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VOLUME THIRTY-ONE

FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1941

NUMBER FORTY-SIX

NAZI POST BLITZKRIEG UNITS AT RUMANIAN-YUGOSLAV LINE

**Other Fast German
Troops Reported Stationed
Near Border In
Southern Hungary;
Peace Hopes Declared
Slighter Despite Croat-Serb
Agreement**

Belgrade, April 3. — Formidable concentrations of German motorized blitzkrieg units were reported in diplomatic messages early today to be stationed in Rumania just across the frontier from the Yugoslav town of Bela Crkva.

That border point is less than 50 miles from Belgrade and is near the Danube River.

The report caused alarm in the capital because it would be one of the logical points from which the Germans might launch an attack on Belgrade itself.

Other diplomatic dispatches said fast German divisions were massing near Szeged, in southern Hungary across from Yugoslavia.

Factions Agree

Although a new Serb-Croat understanding was reported to have been reached, consolidating the Yugoslav internal situation, the chances of war were seen by diplomats as greater than ever.

This was notwithstanding attempts of the Italians to stave it off by what the diplomats called feeble maneuvering.

The Italians were said to be attempting to get Premier General Dusan Simovic to go to Rome and seek Premier Mussolini's "aid" toward appeasing Adolf Hitler.

This, said circles close to the government, General Simovic refuses to do.

The Italian desire to stave off war here was seen by some diplomats as prompted by Fascist fear that the Yugoslavs would invade northern Albania immediately and with the Greeks sweep Mussolini's forces into the Atlantic.

"Boomerang" Mines

That the Yugoslavs already have taken defense measures in the Adriatic was revealed when secretly sown Yugoslav mines sank two Yugoslav passenger liners in the Adriatic as the ships sped toward home ports in fear of war with the Axis.

The vessels were the 1,293-ton Karadjofic and the 1,726-ton Prestolonaslednik Petar. They went down in the Bay of Obrovac, 23 miles east and north of the Italian city of Zara, which is on the Dalmatian shore. All crewmen were saved.

The mining apparently had been carried out within the week.

For the second time in 24 hours the British press and radio campaigns, reminiscent of those launched by Germany before the attack on Poland which began the war, brought a brief and firm government denial of charges of "atrocities."

The communiqué simply said "all reports of terrorism against the German minority are without foundation."

A statement that the Croat-Serb question had been settled was made by Dr. August Koscic, emissary of the Croat leader, Vladimir Macek, although reports from Zagreb, Macek's home, quoted him as declaring the chances of peace with Germany are slim. Dr. Koscic, preparing to go to Zagreb to confer with Macek, said the Croat leader would come to Belgrade later.

Explaining a government order against evacuation of cities and towns without permission, General Simovic said all persons who left their permanent homes for the provinces would be compelled to return.

The only travel permitted to the Yugoslav banishment will be for vital business reasons or for persons attempting to reach their permanent homes.

Giving further point to a declaration by the Croat leader Macek that chances of avoiding war with Germany were slight, an air-raid alarm rang out at Belgrade when three foreign planes of unexplained nationality swooped over that important southern city.

The planes remained high, alert and slowly recirculated over the city, which lies in southern Yugoslavia, midway between Belgrade and Albania in the military important Vardar River Valley, but the townspeople were kept under cover for night minutes.

"We all know," remarked an official, "we may come to an air day this year."

Tobacco Picture Has Gloomy Hue

**Possible Export Gain
and Rising Domestic
Consumption the Only
Bright Spots**

Washington, April 1. — A generally gloomy picture for the North Carolina tobacco grower is painted by the Department of Agriculture today in its annual Spring analysis of the tobacco outlook, even though some bright spots are injected into the scene.

Chief among the encouraging aspects are the probability that exports to Britain may increase gradually under the stimulus of the lease-lend bill, and the rising domestic consumption which may bring tax-paid withdrawals of cigarettes to 190 billion by the end of the fiscal year July 1.

On the other hand, the department estimates that the flue-cured stocks on July 1 will total about 1,441 million pounds. This takes into account tobacco that will be held by the Commodity Credit Corporation through direct purchase for British interests or through loans to domestic export dealers. If CCC holdings are not included, the July 1 stocks are expected to be between 200 and 300 million pounds above the 1935-36 level.

Little hope is held that sizeable tobacco shipments to Britain may begin in the near future. The department analyzes this situation thusly:

British Outlook

"The passage of the lease-lend act is expected to facilitate exports of tobacco to the United Kingdom, either directly under the provisions of the act or indirectly by enabling the British to release dollar exchange for the purchase of United States tobacco. It is expected that exports, especially of flue-cured to the United Kingdom, will show some improvement, depending partly upon the availability of shipping space.

"At present, large shipments to the United Kingdom are impossible, since shipping space is being requisitioned for war material. Future shipments will depend largely upon the extent that tobacco exports are facilitated by the lease-lend act, either directly under the provisions of the act or indirectly by enabling the British to release dollar exchange for the purchase of tobacco.

"So long as hostilities continue it is to be expected that British interests will ship only sufficient leaf to maintain stocks for immediate consumption. In spite of some destruction of tobacco in storage by hostilities, there appears to be no serious urgency for immediate shipment. As storage supplies in the United Kingdom are diminished, it is to be expected, however, that British interests will arrange for shipments sufficiently large to at least meet minimum requirements."

Higher Yields

Increasing yields have been noted in recent years. The department points out, and adds that a repetition of last year's yield will mean a crop exceeding 770 million pounds, or 100 million pounds more than estimated on the basis of normal yields.

As of March 15, the Commodity Credit Corporation had disbursed \$37,708,000 on 200,771,000 pounds of the 1940 crop of flue-cured tobacco under the 1940 loan and purchase program. By March 15, approximately 708,000 pounds of the 1940 crop takings had been released for exportation.

Of total purchases of 173,778,000 pounds from the 1939 flue-cured crop, 155,751,000 pounds remained on hand March 15, 1941.

The year's total of flue-cured tobacco during the eight months, July-February 1940-41, reached 122 billion, 52 per cent above the 118 billion of the same months a year earlier. If this rate of increase continues during the next four months, tax-paid withdrawals for the fiscal year ending June 1941, will be nearly 180 million cigarettes. Also, production of smoking tobacco during the last six months of 1940 was up 52 per cent over the last half of 1939.

Flue-cured growers this year received the smallest return on their crop since 1933, the department stressed in indicating that plans for the new season should be governed somewhat by this fact.

Production of flue-cured tobacco in North Carolina was 122,520,000 pounds in 1940, compared with 118,000,000 in 1939. The increase was due to a combination of factors, including a larger acreage planted to tobacco and a higher yield per acre.



HELP CRIPPLED CHILDREN BY BUYING EASTER SEAL SALE STAMPS

Dr. R. B. Raney, Chief Surgeon for Crippled Children at Duke Hospital and Lincoln Hospital in Durham, endorses the Seal Sale for Crippled Children. A letter to K. T. Futrell, Secretary of the Pitt County League for Crippled Children, is given below:

DUKE HOSPITAL
Durham, N. C.
March 31, 1941

Mr. K. T. Futrell
Supt. Public Welfare
Greenville, N. C.
Dear Mr. Futrell:

It is a pleasure for me to give unqualified endorsement to the Easter Seal Sale Campaign for Crippled Children. The funds raised by the sale of these seals are tremendously important in the work with the community's crippled children as they are used for phases of this work for which financial support from other sources is not available. The Seal Sale Campaign is, I think, equally important in another respect. It serves to focus public interest on the care of our indigent crippled children. Without such public support, it would be quite impossible to carry on and to expand our medical program for lessening the handicap of North Carolina's indigent crippled children.

With many thanks for the constant help and cooperation of your department in this work, I am,

Sincerely yours,
RBR/EF R. B. Raney, M. D.

Some reports from the several communities in Pitt County indicate that much interest is being taken in the Sale of Seals for the Crippled Children in the County. It is the intention of the Pitt County Committee to bring to the attention of every healthy normal child in the County the fact that there are scores of crippled and defective children who need their support. By buying and using the Easter Seal Sale Stamps, they signify their interest and support to aid and correct the physical defects of these less fortunate. Seven out of every 8 crippled children are from causes other than infantile paralysis.

At this time 8 children from Pitt County are in hospitals having corrective health work done. They are located at Orthopedic Hospital at Gastonia, Duke and Lincoln Hospitals at Durham, and Rex and St. Agnes Hospitals at Raleigh. The clinic for crippled children held at the Pitt County Health Office the first Friday in every month, sponsored by the Greenville Rotary Club, is the radiating center for the crippled children's work in the County. From this clinic children are referred to the Orthopedic Hospital at Gastonia for attention by Dr. J. W. Roberts. From the Pitt County Clinic they are referred to Duke and Lincoln Hospitals at Durham where Dr. R. B. Raney carries out corrective health measures. Those referred to Rex and St. Agnes Hospitals at Raleigh are given operations by Dr. Thompson, Orthopedic Surgeon, from the Greenville Clinic direct. At present, more than 70 children return to their respective orthopedic hospitals at Gastonia, Goldsboro, and at Tarboro by pre-arranged schedules of clinical services at these places.

During a short campaign last year in Pitt County, \$112.00 was raised, and of this amount Pitt County's crippled children are benefited. This campaign was the result of the efforts of the Greenville Rotary Club, the Greenville Chamber of Commerce, and the Greenville Citizens' Committee.

Constitutional Note: Any American citizen, or any person who has the power to involve the United States in a war, or to start one of this own will.

sisted of buying braces, special built shoes, X-rays, crutches, artificial limbs, and for transportation to and from hospitals and to and from clinics.

Among the leaders in the State who are endorsing and assisting in this program is Clyde Erwin, State Supt. of Public Instruction; Mrs. J. M. Broughton, wife of the Governor; Mrs. Doyle Alley, President of the State Congress of Parents and Teachers; Jack Edwards, President of the North Carolina High School Student Council Congress; Greenville youth; Bill Friday, President of the Federation of College Students; President Frank Graham of the University of North Carolina; President James E. Shepard, North Carolina College for Negroes; State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson; Haywood Duke, President of the North Carolina Hotel Association; John A. Lang, State Administrator of the National Youth Administration and many others.

The Pitt County Committee feel as the Easter Season approaches that every child and citizen of Pitt County will purchase one or more of these penny stamps and place it on a letter, thereby giving evidence of their interest in the crippled children of Pitt County.

Rome Says Joint Action Against America Planned

Rome, April 2.—Japanese Foreign Minister Yosuke Matsuoka has agreed with Premier Mussolini and Adolf Hitler on a joint plan of action against the United States in the event of American involvement—declared or undeclared—in hostilities against the Axis powers, authorities here indicated today.

The Japanese statesman said goodbye to Premier Mussolini before returning tomorrow to Berlin for further conferences with Hitler.

He also talked today with Pope Pius XII at a 45-minute interview at the Vatican, one of the longest any statesman ever has had with the Pontiff. Those in a position to know said they surveyed the whole world situation.

Diplomatic observers ruled out any possibility of a Japanese attempt at mediation between Britain and the European Axis powers, taking as their cue Matsuoka's declaration of confidence in victory for Japan and her allies in Europe, Africa and Asia.

On the other hand, foreign observers still were skeptical as to how far Matsuoka had pledged his country's direct aid in the war effort of Italy and Germany.

The strongest suggestion of Japanese-Italian-German joint action against the United States should American aid to Britain involve conflict with the Axis came from Virginia Gayda, authoritative fascist editor, who declared in Il Giornale d'Italia:

"Every new real act of belligerency by third powers, even without a declaration, will find the tripartite pact functioning with all its formidable means on and over the vast world scene on which it is capable of extending its influence."



By HUGO S. STONE
(Washington Correspondent)

**FUNDS FOR POLICY.
AID FOR THE BRITISH.
TAXES ARE COMING.
MAN-HOURS INVOLVED.
FOOD TO GO ABOARD.
WILL HELP FARMERS.
WARSHIPS ON GREAT LAKES.
NORRIS CAUTIONS LABOR.
GREEN REPLIES FOR A.F.L.
WALLACE RELIEVED.
ATLANTIC AIR LINES.**

The same Congress that took two months, from January 10 to March 11, to pass the Lease-Lend Bill, committing this country to all-out aid to Great Britain and establishing a new foreign policy, required only twelve days to pass the \$7,000,000,000 appropriation bill to manufacture and procure goods of many kinds for anti-Axis nations.

The House voted 337 to 55 in favor of the measure and the Senate 67 to 9. The appropriation bill was the largest ever passed in peace-time history of the United States.

Senators who opposed the Lease-Lend Bill, but were supporting the appropriation measure, explained that they felt constrained to provide the money necessary to carry out the policy established by the majority of Congress. Against the bill were recorded Democrats, Clark of Idaho, Clark of Missouri, Wheeler of Montana; five Republicans; Butler, Langens, Nye, Shipstead and Thomas of Idaho; one Progressive; La Follette, Senator Johnson of California and Senator Wiley were paired against the bill.

Interesting in the discussion, and a sign of things to come, was the statement of Senator Connally that the Finance Committee would bring in a tax bill which "is probably going to jerk some people out of their boots." Naturally, the immense expenditures of the nation under the defense program and the lease-lend policy will take a great deal of money and a considerable portion of it must be raised by taxation.

William S. Knudsen, Director-General of the OPM, was asked whether the defense administration could judiciously use the \$7,000,000,000 appropriated for the purposes concentrated in the lend-lease bill. He pointed out that when this sum is transferred into man-hours "it is not so much." He reminded the senators that he had handled \$1,800,000,000 a year in one industry—in one firm—and that when spread out "the appropriation does not amount to anything—I mean quantitatively."

Secretary Stimson said that ninety-five per cent of the materials to be purchased under the lease-lend program would be weapons and munitions which could be used in our own Army and Navy, and only five per cent of the purchases would be weapons of purely British type.

As finally approved, the Lease-Lend appropriation provides: \$2,540,000,000 for aircraft and aeronautical material; \$1,350,000,000 for agricultural, industrial and other commodities; \$1,342,000,000 for ordnance and ordnance stores; \$752,000,000 for manufacturing facilities; \$629,000,000 for ships and other watercraft; \$382,000,000 for tanks and other motorized equipment; \$280,000,000 for miscellaneous military equipment; \$250,000,000 for testing, repairing and outfitting; \$50,000,000 for administrative expenses.

Farmers will be interested in tentative plans for large-scale food purchases for the British. It is expected that the buying will be directed by Milo R. Perkins, Administrator of the Surplus Marketing Administration and head of the Food and Cotton Stamp operations of the Department of Agriculture.

The food-buying operation is expected to exceed any similar history of this country, except those now being undertaken for the Army and Navy. While food purchases will be made as first almost entirely for the British, it is expected that American food will later be sent to China, Greece and other nations joining the struggle against the totalitarian powers.

The British Food Mission is interested in vitamin-rich foods, especially in concentrated forms. The products wanted include powdered milk, condensed milk, raising cream, germ, dehydrated fruit, cod-liver oil, halibut oil, dried egg, dried milk, canned or pickled pork, shrimp, lobster, salmon, tuna, and cod. Other items wanted are wheat, corn, and soybeans.

Synthetic vitamin products will also be needed. Synthetic vitamin products will also be needed. Synthetic vitamin products will also be needed.

AXIS RENEWS SHIP PROTESTS; GERMANS ARREST AMERICANS

Beaten Italians Fleeing Eritrea

**30,000 Heading For
Ethiopia; Fall of Last
Fascist City in Eritrea
Is Near**

Cairo, Egypt, April 2.—Between 30,000 and 40,000 Italian soldiers, the beaten remnants of the Fascist Army in Eritrea, are fleeing southward toward Addis Ababa, Ethiopian capital, as fast as they can, British military sources said tonight.

The only major port left under the Italian flag in Italy's oldest colony is Massawa, Red Sea port, and that city was described as on the brink of capitulation.

The Fascists reported leaving Eritrea, plus approximately 60,000 other Italian troops virtually isolated in Ethiopia, are all the Italian troops left to fight East Africa.

Amid intimations that the white flag of Fascist surrender might soon float over all Eritrea, the British Army and Navy teamed up to put the squeeze on those soldiers.

Three Ships Sunk

The Navy announced the sinking of an Italian destroyer and capture of a \$1,185-ton German merchantman in the Red Sea at Massawa, and the sinking of an Italian submarine and a tanker in the Mediterranean.

Army sources pictured 60,000 Italians as virtually isolated in the wilds of Ethiopia and another 40,000 hemmed in between the Eritrean mountains and the British-dominated Red Sea.

In the Libyan desert of which Africa, British and German advance units sparred inconclusively.

Hastening to clear up the remainder of East Africa before the rains come, the British announced at Khartoum, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, that their advance on Asmara, the Eritrean capital, was met Tuesday by Italian emissaries bearing a white flag.

The Italians said resistance had ceased and asked that Asmara be considered an open town, the communiqué said, adding:

"It is not known yet whether the order to cease fire refers only to Asmara or to the whole of Eritrea."

Thus, without opposition from the so-called "impregnable" Fort Badiscera, the British took over Asmara, a city of nearly 100,000 population, half Italian.

The Fascist troops who withdrew there and the survivors of the bitter battle of Cheret—40,000 in all—were said to have fled south and southwest.

T. B. Clinic To Be Held Here April 7-8

The annual State-Pitt County Tuberculosis Clinic this year will run two weeks, from April 7th through April 18th, it was announced today by Dr. N. Thomas Emmett, Pitt County Health Officer.

The first two days, Monday, April 7th, and Tuesday, April 8th, will be held in Farmville at the Town Hall.

Strawberry Pickers Needed This Month

An expected shortage of strawberry pickers in the Chadbourne, Wallace and Mount Olive areas for the season of about five weeks, starting probably the last week in April and continuing until the last week in May, has caused C. W. E. Pittman, farm placement supervisor for the Employment Service Division of the State UOC, to issue a call all over Eastern North Carolina for recruits for this work.

Last year, Mr. Pittman reports, approximately 8,000 pickers were employed in the Chadbourne area, all in Columbus county, 9,000 in the Wallace area, embracing parts of Duplin and Pender counties, and 1,000 in the Mount Olive area, all in Wayne county.

Rates of pay will be from 1 1/2 to 2 cents a quart, the growers furnishing daily transportation for nearby workers and supplying transportation to the work at the beginning of the season and back home at the end for those further away. Growers supply quarters, usually recent houses or temporary shelters, canteens, and beds on trucks for workers from a distance. Workers are expected to furnish their own cooking utensils, dishes and blankets.

Jobs in other crops can be furnished to workers who wish to remain in the sections after the strawberry work ends, Mr. Pittman said.

Arnold P. Barwick, manager of the Greenville Employment Office, who serves the area, said all who are interested in this work should call on the office at 214 B. Highway 1, Greenville, S. C.

New Berlin - Rome Notes Accompany Signs of Imminent Economic Warfare With U. S.; Americans Arrested at Berlin All Released; Nazis Give Reprisal Hints

Washington, April 2. — Germany and Italy lodged new protests today against United States seizure of 30 Axis ships concurrent indications that the dictator nations and this country soon may be embroiled in an economic war of reprisal.

Dispatches from abroad indicated that the path was being cleared in both Germany and Italy for retaliatory measures.

Reliable sources said in Berlin—after four Americans had been arrested for questioning and released—that Nazi counter-action to the ship seizures will be announced tomorrow. One report circulated was that American property may be confiscated.

Observers here believed that if this happens, the United States would retaliate by freezing millions of dollars of German investments in this country. Similar action would be taken against Italy if she adopted kindred tactics.

The struggle would involve millions. The United States has direct investments in Germany of \$228,000,000, holdings of \$165,000,000 in German bonds and \$25,000,000 in short-term paper. Its investments in Italy consist of \$70,000,000 in direct holdings and \$78,000,000 in Italian bonds.

Germany has \$100,000,000 invested in American stocks and bonds and \$9,000,000 in short-term paper. Italy's holdings in America consist of \$223,000,000 in stocks and bonds, \$12,000,000 in direct investments and \$22,000,000 in real estate, mortgages, etc.

No Direct Threats

There were no direct threats from Italy, but the newspaper La Stampa of Turin said regarding the ship seizures that Italians "would not forget the knife in the back from Roosevelt and his blow against Italy at one of the hardest moments of the struggle."

"There was no immediate indication, according to Berlin dispatches, that the arrest of the four Americans, long residents in Germany, was in reprisal for the protective seizure of two German ships. The State Department had not received official reports on the incident early tonight, and withheld comment."

When the new Italo-German protests arrived, department officials were in the process of drafting a rejection to earlier Axis demands that the two German and 28 Italian ships and their crews be released.

Nazi Protest

The German embassy tonight made public its first note of protest, signed by Charge d'Affaires Hans Thomsen. He contended that the seizures constituted a violation of the treaty of friendship and commerce between the two governments signed on December 8, 1923, and amended on June 3, 1935.

He protested "most urgently" against the American action and insisted upon immediate release of the tanker Pauline Friedrich, seized in the port of Boston, and the motorship Arauca, taken over at Port Everglades, Fla.

He also demanded the immediate release of the crews of the two vessels; permission for them to remain aboard their ships; removal of the American flag which was hoisted on the Arauca, and "unreserved" restoration to the ships of the rights recognized under international law.

It was understood the Italian embassy also called attention of the State Department to the "bad" conditions under which some 775 Italian seamen are being held. This protest reportedly was delivered orally.

Government intelligence agents tonight were making a far-reaching investigation of the acts of sabotage to determine whether the destruction was ordered by men credited to the two embassies. If this is proven, the State Department probably will hand the guilty officials their passports or request their immediate recall.

The captains of two of the Italian boats were quoted as saying they acted on instructions from the Italian naval attaché here. The only comment from the embassy was that its position would be reflected in notes to the State Department.

Ave. Those interested in the job in this immediate area are asked to contact the Employment Office representative who will be in Farmville at City Hall on Wednesday of each week from 10:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M.

The Farmers of Pitt County have an important job to do. They want to see that the Government is getting the best value for its money. They want to see that the Government is getting the best value for its money.