

Agency For Reconversion Is Opposed

GOP Senators Seek Support of South To Block Measure

Washington, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Senate Republicans sought support today from southern "states' rights" Democrats to oppose a bill to create a super-reconversion agency and set up \$25 weekly Federal postwar unemployment payment standard.

Reported from the military committee last night by a 10 to 7 vote, the bill was termed by Senator Austin, Vermont Republican, an "unprecedented grant of power" to Washington.

Supported by Senators Murray, Montana Democrat, Truman, Missouri Democrat, and Kilgore, West Virginia Democrat, it would create an office of war mobilization and adjustment to preside as top agency over production and manpower until two years after the close of the war, when the unemployment provision also would expire.

The bill envisions the appointment of a work administrator with authority to transport workers to new jobs, and to provide six months of Federally-paid vocational educational training to any worker, plus paying \$50 a month subsistence, \$75 if he is married.

The unemployment compensation section, sharply contrasting with a separate bill by Senator George, Georgia Democrat, to leave rate-fixing to the states while guaranteeing the solvency of State employment insurance funds, would fix unemployment standards.

State Guard Is Called At Philadelphia

Philadelphia, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Three regiments of the Pennsylvania State Guard were mobilized today as 6,000 Philadelphia transit strikers resisted United States Army orders to end a five-day work stoppage marked by racial disorders and threats of violence against returning workers.

A high source said the guard units would be used "only to maintain order" in connection with the Army's efforts to restore transportation services.

The source, who asked not to be quoted directly, said the Army had told him that "troops brought here will be used only to operate the Philadelphia Transportation Company's rolling stock."

Meanwhile, a showdown appeared imminent between the strikers and the army, which seized the line Thursday night by order of President Roosevelt.

The Army disclosed that its next step in the dispute would be in cooperation with the Department of Justice.

In Washington, James P. McGanery, assistant to the attorney general, said flatly that any one who obstructed a return to work since the Army took over the Philadelphia Transportation Company, was "very likely to be arrested—and soon."

SHELL-SHATTERED ST. LO CATHEDRAL



THE REMAINS of Notre Dame Cathedral stand amid the wrecked buildings in the debris-filled streets of the French town of St. Lo. American Army engineers using Yank-built bulldozers are already at work clearing away the debris in the Normandy town. (International Soundphoto)

Coast Line Wreck In Georgia Fatal To Fifty Or More

Passenger Train Crashes Freight; Laborers Killed

Stockton, Ga., Aug. 5.—(AP)—A westbound Atlantic Coast Line passenger train crashed into the locomotive of a bypassed freight on a siding near here early today, killing at least 47 persons, mostly railway laborers going home for the weekend to Alabama.

H. L. Tomlinson, station agent for the railroad, said at least 47 bodies had been found. Nearly all the dead, he said, were Negroes, members of a work gang which had been at Doctortown, Ga. Tomlinson said more bodies were in the wreckage, but he could not estimate the number.

An undetermined number were injured. "Three or four passenger cars" and a baggage car were derailed, Tomlinson said, adding that work of clearing the track would probably take all day. The wreck occurred a few minutes after midnight.

First reports said that approximately 30 persons were injured, but Tomlinson said many of them died in hospitals, and that as far as he could learn only about five or six remained under hospitalization.

The agent said a broken rail apparently threw the passenger train, No. 57, into the siding on which the freight had pulled. The fireman of the freight, whose name was not learned immediately, was scalded, Tomlinson reported. None of the

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AWAIT FERRY PLANES TO RUSSIA



SCANNING THE SKIES at an airfield in Fairbanks, Alaska, are three Russian ferry pilots and an American officer, awaiting the arrival of twin-engine ferry planes which are regularly ferried to the Russian fighting front. It was recently made public that about 10,000 planes have reached Russia by way of this route. (International Soundphoto)

AMERICANS NEAR NANTES RUSSIANS ON NAZI SOIL

Prussia Is Penetrated By The Reds

Battle of Warsaw Rages Inside and Outside Old City

London, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Berlin reports indicated today the Red army had carried the war to German soil in East Prussia, but there was no solid proof that the Russians had crossed the border.

The Soviet forces seemed to be hiding their time while driving a new wedge toward the Baltic Sea to cut off potentially powerful forces in upper Lithuania and Latvia.

However, growing masses of Red troops are poised on the eastern fringe of East Prussia and apparently they can cross whenever they chose.

German radio broadcasts in the afternoon reported a Russian "breakthrough" in the border area, at a frontier station about a mile east of the line.

Later Berlin reports said the push had been halted. Moscow dispatches told of fires raging in East Prussian towns which are now the objectives of Red army infantry attacks.

London, Aug. 5.—(AP)—The Russians have carried the ground war to German soil for the first time by penetrating the northeastern part of East Prussia. Berlin reports indicated today, and Moscow dispatches said, fires were raging in East Prussian towns which now are objectives of Red Army infantry attacks.

The German high command, however, are posted along the northern bank of the Arno within the city limits.

There were no reports today indicating actual fighting within the portions of Florence reached by eighth Army units.

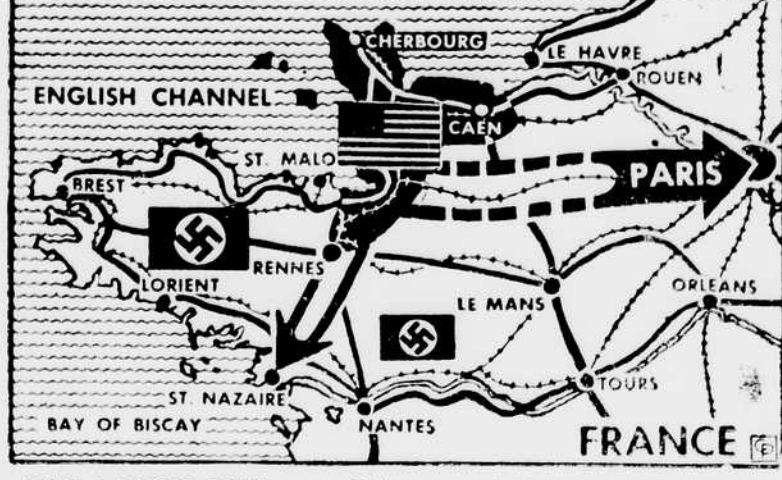
All along the south side of the Arno, British, Indian, New Zealand and American troops crushed the Nazis back and threatened to cut the weakened defenders out of the city.

While the battle for Warsaw to the south raged inside and out of the old Polish capital, the Red army flung strong cavalry forces across two water barriers in a smashing drive to within thirty miles of Krakow, the last big city stronghold of the Germans during invasion of Germany.

A Transmissian broadcast from Berlin said "heavy fighting is going on against Soviet formations which have broken through on the east Prussian border north of Vrubalis."

Vrubalis is a frontier post about a mile from the East Prussian frontier. The village itself is two, or three miles from the station on the main railway between Kaunas, former capital of Lithuania, and Koeningberg, largest city of East Prussia.

U.S. DRIVES 40 MILES TO RENNES



AFTER A RECORD DRIVE across Brittany in which American troops and tanks set a pace of 40 miles in 24 hours, the vital supply and transport center of Rennes appears about to fall into U. S. hands.

The speed with which the gain was made, matching the great Russian smash partially covers the Breton peninsula and starts the Yanks well on their way to St. Nazaire at the southern base of the peninsula. Rennes had been considered a possible center for Allied supplies and one that would be hard to reach.

From Rennes, it will be possible for U. S. forces to swing toward Paris, to south Brittany, and to the coast. (International)

Florence's Suburbs Are Held By Allies As Drive Continues

Rome, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Eighth Army troops have completed occupation of the suburbs of Florence, south of the Arno river, and, bearing down along a 25-mile sector, are pressing the enemy back against the stream on both sides of the city.

General Alexander's command announced that "although the enemy proclaimed that he regards Florence as an open city, he has seen fit to use it for his military traffic, and when outflung south of the city, has blown up all the bridges, except the historic Ponte Vecchio. His paratroops, however, are posted along the northern bank of the Arno within the city limits."

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Half Breton Peninsula Is Occupied

Germans Retreat Before British in Normandy Section

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, Aug. 5.—(AP)—American troops swarmed over half of the Breton peninsula today, thrusting nearly to the port of Nantes and at its base and advancing to within 85 miles of Brest at its tip.

To the north, in Normandy, German troops were in a general withdrawal from the whole Odon-Orne valley, southwest of Caen. The thrust by British and Canadian troops there was bringing closer a possible major German retreat to the Seine river, 70 miles to the east, and the opening of the way to Paris.

Giving up 50 square miles of territory in a five-mile retreat, the Germans below the Canadian sector were declared in a front dispatch to be moving their forces back and forth in great confusion.

After six days of battling, British troops knicked loose the Villers-Bocage, the keystone of the German defenses west of the Orne river, and took at least 15 towns and villages.

Advancing on an eight-mile front, the British swarmed into evacuated Villers-Bocage and captured Noyers, Fligny, Evrecy and Hills 112 and 113—all points the Germans have fought bitterly for weeks to hold.

The fall of Villers-Bocage left the Nazis with the choice of either pulling out or running the risk of having their forces trapped in a V-shaped wedge between the Odon and Orne rivers, extending from Evrecy, northeastward toward Caen.

The supreme headquarters communique confirmed that General Bradley's unslacking American tank-infantry force, driving west on the Breton peninsula, had reached Louzac, 85 miles from the great port of Brest, at the peninsula's end.

The Germans told of a penetration to Pontivy, ten miles farther.)

French War Plant Workers at Paris Fighting Germans

Madrid, Aug. 5.—(AP)—French factory workers in the "red belt" communist sector around Paris have begun open guerrilla warfare against German occupation forces, information reaching here from the French capital said today.

German elite guard troops now are patrolling the suburban industrial districts of Aubervilliers, La Courneuve and Billancourt, these advisers related. Several factories in Billancourt, here across the Seine, and the Renault tank and truck works are reported to have been damaged by explosion of bombs dropped by Allied planes.

U. S. Invasion Losses 70,009

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Allied forces in France have lost a total of 116,148 men killed, wounded and missing from D-Day, June 6, through July 10, of which 70,009 were Americans, Supreme Headquarters announced today.

United States forces lost 11,156 killed, 52,710 wounded and 6,143 missing. Included in these figures were the casualties sustained during pre-invasion exercises last April, when U-boats attacked a convoy and killed 130 and wounded 41, with 312 missing.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Mostly cloudy and mild to night and Sunday, with afternoon thundershowers and rather hot in afternoon.

Jap Retreat Abandoning 700 Miles Guinea Coast

General Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Aug. 5.—(AP)—The full retreat of Japan's second army promised today to deliver a 700-mile sweep of Dutch New Guinea coast to General MacArthur's forces without further bitter fighting.

The general reported that thousands of outflanker Japanese were abandoning all their strong points along the broad Geelvink bay, in the upper Gogelvik peninsula, an area comprising nearly a third of New Guinea.

The Japanese apparently hope to reach the west coast for evacuation. But the hazards of terrain, and Al-

U. S. Seeking To Appease Franco Regime In Spain

Washington, Aug. 5.—(AP)—Evidence that the United States may be seeking friendlier relations with Generalissimo Franco's Spanish government was seen by diplomats here today in an unusual official statement on the death of Spanish Foreign Minister Jordana.

Speculation over the reason for issuing the statement, reminiscent of Prime Minister Churchill's "friendly words" for Spain last May, ran to two possibilities.

1. The American government has decided to seek generally a more friendly understanding with the ruling powers in Spain, thereby reversing its traditionally critical attitude toward Franco because of his long pro-Nazi policy.

2. More specifically, Washington wants to make it apparent to Madrid that various friendly actions by Jordana had been deeply appreciated by American officials, and they hoped his successor would be equally cooperative.

The State Department simultaneously released two statements. One was the customary condolence sent to the acting foreign minister by Acting Secretary of State Edward R. Stettin.

The second was a press release saying that news of Jordana's death had been received with great regrets by officials of this government, and recounting occasions on which his personal action had been favorable to American policy.

It was understood that issuance of this latter statement was objected to by some officials on the ground that it showed a too cooperative attitude toward the present regime in Madrid.

1944 Cotton Loan 21.40c Per Pound Under WFA Grant

Washington, Aug. 5.—(AP)—The War Food Administration announced today that government price supporting loans to growers on 1944-crop cotton will be offered at an average rate of 21.40 cents a pound for 15-16 inch middling cotton, net weight.

The WFA said the rate was equivalent to 92.5 per cent of the parity price of cotton. The rate of 1943 cotton was 20.06 cents.

The actual loan rate on any particular lot of cotton will depend upon its grade and staple quality at its location. The loan program sets up a schedule of premiums and discounts for grades and staples.