

## CARRIER FRANKLIN MAKES PORT AFTER NARROW ESCAPE



The huge Navy aircraft carrier Franklin, attacked by Japanese dive bombers sixty miles off the coast of Japan, barely escaped after being severely wounded. In this picture, the Franklin, listing badly, seems ready to capsize as the cruiser Santa Fe moves off. Members of the skeleton crew aboard the flat-top cluster on the flight deck before

renewing their assault on the flames. Heroic work brought an end to the excruciating ordeal and the gutted craft was towed until her crew made emergency repairs. She painfully limped her way back thousands of miles to a repair berth in New York.

## Okinawa Crisis Near; Jap Oil Base Blasted

### Reserves On Honshu Are Knocked Out

Major Storages Of Fuel Are 85 Percent Lost After Attack

Guam, May 18.—(AP)—Superfortresses knocked out Japan's greatest oil storage area, including most of both the army's and navy's biggest concentrations of fuel storage, in just one full-scale raid.

Reconnaissance photographs today disclosed that 85 to 90 percent devastation was wrought by more than 400 B-29s in their May 10 raids on southeastern Honshu. It was the first of the war directed solely at destroying the major source of the empire's vital supply of gasoline and oil for her war craft and shipping. Twelve storage tanks were destroyed and 45 percent of the target area devastated by B-29s which attacked Tokuyama naval fuel station. The adjoining Tokuyama coal yards and synthetic fuel factory—the army's greatest fueling center—were badly damaged. The 21st bomber command spokesman termed them as "imperative." Tokuyama is 48 miles southwest of Kure.

Sixty of 65 storage tanks at the Oshima naval oil storage center, the fleet's largest, were put out of operation. Oshima station is on an island of that name in Tsushima Strait, outside the Shimoneki entrance to the inland sea.

### Hospital Head Is Sought By State Board

Raleigh, May 18.—(AP)—The State Hospital Board of Control, on recommendation of its advisory commission, voted today to investigate interested parties to come to Raleigh for interviews for the post of general superintendent of mental hygiene for North Carolina.

The superintendent would have authority over the State's four mental hospitals. The office was created in 1943 but never filled. Action to obtain a general superintendent was delayed briefly while the board discussed plans for enlarging facilities in the four institutions.

Plans for a recreation center at the Raleigh unit were approved and officials of the other three institutions said similar facilities were needed at Caswell, Morganton and Goldsboro.

The board also approved bids for \$15,000 of furniture for the nurses home here. Half the money is to come from Federal funds.

May 22 was set as the date for receiving bids on the reconstruction of R. S. and T. wards at the Raleigh hospital. The three wards were objects of legislative criticism last September. Approval also was given a project for building homes for employees at the four institutions.

### War Prosecutor



APPOINTMENT of Maj. Gen. William J. Donovan (above), of New York, as assistant prosecutor of war criminals has been announced by Supreme Court Justice Robert H. Jackson, who was designated chief prosecutor. Gen. Donovan has headed the important Office of Strategic Services. (International)

### No Collapse Of Enemy Is Evident Yet

Fortress Centers In Imminent Peril Of American Drive

Guam, May 18.—(AP)—The Okinawa campaign is slowly shaping into a decisive phase, with the sixth Marine division battling to broaden a bridgehead in the capital city, Naha, and three divisions steadily closing on the fortress city of Shuri from three sides.

Now 48 days old, the Okinawa campaign already ranks as one of the Pacific war's toughest. There still is no evidence suggesting any collapse in the main defense by an estimated 44,000 Japanese and Okinawa "home guard" survivors of original garrison force of 80,000 or more troops.

### Trap Closing On Japs In Philippines

Luzon And Mindanao Garrisons Menaced By Advancing Yanks

Manila, May 18.—(AP)—Two traps were closing today on sizable Japanese garrisons on Luzon and Mindanao in the Philippines.

In central Luzon, the biggest enemy force, yet enveloped in the archipelago was hemmed in by Major General Leonard S. Wing's 43rd division Ipo dam, chief water source for Manila.

The Nipponese are at least at regimental strength. They are well supplied with artillery, mortars and small arms. The Yanks have beaten off one enemy attempt to break out, killing 14 Japanese.

In the central sector of Mindanao, southern island of the Philippines, Major General Rapp Bashi's 40th division and Major General Clarence Martin's 31st division, have another sizable enemy force squeezed between them along the Sayer highway.

Today's communique reported advances which narrowed the gap between the 40th and 31st from 55 to 45 miles. The 40th is driving south from the Del Monte air center.

### French Envoy To Frisco Sees Truman

Washington, May 18.—(AP)—President Truman invited French Foreign Minister Georges Bidault to the White House today for another of his diplomatic and military talks in preparation for a big peace meeting.

Bidault is en route back to Paris from the San Francisco United Nations conference. His call is the latest in a series of the new chief executive is arranging almost daily with individuals and groups connected with the Golden Gate conference, previous Allied parleys and military operations.

When and where the big three meeting will take place remains for future negotiations. Now that the war in Europe is over, some American officials believe Stalin might be persuaded to leave his home soil for the all-embracing peace talks.

### Gen. Bor Says Poles Filling Soviet Camps

London, May 18.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Tadeusz Komarowski (General Bor), the recently liberated commander-in-chief of police forces under the London Polish government, said today that thousands of his former underground soldiers "are now filling Soviet prisons and concentration camps."

The bald, one-eyed soldier of two wars expressed the hope that an understanding eventually would be reached between Poland and Russia, added that the Polish underground army had been hostile to Soviet forces, and reviewed the upsurge and tragic outcome of the battle of his men for Warsaw.

He said he would vouch for the 15 Polish underground leaders—whom the Russians have said they arrested—as "Polish patriots, good democrats and genuine contributors to the fight against Germany."

### U. S. Offers France Part Of Its Zone

President Informs French Minister Of American Position

Washington, May 18.—(AP)—President Truman told the French foreign minister today the United States is willing to relinquish to France a part of the American zone of occupation in Germany.

The President, following a conference with Minister Georges Bidault, issued a statement saying details of the relinquishment "have already been conveyed informally to the French government, and are now in the process of being formalized."

Mr. Truman expressed the desire to meet General Charles De Gaulle, head of the French provisional government, and said that "there was a full appreciation by the United States government on the part which France could and should play in settlement of questions of world and European interest."

Bidault was asked if he and Mr. Truman discussed suggestions that France participate in the coming big three meeting. He replied the conversations were about political questions of the day, not especially about meetings.

President Truman acted in his statement that the United States and its people "will continue to take such measures as will be within their power to facilitate the recovery of France and of her people."

### Test Is Very Near On Big Power Veto

Territorial Integrity Another Issue Impending At Conference

San Francisco, May 18.—(AP)—The outspoken opposition of many small nations to the big power plan for a veto control of future peace-keeping machinery today opened a United Nations conference test vote.

It appears possible that the big powers—United States, Russia, China, Britain and France—may accept some modification of the veto where peaceful settlement of disputes is concerned, although Russia could block this. But they all stand firmly on the proposal that no force should be used against any nation except when all five agree.

It is expected that on a showdown the powers can put over the veto formulas they want with the argument that unless they stick together on great international issues of the future no peace-keeping league can hope to prevent war.

As the battle of the veto builds up in one of the key committees, here are other top conference developments:

1. Considerable support, apparently enough to put it over, is forming behind an Australian proposal for the United Nations to respect each other's territorial integrity and political independence. The small nations want this as a protection against possible power land grabs, and also as an approach to defining what constitutes aggression. The big powers seem disposed to accept it.
2. The American delegation, and probably others are about ready to risk a rift with Russia, if necessary, by going ahead with United States formulas for giving regional groups of nations the right to organize for their mutual defense in event the world league fails to protect them from armed attack.
3. Strong opposition is growing up against a proposal discussed in some conference committees to allow nations to limit the areas in which their forces might be used to enforce peace. The big powers particularly are opposed to this. For example, it would have the effect of saying the United States could pledge its peace-keeping forces to act in the Western Hemisphere but nowhere else in the world.
4. Hot and heavy argument continues over Russia's recommendation that national peoples under international control should be proposed independent ones. The United States and Great Britain claim the goal should be self-government.
5. Efforts to speed up the work of the conference appear to have hit a snag in the committee on United Nations principles headed by Dmitry Zorin, chief of the Ukrainian delegation, and an old-time bolshevik, and a committee planning a world fund voted yesterday in favor of establishing an entirely new tribunal, instead of continuing the present permanent court of international justice at The Hague. This move to break with the past may prove to be symbolic of the temper of the conference in trying to make a clean start on peace-keeping machinery.

### Soviet Move In East Is Speculated

Sakhalin Letter In Moscow Press Seen As Ominous

Moscow, May 18.—(AP)—Every Moscow morning newspaper today devoted a third of a page to a letter which the papers said the people of Sakhalin island had sent to Marshal Stalin. The letter declared northern Sakhalin was an "immemorial Russian island."

Long and irritating question in the relations between Japan and Russia, Sakhalin lies just north of Japan. The northern part of the 559-mile-long island is Russian. The southern part is held by Japan.

There was no explanation of the pronouncement given the letter, which said the people of Sakhalin had dedicated themselves to "strengthening the defensive growth of the military might of our homeland."

A dispatch from a Red Star correspondent, under the dateline "Transferred" of efforts to acquire the officers with new military technique. Officers gave lectures on tactics, signals and engineering, the dispatch said.

This was the second report in two days of Red army training programs being carried on in full swing. Yesterday Red Star said training and maneuver programs were being carried on in the Caucasus.

### Attempt On Laval Feared By French; Moves Guarded

Paris, May 18.—(AP)—Pierre Laval was believed to be in France today, but no one was quite sure of the exact whereabouts of the former chief of the Vichy government or in whose custody he was held.

Official spokesmen were unable to say whether Laval was in Spanish, British or French hands, but they said they believed he was in France.

Laval's return to France from Spain, where he had unsuccessfully sought asylum, stirred up a queer security situation. Spanish authorities presumably placed him aboard

### Cotton Rises Most Of Time

New York, May 18.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 15 to 20 cents a bale higher. Noon prices were 10 to 25 cents a bale higher. July 22.38, October 22.38, December 22.26.

	Pv. Close	Open
July	22.86	22.83
October	22.35	22.40
December	22.22	22.23
March	22.11	22.16

### Wage Boost May Soon End Coal Strike

Washington, May 18.—(AP)—John L. Lewis and anthracite operators sought today to write a new contract that would boost the daily pay of hard coal miners \$1.37 1-2 and end a three weeks' strike. An agreement this week could send the miners back to work Monday.

The pay figure was suggested as a compromise by Interior Secretary Ickes, who has been in technical control of the mines as solid fuels administrator since President Truman ordered the workings seized May 7.

### Big Plane Plant Heavily Damaged In Jap Homeland

Aboard Rear Admiral J. J. Clark's Carrier Flagship, Off Japan, May 14.—(AP)—(Delayed)—The new Kumamoto aircraft assembly plant in north central Kyushu was damaged heavily in bombing strikes by navy planes today.

The Kumamoto plant never before had been bombed, and the Japanese concentrated their fighter defense against Kyushu sweeps directed against the plane assembly works. Hellcat and Corsair fighter pilots had a "turkey shoot," bagging about half of the 62 Japanese aircraft they shot down over Kyushu over the Kumamoto plant.

A power plant south of Kumamoto also was burned and carrier-launched bombers hit the Tachibana machine works, previously damaged by Superfortress raids.

### GILLIAM TO ASSUME DUTIES NEXT WEEK

Wilmington, May 18.—Don Gilliam, of Tarboro, who has been appointed United States judge of the eastern district of North Carolina, said during a visit here yesterday that he was unable to say exactly when he would take the oath of office but predicted that it probably would be "not later than the middle of next week."

The oath will be administered before A. T. Walston, clerk of court in Tarboro. Gilliam will succeed Judge I. M. Meekins, of Elizabeth City, who retired in February.

Gilliam was in Wilmington "to get acquainted" with Federal officials and the court setup here.

### Fritz Kuhn, Once Bund Leader Here, Will Be Deported

Washington, May 18.—(AP)—Former German-American Bund Leader Fritz Kuhn has been ordered deported to Germany as an undesirable alien, the Justice Department announced today.

The order was issued by the board of immigration appeals. The Justice Department said the 19-year-old native of Munich, who was convicted in 1939 of larceny and forgery involving German-American Bund funds, will be placed on a boat at a time to be determined by American military authorities in Germany.

### HILL ELECTED HEAD OF TELEPHONE FIRM

Tarboro, May 18.—Luther W. (Luke) Hill has been named president of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company, whose home offices are in Tarboro, succeeding John R. Porter, who was named chairman of the board at the same meeting. Porter had been president of the company since 1938, at which time he succeeded George A. Holderness. Holderness, until Porter was named board chairman, held that position, but has retired from active participation in the company.

Hill is a native of Darlington, S. C., and since August, 1943, has been operating vice-president of the company, coming to the Carolina firm from the Southern Bell Company's offices in Atlanta. He is a graduate of the University of South Carolina, where he was a star end on the Gamecocks grid team. His experience in the telephone business for two years during which he served in the Army Signal Corps in the First World War.

### Many Stocks Are Stronger

New York, May 18.—(AP)—Favorites were plentiful in today's stock market, although profit-taking stemmed the advance of many leaders.

Dedings were moderate from the opening on, and prices irregularly improved near midday. Attracting bids were Chrysler, Sears-Robuck and Douglas Aircraft. Intermarket losers included Goodrich, General Electric and American Can.