1941.

Lieutenant Colonel V. M. Guyman, a native of Redding, Idaho, is commanding officer of the Marine glider group, based at the Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.

Marine headquarters said naval aviators of the Marine Corps were being trained as glider pilots and ground crews also were receiving training. There have been few accidents and no fatalities, the announcement said.

The Marines said glider troops could be air-borne infantry, or special weapon troops, or paratroopers.

'Norway Not Beaten'



Johan Nygaardsvold. Occupied Norway is still waging war against the Nazis, according to Prime Minister Johan Nygaardsvold, 63, arriving at New York en route to Washington. He heads the Norwegian government-in-exile in London. (Central Press)

Patent Right Stalls Work

Senate Committee Told Aircraft Production Hampered by Lack of One Piece.

Washington, April 25.—(AP)—A Senate committee was told today that a patent on a small screw or fastener—about the size of a man's little finger—had seriously impeded the production of military aircraft in the United States.

Thurman Arnold, assistant attorney general, said that because of the patent, "at one plant 80 airplanes were delayed in their production; at another plant the same thing happened to 20 flying fortresses; and at still another plant the entire assembly line was shut down for lack of the single item."

Arnold told the Senate patent committee that the patent was held by William Dzus, head of the Dzus Fastener Co., and that Dzus was a small business man who was merely trying to exercise what he regarded as his legitimate patent rights.

The government's trust prosecutor, urged the committee not to be "too hard" in their judgment of the inventor, noting "the hard money to buy full page newspaper advertisement" and he had not protested government investigation.

Forest Fires Burning Out

Broward, April 25.—(AP)—Forest fires which have raged for more than a week in four states in the southern Appalachian mountains appeared to be burning themselves out today.

Thousands of acres of virgin timberland were destroyed in Georgia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Virginia. Four persons—three in North Carolina and one in Kentucky—were arrested by FBI and state officials on suspicion of incendiaries.

To mobilize manpower for fire fighting, Governor Eugene Talmadge of Georgia and Keen Johnson of Kentucky have proclaimed states of emergency.

Fires which have destroyed 12,000 acres in southwest Virginia were coming under control, Conservation Commission Chairman Clarence Smith reported.

SOLDIER IS KILLED IN CYCLE ACCIDENT

Fort Bragg, April 25.—(AP)—Private Rayford S. Lynch, 26, of Goldsboro, a Fort Bragg soldier, was killed about midnight last night in a motorcycle accident on highway 301 near the Cumberland-Robeson county line. His companion, Private Francis B. Gilbert of Bear Creek, was injured but not seriously. No other details were announced.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Continued mild tonight.

RAF Bombs German Base Second Time

'Greatest Weight of Bombs in RAF History' Dropped on Site of Heinkel Aircraft Works; Germans Bomb Exeter Heavily.

(By The Associated Press) Germany's great Heinkel aircraft works at Rostock came under explosive assault by RAF bombers last night for the second night in a row, the London air ministry announced today, and British sources pictured the Baltic city as virtually left in ruins.

Aside from the Heinkel works, Rostock served as a major Nazi base for pouring troops and supplies into the Russian campaign.

British authorities said "the greatest weight of bombs" in RAF history was dropped on Rostock in Thursday night's attack, leaving it even worse battered than Lebeck, twice its size. Lebeck, hit just once with the full force of the new RAF bombing power on March 28, was said to have been 10 per cent devastated. More than 100 tons of explosives were dropped in the two attacks, the British said.

Other British night raiders pounded the docks at historic Danneberg, scene of the British evacuation from France in 1940, and bombed Nazi airfields in France and the low countries.

The German high command announced that Nazi bombers, striking "in reprisal" for the RAF's raids on German towns, heavily attacked the ancient cathedral town of Exeter, England, midway between Plymouth and Bristol.

Exeter is one of England's oldest.

(Continued on Page Two)

Bread Rations For French Not To Be Cut

Vichy, April 25.—(AP)—Pierre Laval's new French cabinet, meeting for the second time since its formation, announced today that the bread ration would not have to be reduced further in May, as had been feared.

This was believed to be concrete illustration of Laval's pledge to the people that "the government would do its duty to try to reduce your sufferings."

The cabinet said in a communique that Secretary Bonafant of agriculture and food supply had reported on shortages and possible solutions. "The government will soon make known the results of its efforts to alleviate this situation," the communique said.

The newspaper *Nouvelles Temps* said that Laval might call an empire conference of the heads of all South American governments still aligned with Vichy.

Auto Plant Labor Dispute To U. S. Board

Detroit, April 25.—(AP)—A dispute over renewal of a bargaining contract between General Motors Corporation and the United Automobile Workers (UAW), involving some 150,000 workers in 82 plants, was to be placed today before the war labor board for final decision.

Federal Conciliator James E. Dewey, who said negotiations were "hopelessly deadlocked" after four weeks of conferences, was in Washington to discuss the case with Secretary of Labor Perkins.

(Continued on Page Two)