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YANKS CUT THROUGH FANATICAL IWO JAPS

\$232 Millions State Appropriations Bill Is Passed By House

Record Speed For Record Bill Shown In Quick Approval

In Prison Hospital



Lt. Sam C. Epe wears a bandage on his neck as he stands in a room at the state prison in Columbia. S. C. The 29-year-old officer from Richland, Va., has been charged with murdering his wife. Army authorities said Epe slashed his wrists and throat in a suicide attempt. (AP Photo.)

Senate Will Design Own Work Rules

Committee Drawing Voluntary Measure, Despite FDR Plea

Washington, Feb. 20.—(AP)—The Senate Military Committee began today the drafting of its own voluntary manpower bill in the face of a new presidential appeal for House-approved compulsory labor controls.

Senators O'Mahoney, Wyoming Democrat, submitted a strongly supported substitute under which War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes would be empowered to cancel war contracts from areas where labor is scarce to surplus labor areas.

It was the eighth in the fourth successive strike at vital railroads in an effort to snarl German transportation headed for the front lines.

Other bombers from Italy also were reported attacking from the south.

Counting today's operations, the Allies have hit Germany with more than 1,200 heavy bombers every 24 hours since last Tuesday.

(Continued on Page Two.)

School Bills Referred To Small Group

Raleigh, Feb. 20.—(AP)—The joint committee on education referred today to a sub-committee bills to provide for the fiscal control of the State public school funds, the appointment of a controller and nine days sick leave with pay for school teachers.

Named to the sub-committee were Representative Edwards of Greene, Evans of Hertford and Umstead of Orange, and Senators Currie of Durham and Blythe of Mecklenburg.

Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, State superintendent of public instruction, and Senator Rose of Cumberland opposed

(Continued on Page Two.)

Wallace May Yet Get Last Laugh, His Opponents Fear

Washington, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Some opponents began to fear today they have placed Henry Wallace in an enviable political position by opening his way to a cabinet position minus responsibility for government lending.

As the Wallace nomination for commerce secretary picked up additional support, one senator who has helped lead the fight against confirmation told reporters:

"If we confirm him he can continue to advocate a full employment program without any responsibility for attempting to put it into effect. If he wants to, he can say that Congress refused to give him the authority and no one can blame him if nothing is done."

The senator asked not to be quoted by name.

Congress already has sent to the

Canadians Drive Germans From Goch

U.S. Seventh Takes Five Enemy Towns

Patton's Army Now Near Saarbrucken; New Blows Awaited

Paris, Feb. 20.—(AP)—The Canadian first army virtually cleared the ruins of Goch, fortified Siegfried line road center, today and repelled at least five vicious counter attacks which checked gains on the northern wing of the western front.

At the opposite end, the American seventh army widened its regiment front inside the industrial Saarland and captured five towns in a move to within three and a half miles and in sight of the blackened steel city of Saarbrucken. The seven-th, at least eleven divisions and 155,000 men strong, was applying increasing pressure in its bidirectional offensive at the fringe of the packed arsenal region.

In between, Lt. Gen. George Patton's United States third army stormed into Germany at a new point, capturing Wincheringen, a mile across the border east of Luxembourg city. The 9th division seized four towns along a four-mile front between Saarbrucken and Trier.

The Rhine river, like the Rhine and Meuse, was receding. When its flood waters return to banks in the 36 miles from the opened dam gates to Remond, the American test and third armies and the British second.

(Continued on Page Two.)

Nuernberg's Rail Yards Are Blasted

London, Feb. 20.—(AP)—The vast railroad yards and locomotive repair shops of Nuernberg, 90 miles north of Munich, were blasted by 900 Flying Fortresses today in the eighth straight day of the aerial offensive against the Reich.

The bombers were escorted on the long haul across the dangerous Nazi fighter belt by about 700 Mustangs and Thunderbolts, when few in relays from British and French bases.

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(Continued on Page Two.)

FDR Sees Churchill And Kings Of East In Egypt

Washington, Feb. 20.—(AP)—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill have co-termed anew on strategy for crushing Japan in the Pacific, where Russia officially claims her role as a "neutral power."

The latest Roosevelt-Churchill meeting took place in Alexandria, Egypt, after conclusion February 11 of the historic big three conference at Yalta, Crimea, on the Black Sea.

But another meeting planned by Mr. Roosevelt during his trip to see Churchill and Marshal Stalin did not come off. General Charles de Gaulle, president of the provisional government of France, reported that his government would not permit him to meet the President at Algiers, French North Africa.

The whole dramatic story of the President's journey through the Middle East after the eight-day Yalta conference was told today in a lengthy dispatch released by the White House.

Aboard a U. S. man-of-war in the Suez Canal, Mr. Roosevelt received three storied rulers of eastern countries—King

of Persia, Emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia, and King Ibn Saud of Saudi Arabia.

The Roosevelt-Churchill conference at Alexandria lasted less than four hours. The official statement said this meeting "permitted new and important discussions on at least one important subject which they could not take up before." That had to do with Japan and the war in the Pacific, where Soviet Russia is a neutral power.

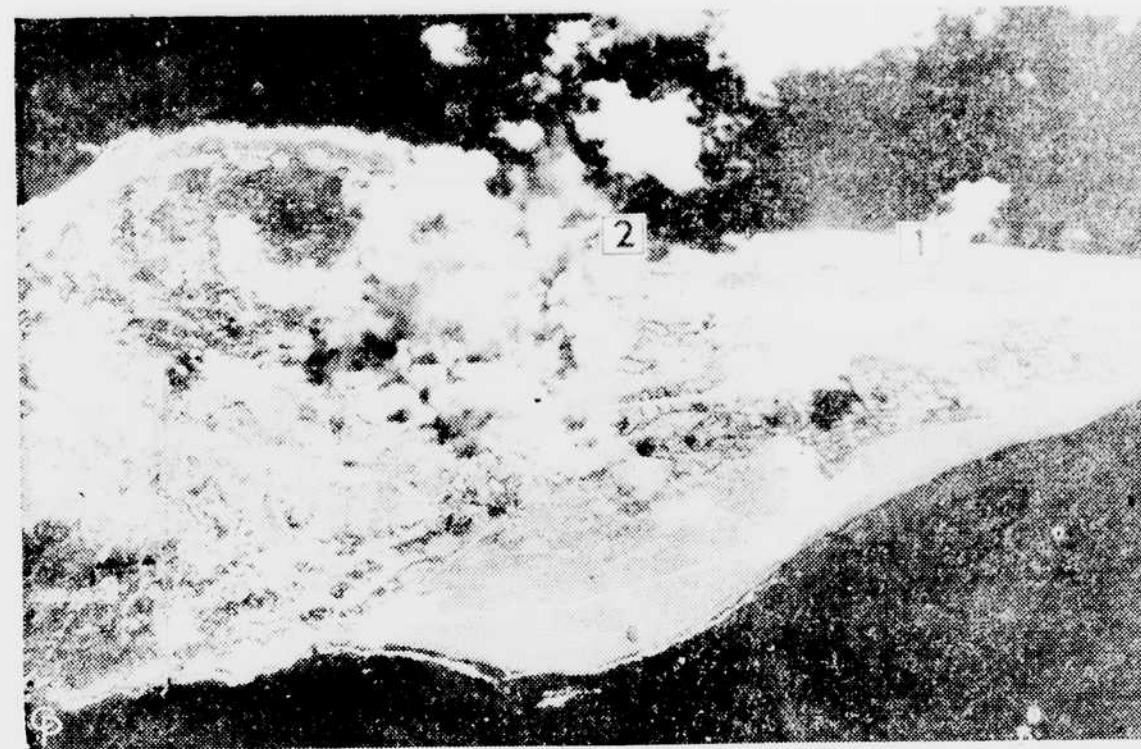
Churchill, the account continued, told Mr. Roosevelt: "In blunt words that his government was determined to throw everything it had at the Japs as soon as Germany has been defeated, and, meanwhile, would do all it could to strengthen its forces already engaged in that conflict."

Russia's future role in the Pacific has been a subject of speculation since the United Nations conference was set for San Francisco on April 25. That date is the last for Moscow

to give Japan official notice if Russia wishes to denounce her non-aggression pact with Tokyo. Otherwise, the treaty renews itself for five years.

(Continued on Page Two.)

WHERE YANKS ARE REPORTEDLY LANDING ON IWO JIMA



WHILE OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUES from Admiral Nimitz tell of terrific sea and air attacks on Iwo Jima, the Japanese radio continues to insist that an invasion of this highly strategic island is already under way. Here is an official Navy air-photo of Iwo during a recent bombing showing the locations in which landings are reported being made. The Japanese tell of fighting (1) at Futatsumi Beach and of landings at Kamiyama (2) on the southeastern shore of the island, which lies but 750 miles south of Tokyo. Iwo has several airstrips, one of which was under attack when the photo was taken. U. S. Navy Air Force photo. (International)

Airfield In South Taken By Assault

Marines Drive Path Clear Across Island And Hurl Foe Back

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, Feb. 20.—(AP)—American Marines seized the southern airfield on southern Iwo Jima today after smashing through Japanese defenses as "fanatically defended as any in the Pacific," Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced.

Veteran Marines mowed a path clear across the island, extending in an irregular wedge-shape two and a half miles long on the east coast to 1,000 yards on the west.

Newly captured territory reaches from the northern slope of Suribachi, Japanese volcano fortress on the southern tip of the island, now cut off from the northern defenders, to the northern edge of prized Motoyama airfield No. 1.

Last night a battalion of Japanese attacked in full strength down the runway to the southern edge of the airfield, but the 27th Marine regiment beat it back fiercely and drove off the Japanese remnants.

Sporadic artillery and mortar fire fell on American beaches on both sides of the island throughout the night, but United States forces continued to unload more supplies, reinforcements and artillery.

American night fighters broke up several Japanese air attempts to counterattack, while Pacific fleet units maintained a continuous bombardment of the highly-prized airbase island, 750 miles south of Tokyo.

Territory captured by the veterans Fifth Marine Corps in two days of fighting represents about one-quarter of the nine-mile-square island.

The community was the second semi-reasoned release issued by advanced Pacific fleet headquarters tonight of the toughest battle in the American Marines' history.

In his report today, Nimitz said American losses in smashing across the southern end of the island were relatively light, but were heavier on the northern flank of the original beachhead, where the Yanks battered up unprotected slopes to envelop the airfield.

The fight is the toughest we've run across in 188 years," Lt. Gen. Holland Smith, commander of Marine Corps forces in the Pacific, told AP Correspondent Morris Landsberg aboard sea forces standing off the island.

Landsberg reported thousands more Marines were pouring ashore to smash down the Japanese, entrenched in a network of caves on the rugged, volcanic island, and apparently in dread of losing the airbase island from which Tokyo could be raided by light bombers and fighter planes.

Russians Cut Deep Holes In German Eastern Lines

Affairs Are Easier, Says Mr. Churchill

Stassen Will Go To Conference, But Calls It Political

First Statement In Commons Following Return From Crimea

London, Feb. 20.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill declared in his first public reference today to the results of the big three Crimean conference that "affairs ahead are rather smooth."

Churchill returned to London yesterday after stopovers at Athens and Cairo. He was greeted with a rousing cheer when he walked into the House of Commons.

He and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden lost little time in stepping into the vigorous give-and-take of parliamentary debate. Eden announced that Tuesday and Wednesday of next week would be allocated to debate on the Crimea conference.

The prime minister's brief remains on conditions abroad came in a response to a request that time be allotted for consideration of social service legislation.

Churchill said he could hold out "no hope of special time being found in the present state of public business."

"What does he mean by the present situation?" inquired a member.

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(Continued on Page Two.)

Curfew Rule At Midnight Is Ordered

By The Associated Press

A mid-night curfew decree by War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes will go into effect Monday in all bars, night clubs, road houses—all night life—public or private, non-New York carriage trade gay spots in the myriad of jive hot spots in the nation's small towns.

Byrnes' "request," having the effect of an order, and backed by the discriminatory powers of law, was directed last night to all places of entertainment.

Reactions among entertainment leaders ranged from enthusiastic assurances of support to declarations such as "we're ruined," and predictions of a return to the speak-easy.

Byrnes said he would ask the War Manpower Commission to "deny certificates to any places violating this request." He also said the War Production Board, the Office of Defense Transportation and the Office of Price Administration would be asked to support.

Unofficially, it was thought the ODT could act against offenders by preventing delivery of supplies and by exercising taxicab and bus controls. The WPB could cut off power, fuel and materials. The OPA could halt rations and fuel oil.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Cloudy and cool, rain tonight and Wednesday.

Guben and Sennertsdorf, Silesia and Sagan on a 35-mile line to the south east of Berlin, Moscow never has claimed fall of Guben, but announced capture of the other three last week.

No new German reports are available on the situation in Guben, in which Russian tank spearheads were listed yesterday. Transocean added.

An earlier Transocean broadcast indicated Sagan had again been lost by defining a battle line placed west of that Bober river city.

Moscow dispatches said the 2nd army, despite Nazi counter attacks, was clinging to its positions in front of the Oder-Spree line southeast of Berlin, "while carrying out what may be some of the most important consolidations of this phase of the war."

A Russian push farther north had carried within 47 miles of Danzig. Guben's last night said had rewon