



SENATE OVERRIDES TAX VETO BY 72 TO 14

BRITISH MIDGET SUBS PACK KNOCKOUT PUNCH



ONLY ABOUT 45 FEET LONG, British midget submarines have demonstrated their power by knocking out one of Germany's mighty battleships, the Tirpitz. Shown for the first time is one of the craft that attacked the battleship off Norway in Sept. 1943, and left it seriously damaged. To accomplish this the subs and their three-man crews squirmed through elaborate defenses to push home the attack. Several of the men who took part in the daring raid were given the Victoria Cross.

May Hike Age Of Industrial Deferments

Fruitless Attacks Of Nazis As Allies Improve Positions

Age Minimum Might Have to Be Raised From 22 to 26 Years

French on Cassino Front Repulse Nazi Attack on Mt. Abate

Washington, Feb. 25—(AP)—The military draft situation has become so tight that selective service may soon have to raise the age minimum for industrial deferments from 22 to 26 years, Major General Lewis B. Hershey told the Senate Agriculture Committee today.

Hershey, who directs selective service, appeared before the committee to discuss estimates that required regulations for the deferment of farm workers might take half of the 1,700,000 farmers now exempted from the draft because of their occupation.

The director commented in the course of testimony relating to the armed forces' need for stepped up inductions: "It looks as if we would have to go to 26 years on industrial deferments before long."

Such deferments are now denied to those under 22.

Hershey appeared after four major farm organizations declared in a joint statement that new selective service rules would demoralize 1944 crop production. The Senate committee is investigating the situation.

Stock Rally Stalls Today

New York, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Except for a handful of relatively strong specialties, the stock market rally stalled today and price trends generally were indefinite.

A new 1943-44 high was posted for American Telephone Support, United States Steel, Chrysler, and Montgomery Ward. A trifling backward was Bethlehem, Sears Roebuck, United Aircraft, Westinghouse and Goodyear. Bonds were steady and commodities mixed.

Smashes Deep In Reich Continue Allied Air Drive

London, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Great formations of American heavy bombers carried the unprecedented Allied aerial offensive thundering through its sixth day today with smashing deep within Germany at aircraft production plants at Regensburg, Stuttgart and other targets.

The heavy daylight assault carried the clock after the RAF took up the two-way scourge of Nazi plane production last night in a 1,000 plane raid from Britain on Schweinfurt and sent other formations from Italy to attack Speyer, in Austria.

Today's strong forces of American four-engine heavyweights were protected by swarms of Allied fighters as they dumped new destruction on the aircraft works at Regensburg and the ball-bearing works at Stuttgart.

All targets of the daylight assault were deep inside Germany with the assault on Regensburg, in southern Germany, requiring a round trip flight of more than 1,100 miles.

Germans Evacuate Vitebsk, Falling Back 70 Miles West

Capture Of Rogachev By Red Troops

Vitebsk, Important Junction of Railways, Had Bitter Fighting

London, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Germany's Trans-Ocean news agency broadcast today that German troops have evacuated the great White Russian stronghold of Vitebsk, to fall back toward the old Polish frontier 70 miles to the west.

The German high command's communiqué, broadcast later, did not mention Vitebsk but confirmed an earlier Berlin announcement—also made by Moscow—that Russian troops had taken Rogachev, a center 150 miles south of Vitebsk.

Moscow army authorities declared that Hitler's Rogachev-Vitebsk line, one of the strongest in the Russian front, is smashed. Red army men stream across the ice on the Dnieper river which forms a large part of the line, dispatches said.

Moscow has not announced the capture of Vitebsk.

The German Trans-Ocean news agency, in a Berlin broadcast recorded by the Ministry of Information, said that Vitebsk, important junction of four trunk railways and under siege by Red army troops since last November, was evacuated only after bitter fighting. An earlier Berlin broadcast had acknowledged the "evacuation" of Rogachev.

Premier Stalin, in one of two orders of the day, announced earlier that General Constantine Rokossovsky's army, in a new offensive north of the Pripyet marshes, had captured Rogachev and had advanced 15 miles on a 30-mile wide front, taking more than 30 towns and villages. One Soviet formation alone killed 4,000 enemy troops, captured many prisoners and quantities of war material, including 62 big guns, the announcement said.

The fall of Rogachev and Vitebsk—the former a rail town 15 miles north of Zhlobin, junction point on the Vitebsk-Gomel and Gomel-Minsk railways—was viewed here as an indication that the Russians intend mounting a new offensive aimed at the White Russian capital of Minsk, less than 100 miles west of the nearest Russian line on the rapidly changing front.

Red army troops for weeks have been astride the railway between Vitebsk and Polotsk, another strategic Nazi stronghold 55 miles to the west of the Vitebsk-Riga railway.

On the Baltic front, 220 miles north of the Vitebsk sector, Red army troops converging on Pskov had not only captured the last important Nazi base to the east of Pskov, but had also captured a village 20 miles to the north, Moscow said.

New York, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened ten to 15 cents a bale lower. Noon values were unchanged to 15 cents a bale higher.

	Previous close	Open
March	29.45	29.31
May	29.45	29.32
July	29.45	29.32
October	29.45	29.32
December	29.45	29.32

One formation of Wellingtons bombed the Dauter factory while larger Wellington formations attacked built-up areas of railroads.

Crewmen said they dropped bombs in the middle of large fires, despite anti-aircraft fire and a few night fighters.

Reconnaissance showed extensive damage to the Speer plants. One assembly shop's roof had collapsed and smoke was pouring from the interior. Clouds of smoke billowed from at least two big fires in the main assembly shop. One-third of the machine shops had collapsed from eight direct hits and several other buildings were damaged.

Ten direct hits were counted in the coal and timber yards, and fire were visible in the power plant and transformer station.

Swarms of German fighters came out about 100 miles ahead of the target yesterday and met the Fortresses near Langenfurt, just across the Alps. They struck with the raiders through an hour of furious battle until after the bomb runs. Sixteen Fortresses

CLARK EN ROUTE TO ANZIO



HERE IS an excellent study of Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, Fifth Army chief, aboard a PT boat speeding him to the Anzio beachhead. His troops are awaiting a third Nazi drive to the sea" after breaking the lack of two previous onslaughts. Signal Corps photo. (International Soundphoto)

Account Of Bold Truk Attack Given By Eye-Witnesses

Battleships Move in Near Base and Blast Cruiser of Japanese

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Pearl Harbor, Feb. 25.—(AP)—First eye-witness accounts of the bold two-day attack February 16 to 17 on Japan's naval base of Truk disclosed that U. S. battleships moved in close enough to blast an enemy cruiser to the ocean bottom.

Naval officers who participated in the thunderbolt attack, which obviously surprised and stunned the Japanese, also made their pertinent disclosures.

Japanese air opposition was considerably weaker than had been expected.

Anti-aircraft fire came largely from cruisers rather than from Japan's famed ground defenses at the Caroline Island bastion.

Although Truk, at headquarters, yielded to the enemy raiders, was reported to be an extensive self-sustaining naval base, only one floating drydock was observed.

Japanese warships, instead of moving out to challenge the powerful American task force, tried to flee north.

"The general impression I had was that these Japs were very polite about their defeat and got caught with their pants down," said Lt. General Harry W. Harrison, 33 of Marine Heavy Artillery, who was aboard one of the aircraft carriers in the Truk operation.

A total of 294 Japanese planes were reported shot down in the attack by hundreds of carrier planes. The enemy cruiser, one of between 19 and 26 ships sunk at Truk, fled with three other warships through the north pass of the reef encircling the 10-mile lagoon.

Radio silence, necessary to protect movements of ships, still prevented reports on the accomplishments of a big task force which sent hundreds of planes against two bases in the Mariana islands, 700 miles northwest of Truk.

But radio silence was ended yesterday.

Sen. Barkley Votes With Supporters

Doughton Looks on As Senate Follows Move by the House

Washington, Feb. 25.—(AP)—With its galleries overflowing with curious spectators, a determined Senate climaxed the congressional revolt against President Roosevelt's tax bill veto by making the measure a law with votes to spare.

The overriding vote was announced by Vice President Wallace, presiding, at 72 to 14—or 16 more than the necessary two-thirds majority. At that instant the bill, which congressional sources estimate will bring in \$2,215,000,000 in additional revenue annually, became law.

Majority Leader Barkley, principal figure in the drama as a result of his sharp denunciation of the President's veto message in the Senate on Wednesday, stood by announced intentions to vote to override Mr. Roosevelt.

The veto message marked a congressional revolt which from the very start left no doubt as to the final outcome of the tax bill, which the President called inadequate. The House acted quickly yesterday, setting aside the veto by a vote of 299 to 95.

Bold, balking Robert L. Doughton, (N. C., D.), chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee which originated the tax bill months ago, stood with other House members at the rear of the Senate chamber.

His voice trembling at times with emotion, Senator Pepper (Fla., D.) boldly proclaimed his unwavering devotion to "liberalism" and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

With full knowledge, he said, that he stood with a small minority against overriding the veto, Pepper solemnly declared:

"I have nothing to gain except the justifiable satisfaction of expressing my own conviction."

If the issue were simply overriding the veto of a tax bill passed by Congress, Pepper asserted, he would not be so moved. He was afraid, he said, that the defeat of the President on the tax bill might alter "the permanent course and character of our party."

Taking the floor after Pepper finished, Senator Lucas (Ill., D.) who usually supports administration policy, said he disagreed with the Florida senator on the issue involved in the overriding vote. "I'm voting on the issue of tax legislation and tax legislation alone," Lucas said.

The roll call followed.

Thus ended another act in the Capitol's most stirring political drama in years.

Allen W. Barkley, the genial, ruddy faced Kentuckian who won a unanimous vote of confidence from his Democratic colleagues as Senate majority leader yesterday, helped clear the air after a three-day political storm by dispatching a letter of friendship to President Roosevelt.

While Barkley's letter expressed fervent hope that the dispute would result in closer cooperation between the legislative and executive branches, it contained no indication that he had changed his mind about overriding the tax bill veto.

In responding his post as leader on Wednesday, he declared Congress would vote to override if it "has any other interest left."

The House could hardly wait to

Farmer Draft To Demoralize Crop Yields

Washington, Feb. 25.—(AP)—Four major farm organizations declared in a joint statement that new selective service rules would demoralize 1944 crop production as the Senate Agricultural Committee began an investigation of the situation.

Major General Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, was called by an order directing for 1 draft boards to review 1,700,000 farm labor deferments.

A joint statement by the farm organizations called the new directive "disastrous" and "destructive to the national interest" in that nearly half of the workers now deferred as war essential employees might be channeled into the armed services.

Stating the statement came Edward A. O'Neal, president of the

(Continued on Page Five)

(Continued on Page Five)

Three Jap Vessels Sunk Off New Ireland Coast

Alfred H. Hedges, Northwest Pacific, Feb. 25.—(AP)—American destroyers sent down two more Japanese merchant vessels and a destroyer off New Ireland, undersea General Douglas MacArthur's announcement today that the Allies dominated the sea north of the Bismarck archipelago.

Captain Arthur T. Burke of Clancy Chase, Md., commanded the destroyers from Admiral William F. Halsey's force which sank the three ships, the Kure, New Ireland, enemy base and harbored Japanese installations on Duke of York island, between New Ireland and New Britain, all in 18 hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, with 164 tons of bombs dropped on air-droppable and shipping in Kure bay, continued the neutralization of the enemy's air bases which MacArthur said had helped in "lightening the blockade of Japanese Bismarck strong points."

United States troops have pushed beyond the Mot river on the north-eastern New Guinea coast and are about 12 miles northwest of Saidor, where the Americans landed January 2. Their progress is toward Madang. Japanese coastal base about 45 miles farther northwest,

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Cloudy and continued warm tonight and Saturday. Slightly higher temperature tonight. Scattered showers and thunderstorms Saturday.

(Continued on Page Five)