Henderson Daily Dispatch

THIRTIETH YEAR | LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS. | HENDERSON, N. C., FRIDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 7, 1943 | PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY. | FIVE CENTS COPY

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ALLIES ENTER TUNIS AND BIZERTE SUBURBS

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VIEW OF WRECKAGE AT MUNITIONS PLANT BLAST

A SHATTERING EXPLOSION, followed by fire among the buildings of the Triumph Explosives Co., near Elkton, Md., caused the death of at least 13 workers. The toll of lives is expected to mount with investigation. This is a general view of the wreckage left by the blast. Benjamin F. Pepper, president of the company, said the Army, Navy and F.B.I. are directing the investigation. (*International Soundphoto*)

FDR Sees No New Coal Strike

Miners Are Working For Government

Coal Crisis May Result in Passing of War Labor Board; New Stabilization Crisis

Washington, May 7—(AP)—President Roosevelt gave a clear indication to a press conference today that he expects no strikes of coal miners against the government.

"Are coal miners employees of the government?" a reporter asked him. "And, if so, can they strike against the government?"

He said he would reply in the affirmative to the first part of the question and on the second he remarked that he had been in the government a great many years and could not recollect any strike by government employees against the government.

He was asked, too, whether he planned for the government to continue operations of the mines it has taken over until "a new contract is signed, and peace insured in the industry."

He said he had heard nothing until today about stopping the running of the mines. Meanwhile, a War Labor Board panel inquiring into the coal wage dispute that led to government seizure of the pits over the week-end heard northern operators contend that the United Mine Workers demands would raise coal costs $5.60 a ton and increase production cost a half billion dollars in the Appalachian belt alone. The cost to the entire soft coal industry, they said, would be $700,000,000.

Wasington, May 7—(AP)—The War Labor Board—a key outwork of President Roosevelt's "hold the line" order against inflation was being probed rapidly today toward a new stabilization crisis.

Its three-man panel continued hearings in the coal wage dispute which threatened war production with last week's walkout, but the United Mine Workers who defied it, made no pretense either of seeking representation or participation.

And elsewhere the signs of storm multiplied.

An American Federation of Labor spokesman said the board was "tottering on its last legs."

Board members who ought to increase their power to handle wage disputes, with the right to remove "inequalities," gloomily

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Wedge Driven Into Axis Army Fighting In Caucasus Area

Moscow, May 7.—(AP)—The Red army, smashing forward in increasingly violent battles which have cost the Germans nearly 10,000 dead, has driven a wedge between the German and Rumanian forces operating north and south of the Kuban river in the Caucasus, and is tightening its net about Novorossisk, front line dispatches reported today.

Aided by strong air forces, the Soviet troops cut one road after another in the Kuban valley, severing Axis supply lines, and avenues of escape.

One dispatch said the Russians cut an important road and captured a height dominating the approaches to a large city, the name of which was not given.

Red Star, the Army newspaper, said the Germans were pouring in more reserves along with more units of tanks and planes.

German prisoners told their captors that the German officers had orders to shoot every man who fell back.

A dispatch to Izvestia, the government newspaper, said special groups had been organized to bury the Axis dead, and that one of these groups buried about 2,000 soldiers yesterday.

The Soviet soldiers pushed westward toward the Kerch strait and the Sea of Azov after capturing locale points and preventing the Germans from re-gripping.

Americans Also Seize Ferryville

Axis Line Cracking All Along African Front; Air Offensive Peak for Campaign

With U. S. Forces in Northern Tunisia, May 7—(AP)—American troops took Ferryville, eight miles from Bizerte, at 1 p. m. (9 a. m. EWT) today.

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, May 7—(AP)—Allied troops have penetrated into the outskirts of both Bizerte and Tunis, it was officially announced at General Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters today.

Heavy fighting was reported in progress in both sectors as the U. S. Second Army Corps and the British First Army capitalized on deep penetrations through collapsing enemy positions all along the northern Tunisian front.

"Our troops have continued their victorious advance," a special communique said.

Reconnaisance elements were said to have made the penetration of the Bizerte suburbs. Many more prisoners were taken, it was announced.

Meanwhile, yesterday's serious air offensive, which eclipsed anything yet seen in the African campaign, set many new records, including one of the greatest strikes against enemy shipping yet achieved from North African bases.

Twenty-seven vessels were hit, the largest number reported in one day, and of these, twelve were definitely sunk and the others were damaged and left burning. The victims included one destroyer, seven motor barges and four small boats loaded with men, all sunk. Another destroyer was among the damaged craft. Most of the damage was done by medium bombers.

Allied Headquarters in North Africa, May 7—(AP)—Deep penetrations through collapsing

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Ohio Firm Is Accused Of Sabotage

Conspiracy To Defraud Government With Defective Airplane Parts Is Alleged

Washington, May 7—(AP)—Attorney General Biddle announced today that the National Brake and Aluminum Foundry Company and seven of its top officials had been indicted at Cleveland, Ohio, on charges of violating the sabotage law and conspiring to defraud the government.

Biddle said the charges were based upon allegations that the defendants had conspired with 21 company employees—named as co-conspirators—and with others to supply the Packard Motor Car Company with defective aluminum superchargers for Rolls Royce airplane engines being made for the government.

The indictment, in nine counts, charged that defective castings were "deliberately" welded and plugged in violation of specifications, the attorney general said, and these violations were concealed from Packard.

It is charged also, Biddle said, that the alleged conspirators removed heat and serial numbers from rejected castings, repaired the castings and returned them to Packard with new numbers. He said the defendants also are accused of misrepresenting the source of test bar supplied to Packard.

Seven count of the indictment as announced by the attorney general charged that the defendants, "with intent to defraud and obstruct treason to believe that their act might aid the United States and its associate nation, Great Britain, in preparing for and carrying on the war . . . knowingly, wilfully, unlawfully and feloniously made and caused to be made testings in a defective manner."

Strike of 900,000 Rail Workers Now Looms On Horizon

Fact-Finding Panel Named by President Fails To Settle Wage Demands of Group

Chicago, May 7—(AP)—An emgerency fact-finding panel announced today it had failed to settle the dispute between 900,000 railroad non-operating workers and the nation's principal railroads over union demands for higher wages.

I. L. Shartman, of the University of Michigan, chairman of the panel of three members, who have been hearing the case since March 1, said it had "made every reasonable effort" to settle the controversy.

The panel now will retire into executive session, the chairman said, and prepare its report for submission to President Roosevelt. Seven thousand pages of testimony have been taken at the hearings and Shartman said he was unable to estimate when the report would be ready.

In past disputes the parties have abided by the findings of the emergency fact-finding panel appointed by the President.

MAJ.-GEN. EDWARDS IS CHIEF OF STAFF

London, May 7.—(AP)—The appointment of Major General Idwell Hubert Edwards, 48, as acting chief of staff in the European theatre of operations was announced today by the United States Army.

The original announcement from headquarters said General Edwards had been made chief of staff, but this was amended a few hours later to include the appointment in his official title.

Killed in Crash

COMMANDER of U. S. air forces in the European theatre of war, Lieut. Gen. Frank M. Andrews, was killed in a plane crash in Ireland. He was the eighth U. S. general to be killed or missing in this war and the highest ranking American officer to be lost. (*International*)

Governor Is Cautious In Invoking Wartime Powers

In the Sir Walter Hotel.
Daily Dispatch Bureau.
By LYNN NISBET

Raleigh, May 7—Effic cy of executive proclamations under the 1943 war powers act will be tested by popular reaction to and official enforcement of the two orders which become effective at noon, may 6.

Proclamation No. 1 extends legal working hours of women and girls engaged in war industries, and empowers the commissioner of labor to issue special overtime permits for periods of six months at a time instead of the statutory limit of 60 days.

Proclamation No. 2 fixes a maximum speed limit for motor vehicles of 35 miles per hour and increases maximum truck loads to 42,000 pounds. The order in no way effects the existing authority of municipalities to enforce lower speed limits, or of the highway commission to designate lower speeds for specified areas.

Copies of these proclamations were mailed Thursday to every sheriff, and to judges and solicitors of superior courts and recorder's courts, and every member of the highway patrol. Copies also went to industrial plant management, to juvenile courts, judges and other officers charged with enforcement of traffic and labor laws.

The speed limit proclamation will attract more popular attention, and perhaps occasion considerable resentment, but the modification of the labor law is of no less importance. Motor speeds have all the while been subject to control by local ordinance; this is the first departure from strict legislative control.

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FDR Admits Davies Going To See Stalin

Washington, May 7.—(AP)—President Roosevelt said today that Joseph E. Davies would leave almost at once for Moscow to carry a personal letter from the President to Josef Stalin.

The chief executive tended all attempts of reporters at a press conference to gain information on the contents or on whether Davies would bring back a reply. He said Davies, former ambassador to Russia, does not know himself what is in the letter.

There have been conjectures that the President might propose a meeting with the Russian leader similar to that he has held with Winston Churchill, British prime minister.

Mr. Roosevelt told the reporters, however, that their guesses always had been wrong in the past.

Davies will not be gone very long and will come right back, Mr. Roosevelt said. He said he assumed his personal envoy would learn the contents of the documents in Moscow, discuss them, and then return.

Sub Skipper Seals Death By His Order

Washington, May 7.—(AP)—A submarine skipper whose last gallant order, "take her down," sealed his own death sentence was credited by the Navy today with successful attacks on three Japanese ships, the last of which the sub rammed in a dramatic night fight for life.

It was in this final action somewhere in the distant Pacific that the officer rode the conning tower of his submerging submarine to his death rather than expose the craft or crew to enemy gunfire.

He had been wounded a few minutes before and knew that the time required to get him safely into the submarine might mean the sub's destruction.

For this sacrifice, Commander Howard W. Gilmore, 40, of New Orleans, La., has been awarded posthumously the congressional medal of honor by President Roosevelt.

The story was told by the Navy today partly in a communique and partly in an accompanying account of the final fight.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Little change in temperature tonight.

Speed Limit May Extend After War

Raleigh, May 7.—(AP)—It will be at least one year after the end of the war until the present 35-miles-an-hour speed limit is relaxed, if Major J. T. Armstrong, head of the State Highway Patrol, has his way.

Major Armstrong, commanding Governor Broughton's proclamation lowering the speed limit from 60 to 35 miles an hour, said today he believes the new rule should run until aged automobiles and inferior tires were off the road. That, he said he believed, would be at least a year after the cessation of hostilities. He said he hoped the speed limit never would return to sixty miles an hour, but would be fixed at fifty.

Reds Charge Poles Spying Within Russia

Moscow, May 7—(AP)—Andrei J. Vishinski, vice commissar for foreign affairs, told American and British newspapermen today that representatives of the Polish government in exile in London had engaged in espionage activities in Russia and declared some of those involved already had admitted their guilt and been sentenced.

Former Ambassador Stanislaw Kot himself, Vishinski stated, had admitted being involved in these activities and had expressed regret.

(Kot is now acting as minister of information with the Polish government in London, a post to which he was appointed last March 19.)

Asked why the Poles should be engaged in espionage in Russia, a nation which they signed a mutual assistance and friendship agreement on July 30, 1941, Vishinski replied:

"Nobody knows what for, certainly."

The accusation against the Polish representatives was contained in a paper which Vishinski read to correspondents, and which he said had been sent to the Polish government in London. The paper also accused Polish military leaders of refusing to send to the Soviet - German front the Polish army which was organized in Russia with the cooperation of Soviet authorities.

Answering a question as to the possibility of a resumption of diplomatic relations between the Soviet and Polish governments, Vishinski said:

"There is nothing in the world which cannot be changed." He added, however, in concluding the conference:

"The Polish government is re-

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Further Gain For Cotton

New York, May 7.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened five to fifteen cents a bale higher. Noon prices were five to 20 cents a bale higher, May 20.20; July 20.06 and October 19.9c.

Previous close, open: May 20.23, 20.27; July 20.03—20.05; October 19.94, 19.91; December 19.85, 19.86; March 19.82, 19.85.

Americans Drive Close To Salamaua

Allies Only Five Miles From Big Jap Base in New Guinea; Airmen More Active

(By The Associated Press.)

General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced today that Allied troops had captured the village of Borbouri, only five miles from the big Japanese base at Salamaua, New Guinea, while Allied planes roared twenty times over the nearby area pouring cannon and machine gun fire into enemy troops.

The thrust represented the closest penetration to Salamaua in the campaign, but there was still no indication of a major Allied offensive to take the base. Previous sorties had been chiefly bombing raids to demoralize the Japanese and probe for weak spots in the enemy's defense.

Dispatches from Allied headquarters said the coup threatened to cut the line of supply to Japanese forces entrenched at Mubo, 12 miles south of Salamaua.

Meanwhile, General MacArthur disclosed that Japanese submarines had sunk five Allied freighters in the waters east of Australia, but a communique said the flow of Allied reinforcements and supplies to the southwest Pacific "continues virtually undiminished."

United Nations airmen stepped up operations after a spell of bad weather, blasting the enemy at bases in Dutch New Guinea, and destroying nine Japanese planes in the Aroe islands farther south. A boat loaded with enemy troops was also sunk.

In the Burma campaign, British headquarters reported an ominous Japanese thrust to the Maungdaw Buthedaung road north of the enemy base at Akyab, and said close fighting was in progress.

This apparently meant that the Japanese had reached the main British

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Mountain Forest Lands Closed Due To Fire Threats

Atlanta, Ga., May 7.—(AP)—**All national forest lands in the Appalachian mountain section of North Carolina were ordered closed today due to what the U. S. Forest Service termed "an extremely serious fire hazard now existing."**

H. O. Stabler, acting regional forester, said serious losses resulted from a 12,000-acre fire in the Pisgah National Forest last spring, and the government was "not in position to run risks of losing timber as a result of carelessness at the present time."

Shortage of fire crews available to combat fires make the present hazards even greater, Stabler said.

House Revenue Bill Not Fair, Tax Expert Claims

Washington, May 7.—(AP)—Colm E. Stam, chief of the congressional tax staff, testified today that the House-approved revenue bill failed to put all tax-payers on a pay-as-you-go basis, and would cause resentment among those who contribute 60 percent of taxes.

Stam appeared before the Senate Finance Committee in a brief public meeting preceding a closed session, at which advocates hoped to force a showdown on the question of substituting a version of the unit-Carlson "skipa-year" plan for current taxation for the House-approved bill.

The congressional tax expert told the committee that the House bill, which would excuse the first six percent normal tax and the thirteen percent first bracket surtax in putting into effect a twenty percent withholding levy on wages and salaries would cost almost as much as complete forgiveness of 1942 taxes, as proposed in the Ruml-Carlson plan.

Stam said that abatement under the House bill would eliminate 1942 tax liability for a single person with no dependents whose income did not exceed $2,500, and a married person with no dependents whose net earnings did not exceed $3,200. Those with dependency allowances could make more and still have all of their 1942 tax excused.