

U.S. Victory In Germany Grows

Extension Of Draft A Year Is Approved

Army Heads Demand Combat Duty Order After Five Months

Washington, March 22.—(AP)—The House Military Committee today unanimously approved a one-year extension of the draft law without changes.

The action was taken after a brief hearing, during which army spokesmen asked that no restrictions be placed against the policy of sending men into combat five months after their induction, when necessary.

Some members had sought to ban the sending of teen-age inductees into combat without a specified period of training.

Chairman May, Democrat, Kentucky, said he would seek House consideration of the bill early next week. Unless Congress extends it, the present draft law, enacted in 1940, will become inoperative on May 15.

Although some committee members previously had inclined toward extensive hearings to consider numerous amendments, only two witnesses, Major General Edward Edwards, in charge of training, and Major General Stephen G. Henry, in charge of personnel, were heard.

It was General Edwards who told the committee that the current need for replacements had resulted in a policy by which physically fit men were sent into combat within five months of their induction.

There has been a case, General Edwards said, of a man being killed in action "five months and nine days" after induction.

While there may be isolated cases, he added, he did not believe it was possible for a man to go into combat sooner than five months after donning a uniform.

Should Congress restrict the handling of inductees by requiring a stated training period, perhaps a year, General Edwards said, present operations would be retarded and demands for fighting replacements could not be met. "No man, he emphasized, were sent into combat until we consider them adequately trained and physically hardened to the degree needed."

World Bank Program Is Put In Peril

Bretton Woods Plan Is Now Threatened By Foes In Congress

Washington, March 22.—(AP)—Administration forces acknowledged for the first time today that they are worried about the congressional fate of the Bretton Woods agreement.

Rapidly mounting strength appeared in the House Banking Committee behind proposals for broad amendments of the plans for a world bank and a currency stabilization fund.

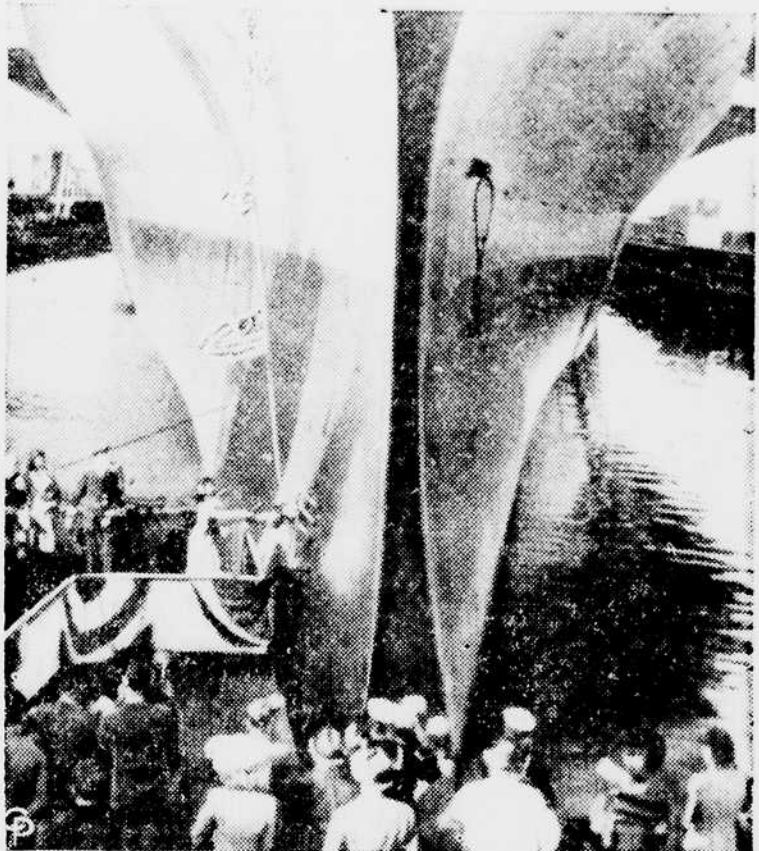
The administration contends such changes would wreck the agreement. "I have increasing fear," said Representative Outland, Democrat, California, banking committee member, "that the Bretton Woods agreement will be delayed or so amended that the entire program for international cooperation will suffer."

Proponents of various changes, however, declare themselves for the principle of world economic cooperation, arguing that they only want better methods than those provided in the agreement worked out last summer during a meeting of 44 nations at Bretton Woods, N. H.

DUTCH QUEEN BACK UPON HER OWN SOIL

Eede, The Netherlands, March 22.—(AP)—Queen Wilhelmina returned to The Netherlands at this battle-ravaged frontier village today on an extensive ten-day visit. It was her first trip to her homeland since her escape from the Germans nearly five years ago.

LAUNCH WORLD'S LARGEST CARRIER



CHAMPAGNE SPLASHES and the new 45,000-ton aircraft carrier *Midway* begins to slide down the ways at the Newport News, Va., Shipbuilding Yards. Mrs. Bradford Williams Ripley II, of Dayton, O., christened the huge warship as dignitaries looked on. (International Soundphoto)

Senate Surplus Property Report Draws Quick Fire

That's My Pop



TWO-YEAR-OLD Richard William Flynn, of Pittsburgh, Pa., proudly shows off the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters awarded to his father, Lt. William J. Flynn, Flying Fortress navigator, a prisoner of war in Germany. (International)

Calls For Policy Upon Which People Can Put Reliance

Washington, March 22.—(AP)—The Senate war investigating committee today based today a long-in-preparation report on surplus property disposal and at once drew a rebuke from one of several disposal agencies.

Hours after the committee made available to newsmen advance copies of the report, calling for prompt initiation of a definite policy "on which the public can rely," the Reconstruction Finance Corporation issued a 12-page memorandum it said the Senate group ignored.

The war investigating committee's report, confined to surpluses other than industrial plants, mentioned large quantities of government-held surplus goods and markets and added "the administrative organization for surplus disposal has been extremely confused."

It said every effort should be made to prevent surpluses from blocking peacetime markets and creating unemployment, and suggested efforts to channel such goods into the hands of those who ordinarily would not be considered potential consumers.

"There may be many such users, including charitable institutions here and the indigent, both at home and in foreign countries," the report said.

Shortage Of Meat Probed By Senators

Washington, March 22.—(AP)—With Congress clamoring for a food investigation, the Senate Banking Committee turned its price control hearings into a meat inquiry today.

It called in Price Administrator Chester Bowles and representatives of the meat packing industry for a face-to-face exchange on the statement they had been carrying on at long distance, whether OPA controls are putting the packers out of business.

The packers say they are. Bowles says the packers are trying to capitalize on the present situation to attack price controls.

The industry reported in a statement that it regretted its efforts to obtain "the fair and equitable margin promised" by any one as an attack on price control.

Considerable sympathy for the packers' argument was evidenced in the committee.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Clearing and cooler today, followed by fair and cool tonight, with scattered frost west and central portions. Friday fair and warmer.

Resistance Of Japs On Panay Ends

Enemy's Lines Upon Luzon Also Collapse; Jap Convoy Smashed

Manila, March 22.—(AP)—Virtually all organized Japanese resistance has been crushed on the 4,148 square miles of Panay, central Philippine island invaded Sunday, and the enemy's cave-studded Shimbu line east of Manila and on Luzon has collapsed, yielding a mass of war booty, headquarters reported today.

In the spreading air war, Mitchell bombers caught a six-ship enemy convoy off Amoy, China, Tuesday and attacked it with 16 tons of explosives. At a cost of two bombers, a 6,000-ton freighter transport and two destroyer escorts were sunk; two 7,000-ton freighter transports, probably sunk and a destroyer damaged.

Panay's fine harbor at Iloilo was captured Tuesday with its docks intact, permitting immediate use. The port city of 90,000 also fell to Major General Rapp Brush's 40th Infantry division, but not before the enemy destroyed 70 percent of it by fire and electrically controlled mines. Other 40th division units, aided by guerrillas, entered over the coastal plain around Iloilo, seizing Santa Barbara airfield, second air base captured on Panay, and the towns of Gabu, Tabucan, San Sebastian and Tavia.

U. S. Planes Raid Coasts Of China, Tokyo Radio Says

San Francisco, March 22.—(AP)—Approximately 120 American Superforts, Liberators and Lightnings raided Hainan island, off the South China coast, yesterday, radio Tokyo reported today in a broadcast heard by Federal Communications Commission.

Stocks Show Irregularity

New York, March 22.—(AP)—Fractional irregularity ruled today's early stock market proceedings. Up a shade at a fairly active opening were U. S. Rubber and U. S. Smelting. Small losses were registered for Chrysler and Southern Railway.

RED SAPPERS IN DARING OPERATION



A GROUP OF RED ARMY SAPPERS advances toward a building in Breslau, Germany, intent on blowing it up. They carry loads of explosives, and a bullet fired into their dangerous burden would blow them up. The Russians succeeded in blasting the building, which had been converted into a stronghold by the Nazis. (International Radiophoto)

WHITE FLAGS OUT AS YANKS GO IN



FROM EVERY HOUSE in the village of Kettig, Germany, white flags appear as a lone American jeep rolls into the street. Just a few hours before the Yanks arrived, swastikas might have been seen fluttering on most of the buildings. Army Signal Corps photo. (International)

Red Assault On Stettin Is Doubled In Violence

Flynn Sees Pope In Conference Of Hour's Duration

Vatican City, March 22.—(AP)—Edward J. Flynn, President Roosevelt's personal emissary, was received today by Pope Pius XII in an hour-long audience. The former national chairman of the Democratic party was accompanied by Myron C. Taylor, the president's personal representative to the Vatican.

Flynn flew to Italy yesterday from Moscow.

Official Vatican quarters withheld comment on the audience. Recently the Vatican denied any negotiations were in progress with Soviet Russia, and the Rome Catholic press has been strongly anti-Russian.

Flynn visited Moscow after accompanying President Roosevelt to the Yalta conference. While in the Soviet capital, he conferred with Alexi Patria, of the Russian orthodox church.

Flynn had planned to hold a press conference tonight.

CALL ISSUED FOR ALL STATE BANKS

Raleigh, March 22.—(AP)—Banking Commissioner Gurney P. Hood today issued a call for statement of condition of all State banks at the close of business March 20.

Attempt To Enter Austria Stepped Up; New Danzig Menace

London, March 22.—(AP)—Russians redoubled the fury of their onslaught against Stettin, key to northern Germany, and in Hungary reinforced attempts on a 50-mile front to batter through the Danube gate into Austria, the Germans said today.

In East Prussia, Soviet storm units fought into Heiligenell, last of the Baltic coastal fortress towns southwest of Koensberg, Moscow dispatches reported.

They drove to within six miles of Danzig, around which they have drawn a 25-mile siege arc, and were within two and a half miles of wedging Danzig and Gdynia apart.

On the Berlin front, Soviet correspondents said Marshal Gregory Zhukov was "moving reinforcements up to the Oder; in unbroken streams" in warm weather, which forced the Russians to doff their gray coats and cotton padded packets.

Describing Stettin as a city whose fall would open the way to a sweep across the northern German plains past Berlin, perhaps as far as the Elbe river, a German war reporter said the Russian assault was "extraordinary, even considering the scale of previous deployment of strength elsewhere on the eastern front."

Hundreds of Russian guns have been in action since Thursday a week ago, he said. "The battle is still undecided. Russian efforts to enter the heart of the city and possibly to capture the Oder bridges intact continue with unabated violence."

For two days the Russians have been just outside Stettin, Berlin's chief port, with the muzzles of their guns blazing from Altdamm, the Stettin suburb on the east bank of the Oder.

Bombings Of Germany Are Unceasing

London, March 22.—(AP)—Allied bomber fleets took off from British bases before dawn today in continuation of a clock-around aerial offensive which last night saw RAF Mosquitoes hammer Berlin for the 30th consecutive night.

A powerful force of four-motored British Lancasters spearheaded the daytime assault and later the German radio reported raiders thundering in over the Reich simulating the RAF Mosquitoes rounded off the month of raids on Berlin by attacking the capital twice. The first visit was by the largest force of Mosquitoes ever sent to Berlin, possibly close to 100.

Also during the night, British four-engined Lancasters attacked an oil refinery at Hamburg and a gasoline plant between Bochum and Dortmund in the Ruhr.

Nazis Lose Two Armies, 100,000 Men

Seventh Army Units Advance 28 Miles; Prisoner Bag Swells

Paris, March 22.—(AP)—The American third and seventh armies stamped out bewildered pockets of Germans west of the Rhine today, and formed numerous junctions in the Saarland and Palatinate in a mighty conquest probably costing the Germans well over 100,000 men and two complete armies.

While the third army mopped enemy remnants in the chemical center of Ludwigshafen and fought hard for the Hessian capital of Mainz, seventh army elements broke loose in advances of 28 miles from last reported positions to points many miles north of areas captured earlier by the third army.

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's third army counted 11,335 prisoners yesterday, and had another 11,000 still not processed for a total of around 22,335 prisoners—raising the estimated prison bag alone for the campaign to around 88,635 tired, dirty and thoroughly beaten Germans.

Even as this victory, one of the greatest of the war, was being consummated in the Palatinate, Saarland and Hesse, sky-darkening fleets of Allied planes battered the whole flat country north of the Ruhr to Bremen, in prelude to perhaps the next campaign toward the north door to Berlin.

The sixth armored division of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's army crashed through the third army's pocket city of Kaiserslautern to Graenstadt, ten miles southeast of Worms and 15 miles north of Neustadt, population 20,620, newly captured by Patton's men. Graenstadt, an industrial town of 5,200, is 14 miles northwest of Ludwigshafen.

The southern army also reached Otterburg, four miles north of Kaiserslautern, captured two days ago by the third. Even these seventh army reports at midday were far from up to date.

Nearly Half Of Tokyo's Civilians Have Been Moved

London, March 22.—(AP)—Nearly 2,000,000 Japanese already have been evacuated from Tokyo and steps are being taken to speed up removal of others, Tokyo radio said today.

Quoting a statement made to the diet by the interior minister, the broadcast said "already the civilian population in the capital has shrunk to less than 4,000,000" of the city's pre-war census. The Statesman's Yearbook gives Tokyo's 1940 population as 6,778,891.

Prince Juan Asks Franco To Get Out

Lausanne, Switzerland, March 22.—(AP)—Prince Juan, son of the former King Alfonso and heir to the now non-existent throne of Spain, called upon Francisco Franco today to resign and leave the way open for "establishment of peace and concord among all Spaniards."

In a statement given to The Associated Press, recalling the sixth anniversary of the end of the Spanish war, the prince, Count of Barcelona, declared that "restoration of the monarchy alone can provide an effective guarantee for religion, order and liberty."

"I incite no one to rebellion," he said, "but I would wish to remind those who support the existing political regime of the tremendous responsibility they incur by contributing to prolongation of a situation which inevitably will bring the country to irreparable ruin."

The prince said that if he should become king through restoration of the monarchy, he would seek a political constitution by popular vote, protection of the rights of individuals, political liberties, a legislative assembly popularly elected, more equitable distribution of wealth, and elimination of unjust social differences.