Henderson Daily Dispatch

THIRTY SECOND YEAR | LEASED WIRE SERVICE OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS | HENDERSON, N. C., SATURDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 3, 1945 | PUBLISHED EVERY AFTERNOON EXCEPT SUNDAY. | FIVE CENTS COPY

AMERICAN TROOPS BROADEN RHINE FRONT

Germans Along Baltic Are Isolated

Two Weeks Left Yet In Legislature

Finance Amendments Blamed For Delays In Adjournment Day

Raleigh, March 3.—(AP)—Legislative leaders predicted today that the assembly would not adjourn before March 17, if then, and said the delay partly could be attributed to the adoption yesterday of a finance bill amendment imposing an additional tax of $1 a gallon on all wines.

The amendment, by Representative Stone of Rockingham, caused second reading to be postponed until Monday. Passage of the $129,000,000 measure already had been delayed by the adoption Thursday of what Speaker Oscar Richardson ruled was a material amendment. That change exempted insecticides from the sales tax if purchased for use on poultry or livestock.

Opponents of Stone's amendment claimed that, since it increased a tax, it was contrary to the recommendations Governor Cherry made in his inaugural address. He asked then that no tax increases be made.

If precedent is followed—and predictions today were that it would be—wine lobbyists will ask for a public hearing on the amendment. That would reopen the revenue bill.

With the exception of the appointment of a compromise committee on an education bill, todays sessions were concerned with local matters.

The Senate had refused to accept House amendments providing for the appointment of attendance officers in the proposed eight educational districts, and to allow the State board of education to hold executive sessions.

Miners Deny Cost Claims Of Operators

Washington, March 3.—(AP)—Operator contentions that miner demands would cost $400,000,000 a year were called eighty percent wrong by Thomas B. Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers.

Kennedy added that cost figures available to all speak for themselves. He suggested that "we can negotiate without charges and counter charges."

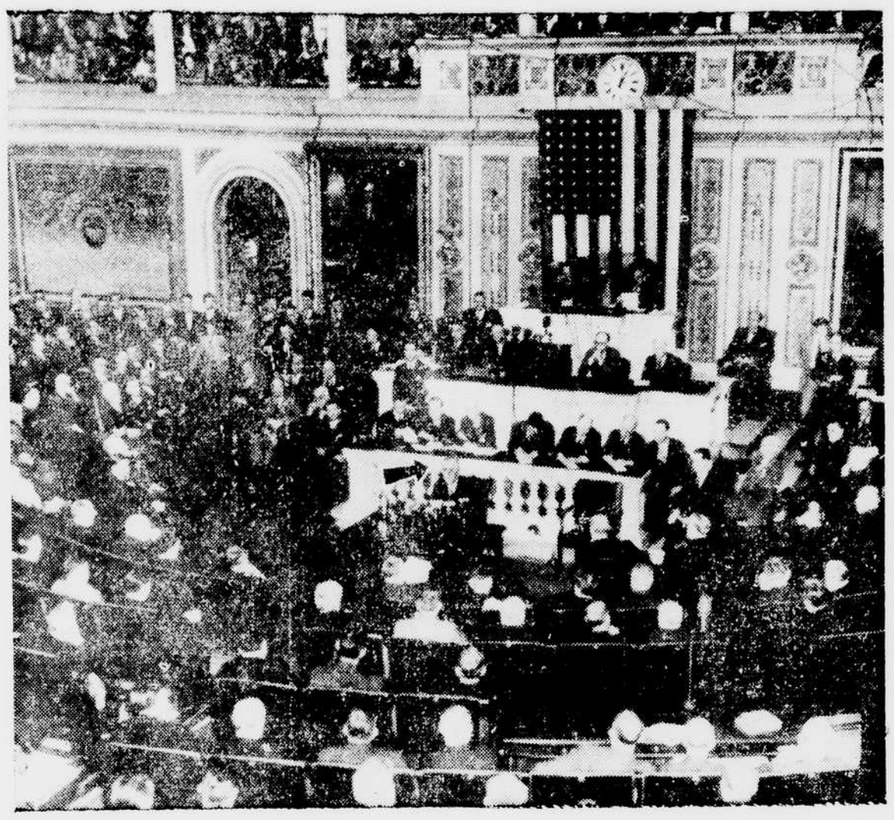
After listening to Kennedy the conference set up a joint subcommittee which will meet Monday to consider contracts.

U. S.-Canada Armies Unite

Parish, March 3. — (AP)—Vanguards of the United States ninth and Canadian first army joined today to form a solid front west of the Rhine, while the Germans blew up all the bridges in the Dusseldorf area.

American troops are now four miles from Cologne, it was announced this afternoon.

Joint Session of Congress Receives Conference Report



Sitting behind a battery of microphones, President Franklin D. Roosevelt is shown (arrow) as he addressed a joint session of Congress in the House of Representatives on the meeting of the Big Three at Yalta, Russia. In a 55-minute address he declared that the Crimea conference achieved "a good start on the road to world peace." (International Soundphoto.)

New U. S. Senator Of North Dakota, John Moses, Dies

Rochester, Minn., March 3.—(AP)—U. S. Senator John Moses three times governor of North Dakota, who won his national office by defeating Gerald P. Nye last fall, died early today here.

Moses was the first Democrat ever elected to represent North Dakota in either house of Congress and was one of the two men to serve three terms as governor of the state.

Hemisphere Peace Plan Is Approved

Mexico City, March 3.—(AP)—The inter-American conference acted today to guarantee the territorial integrity and independence of each American republic with the combined forces of the hemisphere.

The act of Chapultepec, modified by the United States from the original declaration offered by Colombia, Uruguay and Brazil, was presented to the commission on inter-American affairs. Its passage assured backing of the document by key American nations.

Delegates considered it historic in two ways. The act of Chapultepec is the most far-reaching pact in this hemisphere to enforce peace and it set an example for the United Nations conference in San Francisco.

The act obliges each American state to contribute to a joint action against any aggression in this hemisphere or invasion from beyond the seas.

The main change from the original declaration was to base the obligation on the United Nations' war effort at present and to provide for a permanent treaty later.

Cotton Mixed At The Finish

New York, March 3.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 15 cents a bale lower to five cents higher. Cotton futures closed ten cents a bale lower to 25 cents higher.

	Open	Close
March	22.13	22.14
May	22.07	22.06
July	21.79	21.83
October	21.17	21.22
December	21.08	21.12

Middling spot, 22.41, nominal, off three.

Marines Preparing To Close Trap Upon Japs On Iwo Island

Rugged Terrain In Path Of Americans Before End, However

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, March 3.—(AP)—Only 600 yards of terrain stood today between the third United States Marines and the point at which they may trap the last inter-connecting Japanese pillbox lines along blood-soaked Iwo island's northern end.

It was a rugged stretch, by anybody's definition. It slips irregularly downward to a cliff, which probably will serve as the last stand of the Japanese.

Between the Marine outposts and the cliff runs a system of half-underground enemy defense works which, like others the Marines have faced in the last ten days, must be taken the hard way. The Japanese are beginning to show signs of desperation.

The third division leathernecks lunged forward 700 yards Friday to seize a 361-foot hill in the northern part of the island, within rifle range of the cliff, and in position to cut the boomerang-shaped Nipponese line in two, approximately at the bend.

The American advance formed a salient pointing toward the inside of the bend.

Once the Japanese back up beyond the cliff they will be in the open between the devil dogs and the sea, and they no longer will have the advantage of concealing strong points.

The fourth Marines, on the right flank of the third, also inched forward after having been stopped for five days by ferocious enemy fire. To the left of the third division, the 4th Marines also advanced, but met the largest scale counter attack the Japanese have offered in several days. It had some aspects of a banzai attack such as the enemy has staged elsewhere when his position became hopeless.

War On Japan.

London, March 3.—(AP)—A Moscow broadcast said tonight the Romanian government yesterday "decided to declare war on Japan."

Yet Another Philippines Island Taken

Manila, March 3. — (AP)—General Douglas MacArthur disclosed today the fourth in a series of rapid fire invasions, a landing on Lubang island, 35 miles southwest of Manila bay—giving his forces complete control of the southeast sea route through the heart of the Philippines to Manila.

The western end of a 300-mile passage, through which Manila can be supplied as Luzon transformed int on huge military base facing Asia, was opened by veteran 24th division troops which seized Lubang Thursday.

Major General Frederick A. Irvin's Yanks overwhelmed negligible resistance on the eighty-by-eight-mile island at the western ext of their passage, the 18th Philippines island MacArthur has invaded.

"This completes the capture of all key positions through San Bernardino strait and Verdi island passes designed to secure the main navigational channel through the islands for shipping from the United States," today's communique reported.

Russians In Sight Now Of The Sea

Germans Claim Reds Repulsed In Effort To Broaden Wedge

London, March 3.—(AP)—Second White Russian army tanks have severed communications between Danzig and Stettin, isolating the German troops being backed against the Baltic in eastern Pomerania and the Polish corridor, the Berlin radio said today.

The Russians were fighting within sight of the Baltic at three places. Moscow closed in a security blackout the exact extent of the Soviet penetration northward in Pomerania, but a dispatch from the Russian capital said that Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's wedge, driven between Rummelsburg and Bublitz, southeast of Koeslin, "has broken the German line as a line."

By enemy accounts, Russian attempts to widen their wedge were repulsed in wild hand-to-hand fighting, while Moscow dispatches said Rokossovsky, when he had driven his wedge as far as he needed it, turned his attention to the flanks and rapidly beat back the home guard and seasoned Nazi units.

A German communique announcement that Soviet units had thrust northward of Dramburg indicated the Russians were making a new smash through Pomerania toward the Baltic. Dramburg is 47 miles southwest of Koslin.

Southwest of the East Prussian capital of Koenigsburg, Russian units battled furiously resisting German troops. The high command said a Russian breakthrough attempt was stemmed in that area near Zinten.

In Silesia, Russian storm units fought from building to building against the Germans surrounded in Breslau.

Lt. Gen. Harmon Is Missing With Nine Others On Plane

Army Headquarters, Pacific Ocean Area, Honolulu, March 3.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commander of the army air forces operating in the Pacific, is missing with nine other officers and men in a transocean flight.

Early today, the army announced that the 57-year-old general's plane was mysteriously missing on a routine flight and the greatest air and naval search ever launched in the Pacific was under way.

1,800 U. S. Planes Slash at Germany On Dozen Targets

London, March 3. — (AP)—While Allied dive bombers were mauling the Germans along the Rhine, more than 1,800 U. S. eighth air force planes flew into central and southeastern Germany for the third straight day and battered more than a dozen rail, oil and industrial targets essential to the Nazi war machine.

This great fleet, including 1,100 heavy bombers, first gave Berlin another scare, then swung south over the Brunswick-Magdeburg region, where 103 Nazi planes were destroyed yesterday.

U. S. Planes Raid Ryukyu Near Japan

Carrier Craft Are Barely Opposed By Japanese Fighters

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, March 3—(AP)—American carrier planes swept across the Ryugyu islands virtually unopposed Thursday, destroying or damaging 55 Japanese ships and 91 planes, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced today. That night a task force from Admiral Raymond A. Spruance's fifth fleet followed up the daylight raid with a nightlong bombardment of Okino Daito, 210 miles east of the main Ryukyu chain, which guards the approaches to southern Japan and the China coast.

Bombarding warships were only 330 miles south of Japan, the closest announced approach to the enemy mainland in a naval gun attack on shore objectives. Nimitz said 13 enemy vessels were sunk, 13 probably sunk and 29 damaged.

Forty-one Japanese planes were definitely destroyed and 50 others either demolished or damaged on the ground.

Only four of the total were shot down in the air and American pilots had to chase Japanese planes to bring them down. Not a single interceptor ventured to oppose the American pilots, which Tokyo broadcasts previously said swarmed over the islands 600 strong.

The attack cost the raiders eight airmen and 13 planes.

Airfields, barracks, warehouses, radio, radar, mills and lumber yards were destroyed in the sweep over six islands in the center of the chain.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Cloudy and mild: showers and cooler tonight. Sunday, cloudy and moderately cooler with showers over south portion.

250,000 Men Seek Control Of Bridge

Rundstedt's Armies In Headlong Flight Across Great River

Paris, March 3.—(AP)—American troops, 250,000 strong, fighting today for control of the Rhine bridges, battered to the river on a broadening front and thrust to within five miles of closing a Canadian-American trap on parts of two German armies.

Field Marshal Von Rundstedt's divisions in the north, making up the first parachute and fifteenth armies, were reported in headlong retreat behind rear guard defenses.

United States ninth army men reached the Rhine at new points on a five-mile sector, burst through Krefeld and in a northward push reached Geldern. The latter is five miles from the Canadian first army wheeling Germans back across the Rhine.

Just to the south, United States first army tanks and infantry spread the battle before Cologne into a dozen more villages and slammed within easy artillery range of the great Rhine stronghold on a curving 20-mile front. Last night they were about four and a half miles from Cologne at one point.

Berlin declared ninth army forces were attempting to span the Rhine and unofficial reports reaching London said the doughboys already had crossed near Neuss, suburb of shell-ripped Dusseldorf.

There was no confirmation of this report from direct field dispatches or supreme headquarters.

In the middle of the western front, the American third army, driving toward Coblenz, advanced up to three and a half miles on a 455-mile front, seized 13 more towns and 4,600 prisoners.

The Canadian first army on the north neared the anchor city of Xanten, on the Rhine, after knocking out the enemy strong point of Weeze and Kervenheim. It was within ten miles of the United States ninth army—a junction that might trap thousands of German troops.

German broadcasts said between the jaws of this pincer the British second army had smashed across the Maas river in a new offensive.

FDR To Send Six Treaties Up To Senate

Washington, March 3. — (AP)—President Roosevelt, as a result of Crimean conference decisions, will submit to the Senate six or more treaties relating to the general problems of shaping and preserving the peace.

Three principal treaties will deal with establishing the postwar world security organization. At least three more will concern the liquidation of the European and Pacific wars.

The subject of treaties was prominently projected by Mr. Roosevelt in his report to Congress on the Yalta meeting. The chief executive said various treaties will be submitted for ratification, but he specifically mentioned only one, that dealing with world security organizations.

Meadows Defense To Complete Case Probably Monday

Greenville, March 3.—(AP)—The defense in the case of Dr. Leon R. Meadows, on trial charged with embezzlement of special college and student funds of more than $18,000, while president of East Carolina Teachers College here, will rest its case Monday.

Defense counsel announced that only one more witness would be called to the stand.

Judge Clawson L. Williams recessed the court Friday afternoon for the week-end. The court allowed members of the jury to visit the campus of East Carolina Teachers College and make an investigation of improvement work done there.

MacARTHUR TRANSFERS GOVERNMENT TO FILIPINOS

BEFORE A BATTERY OF MICROPHONES, General Douglas MacArthur addresses dignitaries of the U. S. and Philippine Governments during the official ceremonies transferring the civil administration affairs from the army to the Philippine Commonwealth. Filipino President Sergio Osmena is pictured at the right. American officers at rear are unidentified. Official U. S. Signal Corps Radiophoto. (*International Soundphoto*)