LESLIE PERRY MEMORIAL LIBRARY
HENDERSON, N. C.

VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES DEFENSE BONDS AND STAMPS

Henderson Daily Dispatch

THIRTIETH YEAR | LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. | HENDERSON, N. C., SATURDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 20, 1943 | PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY. | FIVE CENTS COPY

British Attack In Medenine Area

American Warships Bombard Attu

Aleutians Jap Base Is Shelled

Results Not Noted; Allied Planes Attack Japanese Shipping In South Pacific

(By The Associated Press)

American warships were officially reported today to have bombarded Japanese positions on Attu island, enemy base in the westernmost Aleutians, while allied planes blasted the Japanese from Burma to the South seas and sank four ships totaling 27,000 tons in a single night raid in the Solomons.

The Navy said U. S. surface forces, taking up the assault which has been methodically carried on by American aircraft, shelled the Japanese at Holtz Bay and at Chicagof Harbor on Attu island Thursday.

Results were not observed, a communique said, presumably because of the perennial fogs which cloak the bleak enemy stronghold.

The Navy also reported that U. S. planes shot down two Japanese float-type aircraft which attempted to attack enemy positions in the western Aleutians.

The communique reported that there was no change in the situation at Wau, in New Guinea, where allied ground troops have driven the Japanese back toward the coast.

One of the four vessels damaged at Rabaul, a 9,000-ton ship, was hit twice and left burning from stem to stern and another of 7,000 tons also was hit twice and was last seen with smoke pouring from her side, the communique said.

Medium bomber units attacked the airdrome, supply dumps and dispersal bays at Kahili and other targets in the area, including a seaplane base, starting fires which were visible from 30 miles.

All allied planes returned safely from the mission.

Eight heavy bombers, attacking a 5,000-ton cargo ship at Gasmata, New Britain, was suddenly attacked by twelve Japanese Zeros. In a running fight, two of the Japanese planes were seen falling into the sea in flames and a third was listed as destroyed. The bomber returned safely.

TWELVE-YEAR-OLD MOTHER REPORTED AS 'DOING NICELY'

Murphy, Feb. 20.—(AP)—A twelve-year-old mother and her three-day-old daughter were reported "doing nicely" today at a local hospital by attending physicians.

Hospital record showed the mother, Mrs. R. G. Foster, was born Violet Louise Bryson, in Canton, Ga., in March 1930. She was married September 2, 1941, at Canton. Her husband, 21, was inducted in the Army last fall.

FDR Opposes Bill Requiring Confirmations

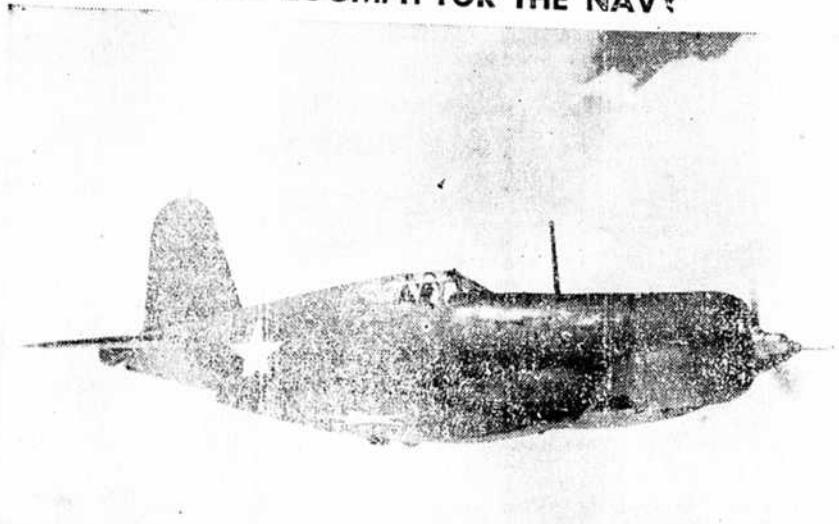
Washington, Feb. 20. — (AP) — President Roosevelt declared today it would be "little less than tragic" if Congress required Presidential nomination and Senate confirmation of all federal employees receiving more than $4,500 a year.

Expressing his "unqualified opposition" to a pending bill making such a requirement, Mr. Roosevelt wrote Vice-President Wallace that the proposal "presupposes con congressional responsibility for the operation of Executive agencies."

"An agency head is responsible for the success or failure of his program," he wrote. "This accountability is diminished if responsibility for the employment of employees is divided."

Mr. Roosevelt estimated that more than 75,000 positions would be affected if the bill introduced by Senator McKellar, Tennessee Democrat, became law, and declared that neither he nor Congress had time to examine the qualifications of that many individuals.

NEW ZOOMPH FOR THE NAVY



Corsair Fighter in Flight, the F4-U1

UNVEILED in Hartford, Conn., by the U. S. Navy was its new Corsair fighter. Seamen call it the "fastest airplane in the United States." It has a 2,000 horsepower air-cooled motor, can be used as an interceptor, a medium altitude or a high altitude fighter. All drag is eliminated by pulling its landing gear, tail wheel and arresting gear in the plane; speed is a military secret. (International)

Anti-Nelson Group Grows

Byrnes, Hopkins and Rosenman Reported Favoring Ouster of WPB Chairman

Washington, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Removal of Donald M. Nelson, as chairman of the war production board was reported today to have the favor of three major White House advisers—James F. Byrnes, Harry Hopkins and Judge Samuel Roseman.

This was without confirmation from any of the three, however, and even anti-Nelson quarters said there were indications that President Roosevelt would stand by the WPB chief regardless of the opposition.

Military quarters have reported that some Army and Navy officials would like to see Bernard Baruch, production boss of the first World War, brought in as Nelson's successor.

While admitting they would be pleased to see Baruch in the job, these officials insisted they were not "campaigning" for Nelson's ouster. One commented that for the Army openly to plug for a change might react unfavorably, in view of the President's dislike for inter-governmental wrangling and the repeated conflicts that have occurred in the past when WPB policies infringed on the services' own control over production and procurement.

It appeared likely that civilians, therefore, would bear the brunt of the movement, and the gave additional significance to reports economic stabilization Director Byrnes, along with Harry Hopkins and Judge Roseman, were leaning to Baruch.

UCV CHIEF DIES

Ardmore, Okla., Feb. 20—(AP)—General John W. Harris, 93, national commander of the United Confederate Veterans, died at the Oklahoma Confederate Home hospital today. Harris was appointed state pension commissioner last month.

Negro Appeals Conviction

Elizabeth City, Feb. 20—(AP)—William H. Poole, Elizabeth City Negro, today awaited removal to State prison at Raleigh pending a supreme court ruling on his appeal from the death penalty imposed on him for the slaying of Andrew Jackson Sawyer, a sailor, here last New Year's night.

Sheriff W. L. Thompson said he planned to take Poole to the capitol Monday.

The Negro was convicted of first degree murder by a superior court jury. Judge W. H. S. Burgwyn yesterday sentenced him to die in the chamber April 16. His counsel immediately filed notice of appeal.

Sawyer was shot and instantly killed as he was about to enter his home here. A companion, Irvin Sawyer, no relation, was wounded by the same charge, as was Ronald Sawyer, a brother of Andrew.

War Powers Grant Measure To House

Indians Asks Freedom For Gandhi

Poona, India, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Frail, 73-year old Mohandas K. Gandhi, with ten days of fasting still ahead in his self imposed 21-day ordeal, has grown so weak and caused so many "alarming reports" that a committee of prominent Indians today petitioned the viceroy for his immediate release.

A government communique issued today at Bombay said Gandhi's condition had changed considerably for the worse and was regarded as grave.

The leaders, representing wide differences of political opinion, asked for the unconditional release of the Hindu leader.

Gandhi, who was reported yesterday by his large staff of physicians to be "weaker—weaker than yesterday," was said to be remaining in bed in meditation now during his morning and evening prayers.

Dr. B. C. Roy, one of India's best known physicians, said today "it will be a miracle if Gandhi survives the three-week fast at his age."

Newsprint Cut Delayed

Second Cut, Scheduled For April 1, to Be Deferred; More Pulp Found Available

Washington, Feb. 20.—(AP)—The second cut in newsprint allotments to newspapers, scheduled to take effect April 1, was deferred temporarily today by the war production board on the basis of new information on Canadian pulp supplies.

A 10 per cent newsprint cut already is in effect and the second cut was scheduled to have been not more than 10 per cent additional.

The change in plans resulted from a visit of Ralph R. Weldon, Canadian newsprint administrator, who brought news of an increased volume of pulpwood supply from Canada, source of 75 per cent of the paper on which United States newspapers are printed.

W. G. Cadlier, director of WPB's pending post publishing division, and Donald J. Sterling, WPB consultant on the newspaper and publishing industries, announced to a meeting of the newspaper industry advisory

(Continued on Page Two)

Senate-Passed Bill Provides Emergency Authority; Revenue Bill Weathers Fight

Raleigh, Feb. 20.—(AP)— The house received senate bill today to give the governor wartime powers to protect the welfare, health and security of North Carolina.

Under the measure's provisions, the governor would have emergency wartime authority similar to that other states have awarded their chief executives.

The bill passed the senate Thursday with a minimum of debate. The powers which it would delegate automatically cease six months after the war or when voided by a General Assembly.

Yesterday the house passed on second reading the biennial revenue bill after a proposal to lower the sales tax from 3 to 2 per cent was defeated. Final Representative Horner of Lee, Turner of Guilford, Cox of Cumberland and Richardson of Union sponsored the drive to cut the sales levy, and opponents included: Representatives Best of Cabarrus, Umstead of Orange, Reynolds of Buncombe, Uzzell of Rowan, Wallace of Lenoir, Tompkins of Jackson and Taylor of Wayne.

Taylor read a letter from Governor Broughton stating that any reduction in taxes would mean abandonment of the nine-month school and a slash in appropriations for every State agency and institution.

The senate, meanwhile, passed the nine-month bill on second reading, 41-5, and the measure is scheduled to be put on final reading Monday night. Efforts to amend the measure or postpone its effective date were spurned.

Nashville Army Flier Promoted

London, Feb. 20—(AP)—Colonel Frank A. Armstrong of Nashville, N. C., three-decorated commander of a heavy United States bombardment group, has been promoted to brigadier general, the eighth air force headquarters announced today.

Armstrong, whose new duties were not announced, led his group in the first attack by American heavy bombers over the European theatre on August 17, 1942, without the loss of a single life or plane. He received the Silver Star for his action.

Throughout last fall and early winter he led his group in other bombing missions over the continent, winning the oak leaf cluster for his Distinguished Flying Cross.

On January 27, Armstrong led his group in the first American bomber attack on Germany proper and his plane was the "first over Hitlerland," the announcement said.

House Group Hits Draft Of Fathers

Military Affairs Committee on Record In Giving Reasons For Supporting Bill

Washington, Feb. 20—(AP)—The House military affairs committee today went on record apparently for the benefit of local draft boards—as opposed to general drafting of family men, and termed such a policy injurious to the nation's welfare.

In a formal report of the reasons it approved the Kilday bill to give family men deferment priorities and to put draft quotas on a statewide basis, the committee expressed belief that "it would be injurious to the welfare of our country to have local draft boards feel that men with families can be freely inducted into the armed services."

The report asserted "many local boards throughout the country, due to confusion and difference of opinion in the construction of the rules and regulations adopted by the selective service bureau, have been inducting large numbers of men into the armed forces with little regard for the number of dependents, particularly in relation to men who are the heads of families."

The committee reiterated its adherence to "the fundamental principle" that "there is certainly a genuine social reason to preserving established families." It said that "established families should not be indiscriminately uprooted and torn from their moorings solely because of the fact that their financial need have been taken care of" by previously enacted legislation providing for government allowances to dependents.

The report emphasized that the Kilday bill "does not, in any way, bar the induction of heads of families, but does provide that, based on the degree of dependency, single men without dependents, and single men with collateral dependents, as well as married men without children, shall be inducted into the service under proper rules and regulations prior to the induction of heads of families with one or more dependents."

Mother Killed In Resisting Sons' Arrest

Lexington, Feb. 20—(AP)—Mrs. Miley Ann Owens, 51, was shot and killed and a deputy sheriff was wounded when a group of officers early today sought to arrest two of Mrs. Owens' sons at their home near here as alleged Army deserters.

The deputy, Tom Kimel, who is Davidson county jailer, was shot in the hip. He was brought to Lexington for treatment.

Sheriff Raymond Bowers said his deputies went to the Owens home, 14 miles north of here, with warrants for Carl T. L. Owens and Ellis W. Owens, whose arrest had been asked by Fort Bragg authorities. After the disturbance at the home, the two young men were lodged in jail here.

Bowers said his officers parleyed without result for two hours, with Mrs. Owens and her husband, James M. Owens, then elected to force an entrance.

At the front door, he continued, Mrs. Owens faced them with a shotgun, and an effort was made to disarm her. In the ensuing struggle, in which he said her husband joined, an officer's pistol was discharged, sending a bullet through Mrs. Owen's body and into Kimel's hip. During the struggle, the sheriff said, the two sons wanted come from their room, armed with clubs, and attacked the deputies. Several of the officers were described as bruised in the scuffle.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA:

Slightly warmer tonight.

New Nazi Line?

MILITARY OBSERVERS are pointing out that the next possible natural line of defense in Soviet Russia for the retreating German armies lies along the Dnieper, shown above far to the west of the present fighting line. The increased tempo of Russian attacks and the now evident Nazi acceptance of defeat in the winter campaign may bring the fighting to this line within a short time. Kharkov, recently fallen, lies a little more than 200 miles to the East of Kiev. (International)

U-Boat Base Hit Again

RAF Planes Bomb Wilhelmshaven; Other Planes Raid Bases in France

London, Feb. 20. — (AP)—Royal air force squadrons dropped another heavy load of bombs on the German naval base at Wilhelmshaven and other objectives in western Germany last night, the air ministry announced today.

At the same time, army cooperation command planes attacked electric transformer stations in France.

Eleven bombers and three army cooperation command planes were lost.

It was the second night raid in a row on the German naval base, where U-boat facilities and shipyards are prime targets, and the fifth night attack on Germany this month.

German planes raided two towns on the northwest Scottish coast, inflicting a few casualties. At one point, a number of tenement dwellers were forced to evacuate their homes because the Germans scattered time bombs over a large area. Several fires were demolished at another place.

NINE MEN KILLED IN BOMBER CRASH

Kearney, Feb. 20—(AP)—Nine men died in the crash of an Army bomber near Hutchinson, Kan., yesterday, the public relations officer at the Kearney air base said today. Names of the victims will not be released until later.

PHILS ARE SOLD

Philadelphia, Feb. 20—(AP)—Ford Frick, president of the National Baseball League, announced today that a memorandum for the sale of the Philadelphia Phils has been signed by the league and a syndicate headed by William D. Cox of New York for purchase of the club March 3.

Stock Market Scores Gains

New York, Feb. 20. — (AP) — Stocks, rails and selected industrials put a rallying foot forward in today's brief stock market after considerable early hesitancy.

While there was a handful of soft spots at the start, trends stiffened in the final hour, and advances near the close ranged from fractions to two points or so, with many new highs for the past year in evidence.

Allied Lines Are Shifted In Tunisia

Axis Forces Resume Offensive in North; Russians Continue Pursuit of Germans

(By The Associated Press)

Fighting in swirling dust storms, General Sir B. L. Montgomery's British eighth army troops were reported attacking the Axis in the Mareth line area at the center of the 60-mile long Mareth line in southern Tunisia, while in the north the Germans had broken off their offensive operations.

Simultaneously, a bulletin from allied headquarters announced that allied forward troops in the Ousseltia valley had been withdrawn.

The valely, scene of bitter fighting for many weeks, lie between mountain chains extending 50 miles southwest of the axis base at Pont du Fahs.

Coupled with other adjustments, the latest withdrawal suggested a wide readjustment of the allied front as a result of the new 66-mile deep axis salient carved into the center of allied lines near the Algerian frontier.

With American armored forces [illegible] temporarily knocked out of action it appeared likely that Rommel now was speeding his body south to meet the British eighth army threat against the Mareth line.

British headquarters said General Montgomery's forces were "in contact" with the enemy in the Medenine sector—the first mention of ground troops fighting there for several days, while equally [illegible] continued to shell the Mareth works in preparation for a new advance.

In another strategic development, a Reuters (British news agency) correspondent with the eighth army reported that British troops had driven axis forces off Djerba island, in the center of the Gulf of Gabes just above the Mareth line.

If true, this would provide a shattering threat to the north end of the Mareth works.

News dispatches from General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters concerned that the destruction inflicted by Rommel's forces might upset the spring time table in the Mediterranean, but there was no confirmation of German assertions that the Americans had lost 125 heavy tanks, 50 big guns and more than 40 armored cars.

On the Soviet front, the Red armies smashed into three more strongly fortified towns west of Rostov, in pursuit of 250,000 German troops retreating along the Sea of Azov and rolled up other gains on a 100 mile battle line.

In the north, Soviet spokesmen reported the capture of [illegible] towns and villages [illegible] the Dnieper river, while the Red army reportedly entrenched a powerful threat to the German base of Orel, 290 miles north of Kharkov.

Soviet bombers and the German were freezing back and forward over the battle region west of Kursk, about midway between Kharkov and Orel, but declared that the Nazis were hurled back and left hundreds of dead on the field.

PAROLED

Raleigh, Feb. 20—(AP)—Governor Broughton today paroled Walker Dowdy, convicted in Wayne in August, 1941, of larceny of an automobile, and sentenced to from three to five years.

Grocer Slain In Robbery

Greensboro, Feb. 20. — (AP) — County officers today pressed a search for two men responsible for the slaying late last night of E. J. Swanson, about 45, proprietor of a grocery store at Jamestown, in an apparent attempt to rob the store.

The pair entered the store, about eight miles west of here on the High Point road road, and ordered Swanson and O. M. Bundy, who with his wife was buying groceries, to raise their hands. Swanson dove behind the counter, Bundy said, and one of the men reached over and fired one shot, the bullet striking Swanson in the head. He was dead on arrival at a High Point hospital. The men fled to a waiting car and escaped.