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VOLUME THIRTY-TWO

FARMVILLE, PITT COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1945

NUMBER THIRTY-SEVEN

SUBMARINE PERIL SPREADS TO ALL AMERICAN WATERS

**U-Boats Sighted Off
Texas Coast; Survivors
of Big Canadian Ship
Landed in Puerto Rico;
Schooner Attacked off
West Coast; Pan-
Maine May Be Safe**

Washington, Jan. 28. — The submarine menace sprang up tonight in virtually all waters touching continental United States and its territories and possessions.

The vast geographical magnitude of the threat was indicated in officially-approved reports from Hawaii to Puerto Rico and from Texas to Alaska.

Undersea warfare already had burst upon both of the nation's coasts.

But tonight there came ominous hints that the menace has spread to new areas—the Gulf coast and approaches to Puerto Rico—and that there has been renewed submarine activity in the Pacific Northwest and in the waters near Hawaii.

Scope of Threat.

They came in authorized dispatches from:

1. Corpus Christi, Texas, where the commander of the naval air station announced the probable presence of two Axis submarines operating off the South Texas coast.

2. San Juan, P. R., where the arrival of the S. S. Coamo revealed that the Canadian luxury liner Lady Hawkins had been torpedoed in the Atlantic with a possible loss of 250 lives. The Coamo put 71 survivors ashore.

3. Seattle, Wash., where headquarters of the 13th Naval District revealed that a small ocean-going schooner twice encountered enemy submarine fire en route from the Pacific coast to the Pribilof Islands in Alaskan waters. The ship—the Black Douglas—arrived safely at Seattle, according to the 13th Naval District.

4. Honolulu, where depth charges were heard exploding off shore, Navy officials there admitted an alert signal had summoned all personnel on shore leave to their stations, but they refused to say whether enemy submarines had been detected.

Confusion Effort.

These reports would seem to indicate that Germany and Japan are trying to confuse United States defenses against submarines and attempting to force a wide dispersion of American naval forces.

The reported presence of two German U-boats off the South Texas coast prompted the National Geographic Society to observe that the Atlantic coast battlefront now has been pushed to a north-south line that is farther west than Topoka, Kans., Lincoln, Neb., and Sioux Falls, S. D.

"Corpus Christi—gas, oil and shipping center—in some 600 miles west of the meridian on which Chicago is located," the geographic news bulletin said, adding that enemy craft operating in the Gulf of Mexico would "open up a new war zone deep in the heart of the Americas."

It pointed out that the United States Gulf coast is dotted with oil refineries. Enemy submarines have been concentrating on oil tankers in their depredations off the eastern seaboard.

Latest victim was the American tanker Francis E. Powell, sunk Monday night with a probable loss of three lives.

The rescue of 12 more survivors from the Powell was revealed today by the Navy Department, which indicated that "all may be well" with another tanker—the Pan-maine which had been feared sunk.

More Survivors.

The dozen new survivors were put ashore at Annapolis, Va., and the bodies of two crew members also were brought in, leaving one unaccounted for since the other 17 crew members were landed at Lewes, Del., last night.

The two known dead and the one missing raised to at least 101 the number of Allied seamen dead or missing since the U-boats launched their undersea warfare off the nation's eastern seaboard January 14.

ATTENDEE POWER HOOK-UP MEETING IN RALEIGH

Mayor George W. Davis, W. A. McAdams, superintendent of the Farmville power plant, and David T. Harris, superintendent of the REA line were in Raleigh, Friday, attending a meeting regarding a possible hook-up in Eastern Carolina to supply electricity energy to Marine bases at Cherry Point, New River and other projects in the section.

The plan under consideration provides for the REA to own lines connecting several municipally owned plants in Eastern Carolina.

Further action from local may-

Annual Meeting Opens Today

**Seed Exposition To Be
Held In Keel's Ware-
house, Greenville**

Greenville, Jan. 28. — Everything was in readiness today for the annual Seed Exposition and meeting of the North Carolina Crop Improvement Association which will open at Keel's warehouse at 9 a. m., Friday morning.

The Board of Directors of the N. C. Crop Improvement Association will meet at 10:30 Friday morning at the warehouse. At 2 p. m., the annual business session of the association will be held, after which educational lectures will be made on various phases of farming.

The highlight of the convention will be the annual dinner which will be held at 1 p. m., Saturday in the Woman's club building, with Governor Broughton as the principal speaker. Awards in the crop judging contest to be participated in by 4-H and Future Farmers of America clubs will be awarded at the luncheon meeting.

A large number of commercial exhibits, such as farm equipment, will be on display in the warehouse.

NEW BUG TO FIGHT BOLL WEEVIL.

Austin, Tex.—Cotton growers will be delighted to hear that scientists are breeding a new kind of bug which they expect to exterminate the boll weevil and pink boll worm which destroy millions of dollars' worth of cotton each year. The bug worm is "microbracon," a parasite which destroys the weevil and worm by boring into their lairs. Dr. G. W. Goldsmith, botany professor and director of the University of Texas cotton research laboratory, said he hopes to breed and, with the aid of Federal and State agencies, to unleash microbracon in huge numbers on cotton fields throughout the South not later than the Spring of 1948.

As 1941 comes to an end, we might as well admit that we are in better shape than we expected to be when it began.

Announce Opening Of New Furniture Store in Ayden

**Public Invited Tonight,
Jan. 30th, From 8:00 to
10:30; Refreshments
and a Gift to Each Per-
son in Attendance**

According to an advertisement appearing elsewhere in this issue of The Enterprise, to which we call your attention, the firm of Quinn & Miller Co., furniture dealers of Ayden, announce the formal opening of their New Store Friday evening of this week, Jan. 30th, from 8:00 to 10:30 o'clock, and hereby extend a cordial invitation to their many friends and customers throughout this section to come and inspect their new and modern store and enjoy with them a pleasant occasion set aside and arranged especially for you and yours.

This firm has been in the Furniture business in Ayden for a number of years and enjoy a large patronage. Henry M. Skinner, for several years a salesman with the Farmville Furniture Co., of this city, who has been associated with the Quinn & Miller Co., in Ayden, for the past several months, has just recently been promoted to manager of the new Ayden store. Mr. Skinner is a young man who numbers his friends by his acquaintances, and we bespeak much success for this firm under Mr. Skinner's management. The assistant manager will be H. D. Johnson, Jr., of Ayden, also a young man well liked by all who know him.

Mr. Skinner extends a special invitation to his friends and former customers of this community to attend the opening tonight, Jan. 30th. Refreshments will be served and a gift will be presented each person attending the opening.

LEAVE FOR PORT BRAGO

Lynnan Bass, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bass, Bob Whelan, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Whelan, and Arno Medsger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Medsger, left Wednesday for Port Brago to join the United States Army.

American Fliers In New Triumph

**Bag Seven Planes In
Routing Japanese
Squadron In Rangoon
Battle**

Rangoon, Burma, Jan. 28.—American volunteer fliers, outnumbered by at least three to one, put to rout a force of 37 enemy planes today, shooting down at least seven of them in a new encounter four miles above the green Burma jungle east of Rangoon.

The Americans lost only one craft themselves, and the pilot of that one landed safely. One of the Americans, "Sandy" from San Antonio, Texas, shot down two planes himself and may have downed a third.

A communique announcing the appearance of the Japanese over the Rangoon area gave full credit to the AVG (American Volunteer Group) in stating that "according to latest reports" seven Japanese planes were destroyed.

Five more of the enemy probably were destroyed and nine others were known to have been damaged as they streaked for home, their fragile Japanese army "97" planes beaten completely by the faster and heavier Tomahawks whose cockpits are sheathed with armor plate.

The air battle occurred shortly after 12:30 p. m. The Americans took to the air jauntily and soon returned jauntier than ever. These Americans, guarding Burma and the Chinese supply route running through it, have yet to be beaten by the Japanese, although they never have yet fought on terms of numerical equality.

TEST BLACKOUT FOR MONDAY NIGHT

Mayor George W. Davis, local Civilian Defense chairman, stated today that a blackout for Farmville had been ordered for next Monday night, Feb. 2, between 7:00 and 10:00 o'clock.

Preparations for such a test have been in the making for some time and local citizens are urged to make tests of their homes prior to the actual blackout to see that no light can be seen from the outside when the time comes for the real test.

All business houses are urged to leave no lights on within their places of business and to be sure and cut off all electric signs.

Auxiliary policemen and firemen have been chosen and these and other officials are urged to start final arrangements for the test next Monday night.

We want a complete blackout, so when our fire whistle blows 22 turn off all lights. The all clear signal will be 4 blows, at which time you may turn your lights back on.

A 100 per cent cooperation is asked and expected. Don't fail.

Expect Tar Heel Farmers To Top New Soybean Goal

North Carolina farmers are expected to go over the top in meeting the revised goal for soybean production in 1945, says G. Tom Scott, chairman of the State USDA War Board.

New goals for soybeans and peanuts for oil, together with a floor under prices for each of these crops, recently were announced by Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard. The Nation's soybean production mark was increased to nine million acres and the peanut goal to five million acres, with 3,400,000 acres designated for oil production and the remaining 1,600,000 acres for edible nuts, the same as last year.

At the same time, Government purchase prices were set for soybeans at \$1.00 per bushel, farm basis, for designated varieties of U. S. No. 2 Yellow, and peanut prices were placed at \$2.25 per ton for U. S. No. 1 White Spanish type for oil, and \$70 per ton for Class A Virginias. Both basic prices are subject to location and grade differentials.

The new soybean goal is approximately 22.5 percent above the goal set last fall, when North Carolina's quota was placed at 225,000 acres, Scott said. A corresponding increase of the State goal would place production at approximately 280,000 acres for 1945.

Following announcement of goals last fall, Scott pointed out, a survey of soybean producers in North Carolina resulted in pledges of 387,500 acres this year, or 162,500 acres above the new figure.

Raising the peanut goal to 3,400,000 acres for oil purposes is nearly double the previously requested 1,600,000 acres for this use. Chairman Scott said that the higher price set for peanuts should result in more than double the 1944 acreage pledged by the December survey by farmers of the State.

Successful Meeting At Baptist Church To Close Sunday

The special evangelistic services, which have been conducted in the local Baptist Church by the pastor, Rev. B. B. Fordham, this week, have been very successful from both the points of attendance and the deep interest manifested in the inspirational messages, delivered twice daily, by the guest preacher, Rev. Charles B. Howard, pastor and teacher of the Bible at Campbell College, Bales Creek.

Soul stirring Gospel hymns and special selections of adoration and devotion by the choir have featured the song services each evening.

The meeting will come to a close Sunday morning at the 11:00 o'clock service. Baptismal services will be held at the regular Sunday evening worship hour.



By HUGO S. SIMS
(Washington Correspondent)

HOUSE AND SENATE COMMITTEES REPORTS CONDEMN MANY PHASES OF WAR PROGRAM

Two congressional committees have recently reported the results of their investigation into the effort of the nation to prepare itself for defense and war. Both reports include serious charges reflecting upon labor, industry, the armed services and certain governmental agencies.

While it is not the purpose of this column to give undue publicity to questionable charges against responsible individuals and agencies, we feel that the reports of the House Naval Committee and of the Senate special investigating committee deserve consideration.

The House committee, after a two-months' study, asserts: (1) that firms doing business with the Government have begun to reap a harvest of excessive and unscrupulous profits, and (2) the majority minority lists strikes as the greatest single cause of delay in the defense program and declares that the tremendous financial gains made by unions "present an astounding picture of concentration of wealth" which is usually associated only with industry and finance.

Eight representatives signed a minority report which was sharply critical of strike delays and high industrial profits but pointed out that no gigantic program can be carried out at high speed "without mistakes" and expressed the view that correction can be secured by proper legislation.

Concerning the profits of industry, the committee found "many" cases of fifty per cent and one ("as high as 247 per cent.") However, more than 1228 contractors, covering 19,086 contracts, reported a profit of \$287,857,448, an average of 7.99 per cent on work amounting to \$3,889,168,760.

Concerning the financial gains of labor, the committee reported that 117 unions, answering questionnaires, had increased net assets from \$71,915,665 to \$82,594,959 between October 1st, 1939 and March 31st, 1941. The A. F. of L. had a percentage gain of 14.74 per cent and the C. I. O., 39.63. The United Mine Workers, John L. Lewis' union, was the wealthiest of the C. I. O. unions, with a gain of 62.65 per cent. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers reported net assets of \$25,897,084.

Recommended were strict profit limitations on all war contracts and government supervision over finances. Both recommendations, in the opinion of this writer, are of the utmost importance. The national emergency should not be allowed to create a new "crop of millionaires" and the monopoly which organized labor is gradually securing over the sources of unemployment should not be used to extort excessive initiation fees, dues or charges, or to interfere with the fundamental right of an American to secure employment.

The Senate special investigating committee, consisting of ten members, submitted a report without dissent that bribery with charges of waste, inefficiency, failures in the defense program and lack of foresight and also took occasion to denounce the automobile industry, insurance policies and the defense of the State.

(Continued on page 4)

Nation Faced By Rationing

**Everything Sold At
Stores May Be Re-
stricted**

Washington, Jan. 28.—Everything that Americans buy at the stores became liable to rationing today, and legal price fixing was only one short step away.

The War Production Board delegated to acting Price Administrator Leon Henderson full power to ration retail commodities, only a short time before the Senate completed congressional action yesterday on a much-amended price control bill and sent it on to President Roosevelt.

Democratic leaders said they expected the Chief Executive to sign the measure, although some of its farm price sections were known to be distasteful to him. He had asked for the legislation more than six months ago, as a check against inflation. Living costs have risen more than 11 per cent since September, 1939, government economists say, and parallel price rises have added several billion dollars to the cost of the nation's armament program.

The capital generally conceded that Henderson would be retained in the price administration post he now holds by virtue of an executive order. The added rationing authority, given him with Mr. Roosevelt's approval, virtually guaranteed that the name of Henderson in the next few weeks would become a by-word in the kitchens, corner stores and offices of America.

Further rationing, the WPB observed, "seems inevitable."

Signature of the price fixing measure will not necessarily mean an immediate flood of price-fixing orders, said one of Henderson's lieutenants who declared that situations will be met as they arise.

Relying almost entirely up to now on voluntary arrangements and orders without the specific support of law, the OPA has fixed price ceilings on 72 commodities ranging from washed cattle-hair to steel.

In addition, it has reached voluntary price agreements with about 100 individual producers, frozen some prices, and listed others at what it considered "fair."

In all, about 35 per cent of the total value of wholesale goods is already under price control, as is almost half the field of metals and metal products.

Clinic Patronized By Total Of 305

Greenville.—Dr. W. M. Peck of the State Sanatorium, who conducted a tuberculosis clinic in Pitt County last week, today released through the local health department the following report on the clinic:

Number of examinations, white, 143; colored, 157; total, 305.

Number of new positive cases found, white, 3; colored, 4; total, 7.

Number previously diagnosed, white, 12; colored, 22; total, 34.

Sanatorium treatment advised for 12 cases, and home treatment advised for 11.

Dr. Peck stated that in no place in which he had held clinics were the clinics worked up better than they are in Pitt County.

Dr. Bennett commented on the large proportion of whites attending the clinic as compared with previous clinics. The health officer stated that he would like for the public to understand that the free X-rays used in all Pitt county tuberculosis clinics are made possible through the Christmas Seal Sale Fund.

Dr. Peck commented to the effect that he knew of no better way in which this fund could be used since there was nothing more important than an early diagnosis, and that the X-ray is our best means of making a diagnosis early.

WHO KNOWS?

1. With what business was Donald M. Nelson connected before becoming chairman of the War Production Board?

2. Did German U-boats operate off our Atlantic coast in the first World War?

3. How long is the Russian battle ground?

4. What has been called "an unsinkable aircraft carrier"?

5. Who is Orje Mikalovich?

6. By what name is Joseph L. Barrow usually known?

7. How did Winston Churchill "go home" after his visit to the U. S.?

8. What was the approximate size of the American army two years ago?

9. What is bunat?

10. Was Mexico friendly to the U. S. during the first World War?

(See "The Answers on Page 3")

Bankers usually agree that "easy money is a bad thing for the people."

FLYING FORTRESSES SCORE IN MACASSAR BATTLE AGAIN

BRAZIL ACTS

Rio De Janeiro, Jan. 27.—The government of Brazil decided to break off diplomatic relations with Germany, Italy and Japan, a decision which will be announced formally tomorrow at the closing session of the Pan-American Conference of Foreign Ministers.

Settlement of the 100-year-old boundary dispute between Peru and Ecuador also was announced tonight, apparently removing the last threat to the unanimity of the conference.

"We have the Peru-Ecuador dispute definitely and finally settled," Brazilian Foreign Minister Oswaldo Aranha informed United States Under-Secretary of State Sumner Welles.

Ecuador's foreign minister, Julio Tobar Donoso, had received the authorization of his government to announce a break with the Axis powers, but was awaiting definite settlement of the dispute with Peru.

The Brazilian cabinet, meeting with President Getulio Vargas at the Petropolis summer capital, voted an immediate break with the Axis. Brazil thus will be the 18th American nation either at war with the Axis or having severed diplomatic relations.

Pitt Grand Jury Report Submitted

The report of the Pitt County Grand Jury, submitted to Judge John J. Burney in Superior court yesterday by the foreman, K. W. Cobb, stated that a committee from the body, had inspected all school buses and found a majority of them in satisfactory condition, but that minor repairs and adjustments needed on others had been ordered looked after immediately.

The report stated that the group had visited the county home, county jail, state prison camp and found conditions at all to be satisfactory and the inmates well cared for.

It further stated that county offices were visited and appeared to be in good condition and well managed. The report added that the group found an attitude of loyalty on the part of officials and employees.

If the supply of speedsters continues to increase, the supply of pedestrians will become exceedingly scarce.

Red Army Shock Troops Driving Towards Smolensk

**Moscow Says Nazis
Driven from 79 Towns;
Axis Drive in Libya Is
Stalled**

Moscow, Jan. 28.—Speedy Russian shock forces carrying guns on sleighs were reported driving straight south tonight from the Volga salient northwest of Moscow and directly threatening the German positions at Smolensk and Vyasma.

A Soviet broadcast said the Red Army had driven the Germans out of 79 localities on the central front in the last two days, killing 2,980 enemy troops and capturing 46.

"Heavy fighting still is expected, but the fascists are being pushed relentlessly westward," the radio said.

Violent battles between the Germans and Russians went on all day Wednesday, the Soviet high command reported, with the enemy suffering "very heavy losses" and the Red army continuing its advance.

Twelve German planes were destroyed in combat and 17 on the ground Tuesday, as against seven Russian losses, the night communique said.

The left flank of the Volga wedge driven more than 65 miles into the German line lay 100 miles north of Smolensk along the Rzhev-Velikiye Luki Railroad. Front reports said the Russians had reached Velikiye Luki, 270 miles northwest of Moscow and 120 miles from the 4th Polish frontier.

On the central front, hard-pressed Germans were said to be increasing their resistance, making numerous counter-attacks supported by artillery and mine throwers. The Soviet army organ Red Star said the Germans were making determined effort to halt the Russian advance from prepared points to which they had withdrawn.

Without exception, the counter-attacks were crushed, Red Star said, and the enemy was being harried closely from the front and rear. They were being abandoned in the rear.

Sink Another Japanese Transport and Hit Cruiser as Titanic Sea And Air Battle In Pacific Continues; MacArthur Reports Lull In Philippine Arena

Washington, Jan. 28.—American Flying Fortresses were revealed today to have dealt additional blows to Japanese naval power in the Battle of Macassar Straits—sinking another enemy transport and scoring a direct hit on a cruiser.

A squadron of eight Flying Fortresses carried out the successful action reported in today's communique. One of the big bombers was lost in an attack which occurred at Balikpapan, an oil port on the east coast of Borneo.

Philippines Quiet

Farther north—on the Bataan front in the Philippines—there was comparative quiet as General Douglas MacArthur's defenders enjoyed a respite for the second successive day.

But the War Department noted, perhaps ominously, that the enemy was putting further reinforcements ashore and conducting aerial reconnaissance, probably as the prelude to another all-out drive.

The communique said the enemy landed "relatively small numbers" in the Subic Bay area. But the Japanese already have an entire army and other units—perhaps as many as 300,000 men—poised to strike again and again at MacArthur's men, who are outnumbered by something like 10 to 1.

The gallant battle being waged by MacArthur's small force, coupled with War Department disclosure that American troops have been landed in North Ireland, prompted several Senators to express hope that help is en route to Bataan.

Senatorial Views

Senator Gerald P. Nye, R., N. D., said "it is hard to stretch the imagination enough to believe that sending our men to Great Britain in any way aids those brave Philippine defenders." Though emphasizing that he felt unqualified to comment on troop movements ordered by military strategists, Senator James E. Murray, D., Mont., said it seemed to him that "if the expedition had been sent across the Pacific, it would have been much better."

New successes chalked up by the Flying Fortresses in Macassar Straits brought to 62 the number of Japanese ships definitely sunk by American forces since the start of the war. Additionally, official announcements have listed 10 others as probably sunk and 14 more as damaged—a grand total of 76.

In the battle of Macassar alone, American warships and planes have accounted for 14 enemy vessels, according to Washington communique. But General Sir Archibald Wavell, Allied commander in the Southwest Pacific, has put the American score at 15—adding a Japanese transport which he said was damaged by American planes.

Wavell also reported from Java that Dutch forces blasted 16 Japanese ships. This would bring the combined total of Japanese transports and warships sunk or damaged to 31.

JAPANESE WARPLANES RAID DUTCH TARGETS

General headquarters, United Nations Southwest Pacific Command, Java, Jan. 28.—American Flying Fortresses have sunk another large Japanese transport, set a second on fire and probably damaged an enemy cruiser, boosting to 31 the number of enemy warships and transports sunk or damaged in Macassar Straits in a five-day Allied attack on an invasion fleet, it was announced today.

Meanwhile, Japanese planes heavily raided important Dutch bases and ports today, setting afire two merchant ships and damaging a third in the harbor of Emma Haven, on the coast of Sumatra, and killing several persons in an attack on the Dutch naval base on Ambon Island. Arson in southeast Borneo also was attacked.

The high command said the Flying Fortresses straddled the enemy cruiser with several attacks of bombs and shot down two Japanese fighter planes and damaged another. All the planes returned safely, the announcement said.

Despite the hammering the Japanese invasion fleet has taken, the communique said, it was believed enemy forces have succeeded in capturing the "ruined and abandoned establishment" of the east Borneo oil port of Balikpapan. This strategic point, Alaska news agency said, was based on the foundation of "rumor" communications with Balikpapan.