

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1943

14 Pages—Price Five Cents

Largest Newspaper in The Carolinas

A War Reporter's Notebook

By Hal Boyle

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGERIA, Oct. 28.—(Delayed)—The American soldiers with the best morale this side of the ocean are probably the peacocks of the WACs. They seem to be a little better than the average man in khaki why they don't like the French girls are a little peeved at the competition, and some of these WAC officers sometimes appear appalled by their own importance, but by and large the enlisted WAC is voted OK by the rest of the Army, from Gen. Eisenhower to Pvt. Smith. A few columns will have more on this, but the colonels are the Hamlets of any Army. They don't really like anybody, because all they really care is why they aren't generals.

The WAC I would like to tell you about is Sgt. Doris Callahan who is one of the best, if not the best, disciplined in Africa. She is a Irish. She says she'd think any girl smart enough to handle her job in the Army is smart enough to take care of herself.

"I think they're going to get more than they're worth," she says. "I'm not necessary."

The sergeant is tall, chestnut haired, blue eyed and 23. She is general secretary for Lt. Col. Joseph B. Phillips, public relations officer, and she is friendly, confident and sometimes dictator to some 150 war correspondents who call her Callahan.

She helps them out of their problems and when they need mail and travel orders come through on them. She is a black and white beauty and an Irish rebel. "But she's not the pet of the press corps," she says. "I have a scoop or a hangoover."

Callahan is the daughter of a Minneapolis power company executive. When she first signed up with the WACs, her father and mother disapproved. They thought she should settle down instead of adding to the war effort. Now they are immensely proud of her. She joined up because she is patriotic, but she would rather be reduced to a corporal than to admit that over here. Nobody wants to be called a draftee out here. Those are words for the people back home.

"I enlisted in the WACs rather than get a job in a defense plant because I thought there would be more adventure," she said, "and there has been."

She began WAC fourteen months ago and landed in North Africa Jan. 23 with the first group of non-combatant WACs to enter a war theater.

"I was sick all the way over and Africa looked lovely because it was land."

Within a month she had seen other WACs being killed at headquarters while it was planning the invasion of Sicily. She was there from March, April, May, June and the early part of July the eight months that the WACs knew where and when the Allies would launch their next great offensive. She was cleaning out Tunisia, and they didn't spill the beans to anyone.

"That was really thrilling," Callahan said. "I was sent home from headquarters at night in a special car and we were sometimes afraid somebody was following us. The hardest part was not keeping the secret was not to let it out when the other girls in the barracks started talking about where we would hit next. We never let See WAR REPORTER'S on page 2

Boyle Reports To The Folks Back Home

Conference Is Held At Capital In New Crisis

Lewis and Ickes In Talks

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The top authorities on both sides of the nation's latest coal mining crisis gathered around a big conference table in the Interior Department today as close to a half-million workers in the far-flung fields ignored President Roosevelt's call for a return to the Government-seized pits.

United Mine Workers President John L. Lewis talked early in the morning with Interior Secretary Ickes, conferred afterwards with UMW's district presidents, then returned with a group of aides to meet Ickes and the latter's coal secretary in a conference room just beneath the Secretary's office.

Ickes, designated as U. S. Mine boss when the Government seized the struck mines for a second time yesterday, was attended at his session by Ickes' chief of staff, Secretary Abe Fortas, recently inducted into the Navy but now on special leave, Assistant Secretary Michael Strauss, and the leading legal minds of the Solid Fuels Administration and the Coal Mines Administration.

The latter agency was largely impugned when Ickes restored the mines to their owners Oct. 12, but the legal staff had not been freed of duty when the new crisis arose.

CONTRACT SOUGHT

One of those entering the conference room would discuss the business of the coal industry. Those were attempts were being made to get together on a contract which would send the miners back to work.

The quiet suspension of activities began two weeks ago, with a slight uptick stemming from continued absence of a working contract. The industry had 160,000 hard and soft coal miners.

An early morning survey in Pennsylvania, a top producer of both anthracite and bituminous coal, showed no signs of a back to work movement in any of the 120 coal fields.

Only a few soft coal strip mines were reported working in West Virginia, where the coal industry is headed by H. Cannon, executive secretary of COAL MINERS on page 2

No Withholding Tax Change

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The House Ways and Means Committee decided today against making any change at this time in the 20 per cent withholding rate against the taxable portion of wages and salaries.

Treasury Secretary Morgenthau had proposed to the committee that the withholding levy be put on a graduated basis, to keep millions more of our taxpayers on a strictly current, paid-up basis, by covering the full liability in all brackets instead of just the first bracket, as at present.

The committee instructed the Congressional tax staff to prepare a new set of withholding exemptions to more nearly meet the correct withholding levy under the present 20 per cent rate.

Associated Press Man Reports: Japs Showing No Sign Of Cracking Morale

(Editor's Note—Russell Brines, veteran Associated Press foreign correspondent returning from Tokyo after more than two years in Japanese imprisonment, reports today as close to a half-million workers in the far-flung fields ignored President Roosevelt's call for a return to the Government-seized pits.)

By RUSSELL BRINES

PORT ELIZABETH, Union of South Africa.—(Swept by a wave of wartime fanaticism and tightly governed by the Army, the Japanese people show no indication of any crack in morale despite mounting shortages of commodities, travelers returning from Japan say.

Incidence in Japan during the last two years of the Empire's greatest struggle has convinced those the Japanese people will support the war effort under the present circumstance for at least five years more.

The common man's living costs in Japan have at least doubled, despite government-pegged prices, they say, and his means is scanty even by comparison with his common frugality, yet the people patiently await further hardships which they accept as a wartime necessity.

The Army is continuing to keep a tight check on both the government and the country. It apparently has silenced all opposition—even the big industrialists who were the last opponents to submit.

Nevertheless the black market is rampant and wartime profiteering is extensive.

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Leaders Know Japan Losing But People Kept In Dark

By RAYMOND F. CROW

PORT ELIZABETH, UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—(AP)—Complaint observers who returned from Japan within the past two months say Japan's leaders know that the rising tide of public feeling is leading war but that the masses are being kept in ignorance of the score, with the Government prodding them constantly to greater war efforts.

Observers outside Japan in close touch with Japanese military officials, especially in the Philippines, where I was interned for almost two years, told me a similar story.

They said the Japanese military officials in the "war zones" plus officials in the Japanese military administration in various occupied countries, give the impression they are convinced Japan will lose the war but still back to the Government to greater war efforts.

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Fifth Army Cracks West End Of Nazi Line Open

Look Out Over River Valley

By NOLAN NORGAARD

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGIERS.—(AP)—The Allied Fifth Army has seized the heights of Monte Rizzo, western anchor of the Germans' line in Italy, and nearby Mount San Croce to gain complete observation over the broad Garigliano River valley, headquarters announced here Sun.

American units on the flank routed the Nazis from the last heights before Vesuvius and won new high ground covering the extreme upper Volturno River valley across the mountains.

The German line in the area was broken by the Fifth Army's attack on the heights of Monte Rizzo, western anchor of the Germans' line in Italy, and nearby Mount San Croce to gain complete observation over the broad Garigliano River valley, headquarters announced here Sun.

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Republicans Hair Victories In East

Greatest U.S. Raid Made From Britain

Northwest Germany Attacked By Perhaps 500 Or More Bombers

LONDON.—(AP)—The largest force of American heavy bombers ever to operate out of British bases raided Northwestern Germany today escorted by long range Thunderbolt and Lightning fighters.

On the basis of recent forces of 400 heavy bombers on two successive raids last month, today's raiders might have numbered 500 bombers or more—a force comparable to that in some of the RAF's heavy night attacks.

The raid by heavy bombers followed an attack by American medium bombers on German airfields in northern France that severe hammering by Mediterranean-based bombers on the aircraft manufacturing plant at Weiser, near Metz.

Clearing weather after two weeks of heavy rain in England made possible the latest thrust in the new all-out Allied offensive against Germany. The raiders, escorted by Spitfires, attacked several airfields at Weiser, near Metz.

Victory heavier than expected in seven states in view of the absence of uniforms and war factories. Forty miles were covered in a single day's sweep beyond captured Pershore, east entrance to the Black Sea peninsula from the Crimea.

The German communiqué termed the reported Russian landing "a serious blow to the north of Kerch." An enemy landing party and asserted that the Russian landing "was a serious blow to the north of Kerch."

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Looking To Reds Drive Beyond Sealed Off Crimea

Win in N. Y., N. J., And Pennsylvania

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

THROUGHOUT key Eastern seaboard counties Republicans sewed the off-year election returns today as a signpost on the road which they still lead back to the White House in 1944.

Democrats, beaten in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, confined their initial comment to congratulations to the winners.

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Dewey Not Candidate

Comments On Election Returns

NEW YORK.—(AP)—Governor Thomas E. Dewey, commenting on election returns, said today that "nothing has happened" to change his decision not to be a candidate for the Presidency in 1944.

Dewey was asked at a press conference whether he was "still determined to side-step" the national aspects of the election.

"Nothing has happened," he said. "I've always said I have already said."

Asked what he had said, Dewey replied: "I have said I am not and shall not become a candidate for the Republican nomination for President in 1944."

The election of State Senator Joseph R. Hanley, the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor, has been widely interpreted as projecting Dewey into the 1944 Presidential picture.

"Would you refuse a unanimous draft?" Dewey was asked.

"I never say 'no,'" he replied. "When the question was rephrased as 'almost unanimous' draft," Dewey answered.

"The question is academic. There are lots of good candidates."

RAID JAP HUNAN BASE

CHUNGKING.—(AP)—American Mitchell bombers, supporting Chinese ground forces, attacked warehouses and railroad yards Monday at Yochow, Japanese base in northern Hunan province. Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's headquarters announced today.

Large fires were started. All planes returned safely.

General Coxey Loses Massillon Mayor Battle

MASSILLON, Ohio.—(AP)—General Jacob Coxey, leader of the unemployed in 1894, lost his bid for Massillon mayorship today, returning from yesterday's election showing 4,226 votes for S. Robert Welch and 1,022 for 69-year-old Coxey, a Democrat.

Welch is a Republican. Coxey campaign manager said he promised to have policemen escort intoxicated persons to their homes instead of jail and that stray dogs be trapped by the city kept for five days, then returned to their owners.

Stoekholm.—(AP)—Caught in a special meeting yesterday to discuss the situation word of the Moscow declaration of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union by the underground group, the Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet said today.

Spokesmen for the Free Austrian National Council, saw in the returns death blow to any fourth term movement for Mr. Roosevelt. The state continued Republican, was elected to a regular term in that office over the Democratic candidate William C. Butler, former ambassador to Russia and to France, for whom President Roosevelt had spoken good words. The state continued Republican, was elected to a regular term in that office over the Democratic candidate William C. Butler, former ambassador to Russia and to France, for whom President Roosevelt had spoken good words.

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