

Stimson Explains Why Atomic Bomb Was Used In War

Former Secretary of War Was Man To Make the Recommendation

(Having told of work done by the Interim Committee and of the heavy casualties that might be expected by conventional methods of warfare, Mr. Stimson now explains the writing of his memorandum to the President and gives a portion of that memorandum. It indicates the trend of things at the time.—Ed.)

It was already clear in July that even before the invasion we should be able to inflict enormously severe damage on the Japanese homeland by the combined application of "conventional" sea and air power. The critical question was whether this kind of action would induce surrender. It therefore became necessary to consider very carefully the probable state of mind of the enemy and to assess with accuracy the line of conduct which might end his will to resist.

With these considerations in mind, I wrote a memorandum for the President, on July 2, which I believe fairly represents the thinking of the American Government as it finally took shape in action. This memorandum was prepared after discussion and general agreement with Joseph C. Grew, acting Secretary of State, and Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, and when I discussed it with the President, he expressed his general approval.

July 2, 1945.
"Memorandum for the President.

Proposed Program for Japan

"(1) The plans of operation up to and including the first landing have been authorized and the preparations for the operation are now actually going on. This situation was accepted by all members of your conference on Monday, June 18.

"(2) There is reason to believe that the operation for the occupation of Japan following the landing may be a very long, costly, and arduous struggle on our part. The terrain, much of which I have visited several times, has left the impression on my memory of being one which would be susceptible to a last-ditch defense such as has been made on Iwo Jima and Okinawa and which of course is very much larger than either of those two areas. According to my recollection it will be much more unfavorable with regard to tank maneuvering than either the Philippines or Germany.

"(3) If we once land on one of the main islands and begin a forceful occupation of Japan, we shall probably have cast the die of last-ditch resistance. The Japanese are highly patriotic and certainly susceptible to calls for fanatical resistance to repel an invasion. Once started in actual invasion, we shall in my opinion

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DOCKET

Judge J. C. Smith and Solicitor Paul D. Roberson enjoyed a holiday last Monday when the county court suspended activities for the tobacco market opening. But the court officials are certain to pay for the holiday. Clerk of Court L. B. Wynne announces that thirty cases are already on the docket for trial next Monday and pointed out that others are likely to be docketed between now and Saturday.

The thirty defendants are charged with just about everything in the book. Eight are charged with assaulting females, four with drunken driving, one with violating the health laws, one with attempted rape, two with an assault with a deadly weapon, two with plain assault, one with disposing of mortgaged property, four with operating motor vehicles without licenses, two with speeding, one with disorderly conduct, one with carrying a concealed weapon, one with reckless and hit-and-run driving.

Tobacco Farmers Urged To Take Advantage Of Loans

An urgent appeal to tobacco farmers of Martin County to take full advantage of government loans through the Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, was made today by C. L. Daniel, Williamston, president of the Martin County Farm Bureau.

Daniel said that many farmers are now selling their tobacco below the 40-cent per pound average guaranteed support price which is made on a pro-rated grade basis. This is in keeping with the government's commitment to support tobacco prices at 90 percent of parity as of June 15 each year preceding market openings.

The tobacco farmer—the actual owner of the tobacco—is the only person who can authorize tobacco to be turned over to the Stabiliza-

tion Corporation for loan purposes. Mr. Daniel quoted from a statement by Carl T. Hicks, President of the Stabilization Corporation, in appealing to Tar Heel farmers to get a fair and stable price for this year's crop. "Many farmers do not remain with their tobacco until sale is completed. Warehousemen will co-operate by setting the time of sale to enable the farmer to be present. He can then arrange for his tobacco to be placed under loan if the price falls below the support level."

To eliminate confusion on the warehouse floor, farmers may join the Stabilization Corporation prior to taking tobacco to the market. Memberships may be obtained at the local tobacco warehouses or the Stabilization Corporation office, Raleigh, N. C.

File \$30,000 Suit In Superior Court Here

ORDINANCES

Ordinances, regulating parking and traffic on the town's streets, will go into effect next Monday with the promise to violators that they will be subjected to court action.

The ordinances, passed at a recent session of the town board of commissioners, prohibit parking in alleys, require proper parking in the marked spaces. A petition, carrying just about every signature of business operators and clerks, calls for the removal of cars owned and operated by the business houses and clerks from the main streets. If the petition terms are met, no hour limit parking is expected, but if local people insist on all-day parking on the main streets an ordinance limiting parking is to be expected.

Robbed Of Money And A \$250 Ring

J. B. Vautrin, young white man of Wildwood, Fla., was held up and robbed by three colored men on the river fill during the rain Wednesday afternoon. According to the story told officers, Vautrin was relieved of \$72 in cash and a diamond ring valued at \$250.

Riding a motorcycle, Vautrin stopped on the fill and took cover under a small canvas. While he was waiting for the rain to stop the three men allegedly held him at the point of a shot gun and took the valuables.

Highway patrolmen and officers investigated the hold-up but they have been unable to establish a lead in the case so far.

Officers Wreck Two Distilleries

Raiding in the Parmele section last Monday afternoon ABC Officer J. H. Roebuck and Deputy Roy Peel wrecked a crude liquor plant and poured out 150 gallons of sugar beer. The plant was equipped with an oil drum and four 50-gallon capacity fermenters.

It is believed that liquor made at the still was used at the "barbecue party" in Parmele last Saturday night when Fred Little was murdered.

In a raid Tuesday morning in the Brown's Spring section of Williamston Township the officers wrecked a small plant. The outfit apparently had not been operated for several weeks.

Killer Released Under \$1,000 Bond This Week

William Roosevelt Kirkman, colored of Parmele, was released this week under \$1,000 bond. He is charged with the murder of Fred Little, colored, in Parmele early last Sunday morning.

January Accident Claimed One Life And Hurt Several

Five Plaintiffs Suing Frank Green and Leslie Hardison for \$30,300.00

Damage suits, amounting to \$30,300 and growing out of a car-truck accident at the intersection of the Bear Grass-Washington Highway intersection last January, were filed by five plaintiffs in the Martin County Superior Court a few days ago against Leslie W. Hardison and Frank Green.

The cases, filed by Attorneys Peel and Manning, are tentatively slated for trial at the special term of the superior court convening in November.

James Garland Bailey, well known Bear Grass farmer, was killed and four others were injured, all more or less seriously, when Frank Green, colored man operating a 1946 Ford log truck belonging to Defendant Hardison, crashed into W. A. Bailey's car about 7:30 o'clock on the night of last January 18.

In the complaint it is alleged that the defendant, Frank Green, acting as Defendant Hardison's agent, was operating the truck at a dangerous rate of speed on the wrong side of the road and while in an intoxicated condition, that the truck was not equipped with brakes reasonably calculated to render it susceptible to control, and that Green was not keeping and exercising a due and proper lookout. The complaint also alleges that Green's character was questionable when it came to the safe and sane operation of a motor vehicle.

Mrs. Kathleen Bailey, widow of Garland Bailey and administrator of his estate, is suing the defendants for \$15,000, pointing out that her husband was riding with W. A. Bailey as an invited guest along with others.

W. A. Bailey, driver and owner of the car, alleging that his car was demolished and that he suffered severe head, back, chest and stomach injuries, is asking \$800 property and \$4,000 personal damages. He points out in his complaint that he was a hospital patient and that he was unable to work for several weeks.

Johnnie Wynne, riding in the Bailey car at the time of the accident as an invited guest, states in his complaint that he was severely and permanently injured, that he was hurt between his shoulders and in his chest, that he incurred large doctors' and medical bills, was unable to work for a long time and suffered greatly. He is asking \$4,000 damages.

Roland Harrison, another guest passenger in the ill-fated automobile, is suing for \$2,500 damages, alleging that he was severely and permanently injured.

Verna Lee Harrison, eight years old and suing by his next friend, Roland Harrison, is asking \$4,000.

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Two Are Injured In Car Accident

Two persons were injured, neither of them seriously, in an automobile accident between Everetts and Robersonville Wednesday evening at 9:15 o'clock. Howard Franklin Williams, of Williamston, received painful head injuries, and Willie B. Boyd, colored of Robersonville Township, was cut and bruised about the face. Treated in the Ward Clinic at Robersonville, they were released a short time later.

Jasper Bowen, Jr., colored of Robersonville Township, started to make a left turn into a dirt road near the railroad crossing with his 1941 Willys. Williams, driving a 1936 Ford, was traveling toward Robersonville, and plowed into the right rear side of the Willys, knocking it around but not over. The Ford continued down the highway a short distance, swerved and turned over in a field. Boyd, riding with Bowen and several others, was the only one hurt in the Willys. Williams was accompanied by Henry Wynne who escaped injury.

Damage to the Ford was estimated at \$350 and that the Willys at \$200 by Patrolman W. E. Saunders who made the investigation.

Harry Schultz, 112 Hawthorne Road, Baltimore, and his bride of a few days escaped injury when their 1939 Plymouth skidded and plowed into the trash dump at Sweet Water Creek near here early last Tuesday evening. No damage was done to the car, but the machine had to be pulled out with a wrecker. Driving from Plymouth, Schultz said he was forced off the hardsurface by a truck and lost control of his car.

Negro Held For Attempted Rape

Charlie Lewis, 58-year-old colored man, was jailed by Officer Chas. R. Moore here early Wednesday evening for allegedly attempting to rape a 12-year-old colored girl in or near the Odd Fellows Cemetery here earlier in the day.

Lewis, a native of Georgia but a resident of Edenton following his release from federal prison some months ago, is alleged to have lured the girl from her home on the railroad, a quarter mile from the cemetery. He was said to have offered her money to follow him, but the girl reportedly ran when he tried to harm her.

Lewis waived preliminary hearing Thursday and his case was docketed for trial in the superior court here next month.

World War II Vets Twice All Others

At least 16,000,000 veterans will come out of World War II, according to latest Veterans Administration estimates.

By comparison, World War I produced 4,627,000 veterans; the Civil War, 1,849,000 Union Army veterans, and the Spanish-American War, 381,000 veterans. This makes a combined total of 6,857,000 for the three wars, or considerably less than one-half of the minimum estimated for World War II alone.

THE RECORD SPEAKS . . .

After trailing the 1946 record for months, motorists on Martin County highways last week forged ahead with a greater number of accidents. However, the motorists are still more respectful of limb, equally considerate of human life and more saving when it comes to property.

The following tabulations offer a comparison of the accident trend: first, by corresponding weeks in this year and last and for each year to the present time.

34th Week		
Accidents Inj'd Killed Dam'ge		
1947	4	1 0 \$ 400
1946	1	0 0 300
Comparisons To Date		
1947	85	38 3 \$18,445
1946	83	68 3 20,750

Upward Price Trend Reported On Tobacco Market Thursday

Sales First Four Days Are 555,360 Pounds on Market

Prices Higher For Medium And Common Grades Of Tobacco

While the general average continues to trail that of last year from six to eight dollars per hundred, prices on the local tobacco market were said to be stronger Thursday. The market strengthened especially on the medium and common grades, unofficial estimates showing an increase of \$3 to \$10 for some grades. Two companies apparently had their maximums increased, and quite a few piles brought 59 cents Thursday with an occasional one bringing sixty cents.

No official average could be had immediately for the Thursday sale, but farmers, questioned shortly before the sale was completed, voiced the opinion that the prices were about the highest, if not the highest of the season. A few tips were offered with prices ranging around seventeen and eighteen cents for some of the offerings. However, they were not offered in such quantity to materially affect the general average which was declared certain to push on toward \$47 per hundred for the day.

That the prices were stronger for the medium and common grades was evidenced when farmers placed very few of those types in the Stabilization Corporation. A few of the better grades were being turned into the corporation, but the transfers were at a fairly low percentage figure for the day. Government grades were upped in some instances, it was reported.

Approximately 100,000 pounds (Continued on page eight)

Uniform Fund Drive Organized

A group of band parents and band friends met at the office of County Superintendent of School James C. Manning Wednesday night and mapped out final plans for the campaign to raise \$1500 to purchase uniforms for the Williamston High School Band.

The meeting was called by Rev. John L. Goff, chairman of the drive, to work out a definite plan of action.

Because many business houses always like to know about what they are expected to give or what their fair and proportionate part in such a movement would be, a complete list of the firms and professional offices of the town was gone over and various suggested amounts set down. No firm is limited to the amount suggested nor expected to make a contribution in that amount if they are not in position to do so.

Out of town concerns doing business in the town will be contacted by letter with the approval of their local representatives.

More details of the drive will be released over the week-end but a thermometer with a white background, black lettering and a red "temperature" indicator is to be placed in the front window of The Enterprise during the week-end.

Because of the liberal donation made by the Williamston Volunteer Firemen the thermometer is to have a spot or red reaching to the \$100 mark when it is put up.

Information regarding the band and the drive for uniforms can be had from Jack Butler, band director, or Rev. John L. Goff, chairman of the uniform fund campaign.

Ministers Approve Petition Limiting Beer-Wine Sales

The first tangible step to ban or limit the sale of beer and wine in Martin County was taken last Tuesday when the Williamston Ministerial Association met and adopted the following resolution: "Because of facts submitted by the law enforcement agencies of Martin County, the Ministerial Association approves the circulation of a petition to the Board of County Commissioners of Martin County to hold an election to stop the sale of wines and beers except through the State licensed Alcoholic Beverage Control Stores."

The resolution, calling for the circulation of the petition was submitted by Rev. John L. Goff and the group unanimously adopted it.

No plans were announced for circulating the petition which must have fifteen percent of the registered voters' signatures. Just how long it will take to get the

signatures is not known, but the religious leaders are confident the movement will have strong support.

At their meeting this week the ministers pointed out that the movement to include Bible study in the local high school curriculum had not been advanced far enough to add the course at the opening of the school next week.

A religious census of the town is to be taken on Sunday afternoon, October 19, the ministers announced.

Dates for revival meetings in the various churches here this autumn were announced as follows: At the Methodist Church, September 29 to October 8. October 12 to 24 was held as open dates if the Presbyterian Church desires to have a meeting. The revival at the Baptist Church will be October 26 to November 5. The Christian Church revival will be November 9 to 23.

Retain \$2 Town Tax Rate For New Year

Raise Water Rate Minimum to \$1.25 And Alter Scale

Few Changes Made In The Schedule B License Taxes For Current Year

Steering clear of an increase in the general tax rate, Williamston's Town Board of Commissioners in special session last Wednesday evening voted almost solidly to leave the levy on its high \$2 perch and turn to water consumers to make up the deficit. No general schedule B license taxes were adopted, the town to follow the general state schedule as it applies to specific businesses.

General operations for the town exclusive of the water department can be carried on without an increase in rate, it was pointed out, but large expenditures for new wells and for repairs and for badly needed improvements in the water department demand special consideration. Attention was centered on the water rates when it was pointed out that a new water tower, costing anywhere from \$20,000 to \$30,000 will have to be installed possibly next year or the year following if not this year.

After studying the water rate schedule, the officials found that it was somewhat below the average for the towns and cities in the State, that while the new rate may seem high, costs of maintenance and repairs and improvements in the department have soared. "It is hardly fair to absorb the increased costs by upping the general tax rate when so many property owners have no water," one commissioner explained.

Commissioner N. C. Green, called from the meeting before any action was taken to balance the budget, went on record as opposing a water rate increase and expressed the belief that an increase in the general rate structure would prove more satisfactory.

Two citizens appeared before the meeting but only one of them voiced an opinion. The spokesman expressed the belief that an increase in water rates would be more equitable.

Effective in September, the town will increase its minimum water charge from \$1.00 to \$1.25 and readjust its brackets. The new plan means that the small consumer will add 25 cents more to the treasury each month while the larger consumer's bill will be increased accordingly. In studying the rate schedule, the officials found that the reduction in the

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Town Board Asked To Intervene In Little Taxi War

Discuss Problem an Hour At Special Session; Call Traffic Manager

A little taxi war between two factions while a third holds its distance across the street was carried before a special session of the town commissioners here Wednesday evening for settlement. So complicated and baffling, the problem, after a full discussion hour, was carried over to a later time or until the traffic manager of the Norfolk-Southern Bus Company can come here and discuss the matter with the officials.

Some time ago the taxi firm of Baker and Harrell leased a spot on the union bus terminal lot, the independents, numbering eight or more, plying their trade from stands in the street in front of the bus terminal. The arrangement was not very satisfactory, and some complaint was made from time to time, but the problem reached the explosive stage just recently when an order was handed down by the board ruling out angle parking. The new order wiped out just about all but two or three of the cab stands in the street in front of the bus station.

With Attorney Edgar Gurganus as their spokesman, the independent taxmen pointed out at the meeting Wednesday evening that there are three driveways for ingress and egress at the bus station and maintained that two should be adequate. It was also declared that much property had been roped off in front of the station, blocking independent taxis and limiting space for bus patrons to load and unload.

Miller Harrell, representing the firm of Baker and Harrell, pointed out that they had a working agreement with the bus company, that they had leased a portion of the bus terminal but had to yield the third driveway to busses when necessary.

The independents through their attorney pleaded for eight parking places, three in front of the station, three on Washington Street next to the dime store and two in front of the Central Filling Station. Brink Lilley, independent operator, pointed out that his group literally had to operate from the vicinity of the bus station to make a living.

After the lengthy discussion the officials ordered parallel parking placed in effect in front of the station. The special or third driveway in front of the station and used, more or less, by the Baker-Harrell taxis, is to be left open for the present. Taxis will take their turn along with the public in front of the station until the bus company's traffic manager can come here. It is thought that some arrangements can be worked out with the terminal operators to solve the problem.

The hearing, marked by raised voices and rather heated argument, attracted just about all the independent taxi operators and a number of spectators.

RATE REDUCTION

Effective next month, the Virginia Electric and Power Company will reduce its residential light-power rate and offer industrial and commercial users a five percent discount on their net bills, it was announced this week by R. H. Goodmon, company vice president.

The residential rate is recognized as a permanent rate while the discount extended commercial and industrial users is contracted for one year only, beginning September 1.

At the present time, residential customers are paying five cents for the first 50 kilowatts, 2.9 cents for the next 100, 1.9 cents for the next 100 and 1.5 cents for excess. Under the new rate, the residential customer will pay 5 cents for the first 50 kilowatts, 2.5 for the next 150 and 1.5 cents for the excess.

It is estimated that the new rate and discount will save power and light customers about one and one-half million dollars during the next twelve months.

Question Officer In Arrest Case

Captain John Delbridge, head of the Martin County prison camp, is being questioned in connection with an alleged attack on a convict recaptured in Halifax County last week. An investigating committee is expected here momentarily to confer with the officer.

Accompanying Captain Sessions and bloodhounds in the search for Claude Gregory and Marion Knott Williams, convicts who had escaped from a state highway prison camp, Captain Delbridge told newsmen Wednesday night that Williams, following his arrest last week near Littleton, had called him a liar and that he (Delbridge) slapped Williams with his open hand in the face. The camp superintendent said that the prisoner was not handcuffed at the time, that the blow was not a hard one and did not hurt the prisoner.

Snat her Pocket Book From Store Wednesday

Literally snatching a pocketbook from Margolis Brothers' store here Wednesday afternoon, a woman hurried from the store and drove away in an old model car bearing a Florida license.

The pocketbook, belonging to Miss Marie Mobley, an employe of the store firm, contained several dollars in cash and valuable receipts and other papers.

County Commissioners To Hold Meet Monday

Other than routine matters very little business is scheduled for consideration at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Martin County Commissioners here next Monday.