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Nazi Cassino Line Is Breached

RAF Smashes Nazi Capital With Greatest Load Of Bombs

OUR GOAL: DEEPER DAYLIGHT BOMBING OF THE AXIS



WITH AMERICAN ENGINEERS adding greater flying range to our pursuit planes, it becomes evident that there will be more effective bombing of enemy soil. For while escort fighters party the blows of Nazi rocket bombs in daylight precision bombing until now Nazi tactics resulted in heavy losses, pushing back our daylight bombing front to a point only 400 miles from England, as shown by the arc. This was the range of our escort planes. This also held true of our Fifteenth Air Force planes in Italy, and of Russian bombers' penetrations into the blackened area because of the protection of moonless nights. With the acknowledged improvement of "beachshelters" it becomes clear that the black area will shrink.

(International)

Berge Recommends CCC Lapses Strong Enforcement Thursday As Of Anti-Trust Laws

Investigation of Big Loan Shark Chains Disclosed by Berge

Washington, Feb. 16.—(AP)—Revival of a vigorous enforcement of anti-trust laws, both in domestic economy and in international business operations will be "exceedingly important" in the post-war period. Wendell Berge, assistant attorney general in charge of the anti-trust division, has advised Congress.

Attacking international cartels, Berge said that "to the extent that they operate or private agreements are desirable, they ought to be done with government sanction and government approval."

The clause that the department is investigating "big loan shark chains" which are centrally controlled and operating in ten or more states, was made before the committee by anti-trust division officials. These chains have been acquiring competitors and others.

(Continued on Page Two.)

Allies Take Green Islands Near Solomons

Washington, Feb. 16.—(AP)—Final action on legislation to continue the Commodity Credit Corporation, and to repeal food subsidies, as delayed today by failure of House and Senate conferees to agree on the bill's wording.

The President is expected to veto the measure, after which the decisive test will come when Congress ballots on the question of overriding or sustaining the veto.

Inability of the conferees to reach a quick accord at their first meeting yesterday means that the statutory life of the CCC will lapse June 1st unless Congress acts.

However, legislators said they expect no complications to result from a temporary lapse of CCC's legal authority.

(Continued on Page Two.)

British Freighter Wreck Off Maine Coast Kills 24

Portsmouth, N. H., Feb. 16.—(AP)—Rushing crazily away to sink later, Chief Engineer Svend Haagensen related in an interview.

Rescue ships stood by but could not get close enough to take off the men. The rescue craft, including Coast Guard and U. S. Naval vessels, rendered during service, however, in picking up survivors from the tempestuous seas. Thirteen bodies were recovered later.

Thirteen of the survivors were taken to Portland, Maine, and seven more were brought into Portsmouth. Virtually all required hospital treatment on the ledge and the aft half float.

Oils Gaining On Market

New York, Feb. 16.—(AP)—Profit taking halted the forward drive of rail shares in the stock market today and, as the carriers faltered, oil stocks began drawing support.

The transport issues were active and higher in moderately fast early dealings but began slipping around midday and, going into the fourth hour, presented a mixed appearance.

Popular among the petroleum stocks were Mid-Continent, Pure Oil Standard Oil (New Jersey) and Texas Company. Stumbling at times were Norfolk and Western, U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, General Motors and DuPont.

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"The way to prevent strikes is to readjust the stabilization program so that the purchasing power of the wage dollar is restored."

"This can be done either through upward revision of wage rates, or even more effectively, by rigid reduction and control of prices of the necessities of life."

Green led off a parade of opposition witnesses at hearings on the national service bill drawn by Senator Austin (Vt.) which was revived after President Roosevelt called for a labor conservation act in his new legislative program.

AMERICAN NURSES IN ITALY



Lt. Alice Marks of Littleton, N. H., left, and Lt. Helen Gordon of Helton, Rensselaer, who arrived with the first group of American nurses at Anzio, Italy, turn the soil near their tent as they settle down for duty.

1200 Planes In Crushing Night Blow

Over 2,800 Tons of Explosives Used in 20-Minute Assault

London, Feb. 16.—(AP)—The RAF smashed Berlin last night with the greatest load of bombs ever dropped on a single target—well over 2,800 tons which cascaded down in a smoldering 20-minute attack by 800 to 900 heavy bombers.

Fifty-seven aircraft are missing from the night's operations, which included other targets.

The RAF waited two weeks to deal this crushing blow against the sprawling capital of the German Reich. Not since January 30, when Berlin was hit by terror impersonating 800 planes, had it made a major attack.

It is believed that the armada sent over Germany last night comprised the greatest number of planes ever to fill the Reich's skies in one night, including 1,600 heavy bombers and more than 300 fighter craft. Berlin received the contents of 800 to 900 big bomb loads.

Bombs of all sizes swept through the city when the assault was finished. Scores of reverberating Mosquitos reported a very large field of fire with smoke pluming four miles into the air.

Just before Berlin was hit a smaller force of Lancasters made a joint attack on Frankfurt-on-Oder, 60 miles east of Berlin, and Mosquitos bombed targets in western Germany and Holland. Mines also were laid in enemy waters.

The heaviest previous raid on Berlin was on the night of last January 20 when more than 2,370 tons were dropped within an hour. The RAF's heaviest previous raid on a single target was its attack on Hanover about 2,300 tons last September 22.

Appropriations Up For House Approval

Washington, Feb. 16.—(AP)—The House Appropriations Committee sent to the floor today legislation appropriating \$231,364,700 for the State, Commerce and Justice Departments for the fiscal year starting next July 1.

The total was allocated in this manner: State Department, \$44,234,500; Justice, \$116,477,200; Commerce, \$120,653,000. The aggregate was \$54,935,700 below budget estimates.

Green Again Opposed To Labor Draft

Washington, Feb. 16.—(AP)—President William Green of the American Federation of Labor today reiterated his opposition to national service legislation before the Senate Military Committee, blamed strikes on the government's wage and price policies and said a civilian labor draft would not add "a single plane, a single ship, a single tank or a single bullet" to the nation's war production.

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"The way to prevent strikes is to readjust the stabilization program so that the purchasing power of the wage dollar is restored."

"This can be done either through upward revision of wage rates, or even more effectively, by rigid reduction and control of prices of the necessities of life."

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Reds Press Closer To Pskov As Death Trap Is Tightened

Pskov Capture Would Open Potential Trap For Nazis at Ilmen

London, Feb. 16.—(AP)—General Leonid A. Govorov's Leningrad army pressed closer to historic Pskov today as other Red army steadily whitewashed the Cherkasy death pocket in the upper Dnieper bend where, the Russians said, some 50,000 trapped Nazis were fighting a last ditch battle against overwhelming odds.

Capture of Pskov, hub of trunk lines serving an immense area to the south, west and east, would set up the beginning of a potential entrapment circle for those Germans holding positions between Lake Ilmen on the north and Novosokolniki, 129 miles to the south. Their escape avenue then would be cut to a 129-mile wide gap between Pskov and Novosokolniki.

Russian dispatches said that Govorov's forces had taken Pskov by Feb. 23, the 26th anniversary of the Red Army's entry of Moscow. It was at Pskov and at Novosokolniki that the Germans had their main defense line in February and March. In 1915, however, a German force and the Red Army fought its inception there for six days.

Govorov was well on his way yesterday. A Red army column aided in troops driving down the Leningrad-Pskov railway line is to capture the town of Oreski in the northeast of Leningrad, and the railway town of Gorodets, a few miles east of Oreski. Some 100,000 Red troops then will attack the town of Krasnoe, 15 miles south of Leningrad, to make movement of Pskov.

Another Govorov column, perhaps dozen, the New Polish defense along the southern shore of Lake Peipus, are on the move to the coastal area, recently captured. Many thousands of Mongolian tribesmen, 40,000, Russian troops in the sector were last reported at Polotsk, 47 miles north of Pskov.

German front positions were reduced to hopeless entanglement as the retreating Nazis were forced off the main roads by Soviet artillery fire. Columns of Nazi trucks, etc. and other transport were blown to bits by Soviet batteries.

More than 1,000 German troops were killed and 40 towns and villages captured during the day, the Russians declared.

This morning, the Soviet offensive was still continuing. The Germans had been driven from the northern part of the Dnieper bend, and the Russians had captured the town of Cherkasy, 12 miles west of Pskov. The Germans had been driven from the northern part of the Dnieper bend, and the Russians had captured the town of Cherkasy, 12 miles west of Pskov.

They know, too, that the food trade will be watching closely for a clue as to whether the war may end with price-depressing stocks overflowing the market.

Washington, Feb. 16.—(AP)—Food reserves stocks held by the WPA, some being held by the food industry for the government, and some to be taken from production of the next several months.

On hand now to set up the stocks include 20,000,000 lbs. of butter, 60,000,000 lbs. of cheese, 170,000,000 lbs. of evaporated milk, 93,000,000 lbs. of flour, 1,041,000,000 lbs. of pork; 8,000,000 lbs. of veal, lamb and mutton; 109,000,000 lbs. of food fats and oils; 14,310,000 cases of canned vegetables; 265,000,000 lbs. of dried fruits; 1,972,000 cases of canned fruits; 1,938,000 bags of dried beans and peas and 1,000,000 bags of rice.

The reserve stocks, earmarked for a "contingency reserve," include supplies owned outright by the WPA, some being held by the food industry for the government, and some to be taken from production of the next several months.

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The reserve stocks could be handled in one of four different ways—allocation to the military services and lend-lease recipients; release to civilians; division between war pro-

grams and civilians; or, held for disposition in 1945.

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