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Drastic Moves Loom With Irish Refusal

Blockade of Border As Safeguard From Axis Spies Likely

Washington, March 11—(AP)—Drastic measures to safeguard Allied invasion preparations in Britain from Axis espionage were expected today to follow Prime Minister De Valera's refusal of an American request that Ireland oust German and Japanese diplomats accused of heading a spy ring.

The need for early decisive action to keep enemy agents from further enlarging their knowledge of Allied plans for the second front assault on Europe was emphasized by an official statement that because of spy activities based on Ireland, "not only the success of the operations but the lives of thousands of United Nations' soldiers are at stake."

The American case was set forth in a note made public by Secretary of State Hull last night in which De Valera was urged to expel all Axis diplomats and consular officials from his country.

At the same time the Irish delegation here released the text of De Valera's reply, turning down the appeal. De Valera claimed Ireland's counter spy methods were effective and asserted that no American lives would be lost "through any indifference or neglect of its duty" on the part of his country.

He also made two other main points. That expulsion of German and Japanese officers would be a first step toward going to war with the Axis, which his country is determined not to do; and that he had received assurances from the United States that it did not intend to invade Ireland.

Thus for the first time it was officially revealed how gravely the Dublin government had viewed events of the past few weeks, during which the world knew only that Ireland had been swept by waves of invasion jitters.

Several further measures appear to be open to the United States and Britain, which had backed the American request to the limit. They include:

1. Closing and fully guarding the border between Eire and northern Ireland, as an emergency military measure.

2. Breaking diplomatic relations with the Dublin government. This appears to be the most impracticable step of all, since it usually are serious problems that it solves.

3. Clamping down on economic collaboration with Ireland. The country is an integral part of the British economic system and dependent entirely on British and American shipping.

Even the text of the two notes it was clear that the aim on both sides was a friendly solution of difficulties.

REPUBLICAN TO OPPOSE BARDEN

Clinton, March 11—(AP)—Third district Republicans in convention here yesterday, nominated H. R. Keeney, farmer and business man of Calypso, in Duplin county, as their candidate in the forthcoming election for representative from the third congressional district.

Representative Graham A. Barden, of New Bern, the Democratic incumbent, has announced he will seek reelection.

Kornegay told the convention he would make a vigorous campaign for the House seat.

Two Sets Of Triplets At Winston-Salem

Winston-Salem, March 11—(AP)—The youngest of the Smith triplets died this morning at the Baptist hospital, although the other two boys were reported by doctors to be in good condition. The triplets were born to Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Smith on their farm ten miles west of Winston Thursday evening and were brought to the hospital immediately after birth. The mother remained at home, where her condition was reported by the attending physician, Dr. E. H. Reynolds, to be good. The youngest of the triplets who died today has been greeted from the first and was being administered oxygen yesterday. They weighed 4.5 pounds, 3.6 pounds and 3.6 pounds, respectively.

At City Hospital, meanwhile, the triplet daughters of Mr. and Mrs. William Solomon, Kernersville, Route 1, were reported doing fine. They were born at the hospital last Sunday morning and have been named Mary, Martha and Marie.

A-1 Son of I-A Dad



HIS MOTHER disappeared last February and his father is in I-A, so Harold Weidman, Jr., 13, of Chicago, has to stay home and take care of his five younger brothers. He is shown with three of them. They are: David, Earl, and Buddy. The others, not shown, are Richard and Ronald. (International)

Six Dead In Hotel Blaze In Richmond

Richmond, Va., March 11—(AP)—Mrs. James Hubert Price, widow of the late Governor of Virginia, was identified today as one of the six victims of the disastrous fire in the Hotel Jefferson last midnight, which also claimed the life of State Senator Aubrey G. Weaver, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

The identification was made by her son, James H. Price, Jr., at a funeral home. The former U. S. Ambassador, who has lived in the hotel since shortly after the governor's death, wore a wedding ring with an inscription from her husband.

Richmond, Va., March 11—(AP)—Fire swept through two floors of Richmond's Jefferson hotel shortly after last midnight, killing six persons. They were: Aubrey G. Weaver, 62, State senator from Front Royal, Va.; and chairman of the Virginia Senate Finance Committee.

Dorothy Gunn, 24, Newark, N. J.; Jean M. Mantel, about 24, Livingston, N. J.; J. W. Ross, mother, Camp Perry, Va.

The unidentified woman. Nearly a score of guests were hospitalized and others treated at the scene for shock and smoke inhalation.

The hotel, crowded with members of the Virginia General Assembly, was a scene of confusion as men

British War Industries Menaced By Coal Strike

London, March 11—(AP)—The steel and ship plant of Wales, important to Britain's war production, announced today that their operations would be crippled within the next few days unless activities are resumed from the coal mines, currently paralyzed by a spreading strike in which 100,000 workers have quit the pits.

"These controlling heavy industries in this area have taken every possible step to reduce coal consumption," said Lewis Jones, Labor member of Parliament and secretary of the South Wales Steel Association.

Says Union Trying To End Formula

Accusations Hurlled At Textile Leader At Hearing of WLB

Washington, March 11—(AP)—The Textile Workers Union was accused today of trying to break the "little steel" formula, the charge was hurled by representatives of the southern textile industry in a tri-party War Labor Board hearing.

L. P. McIlwain, of the Erwin Cotton Mills, Greensboro, N. C., snarled across a table at Isadore Katz, general counsel for the union. "I am sure that you will be the first to agree that this is an attempt to break the little steel formula."

Katz replied that the union is trying to "eliminate substantial conditions in living in the blighted South."

Twenty-three companies are involved in the case, in which the union is demanding a minimum hourly wage of sixty cents, a general increase of at least ten cents an hour, guaranteed hourly pay for more workers, vacation pay, an hourly bonus of seven cents for tired shift workers and other considerations.

Today's hearing was for the purpose of setting a time and place for the main hearings, but Dr. Lloyd Reynolds, chairman of the WLB panel, said no decision would be made until late in the day.

The union requested that hearings start March 29 but industry representatives said they could not prepare data before April 24.

ECTC Board Is Backing Dr. Meadows

BY LYNN NISBET Daily Dispatch Bureau

Raleigh, March 11—Whatever the final outcome may be, it was clearly evident at the meeting Friday that the board of trustees of East Carolina Teachers College at Greenville was backing its president, Dr. Leon R. Meadows, in the face of a State senator's report that he had failed to account satisfactorily for more than eighteen thousand dollars of auxiliary college funds handled by him during the nine years from July 1, 1934, to June 30, 1943.

The assembly room in the education building where the meeting was held, was crowded by Greenville supporters of Dr. Meadows. Before the board was called to order, throughout the day these visitors as well as board members clearly indicated their support for the president.

The session opened with Dr. James Y. Joyner, veteran educator and former State superintendent of public instruction, in an office that carries the name of the late Governor, making a moving speech supporting Dr. Meadows. Joyner said that alumni and others who know the president have almost confidence in him and implied that the audit report, though admittedly fair in itself, had been inspired by jealousy.

Dr. Meadows himself made a statement declaring absolute innocence of the charges.

and women rushed from their rooms to be called for help when flames enveloped the fifth and sixth floors. Of unincorporated cases, the fire apparently began in a men's closet. Damage was confined to the two floors.

It will be impossible for the works to carry on production more than a few days. All but seven of the 292 colleges of the south Wales district are idle. Several hundred more also walked out of the north England Durham mines and another Scottish mine closed, bringing the number of strikers in Scotland to 8,000.

Urgent appeals to resume work at once, ending this worst wartime strike, when it costing Britain 330,000 tons of coal weekly, were made by officials of the mine union federation and members of Parliament from the coal field district at a Cardiff meeting of 250 delegates of union locals.

German Lines Are Shattered For 500 Miles In The South

PLAN BIGGER AND BETTER AIR BLOWS AT NAZIS



ALLIED AIR CHIEFS in Britain study a map of Europe as they plan new assaults on Hitler's stronghold. They are (l. to r.) Maj. Gen. William O. Butler, deputy commander in chief, Allied Expeditionary Air Force; Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh-Mallory, commander in chief, AEAF; Air Vice Marshal H. Wigglesworth; Brig. Gen. Aubrey C. Strickland; Maj. Gen. L. H. Drexton (seated, foreground), commander, 2d USAAF; and Air Marshal Sir Arthur Coningham, commanding 2d Tactical Air Force. (International)

American Bombers Resume Blitz On Strategic Centers

Germans In Yugoslavia At New Peak

Allied Headquarters, Naples, March 11—(AP)—British destroyers have shelled towns on Korcula island off the Dalmatian coast, reported occupied by large numbers of Germans, headquarters announced today.

The bombardment was carried out Wednesday night, and that, "in spite of accurate fire from enemy shore batteries, our ships sustained neither casualties nor damage."

Korcula is one of a chain of stepping stone islands, below Split. Most are large sized and excellent as bases.

London, March 11—(AP)—Increase of German forces in Yugoslavia to a new peak of strength was reported in a delayed dispatch today on the heels of a Berlin statement that Allied commandos had landed on the Adriatic island of Lissa and that other raids along the Dalmatian coast might be expected.

In a dispatch from Bari, Italy, dated March 11, high officers of the British Expeditionary Force were quoted as saying the Nazis now had elements of 20 divisions in Yugoslavia.

The dispatch declared that German occupation forces support of Dalmatian islands was accompanied by heavy losses to a British commando force from a seaborne attack on the island of Lissa.

GERMAN CAPITAL MOVES TO BRESLAU

Naples, March 11—(AP)—Unofficial but trustworthy reports said today that Allied bombers had forced the Germans to move their capital from Berlin to Breslau, 175 miles to the southwest.

The move from bomb-battered Berlin began quietly several weeks ago, and now most of the government functions are carried out at the new Silesian headquarters, it was said.

Neither the targets on the road nor in western Germany was specifically identified.

The American attack on western Germany was the second quick dose of bombs for that section of the Reich, the RAF's Mosquitos having made another of their incursions there during the night.

The air ministry said three aircraft factories and a small bearing factory in central and southern France were hit in a "blow-off" operation in the continuing campaign to knock out Germany's aircraft production facilities. The specific objectives were not named.

Western Germany And French Coast Pounded By Planes

London, March 11—(AP)—American Flying Fortresses hit Munster in western Germany today, while Liberator bombers were losing hard blows at German military installations in the Pas-de-Calais region of the French coast, headquarters announced.

The two-pronged American daylight attack was made through sub-stratosphere snowstorms without the loss of a single bomber, but four fighters were lost during the day's operations.

The new blitz followed up RAF Lancaster night precision assaults on four factories in France.

Other forces of American Thunderbolt fighters also contributed to the daylight sweeps by straddling air-dromes, gun positions and other German military targets in occupied territory.

London, March 11—(AP)—American Fortresses and Liberators resumed their record bombing marathon after a full of one day and struck a heavy blow at western Germany and Pas de Calais coast of France today a few hours after the RAF's Lancasters made a precision night attack on four factories in France.

The new assault on the French coast, which the RAF's Minister of Church, of France, and the RAF's Minister of Church, of France, were leading, was a surprise to the British and French governments.

These targets of the nearby northern French coast it has never been hammered by Allied planes on sixty days out of the last three months.

The American bombers went out after only a day's interval in the campaign which has now taken them on a scorching tour of German targets, including Berlin, on ten of the last thirteen days—an unprecedented streak of activity for this theatre, eight of these attacks were against Germany itself.

London, March 11—(AP)—Medium bombers attacked Florence for the first time today, hitting at the important railway center supplying the German front in Italy.

A headquarters statement declared the Allies had been reluctant to attack Florence because of its artistic importance, but "there is no doubt, however, that the Germans have made deliberate use of its strategic position as a base for their operations against the city, 140 miles north of Rome."

The tremendous southern lunge, covering from 25 to 50 miles since last Monday, possibly spelled the doom of the enemy's Danube bend forces. Spearheads of the Army exploiting their success, were already driving the Germans back upon the Bug river line, further to the west, and clearing out German positions to the southeast in the direction of Kirovograd.

The last Ukrainian army was shoving into southern Poland across the severed Odessa-Moscow trunk railway. The third Ukrainian army pressed on toward the Black Sea ports of Kherson and Nikolayev.

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Former Vichy Minister Is Given Death

Algiers, March 11—(AP)—Pierre Pucheu, former Vichy interior minister, today was convicted of treason and condemned to death by a special military tribunal after the defendant, in a last passionate declaration of indignance, had cried out, "This is not a court of justice, it's a political court."

The court, after one hour of deliberation, convicted Pucheu of treason, malfeasance in office and collaboration with the enemy. He was found innocent of illegal arrests and conspiracy to overthrow the third republic.

Pucheu was not present when the three-judge court brought in the verdict. Further, the court refused a delay in pronouncing a general amnesty for the government.

London, March 11—(AP)—Robert Emery Carmichael, 82, one of the country's oldest active newspapermen, died at his home here last night. He was a member of the news staff of the Times and Sentinel for 62 years, and his editorial column, "Times Topics," appeared in the newspaper by him for three decades.

Funeral services will be held at 4 p. m. tomorrow at Birkbeck Methodist church here.

Allied Forces Gaining On Rim Of Bismarck Sea

London, March 11—(AP)—Allied troops are advancing all around the Bismarck Sea, while the Japanese, without any back, are trying to choke off the sources of the daily attacks on their flying base at Rabaul, New Britain.

The main Allied victory reported today by General Douglas MacArthur was the capture by United States Marines of the Talasea airfield and village, 170 miles from Rabaul, on the north New Britain coast.

United States soldiers were disclosed to have pushed ahead three and one half more miles at mid-Japanese opposition on Los Negros island in the strategic Admiralties group.

Less strategically important than the Talasea fighting, but more striking was the Japanese efforts at this time to knock out the airfields used by Allied planes attacking Rabaul.

These airbases inside the Allied perimeter at Empress Augusta bay on Bougainville island in the northern Solomons were shelled by Japanese artillery. There was no indication that the Bougainville fighting would have the slightest effect on the Rabaul air offensive.

20 Thousand Nazis Slain, Reds Claim

Soviet Objective Is to Clear Enemy From South Russia

London, March 11—(AP)—Three great Soviet armies, rolling forward through the mud and water of the southern Ukraine, have shattered German lines over a 500-mile front in a mammoth drive to clear the enemy from all southern Russia. Moscow dispatches reported today.

The drive was brought into sharp focus by yesterday's announcement that a third offensive had been launched in that area by the second Ukrainian army.

Moscow said the forces had broken through enemy defenses on a 105-mile line southwest of Cherkassy, killing 20,000 Germans, 2,500 more and liberating more than 200 towns and villages, including the vital stronghold of Yuzovka, less than thirty miles northwest of the Bug river.

Fourteen German divisions—approximately 150,000 men—were routed in this two-day drive, the Russian communiqué said.

"The main body of the German defeat can be judged from the huge quantities of trophies captured by our troops," the communiqué said.

Weapons and military supplies were shown on the scene as part of the first from the Gubinska front to the town of Yuzovka. All the roads were packed with enemy tanks, self-propelled guns, armored troop carriers and trucks.

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London, March 11—(AP)—Hendrick Wilhelm Van Loon, 62, historian and author, died today at his home in Old Greenwich, Van Loon, native of Holland and devoted to the cause of the Dutch in the current war, was the organizer of a short wave program directed to Holland from Station WRUL in Boston. The program subsequently was sponsored by the free Netherlands government.

Van Loon, author of the "Story of Mankind," was best known for his treatment of history as a simple story stated in simple terms.

R. E. CARMICHAEL, NEWSMAN, DEAD

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