

ITALY HAS DECLARED WAR UPON GERMANY

Struggle Renewed Over Father Draft In House's Debate

3 Zeros in 5 Minutes



LIEUT. HENRY MEIGS, 22, of New York City, has set a new speed record for shooting down Japanese planes at night.

Top Bureau Chiefs Held To Be Unfit

Committee Declares Too Much Authority Taken by Young Men

Washington, Oct. 13.—(AP)—A congressional committee charged today "inexperienced youngsters" holding some of the top personnel jobs in Washington "constitute a real bottleneck" to the government's war effort.

The youthful executives lack "the experience and tact" necessary in "top notch management officials," declared the House Civil Service Committee, headed by Representative Ransbeck of Georgia, the Democratic whip.

Other findings in the committee's unfinished investigation of Federal job holders:

Government workers are "blowing up" their own departments of their jobs and getting salary raises ranging from \$600 to \$1,200 a year for doing practically the same work.

Some administrators build up "personal machines" of friends on the payroll who will move with them from job to job.

"The bald fact is—the uncoordinated departments of the executive branch of the Federal government lack an overall, centralized authority with powers of management control," the committee said.

LOST RATION BOOK CAN BE MAILED IN

Raleigh, Oct. 13.—If you find a lost OPA ration book—owner is just as near as the nearest mail box.

Here's all you do to return it to the owner:

Drop any found ration book into the mail without wrapper or postage and the postoffice will deliver the book to the owner whose name appears on the cover.

The post office will collect a five-cent "postage due" charge from the owner. If the owner cannot be found, the post office will deliver the book to the nearest war price and rationing board.

Party Fight Likely Over Pay Allowances Allowed Family Men

Washington, Oct. 13.—(AP)—A two-front congressional fight over the father-draft issue got under way today with the full House membership beginning debate on a new allotment-allowance proposal and military sub-committees redrafting legislation to delay the induction of pre-war fathers.

A party fight threatened to erupt over the amount of payments to be made to dependents of service men of enlisted grade.

Republican Leader Martin of Massachusetts announced he would support an amendment by Representative Classen, also a Massachusetts Republican, to boost the payments to \$80 monthly for a wife and one child, with \$20 extra for each additional child.

Present payments, including the \$22 deduction from the service man's check, which would remain unchanged under the new proposals, are \$62 for a wife and one child, and \$10 for each additional child.

While the House tackled the allowance question, with a vote not expected before late Thursday or Friday, a sub-committee headed by Representative Costello (D., Cal.) began rewriting the Senate's substitute for the Wheeler father-draft determination bill.

Committee sentiment indicates the measure would contain the principles of the stalled Kilday bill which would provide that dependents be given consideration and that pre-war fathers be inducted only after unessential nonfathers have been drafted.

London, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Telling the British they would be "absolute fools" to count on "an altogether unexpected collapse" of the enemy, Prime Minister Churchill declared today "the worst fighting of the war, so far as the British people are concerned, lies ahead."

He told Commons the government will not at present attempt any "far reaching changes" of a controversial character, such as a socialist proposal for the nationalization of coal mines, because the controversy might seriously impede the war effort.

Forecasting the "bloodiest fighting of the war," Churchill declined to weaken the field forces to obtain munitions for fuel, lights and power, more miners. Major Lloyd George, opened the coal debate yesterday by announcing that men would be conscripted for the mines as for the army.

Churchill Sees Worst Yet To Come

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Downed in Raid



SON of the U. S. Ambassador to Britain, Lieut. John G. Winant, Jr., 21, was missing in action after the Flying Fortress he was piloting was hit by a rocket shell following a raid on Munster, Germany.

Swanson And Moss Cases Sent Back

Officer Is Liable; Powell Slayer From Warren Loses Plea

Raleigh, Oct. 13.—(AP)—The State Supreme Court today found no error in the conviction in Warren county of Willie Swanson in first degree murder charges and in a far-reaching opinion held that a public officer is liable for damages if he acts corruptly or maliciously against an individual.

Handing down 15 opinions, the court held that Smith should die in the gas chamber for the axe slaying last December 31 of Vernon Powell, who evidence indicated was killed by robbery.

The high tribunal reversed the Superior court in an action brought by A. G. Hedgepeth against Sheriff L. L. Swanson of Vance county and the National Surety Company, meaning in effect that the defendants must stand trial on charges that Swanson negligently left a tire burning at a toll on land adjoining Hedgepeth's property.

Swanson allegedly had made no effort to extinguish the fire and as a result Hedgepeth charged him in a warrant with setting fire to brush and endangering property without keeping the same properly guarded.

The sheriff then obtained a search warrant for Hedgepeth's premises, alleging that Hedgepeth had whisky for sale and then sworn out a warrant charging Hedgepeth with operating a whisky still.

The court held that the defendant's demurrer was overruled.

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Decision Is Announced By Badoglio

Italian Leader Asks His People to Fight Against Common Foe

Washington, Oct. 13.—(AP)—President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin announced today that Italy had declared war against Germany.

The White House said Marshall Badoglio had communicated Italy's declaration against her former axis partner to General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander in the Mediterranean theater.

In his message to the general, Badoglio said that "by this act all ties with the deadlier past are broken and my government will be proud to be able to march with you on to inevitable victory."

In a joint statement released by the White House, Mr. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin accepted "the active cooperation of the Italian nation and armed forces as a co-belligerent in the war against Germany."

Italy thus turned against her former partner a little more than a month after her armistice with the Allied powers.

In a proclamation to the Italian people, Badoglio said that "shoulder to shoulder, we must march forward with our friends of the United States, of Great Britain, of Russia, and of all the other United Nations."

Badoglio said an Italian government headed by himself would be completed shortly and that representatives of every political party would be invited to participate, so that it may constitute a true expression of democratic government.

The present arrangement will in no way impair the untrammelled right of the people of Italy to choose their own form of democratic government when peace is restored," the marshal said.

"Italian! I inform you that His Majesty the King has given me the task of announcing today, the 13th day of October, the declaration of war against Germany."

The British, Soviet and American governments acknowledge the Italian pledge to submit to the will of the Italian people after the Nazis had been driven from their homeland.

Mr. Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin said it was understood that "nothing can detract from the absolute and untrammelled right of the people of Italy to constitute and decide on the democratic form of government they will eventually have."

But in a joint statement they added that the relationship of co-belligerency, if itself, could not affect the armistice terms, which remain their full force and can be adjusted only by agreement among the Allied governments "in the light of the assistance which the Italian government may be able to afford to the United Nations' cause."

Badoglio advised Eisenhower that he took "great pleasure" in informing the general that the Italian king had declared war on Nazi Germany and that the declaration would be headed by the Italian ambassador in Moscow to the German ambassador at 3 p. m. (Greenwich time) today.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA Continued mild this afternoon. Not quite so cool tonight and Thursday forenoon.

Germans Are Now Definitely On Defensive On East Front

London, Oct. 13.—(AP)—With the German air force reported definitely on the defensive over the vast Russian front, Soviet armies were steadily developing their ever-widening bridgeheads on the west banks of the Dnieper river today, and have, according to Berlin, launched a new powerful drive north of the key city of Kiev, capital of the Ukraine.

The Russian army newspaper Red Star reported the abandonment of aerial offensive tactics by the Nazis. The newspaper's military expert said the initiative had passed to Soviet airmen and described the situation as a radical change from the earlier days of the campaign when the Germans were blocking Russian front line airbases at will, bombing

ing air bases and sweeping the skies over the Russian front with huge formations of fighter planes.

Terrific bomber losses suffered by the Germans in air battles over Orel, Belgorod and Kharkov and the steady deterioration of enemy light or strength combined to wipe out Nazi air superiority, according to this military expert, and today the Germans have turned from mass operations to patrolling jaunts, with restricted bombing missions carried out at dawn or dusk.

Berlin did not expand on its report of the new Russian drive north of Kiev, but said that strong Soviet attacks have been taking place since Monday and that "heavy fighting was still in progress" yesterday.

U. S. CREW DESTROYS FORTRESS AFTER FORCED LANDING



A FLYING FORTRESS OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE was forced down in neutral Sweden while en route to its base in England after participating in the 1,600-mile attack over East Prussia, Poland and Germany. The nine members of the crew set the plane alight immediately upon landing, then were interned. The American bombers did severe damage to the Polish port of Gdynia, a major Nazi naval base. (International Radiophoto)

Allies Gain Nine Miles More

Germans Strengthen Forces Greatly on North Bank of River

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Battering down powerful enemy positions in central Italy, Allied troops have punched nine miles north-east of Pontelandolfo to seize San Croce, while the Eighth army advancing along its entire front captured Riccia and Bonifero, official front line dispatches announced today.

The plunge to San Croce sent deeper northward the spearhead outflanking the strong German Volturno river line.

Riccia, seized by the British, is only eight miles northeast of San Croce.

Along the Adriatic coastal flank, General Montgomery's troops smashed four miles ahead beyond Termoli against strong German resistance.

Bonifero, 20 miles southwest of Termoli, and five miles northwest of British-held Colobraro, was captured after exceptionally bitter fighting.

Along the Volturno river line, a tremendous artillery duel raged with British and American artillery of shells across the flooded stream.

The Nazis are reported to have brought up strong artillery units also, and front line dispatches indicated their lines on the river's north bank are being strengthened against Lt. Gen. Clark's expected assault.

There was no report of any fresh gains anywhere along the Volturno front, and nothing to indicate whether Allied patrols were succeeding in penetrating to the north bank to test the enemy's strength.

The breakthrough on the central front, which brought new threats of eventual flanking movements from the east against the Volturno line, also resulted in capture of three other towns of military importance.

On the Eighth army front from the Adriatic front south to the mountainous backbone of central Italy, Allied gains, were general, while enemy opposition was uneven. At some points, British patrols forged ahead against stiff resistance, but the Germans fought back desperately elsewhere.

Possibility that the Germans are rushing heavy reinforcements to the Adriatic battlefield was seen in an air force announcement that Allied fighters and bombers had scored many hits on a train loaded with motor transports on the rail line between Pescara and Termoli.

Subsidy On Potatoes Is Opposed

Washington, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Representatives of the potato industry gathered today in an effort to organize a solid front against government subsidies on the country's record potato crop and to agree on what ceiling prices should prevail.

Growers and shippers from major early and late crop states—Maine, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North and South Carolina, Florida, Michigan, Idaho and California, were called to the meeting.

After a morning session they planned to ask their senator and representatives for aid in persuading government agencies such as the Office of Price Administration, War Food Administration and Commodity Credit Corporation to adopt their proposals for disposing of the bumper crop.

Japs Suffer Heavy Loss In Planes In New Guinea

Allied Headquarters in the South-West Pacific, Oct. 13.—(AP)—Japan's badly mauled New Guinea air force now has to reckon with a new sky menace—the P-47 Thunderbolt.

General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters disclosed today that four of these new fighters piled into 32 Japanese fighters over Wewak, New Guinea, Monday and sent at least eight down to join the approximately 500 enemy aircraft which have been wiped out there since mid-August. Two others may have gone down.

The four Thunderbolts returned safely.

One Thunderbolt pilot got five Japanese planes to increase an air in a single engagement. He also got credit for the probable Jap losses.

And he marked a record of three downed enemy planes into the basket.

But the Japanese air force got in some hits elsewhere. The command spoke said the enemy raided Guadalcanal on an unexpected date and caused damage to American shipping in those Solomon waters. Other enemy planes struck three times at General MacArthur's newly acquired air base at Lae, New Guinea.

In ground fighting, headquarters said the Australians, mopping up northwest of captured Finschhafen, had killed 400 Japanese. Other losses moving along the Ramu valley against the enemy coastal base of Milneba continued to oust the enemy from outpost positions on high ground.

Mountaineers Feel Reynolds Will Stick

In the Sir Walter Hotel, Daily Dispatch Bureau, BY IANX NISBET

Bahagen, Oct. 13.—While nothing like a thorough survey was attempted and no effort at all made to find out the individual expected to mark their own tickets, the correspondent on a recent mountain top gained the impression the mountaineers expect Bob Reynolds to stay in the race for the United States Senate. This is different from the impression gathered the same way through the northeastern part of the State.

The question was occasioned by rumors emanating from Washington that the senator would retire at the end of the present term rather than contest Clyde Hoey for the seat. Reynolds has made no public statement of intent, he did not visit the state during the summer recess of Congress and has done very little letter writing, but has made several speeches affirming his position on international affairs.

The mountaineer voters questioned were not politicians. One was a weekly debt insurance collector, one a filling station attendant, one a simple grower another was a mine-several were retail sales people. In every instance the answer was the same, "I haven't heard anything about him not running." One or two volunteered the information they would vote against him if he did run, but that they didn't say anything about that. A number thought it is "a damn shame" some of the things they are saying about Bob Reynolds.

The practical political leaders may have chosen to think the matter well not until these ordinary citizens' will opinions have been taken account of to build his candidacy.

It was also apparent in the upper end of the north district that Bob Reynolds's constituents expect him to stay in Congress.

After-War Declaration Is Approved

Washington, Oct. 13.—(AP)—A Senate Foreign Relations sub-committee approved today a one-day post-war foreign policy declaration which would pledge the United States to "join with free and sovereign nations in the establishment and maintenance of international authority with power to prevent aggression and preserve the peace of the world."

The resolution, voted over the opposition of Senator LaFollette (W.V., Progressive), goes to the full committee next week. Chairman Connally (Tex., D.) predicted the full committee would approve it soon and expressed the opinion that the Senate also would approve.

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