



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., TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 12, 1942

PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY.

FIVE CENTS COPY

Reds Crush Big German Drive

British Navy Loses Three Destroyers

All Vessels Were Newly In Service

Approximately 500 of About 600 Officers and Men Aboard Three Ships Saved; Nazi Bombers Attack in Heavy Force.

London, May 12.—(AP)—The British admiralty announced today that three British destroyers had been sunk by German bombs in the Mediterranean. The destroyers were the Lively, Jackel and Kipling. More than 500 officers and men from the three ships were saved. Compliments of the three ships were believed to total about 800 officers and men. All three were new, the Lively, 1,900 tons, having been completed in 1940, and the other two, each of 1,695 tons, a year earlier. Normal complements of the smaller ships were 183 men, the Lively's probably somewhat larger.

Yesterday afternoon a force consisting of four of our destroyers was heavily attacked by German aircraft in the eastern Mediterranean, said the communiqué. The Lively was first hit and sunk, and when the remaining three destroyers were subjected to further heavy attack, the Kipling was sunk. The Jackel, also badly hit, was taken in tow, but had to be sunk by the British this morning, the admiralty said. The loss of the three ships brought to 77 the number of British destroyers sunk in 32 months of the war.

Gas Masks For Workers

Members of Congress Urge Speedy Action Toward Guarding Against Gas Attacks.

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—A possibility of imminent poison gas warfare in Europe prompted members of Congress today to urge speedy action toward supplying American war workers and other civilians with masks to protect them against any sneak gas raids that might be attempted on this country.

Public Minister Winston Churchill made it plain in a speech Sunday that aerial gas warfare was considered entirely practicable when he warned that the British were prepared to launch gas bombing raids against Germany if the Nazis employed noxious chemicals against the Russians.

Congress appropriated \$29,895,894 last February for the purchase of gas masks for civilians and Senator Hill of Alabama, the Democratic whip, said he thought industrial workers ought to be equipped with them as quickly as possible.

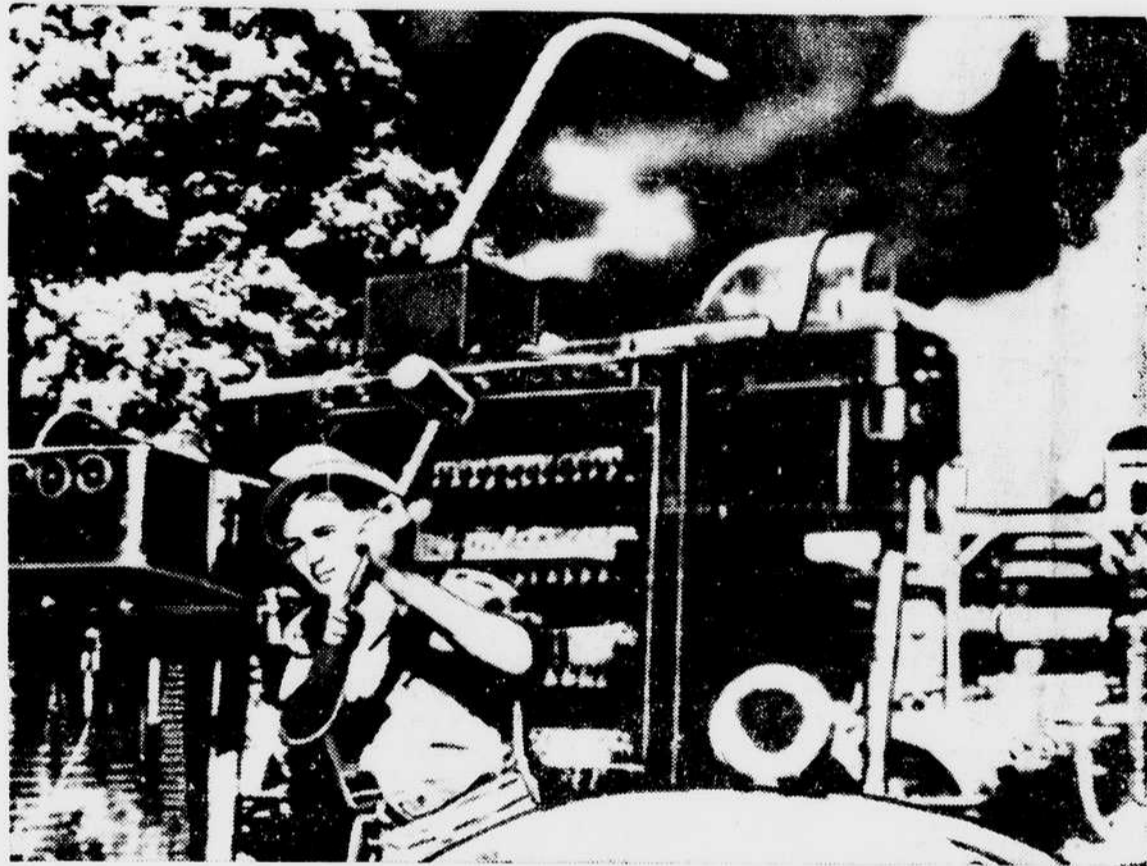
"I don't anticipate any gas raids on this country," Hill told reporters, "but we can't afford to leave any stone unturned to protect our vital war industries, particularly in the coastal areas."

There has been speculation in Con-

U. S. Bomber Fires Ship

London, May 12.—(AP)—A United States-built Hudson bomber of the RAF left a 10,000-ton merchant ship stopped and on fire after an attack on a German convoy within 200 yards of the Norwegian coast early today, the British announced. The German high command mentioned an attack by three Hudson bombers on a German convoy off the Dutch coast yesterday and said all were shot down by the warship escort before they could score a hit.

Leave Smashed Machinery for Japs in Burma



This photo flown from Burma to Cairo, Egypt, radioed to London, and cabled to New York, shows a British soldier smashing vital electrical equipment in a plant at Yonangzang, Burma. The plant furnished 85 per cent of the power needed in Burmese oil fields. Smoke from burning oil rises in the background.

Soldier Pay Bill Argued

No Known Opposition Exists Against Measure; Amendment Faces Hard Fight.

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—The financial plight of Uncle Sam's fighting men and their dependents received the undivided attention of the House today. While the military committee called upon Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt for his views on legislation to make financial provision for dependents of soldiers, the House itself set aside two hours for debate on a senate-approved measure boosting the pay of fight men.

There was no known opposition to the pay increase proposal itself, but considerable objection has been voiced to a rider governing the issuance of Army commissions to specially qualified civilians for technical and professional work. A modified version of a more drastic amendment which would have barred such commissions entirely, except in the cases of doctors, dentists, veterinarians and chaplains, the rider would require the War department to file with Congress every 60 days the names, qualifications and ages of those receiving commissions.

Committee members indicated the War department wanted neither proposal and an attempt to strike it from the bill was expected to be made on the floor.

The pay provisions of the bill affect service nurses, soldiers, sailors, marines and members of the coast guard, the coast and geodetic survey and the public health service.

Youth Charged With Sabotage

Cleveland, May 12.—(AP)—The U. S. district attorney's office announced today that Donald Kintner, 20, would be charged with sabotage—the shooting of a locomotive engineer in an effort to halt a trainload of war materials. The maximum penalty on conviction under this charge is 30 years imprisonment plus a \$10,000 fine.

Jerome N. Curtis, assistant U. S. district attorney, said Kintner would be accused of hitting New York Central Engineer F. J. Becker with a .22 caliber bullet last Friday near Elyria, Ohio. His fireman took over the train's controls and brought it to the next station, Becker suffered a head wound but is recovering. "Kintner was interrupting the flow of war materials to help the German cause, and he conceived the idea of wrecking trains," Curtis said.

East's Motorists Register For Gas

Nazis Execute 24 Dutchmen

London, May 12.—(AP)—The German occupation forces in the Netherlands executed today 24 more alleged leaders of a secret anti-Nazi organization, bringing to 96 the number of Hollanders shot for alleged complicity in a plot to pave the way for an allied invasion, the Netherlands radio announced. The 24 were charged with espionage and possession of arms.

Fletcher Given Leave

UCC Chairman Called to Active Duty in Washington; Albright Joins Army.

Raleigh, May 12.—(AP)—Governor Broughton announced today that Major A. L. Fletcher, chairman of the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission, had been called by the War department to active duty with selective service headquarters in Washington.

Major Fletcher has been granted a leave of absence, the governor said, and Dr. William Randolph Curtis, 34, who has been director of the commission's unemployment compensation division, will serve as chairman during Major Fletcher's absence.

Governor Broughton also announced today that R. Mayne Albright, 33-year old Raleigh native who is director of the U. S. Employment Service in North Carolina, had been commissioned a first lieutenant in the Army and ordered to report to the manpower mobilization division on May 18. No successor for Albright was announced.

SABOTEURS BLAST MUNICH FACTORY

Moscow, May 12.—(AP)—The Soviet information bureau declared today that a big munitions works in the German city of Munich recently had been blown up and attributed the reported blast to rising "rebellion of the German people" and the criminal Thierite clique.

Listing of 8,500,000 Automobile Owners of 17 Coastal States and District of Columbia Begins Today.

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—The "go home" sign was hung out to motorists along the eastern seaboard today as resident motorists from Maine to Florida started lining up for the gasoline ration cards they will need after Friday. Registration of the 8,500,000 automobile owners in the 17 coastal states and the District of Columbia started alphabetically and will continue through Thursday.

The office of price administration estimated about one-third of those applying for cards would be classified as "non-essential" and limited to 21 gallons during the 47 day period from May 15 to July 1, when a regular system of rationing that may last for the war's duration will be set up.

This "non-essential" motorists may splurge their allowance all at once on a motoring vacation, or spread it out on the basis of three gallons a week. Drivers who need their automobiles to get to work, or who use them in the course of business, will be allowed extra rations, based on their usual mileage requirements.

Raleigh, May 12.—(AP)—North Carolina's 632,065 operator of motor vehicles began registering today for gasoline rationing.

Dutch Vessel Torpedoed; 14 Men Lost

Miami, May 12.—(AP)—Fourteen seamen including a gun crew were trapped in their quarters when a medium sized Dutch merchantman was torpedoed off the Atlantic coast, and they apparently went down with their ship.

The Dutch gunners had no opportunity to reach their guns on deck. Those trapped below decks had no chance to escape as the ship, covered with flames, sank rapidly. It went down so quickly the lifeboats were caught in the davits and could not be launched.

The Navy revealed that 20 survivors of the Dutch ship, including the captain, got aboard life rafts and were saved by other craft. Survivors from the Dutch vessel said there was no warning before the torpedo struck in dead of night. Engines were crippled and immediately flames leaped as high as the mast.

Nazis Order Longer Week For French

Sweeping Decree Issued by German Military Command in France Takes Power to Increase Work Week; Pétain to Vichy.

Vichy, May 12.—(AP)—The German military command in France issued today a sweeping decree taking to itself powers to work longer hours in French enterprises and ordering employees to report immediately the number and categories of workmen made available for other work as a result of longer hours.

(Presumably the order applies only to the occupied zone.) Simultaneously, Chief of State Pétain returned to Vichy today on a special train from his suddenly interrupted holiday on the Riviera and immediately began a series of conferences with the chief of government, Pierre Laval, and various cabinet members.

It was said the marshal's vacation was cut short "because of circumstances," the nature of which still was not revealed at noon.

(However, there was a possibility that the return and series of talks involved Martinique and France's East Indian possessions since the United States last week-end requested guarantees from the local government of Martinique that island and other French possessions in the area would not be used by the axis or in any other way become menaces to the United States.)

(In Bern, Switzerland, it was reported in foreign diplomatic quarters that with French-German negotiations reaching a stage of urgency, Reichsmarshal Goering may meet tomorrow with Chief of State Pétain and Chief of Government Laval to reach final decisions. These quarters predicted that the French would require to accept the Martinique negotiations as one of the great decisions with a resultant break of relations with the United States.)

Japs Bolster Yunnan Army

Chungking, May 12.—(AP)—The Japanese have brought up reinforcements and are making a new attack on the Yunnan front in western China, a Chinese communiqué announced tonight.

Arrival of Japanese reinforcements apparently again converted the rear guard into an advance guard.

Senate Looks Into Using Of Waterway

Washington, May 12.—(AP)—As resident motorists from Maine to Florida started registration today for gasoline ration cards the Senate indicated a committee to provide an investigation into possible use of inland waterways for transportation of petroleum products.

The Senate committee approved a resolution offered by Senator Maybank, Democrat, South Carolina, directing an inquiry at a cost of \$5,000 into the question of increasing use of inland waterways "for the transportation of petroleum products and other articles and commodities."

Recently, along similar lines, the Senate approved a proposal to direct the maritime commission to provide not less than \$20,000,000 to be used to build tow boats and barges for movement of oil, gasoline, petroleum and other commodities on inland waterways.

Despite these indications that Congress believed the shortage of transportation was necessitating the drastic limitation in gasoline, there was considerable speculation that a primary purpose was to conserve tires and all materials.

Works for U.S. Navy



Clark Richard from Starsburg, Va., works as a welder at Pearl Harbor, which has now succeeded in erasing the scars of December 7. When the history of the war in the Pacific is written, men like him will be given honorable mention for the role they played in offsetting the cowardly blow of the "Day of Infamy." (Central Press)

British Take Burma Town

Japanese Driven From Town 140 Miles Northwest of Mandalay; Planes Are Active.

New Delhi, May 12.—(AP)—A British column withdrawing along the Chindwin river in western Burma had turned with fury upon the Japanese to drive a column of more than 300 enemy troops south from Shwegyin, a small river town about 140 miles northwest of Mandalay, a communiqué said today.

The Japanese had been pushing north apparently in motor loads. (Shwegyin is about five miles south of Kelewa and is not to be confused with the larger town of the same name in southern Burma.)

RAF planes have successfully machine-gunned Japanese motor transports and trucks containing troops during offensive reconnaissance over Japanese lines of communication in northern Burma, it was announced.

The British forces are in west Burma regarding the approaches to India. They last were reported on the Grandin river, a tributary of the Irrawaddy.

The British success was "in the vicinity of the ferry" (possibly across the Chindwin.)

OEM Explains Necessity For Rationing

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

Raleigh, May 12.—Coincidental or not, within a few days after the gasoline label hearing here, at which certain dealers declared there was no need for gasoline rationing at this time, the information division of the OEM in Raleigh made available "some supplementary facts on the gasoline situation" which give little hope for the private motorist who thinks he cannot get along on three gallons a week.

All United States destroyers are needed to convoy ships to Australia and Europe and a "few if any" destroyers can be used to convoy petroleum from the gulf to the eastern seaboard," the statement declares, giving Commander W. M. Callaghan as its authority.

Another military authority, Admiral King, is quoted as saying "all the petroleum used on the southwest of the United States or from South America. The tax on our transportation system for purely military purposes is already very great. Every ounce of gasoline which can be saved

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Nazi Thrust In Ukraine Frustrated

Germans Declare Action Merely 'An Attack,' Not 'An Offensive;' Other War News Shows Allied Prospects on Upgrade.

(By The Associated Press.) Russia's armies were reported today to have crushed a big scale German attack in the Crimea, frustrating a Nazi drive toward the great Caucasus oil fields after four days of heavy fighting.

Soviet dispatches said the Germans apparently were trying to develop their first full fledged 1942 offensive.

A bulletin from Adolf Hitler's field headquarters said German and Rumanian troops, supported by strong Nazi air force units, opened the attack on the Kerch peninsula last Friday.

The Germans, however, declared the action was merely "an attack" not an "offensive."

A Berlin broadcast quoted a German military spokesman as saying the Crimean action was "the first great offensive operation since the winter offensive."

Military advices reaching London said the German onslaught collapsed against the Red army's stubborn offensive and that counter attacking Russian troops drove the invaders back into their original lines with heavy casualties.

German infantrymen still held an advanced point in one sector, it was said, but now are being fiercely attacked by the Russians.

London military quarters said reports that a German army of two million troops had launched an offensive on the Donets river front, in the Ukraine, were "completely unfounded."

A German communiqué reported that German planes sank two Soviet transports totaling 5,000 tons and several small vessels in attacks off the Kerch peninsula and on the southwest coast of the Sea of Azov.

A Nazi broadcast said the drive was marked by the introduction of new, improved weapons.

The London Star today published a Vichy news agency dispatch quoting Bucharest sources as declaring that a new type of German land mine had deceived the Russians into believing the Germans were using poison gas.

Actually, the dispatch said, the new type explosive "causes a considerable decrease in pressure and neutralizes oxygen in the air over a radius of 300 yards."

On other fronts in the worldwide conflict allied prospects appeared on the upgrade.

Burma—Chinese military quarters reported that Japanese columns driving up the Burma road into China proper had been thrown back and had retreated to the Burma-China frontier town of Wanting. Other reports said the Japanese had abandoned Wanting.

Australia—General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters reported in a communiqué that allied fliers tracking down the scattered remnants of the huge

(Continued on Page Two)

Farmer Cooperatives In Annual Meet

Raleigh, May 12.—(AP)—Stockholders and members of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Association and the Farmers Cooperative Exchange held their annual meeting here today.

M. G. Mann, general manager of the cooperatives, estimated in a report to the group that the organizations had saved cotton farmers of the state more than \$1,500,000 in the past year, and said the FCX paid \$153,143 in dividends to patrons and stockholders.

Directors of the cotton association this afternoon will choose a president to succeed John T. Thorne of Kannville, who declined to be a candidate for re-election. Four new directors also are to be confirmed this afternoon.

Six other directors were re-elected.

Ten elective directors of the FCX, nominated to succeed themselves, will be formally elected this afternoon.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Continue warm, scattered showers over east portion this afternoon.