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Not War—Only Defeat—Destroys the Freedom Of Men And The Privileges Of Democracy

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1943 | 16 Pages—Price Five Cents

8TH ARMY OPENS DRIVE IN TUNISIA

RED ARMY 40 MILES FROM KHARKOV

48-Hour Week Ordered On Home Front

Extension of Program To More Than 32 Labor Shortage Areas Indicated

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The prospect of an invasion of Europe this year, followed by unparalelled prosperity in the postwar period, was held out to Americans today but until victory is won they were told they must work longer hours and adopt a "Spartan standard of living."

To hasten the day of victory, President Roosevelt last night ordered a 48-hour minimum work week on the home war front, with time and a half overtime pay for all those covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act. This means a 30 per cent weekly wage increase for thousands now working a 40-hour week.

"Until further notice" the order was limited by War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt to 32 labor shortage areas, extending from Maine to Washington State and from Florida to California.

BYRNES SPEAKS

Immediately the action was announced, Economic Stabilization Director James F. Byrnes went on the radio to give the people a broad outline of the struggle ahead on the civilian front, and particularly to warn against "a creeping inflation."

Explaining the scope of the 48-hour week order issued by McNutt, his deputy commissioner, Fowler V. Harper, said it would apply to all employment in the specified areas, including retail stores, newspapers and even the employment of domestic servants. The latter are not covered by present laws requiring payment of time and a half for overtime in excess of 40 hours a week.

Harper and the WMC left unanswered the question of just how

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Tightening Semi-Circle Closing in Upon City

Soviets Pouring Through Gap

MOSCOW—(AP)—Strong Russian Army forces are pouring through the Belgorod gap in German defenses north of Kharkov, the only point on a 200-mile front where the invaders still hold the line from which they launched their 1942 offensive, battlefront dispatches reported today.

The great upper Donets industrial city which the Germans have held since October, 1941, thus was menaced by a tightening semi-circle of assault with the Red Army roughly 40 miles from its limits to the north, east and south.

CLOSE IN ON ROSTOV

At the same time the Russians announced the repulse of desperate enemy counter-attacks against a second semi-circle closing upon Rostov, and against the Kramatorsk wedge to the northwest which, if carried south toward the Sea of Azov, might pinch off the whole Rostov defense force.

The Russians reported their greatest gains in the snow-piled chalk hill country between Kharkov and Orel where the stronghold of Kursk and the important rail junction of Belgorod fell in 48 hours of whirlwind assault.

The German communique reported a tightening of the Nazi defense in this sector and said "German divisions in many places not only stopped the enemy advance but threw the Soviets back eastward, inflicting heavy casualties on them."

Belgorod, 50 miles northeast of Kharkov, was won back by a swift two-way attack which carried through scores of villages which the Germans had fortified heavily, Pravda reported.

Lieut. Gen. Moskalenko smashed through north of the city where he encountered German counter-attacks. By noon Monday heavy fighting had reached the northern outskirts. Under cover of darkness a second Russian force moved into position south of Belgorod, and in a surprise dawn attack slashed into the southern suburbs.

The German defenses were said to have crumbled then before the simultaneous attack from north and south by monster tanks which smashed openings through which ski troopers and infantrymen streamed into the city.

DEFENDERS WIPED OUT

Izvestia said that most of the defenders, virtually cut off from escaped, were killed or surrendered.

The attack was pressed swiftly on to heighten the menace to Kharkov, and a second force widened the gap in the German defenses by capturing Shebekino, only 40 miles northeast of Kharkov.

In new gains northwest of Kursk, the Red Army drove westward through a heavy snowcovered The gains in the Kursk-Belgorod sector also were made over heavy snow but in the south Caucasus the Winter was described as unusually mild with the steppes soggy and deep with mud almost as far north as Rostov.

RUSSIAN DRIVE TOO TOUGH FOR THESE NAZIS—The Russian heat was too much for these frost-bitten Nazis, a few of the thousands of German prisoners taken by the Red Army in recent sweeping gains. Thousands of their comrades face similar fate as Red drives continue.

British Move To Knock Out Rommel Force

Sharp Aerial Blows Struck at Axis War Machine in Tunisia

LONDON.—(AP)—The British Eighth Army has resumed its advance into Tunisia in preparation for a knock-out blow at the remnants of Marshal Rommel's Africa Corps as Allied bombers softened enemy communications in the Mediterranean war theater, official announcements disclosed today.

General Sir Harold Alexander told newspaper men in Cairo that the Eighth Army had "completely eliminated" Axis forces east of the Tunisian frontier. The British commander in chief in the Middle East tersely added: "And the Eighth Army is advancing."

General Alexander disclosed no details of the advance into Tunisia by General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's desert-hardened troops. The Italian communique described the fighting in that area as "activity by patrol elements" and reported that "massed motorized vehicles and concentrations of troops were effectively hammered by Axis air force formations."

Apparently timed with the Eighth Army's advance were sharp aerial blows at Axis forces in Tunisia, where bad weather continued to hinder land operations, and at strategic points in Axis supply lines in the Mediterranean.

BOMB NAZI BASE

American Flying Fortresses bombed the German air base near Kairouan, inland from Sousse in Tunisia. The Italian communique admitted the raid was intensive and caused many casualties. The Italians claimed that German fighters shot down sixteen planes over Tunisia, but the Allied communique said none of the raiders was missing.

At least 100 German troops were killed in strafing attacks by a new flying combination of Airacobras and American-flown Spitfires on the southern Tunisian front, an Allied Air Force spokesman said.

Continuing the softening-up process of Axis communications, Allied bombers fanned out over the Mediterranean to attack important supply centers on the Italian mainland and the port of Palermo on Sicily. A British communique said a number of fires were started in the raid on Palermo Monday night.

Allied planes dropped explosive and incendiary bombs at several places along the Calabrian coast of Italy's southern tip, the Italians reported in a communique describing damage as "limited." The Italians claimed that anti-aircraft artillery shot down four Allied planes over Trapani, Sicily.

WEAK AXIS BLOWS

Axis air forces countered weakly to the Allied aerial offensive, Allied fighters shot down two com-

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Says Guadalcanal Taken Completely

Gen. Patch Reports There Is No Vestige of Organized Jap Resistance

By CHARLES M. McMURTRY

AN ADVANCED BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC—(AP)—Maj.-Gen. Alexander M. Patch, commander of American troops on Guadalcanal Island in the Solomons, reported officially today that "Guadalcanal has been taken completely and there is no longer any vestige of any Japanese orgnized forces on that island."

General Patch's advice was contained in a message to Admiral William F. Halsey Jr., commander of U. S. naval forces in the South Pacific.

Captain Myles Browning, Halsey's chief of staff, announced that the last enemy resistance was overcome at 4:25 P. M. (Guadalcanal time) yesterday.

OFFICERS EVACUATED

The Japanese previously had evacuated an unknown number of high ranking officers by destroyers and submarines but there was no indication of a mass removal of troops.

"It was not a definite surrender," Browning said. "Our flanking force closed the pincers on the enemy and a blitzout took place. There was no more space for the Japs to occupy."

There was no report here yet of the number of Japanese killed or captured or whether the survivors, trapped in the "blot-out" near Cape Esperance, had surrendered.

MUCH BOOTY TAKEN

Considerable booty was said to have been taken, including much in the way of medical stores, but in this regard, too, there were no details.

"There is reason to believe the Japs were successful in moving out some of their people," Browning said. "An interesting development in that respect is the strong indication they made a deliberate effort

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Lend-Lease Rate High

Over Ten Billions Annually Supplied

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Lend Lease Administrator Edward R. Stettinius disclosed today that American Lend Lease aid now was being supplied to the Nation's Allies "at an annual rate in excess of $10,000,000,000."

He reported also that the amount furnished Russia had "increased sharply" during January over that for the previous month.

The information was contained in a prepared statement issued after an executive session of the House Foreign Affairs Committee at which he appeared to amplify his arguments on the necessity for continuing Lend Lease Act another year.

Stettinius also reported that the total Lend Lease aid extended from the beginning of the program through Jan. 31 of this year now amounts to approximately $9,064,000,000. He previously furnished the figures up to the end of last year.

For last month, the Lend Lease aid supplies by this country totalled approximately $801,000,000, he reported.

"Aid supplied to this country on a reverse Lend-Lease basis," he said, "continues to rise. The two latest developments in this field are the reciprocal aid agreement signed with the Belgian Congo and the commodities which are being shipped in substantial quantities from North Africa."

He offered no indication in the statement as to the nature of these commodities.

Fast Begun By Gandhi

Starts as Unconditional Release Refused

BOMBAY — (AP) — Mohandas K. Gandhi began a 21-day fast today in the palace of the Aga Khan in Poona, after the Government of India refused to grant his unconditional release from confinement there.

The 73-year-old Gandhi announced that he would take only fruit juice and water during his fasting period.

The fast is a sequel to a long correspondence with Lord Linlithgow, British Viceroy of India, in which Gandhi repudiated the suggestion that the All-India Congress was responsible for the killings, train-wrecking and property damage which have occurred since his detention.

URGED TO STOP

The Viceroy, in one of his letters, urged Gandhi to abandon the fast "not only because of my own natural reluctance to see you wilfully risk your life, but because I regard the use of a fast for political purposes as a form of political blackmail for which there can be no moral justification."

The correspondence was published by the Government of India today with an accompanying statement that the Government informed Gandhi he would be released for the purpose and duration of the fast and, with him, any members of his party who wished to accompany him.

"Mr. Gandhi," the statement added, "has expressed his readiness to abandon his intended fast if released, failing which he will fast in detention."

The Government statement said "it is now clear that only his unconditional release could prevent him from fasting. This the Government of India is not prepared to concede."

The Government, it declared, has no intention of allowing the fast to deflect its policy.

Gandhi was taken into custody last Aug. 9 after he instituted a new civil disobedience campaign against British rule.

Bill Gives Sweeping Powers To Governor

Legislature Also Gets Bill Providing Drastic Changes in Labor Laws

RALEIGH —(AP)— The Legislature received today bills to give the Governor unprecedented war powers, and to create the Office of Labor Conciliator, defining unfair labor practices, and making it illegal to require an employee to pay a labor organization a fee for a permit to work.

The war powers measure, asked by Governor Broughton, was introduced by Senators Larkins of Jones, Blythe of Mecklenburg, Carlyle of Forsyth, Weathers of Cleveland and Hedgepeth of Buncombe. The labor measure was sent up by Rep. Richardson of Union and others.

The Governor would be authorized to order an inventory for the mobilization, conservation and distribution or use of food, fuel, clothing and other necessities of life, labor, materials, industries or other facilities or resources necessary or useful in prosecution of the war.

He would have power to organize and co-ordinate civilian defense in conformity with rules of the office of civilian defense, and to promote the security, protection and mobilization of the civilian population, to order and carry out blackouts, radio silences and evacuations in co-operation with the armed forces. He could direct the activities of the police, fire fighters, health workers, highway workers, public utilities, medical and welfare forces and those in the service of the State.

All of his orders, however, must be consistent with those of the Federal Government or the armed forces.

GOVERNOR CAN ACT

The Governor may institute the powers upon his own initiative, or on request or recommendation of the President of the United States,

See BILL GIVES on Page 8

Attack Japs In Aleutians

Bombing Blow Struck On Kiska

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Bombing attacks on Japanese at Kiska in the Aleutian Islands in the North Pacific were reported by the Navy today in a communique which told also of aerial and ground activity in the Solomons, possibly preceding the withdrawal of Japanese from Guadalcanal.

Results of the aerial activity in the Aleutians were not reported.

The communique, No. 276:

"North Pacific

"1. On February 8th, Liberator heavy bombers (Consolidated B-24) and Mitchell medium bombers (North American B-25) dropped bombs on the enemy camp area at Kiska and on installations at North Head. Seven float-type Zeros were observed on the water but no attempts to intercept was made. All United States planes returned.

"South Pacific: (All dates are East Longitude)

"2. On February 9th:

"(a) Airacobra fighters (Bell P-39) strafed and sunk an enemy barge off Hooper Bay in the Northern Russell Islands. A number of floating drums of fuel oil were destroyed in the same vicinity.

"(b) During the evening, a force

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RAF Bombs West Reich

British Make Attack From Great Height

LONDON—(AP)—The Berlin radio reported today that British bombers bombed parts of western Germany from a great height last night, but said damage was negligible. The broadcast was recorded here by Reuters.

British sources said that RAF operations in small force over Germany, probably armed reconnaissance, likely led to the German reports.

It was suggested that the RAF might also have been engaged in mine-laying off the German coast but there was no operation of sufficient strength to warrant early official statement that a large RAF bomber fleet was out.

The Air Ministry announced today that Beaufighters of the RAF Coastal Command encountered four German planes over the Bay of Biscay yesterday and shot down three of them.

LONDON — (AP) — A German air raider scored a direct bomb hit on a crowded department store in a south England town this afternoon and many bodies were feared pinned in the wreckage.

Woman Slain In New York

NEW YORK —(AP)— A woman's screams echoed through a large Brooklyn apartment house yesterday. Alarmed tenants ran to the self-service elevator, pushed the button and the lift traveled to the fifth floor.

Opening the elevator door, they found on the car floor Mrs. Nahamah Baranow, 35. Blood oozed from a head wound. Not again conscious, she died five hours later.

Thousands of Jobs Ordered Stabilized

SEATTLE — (AP) — In a far-reaching move to utilize fully the manpower in Pacific Northwest war industries, the area War Manpower Commission ordered jobs of thousands of civilian war workers in Oregon and Washington stabilized, effective last midnight.

The restrictive order provides that workers in 29 designated industries may switch jobs only if they have a certificate of availability from their employers, approved by their labor unions and filed with the U. S. Employment Service.

Martha Kemp Divorces Mature

LAS VEGAS, Nev.—(AP)—Film Actor Victor Mature, now in the Coast Guard, was divorced yesterday by Mrs. Martha Kemp Mature, widow of the orchestra leader, Hal Kemp.

She testified Mature associated with other women, drank to excess and once showed up around a room during an argument.

Judge George E. Marshall restored her former name, Martha Kemp.

The Matures were married in New York, June 7, 1941.

Assailant Fires 4 Times At Argentine Minister

BUENOS AIRES— (AP) —An assailant fired four shots today at Argentina's Minister of Justice Guillermo Rothe as he was leaving his home in an automobile to attend a Cabinet meeting.

Rothe was cut slightly on one finger by a glass fragment when a bullet shattered a window of the official car. Another shot punctured a tire.

The assailant escaped. Witnesses said he was a short fat man wearing a derby and carrying an umbrella.

Rothe abandoned the disabled car and proceeded to the Government house where he joined his colleagues at the Cabinet meeting. Rothe, a member of President Castillo's National Democrat Party, is among those prominently mentioned as candidates for next September's Presidential election.

Warns Gestapo Will Fight On After Hitler's Armies Beaten

PHILADELPHIA — (AP) — The Gestapo will fight on in Europe long after Hitler's armies have been crushed, a pre-Hitler executive of the German Secret Police warned today.

Speaking on the tenth anniversary of the Gestapo—which replaced his department—Dr. Robert M. W. Kempner declared that any Allied army of occupation will need the assistance of trained American police administrators to combat a Gestapo "underground."

Kempner, a research specialist at the University of Pennsylvania and formerly chief legal adviser to the German Secret Police, was ousted from his post ten years ago today by Herman Goering. He fled Germany and the Nazis since have announced that he has been "executed" as a traitor.

"An army of occupation could rely on the co-operation of the local police in some countries, but not in Germany," he said. "The reason for this is that the most reckless and cruel Nazis are office holders in the police administration.

"The countries which Hitler has conquered, when they are liberated, also will need a purification against the Gestapo, which secretly will carry on its vicious work."

Kempner, who testified for the Government in a spy trial in Hartford, Conn., several months ago, was the first German police executive to investigate Adolf Hitler. After the 1923 Munich beer hall putsch, he said Hitler would be "a constant danger to the state" and recommended that there be no parole for him without deportation.

"The authorities were somewhat lax in prosecuting the charges,"

Insurance Firms Have Interest in Dog Bill

JEFFERSON CITY —(AP)—Insurance companies have a double interest in the pending bill to make dog owners responsible for their pets' bites.

"It's this way," explained L. B. Pratt, insurance spokesman, to the committee considering the bill. "we have agents going from door to door and they frequently run into vicious dogs. Then we have to pay claims on accident policies because of dog bites."

WEATHER

Warmer tonight; colder earlier tomorrow. Showers beginning tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 67; L. 43
Sunset Today — 6:01
Sunrise Tomorrow — 6:18
Additional U. S. Weather Bureau

—Clark Lee Reports:

Guadalcanal Victory Helps But The Big Job In Pacific Lies Ahead

(Editor's note: AP's Clark Lee has been in China, Japan, Manchuria, Australia, the Philippines, Hawaii, New Caledonia, myriads of South Sea islands. Army men called his stories from Bataan the best reporting this war has produced on any front. Escaping from Corregidor just before it fell, he wrote the battle of the Coral Sea, got the story of Midway, was on a carrier when we made our first landing in the Solomons).

By CLARK LEE

NEW YORK —(AP)— The military situation in the Pacific today shaped up as a stalemate in its broader aspects, with both the United States and Japan facing powerful obstacles to any future offensives they may undertake.

Japan has been stopped, but we are not yet ready for the big advance, although President Roosevelt has stated that our growing power will soon enable us to substitute an offensive war for our policy of attrition.

Our difficulty is getting at the Japs.

Once we get close enough to slug it out with them on the ground, at sea and in the air, we have proven their masters.

Their withdrawal from Guadalcanal, announced today by Tokyo radio, is a clear cut admission of local defeat. But at the same time the Japanese have un-

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