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Italy Presses For French Territory;

## Vichy Moves To Give Up Fleet

AEF Romance in North Ireland



Mont. J. W. Heywood-Harman, a doctor in the U. S. Army Medical Corps and his bride, the former Dr. Attracta MacHale, leave a Belfast, Ireland, church. The bridegroom is the first officer with the U. S. force in North Ireland to be married since the arrival of the troops. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Heywood-Harman of Newport, R. I., and his bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. MacHale of County Dublin. (Central Press)

## Chinese Suffer New Reverses

Jap Troops  
Two Miles  
From Kinshwa

Chinese Dispatches  
Declare Japanese As-  
sault Thrown Back  
With Heavy Losses,  
But Acknowledge  
'Grave' Situation.

(By The Associated Press)  
China's grim battle to stave off Japanese conquest of Chekiang province on the China east coast, springboard for a potential allied offensive against Japan, suffered new reverses today while far to the west the last British defenders of Burma were reported to have withdrawn into India.

Chinese headquarters acknowledged that Japanese troops, estimated at 100,000, had advanced within two miles of the ancient city of Kinshwa, the Chekiang provisional capital.

Chinese dispatches said the Japanese assault on Kinshwa had been thrown back with heavy casualties, but acknowledged that "the situation is still very grave and the coming week will witness even fiercer battles."

Once again, a Chinese spokesman indicated that Japanese aerial superiority was playing havoc with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's armies, declaring that "the enemy is continually bombing us in relays."

Domei, the Japanese news agency, said Japanese troops had broken through Chinese pillbox defenses about a mile north and northwest of Kinshwa and were now at the outskirts of the city.

Domei asserted that all retreat had been cut off, that remnants of three Chinese divisions had been crushed east of Kinshwa and that other Chinese troops attempting to flee were destroyed six miles south of the city.

The news agency said all bridges, roads and the railroad west of Kinshwa had been destroyed by the Chinese.

Chinese dispatches said the enemy was preparing another campaign, perhaps even bigger in scope, in Fukien province which borders Chekiang to the south.

Japanese troop transports and warships were reported massing at the Japanese island of Formosa, across the Formosa strait from the Fukien coast.

In the battle for Australia, General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced that allied bombers

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## Model Denies Luring Victim

New York, May 26.—(AP)—Dark-haired Madeline Webb, fighting for her life at her general sessions trial for first degree murder, denied from the witness stand today that she had "lured" Mrs. Susan Flora Reich to her death by strangulation at the Hotel Sutton last March as the state has charged she did.

The pretty former model, accused with her lover, Eli Shonbrun, and John Cullen, of the slaying of Mrs. Reich, wife of a New Jersey flax processor, asserted shortly after she took the stand in her own defense that she was not present in the Hotel Sutton suite at the time Mrs. Reich was bound and gagged and left to die.

Asked if she had at any time in the Sutton apartment or anywhere else discussed with Shonbrun, Cullen and Murray Hirsch, Shonbrun's uncle, the "luring or someone to the hotel to kill for the purpose of robbery," Miss Webb began:

"I would never," as Assistant District Attorney Jacob Grumet objected.

"We are all," explained the 23-year-old girl.

Guns Lined Up for Inspection at Fort Bragg



These 155-mm guns shown at Fort Bragg, N. C. represent some of the heaviest hitting power of the Army. They are not in firing position, but are drawn up for inspection by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson. Col. Walter W. Hess Jr., is in charge of the Provisional Field Artillery Brigade. These guns have a range of more than fifteen miles. (Central Press)

## WPB Requisitions Fish Pack

Tire Famine  
Grows Acute

Senate Committee  
Criticizes Army and  
Navy for Not Paring  
Requirements.

Washington, May 26.—(AP)—The Senate defense investigating committee criticized the Army and Navy today for not paring their rubber requirements to the bone, asserting that if the production of synthetics did not come up to schedule the military forces "may find themselves without rubber at some future date."

In a 57-page report, the committee said:

National gasoline rationing on "a sensible basis" and the requisitioning of tires must be given serious consideration to conserve 1,000,000 tons of rubber now on the wheels of motor vehicles.

There will be no new or reclaimed rubber at all for non-essential uses within the next three years.

The best that could be expected from a successful synthetic program would be to supply military needs and essential civilian requirements, such as tires for cars transporting defense workers.

Resources in this hemisphere offer little hope of adding substantially to United Nations supplies of crude rubber, which Price Administrator Leon Henderson testified would be exhausted by May 1943, even with the greatest possible curtailment of civilian uses.

The committee recommended that "some one person" be designated to assume full responsibility over the rubber program. Such a task recently was assigned by Donald M. Nelson, war production chief, to Arthur Newhall.

## Dr. Brinkley Reported Dead

Del Rio, Tex., May 26.—(AP)—Dr. Dwight Osborne of Del Rio said today he had been notified of the death at San Antonio of Dr. John R. Brinkley, 56, gland surgeon, radio operator and one-time political aspirant in Kansas and Texas.

Dr. Osborne, an associate of Brinkley, said he died in his sleep at 2:30 a. m. (CWT). He had been under the care of a heart specialist for complications, which followed the amputation of a leg in Kansas City several months ago.

Less Gas  
In Prospect

Boston, May 26.—(AP)—Secretary of the Interior Ickes said today that the eastern coastal states could expect less gasoline before they could expect more.

Asserting that he didn't believe in false optimism, the fuel coordinator said it might come to a point where there will be "practically no gasoline at all except for necessary use."

The secretary disclosed that Administrator Leon Henderson was planning a new gasoline rationing system, effective July 1 which "won't have so many loopholes as now."

Fuel oil, he added, would always get the preference over gasoline.

Ickes said that tankers would be used virtually exclusively in the transportation of gasoline for war needs and that the rest of the fuel would be carried by railroad.

## Socialite Bank Clerk Lands In Jail

New York, May 26.—(AP)—Charles J. Marsh, 25, social register bank clerk whose \$27 a week salary wouldn't even buy spare parts for his two airplanes, was in Tomb today after District Attorney Frank S. Hogan said he admitted embezzling \$171,000 since 1939.

Charged with grand larceny, Marsh who was employed by the Knickerbocker Federal Savings and Loan Association, was held without bail for grand jury action after the bank was forced to seek a loan because of the shortage, the district attorney said.

Fifty thousand dollars went for luxuries including frequent trips to Florida, Hogan quoted Marsh as explaining, while \$20,000 went for spare parts for two planes and \$65,000 into a motion picture company, the remainder having been loaned to friends.

Marsh is the son of the late Charles J. Marsh, who was co-founder of the General Cable Corporation and president of the National Non-Ferrous Metals Exchange.

## HOUSE PASSES BILL TO AID SMALL FIRMS

Washington, May 26.—(AP)—By a roll call vote announced as 344 to 0, the House passed and returned to the Senate today legislation designed to expedite the granting of war contracts to small business.

War Needs  
Come First

If Full 1942 Pack is  
Not Needed for  
Armies and Lease-  
Lend, Public Gets  
Rest.

Washington, May 26.—(AP)—The war production board today ordered canners to set aside their entire 1942 pack of salmon, sardines, mackerel and Atlantic herring to fill the needs of the armed services and the lend-lease program.

WPB officials emphasized, however, that the order did not necessarily mean that none of the 1942 pack would be available to civilians.

"Because of uncertainty as to the supply and the demand, it was thought best to require that the entire pack of these fish be set aside," Lawrence Hopkinson, in charge of fishery products for WPB, said.

"Then if the full supply is not needed for military and lend-lease requirements, it can be released for civilian purposes."

He estimated that 1942 salmon pack to 5,400,000 cases, of which about 2,500,000 probably will be required by the government; it was estimated lend-lease requirements would take from 50 to 66 per cent of the year's pack of sardines, Atlantic herring and mackerel, probably leaving the rest for civilians.

## Two Men Die In Explosion At Arms Plant

Lansing, Mich., May 26.—(AP)—At least two men were killed and three seriously injured in an explosion which shattered parts of the Fisher Body Corporation plant here today.

The plant is engaged in war material production. Fire following the explosion was brought under control.

A plant official said one end of a building was "pretty badly damaged" but that he did not know the cause or how many men were working in the section.

The explosion occurred at approximately 8:25 a. m. and was heard throughout the west side of the city.

The dead were identified as Wallace E. Irish, 35, Grand Ledge, and Roy H. Anderson, of Lansing.

## Nazi Grab Believed To Be Near

France Agrees to Permit Germans to 'Familiarize' Themselves With Operation of French Warships Sought by Hitler.

(By The Associated Press)  
France has taken a first definite step toward turning the French fleet over to Adolf Hitler, London advices indicated today, amid reports of new Italian demands for prized French territorial possessions including Tunisia, Nice and Corsica.

By agreement between Vichy and Berlin, it was said, German sailors will be permitted to "familiarize" themselves with the operation of French warships in a move foreshadowing nazi seizure of France's still powerful naval forces.

Meanwhile, Britain's former war secretary, Leslie Hore-Belisha, asserted that the successful establishment of a second front in Europe might end the war this year.

While Britons clamored for direct action, Hore-Belisha declared:

"A stern struggle is in progress around Kharkov.

"We have promised to intervene to relieve our Russian ally. The psychological moment may come, beyond which we must not let it our action is to turn the scale."

On the fighting front, Soviet headquarters reported that Hitler's mechanized armies were suffering heavy losses in tanks and men in an attempt to flank the Russians in the 15-day old battle of Kharkov.

The Russians declared they had repulsed a violent German surprise attack led by 150 tanks in the Izium-Barvenkovo sector, 80 miles south of Kharkov, while Marshal Timoshenko's main armies pressed on toward Kharkov itself.

Dispatches to Red Star, Soviet army newspaper, said Russian shock troops had broken a line of German pillboxes and trenches before Kharkov in attacks with hand grenades and bayonets.

Red Star said the Germans now were attempting to fortify a new series of natural defense positions to check the onslaught.

Trustworthy reports from Europe said Italy had sent Laval a detailed note on territorial demands against France.

Diplomatic quarters said that the Italian note did not constitute an outright ultimatum, and that Vichy had indicated a willingness to discuss Tunisia, French north African colony.

Germany's attitude was described as leaving it up to Italy to decide what she wanted to do, with neither objections nor assistance from Berlin.

Underground advices reaching London said virtually all major ships of the French fleet at Toulon, Mediterranean naval base, had been stripped of oil and did not have enough "to reach Algeria in an emergency."

The clear implication was that the Germans had depleted the fleet's fuel supplies to make sure that it did not attempt to escape.

A London informant said the Germans were using Italian territorial demands to force France to give up the fleet peacefully, but declared that if this pressure failed, Hitler was apparently preparing for a coup d'etat to seize the French warships suddenly with air-borne troops and fifth columnists.

With attention once more centered on the prospect of Hitler's seizing the French fleet, Admiral Sir

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## GOP COMMITTEEMAN ACCQUITTED BY JURY

Detroit, May 26.—(AP)—A federal court jury of six men and six women acquitted Republican National Committeeman Frank D. McKay and seven co-defendants of four counts of mail fraud today.

The verdict came just twelve weeks from the opening of McKay's federal trial. The original trial ended in a mistrial last July.

## House Fears Vote On Soldiers' Pay

Proponents of \$42  
Minimum for Armed  
Forces Seek Way to  
Avoid Roll Call When  
Measure Comes Up  
Tomorrow.

Washington, May 26.—(AP)—Heart of the outcome of a record vote on which to establish a \$50 monthly minimum pay base for the armed forces, House proponents of a \$42 floor cast about today for some means of avoiding a roll call when the bill comes up tomorrow.

They conceded privately that it would be difficult to retain the \$42 recommended by a Senate-House conference committee if the issue were put squarely to a vote, which Representative Rankin, Democrat, Mississippi, said he would demand.

It was Rankin who proposed the amendment overwhelmingly adopted by the House to increase the base pay of privates and apprentice seamen to \$50. The Senate had voted the \$42 figure and this was accepted by the House military committee. The present pay is \$21 for the first four months of service, \$30 for the next eight, and \$40 monthly after the year.

"It would be political suicide, this close to the elections, to vote against raising it to \$50," said one military committee member who said he favored the \$42 proposal. "If we can avoid a roll call vote, and there may be ways to do it, there will be no difficulty in maintaining the \$42, but there's not a chance to do it on a record vote."

Chairman May, Democrat, Kentucky, of the military committee, said he would ask the House to make its decision tomorrow and would insist on the \$42 provision.

## Nazis Accused Of Piracy

Miami, Fla., May 26.—(AP)—An accusation of piracy was made against the axis here by the first officer of an unarmed Latvian merchant ship that fell victim to a submarine recently in the Caribbean sea. The entire crew of 34 was saved. They landed in Cuba, were sheltered at a naval station there, and 22 of them came to Miami. Naval authorities released news of the enemy action today.

Under international law, we were a neutral ship," said First Officer Rikard Piekens, whose bride of one month lives in Boston. "We were unarmed. Sinking of such a ship without warning became piracy."

Two torpedoes were used by the submarine raider. The new left the vessel after the first explosion. The second struck near the bow.

## Destroyer Is Damaged

Washington, May 26.—(AP)—The Navy announced today that the World War destroyer Blakeley had been damaged by an enemy torpedo in the Caribbean sea, but had reached port with ten members of her crew reported missing and six injured.

The announcement came in the Navy's communique Number 81.

The Blakeley was the 13th naval vessel announced as sunk or damaged from all causes and was the first combatant ship reported attacked in the Caribbean.

## Nazis Build Big Subs

Relays of 3,000-Ton  
Undersea Craft Harry  
Shipping Off North  
American Coast.

London, May 26.—(AP)—The Germans have developed huge 3,000-ton submarines carrying two eight-inch guns and 14 torpedoes for long range raiding and are believed sending them in relays to harry the eastern coast of North America, reports from the continent declared today.

Naval circles here said the reports of the new submarines are "perfectly feasible."

These U-boats were said to have a surface speed of 20 knots and a submerged speed of eleven knots.

It was said here that through the tactics of sending relays of submarines the nazis hoped to pin the balance of the United States naval forces in home waters and prepare the way for blows at British sea power in the northern and Mediterranean seas.

Jane's authoritative guide lists British submarines with tonnages up to the 2,723 tons of the Severn class. The United States, according to Jane's, has submarines up to 2,506 tons.

**WEATHER**  
FOR NORTH CAROLINA  
Slightly warmer in interior tonight.