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# Russians Pierce Pskov Defense

### Wait Turn On Range In England



Waiting behind the firing line for their turn on a practice range in England are these American infantrymen: (left to right) Cpl. Duane Leonard of Piedmont, S. C.; Cpl. John Slaughter of Memphis, Tenn.; Pfc. William Straub of Staunton, Va.; Pfc. C. F. Pritchett of Charlottesville, Va.; and S. Sgt. Lloyd B. Sink of Thomasville, N. C.

## Ration Values Cut For Pork And Beef

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—Lower ration points will be required for pork and many beef cuts beginning Sunday. The Office of Price Administration, reporting a larger civilian allotment of meat available for March than had been anticipated, announced the good news for housewives today.

## \$3 Billion Postwar Road Bill Argued

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—Consideration of a \$2,000,000,000 postwar road building program, conceived not only to provide jobs "but to have roads so that men can build America," got under way today before the House Roads Committee.

## March Important Month In Events In The State

BY LYNN NISBET, Daily Dispatch Bureau  
Raleigh, Feb. 29—Despite the fact it got off to a late start this year (on account of this extra long year day in February), the month of March probably will be the most important month of the year in its influence on North Carolina.

# 14 More Jap Ships Are Sunk

## Cargo Craft Sent Down By Our Subs

### February Losses By Japs Are Given By Secretary Knox

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—Destruction of 14 Japanese vessels by American submarines was announced today by Secretary of the Navy Knox.

The 14 ships, Knox said, included eleven floating cargo vessels, a small cargo vessel, a cargo transport and a large tanker. They brought to 611 the number of Japanese ships of all types sunk, probably sunk or damaged by American submarines.

Knox also reported that for the month of February, not including today, Japanese shipping losses caused by all types of American action, totaled 183 vessels sunk, probably sunk and damaged. In that total, he said, were 22 combatant and 167 non-combatant vessels.

"American submarines are doing an increasingly skilled job," he said in reviewing a Navy communiqué telling of the new sinkings. "Well over 2,000,000 tons of Japanese merchant shipping," he said, "have been sunk by all causes."

## LIQUOR COUPONS IN MARCH WORTH LESS

Raleigh, Feb. 29—(AP)—The value of liquor coupons will be cut in half during March. Nos. 12, 14, 15 and 16 will be valid any time during the month but the total bought cannot exceed one quart. The present value is two quarts a month, but that was in effect only during February.

## WAKE COUNTY MAN COMMITS SUICIDE

Raleigh, Feb. 29—(AP)—While his family was sitting at a nearby breakfast table, Ray Blalock, Wake county farmer and father of ten children, shot himself to death today, Coroner Roy M. Blanks said.

## Stalin Sees Victory Near For Allies

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—Marshal Stalin of Russia today underscored the Allied understanding reached at Moscow and Tehran late last year, and advised President Roosevelt he was convinced the time is near when cooperating forces of the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain will bring about "the final defeat of our common enemy, Hitlerite Germany."

A message made public by the White House, acknowledging the President's cable of February 22 congratulating the Red army on its 26th anniversary, said: "I ask you to accept my sincere thanks for your friendly congratulations on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the Red army and on the successes of the armed forces of the Soviet Union in the struggle against the Hitlerite invaders. I am strongly convinced that the time is near when the successful struggle of the armed forces of the Soviet Union, together with the armies of the United States and Great Britain, on the basis of the agreements reached at Moscow and Tehran, will lead to the final defeat of our common enemy, Hitlerite Germany."

## ALLIED CHIEFS LOOK OVER THEIR INVASION FORCES



AS AN UNIDENTIFIED officer points, three of the Allied invasion commanders watch American and British ground units engaging in maneuvers on the English coast. They are (l. to r.): Air Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder, Deputy Commander of Invasion Forces, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Commander, and Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, head of British Invasion Armies. (International Soundphoto)

## Drafting Of Fathers Is Denounced

### Senators Demanding Halt Until Review Of Deferments Made

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—Demands that the drafting of fathers be halted pending a review of 5,000,000 occupational deferments were renewed today by senators who challenged a medical commission report that present physical standards should not be lowered.

## ITALIANS PROTEST CHURCHILL STAND

Naples, Feb. 29—(AP)—The Italian committee of national liberation protested tonight against Prime Minister Churchill's endorsement of the government of Premier Mussolini Pietro Badoglio last week.

## U. S. MERCHANT SHIP SUNK IN MID-EAST

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—A merchant ship, a 2,500-ton vessel, was torpedoed and sunk by an enemy submarine in the Arabian Sea early in January, the Navy announced today. All members of the crew were rescued and survivors have been found at Boston, the Navy said.

## Sweden Will Help Feed Finns If They Get Out

Stockholm, Feb. 29—(AP)—Sweden will do its best to provide Finland with food if the Finns get the word to leave, a reliable source said today.

## German Attacks On Beachhead Front Halted By British

### Germans Fall Back With Heavy Losses; Enemy Wiped Out

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES, Feb. 29—(AP)—British troops broke up a series of small German attacks in the ravine territory southwest of Salerno, on the beachhead front yesterday while Allied troops mopped up Nazis who wriggled through the lines near Cassino, it was announced today.

## U. S. ATTACK ON GUAM, KNOX STATES

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox said today that Axis reports of an American attack on Guam, a United States outpost in the Pacific, captured by the Japanese early in the war, "was just a misstatement for propaganda purposes."

## Jap Troops At Rabaul Very Quiet

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific, Feb. 29—(AP)—Japan's troops at Rabaul, New Britain, most heavily bombed spot in the South Pacific, kept close to their foxholes today while they counted up new demands.

## SENATE RECESSES IN McNARY MEMORY

Washington, Feb. 29—(AP)—The Senate today closed a three-day session out of respect for the memory of Senator Charles McNary, of Oregon, Republican leader, who Friday in Florida.

## WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Partly cloudy, with occasional rain in east portion this afternoon and tonight. Little change in temperature; Wednesday, continued partly cloudy.

## Whole Area In Northwest Is Menaced

### German Transport System in Chaos In Some Sections

Moscow, Feb. 29—(AP)—All territory held by the Germans in northwest Russia is now gravely threatened by the Red army drive on Pskov and there is evidence that the Nazi transportation system in some places is being disorganized due to disruption from the Baltic front declared today.

The German radio, quoting the Soviet Army newspaper Red Star, said the Russians now were "fighting inside the German defenses around Pskov," with advanced Red army units "within sight of the fortress city."

"The Germans are resisting fiercely, especially along the main road, and the Red army has to fight hard for every village it takes," said the broadcast, received by the U. S. Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service.

With the outbreak of the Russian drive on Pskov, 100 miles away, the German situation is already being threatened by the Red army heavy units.

A dispatch to Red Star from the Pskov front said that in many sections the roads are so clogged with wrecked German transports, guns and tanks that special Soviet clean-up squads have been formed to clear them away to enable the Red army to march through on the heels of the retreating enemy.

With the weather now prevailing over the northern fields, mud making it impossible and Red Star said of Soviet soldiers quickly formed for night operations are pursuing the Germans through the dark hours.

Further south, the Russians were reported smashing through an intricate network of German communications lines and fortifications just east of the border of the Latvian republic. At one point Russian troops were only 100 miles from the republic's frontier.

This breakthrough, which has disorganized German defense plans and fighting lines, is seriously endangering Hitler's plans in the north and may shortly have far-reaching results, Red Star said.

With the Russians making great headway in this region, approximately 70 miles below Pskov, it appeared evident that German positions around Pskov cannot long be held, dispatches said.

## HOSIER APPOINTED TO MANPOWER POST

Charlotte, Feb. 29—(AP)—Secretary of Labor Perkins has appointed Walter V. Hosier, of Charlotte, to the post of director of the national committee for conservation of manpower in war industries in the Carolinas, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee and Mississippi, Hosier disclosed today.

## U. S. Bombers Strike Again At Brunswick

London, Feb. 29—(AP)—U. S. heavy bombers, in their 19th operation for February, today attacked targets at Brunswick, classified by the Army as "one of Germany's major manufacturing centers of aircraft components and engines and an important communications center."

A communiqué noted that Brunswick targets twice were attacked in last week's daylight offensive against Nazi component assembly and allied industries.

U. S. and British fighter planes today struck the Flying Fortress in Brunswick.

The February total of 19 operations is even more than that in any other month. The 18th operation the French "rocket coast" in which six bombers were lost. Allied medium bombers and fighters struck at the same targets from dawn to noon today.