

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

Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Final

ESTABLISHED 1888

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1943

30 Pages—Price Five Cents

ITALIAN CITIES BLASTED BY PLANES; PORTS STRIKEN IN WEST

Great Force Of American Planes Hits From Britain

Heavy Raid Made On Continent

LONDON (AP)—"Large formations" of heavy U. S. bombers attacked targets in western France this afternoon after British bombers pounded air fields in northern France, the United States Army Air Force announced tonight.

The British bombers and some of the Americans were escorted by fighters. The announcement did not specify targets, although late in the afternoon waves of four-engined bombers, presumed to be Flying Fortresses, were reported crossing the south coast of England headed toward the German submarine base of St. Nazaire and Lorient on the French coast.

The forts came back in several close-flying formations and were barely distinguishable as they returned to base at 20,000 feet. The Flying Fortresses were seen in the air and forth over the Channel was heard during the night to go, the British aircraft already have run the highest total of bombs on Europe in any week of the war.

In three raids on a city-by-city demilitarization program in Germany's industrial Ruhr Valley a record of nearly 5,000 tons of black-busters and other incendiary bombs were tossed by the RAF heavy bombers. The week began last Sunday night with the 2,000-ton bombing assault on Dortmund, one of the Ruhr cities affected the week before in the branching of the Bochum-Essen railway line, described as the heaviest raid ever made on one city.

Dusseldorf was smashed with almost equal strength on Tuesday night and the big Lancasters, Stirlings and Halifaxes roared out again Thursday night to drop some 1,800 tons on Essen, site of the U-bomber Krupp munitions works.

Twice during the week—yesterday and Sunday—see YANKS RAID on page 6

\$1,500 Exemption For Service Men

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House and Senate Conference Committee on July-October tax exemption act, in a report made public today, on a flat \$1,500 personal exemption from gross income for all military and naval personnel, without distinction as to rank or family status.

Allies Poise Dagger Over Axis Empire

Crucial Moment Looms

LONDON (AP)—Invasion talk dominated headlines today in most of London's newspapers which featured front page stories speculating that an Allied blow was imminent. Military writers had little concrete evidence, but were spurred by the conclusion of the Roosevelt-Churchill talks in Washington.

Axis reports suggesting that major action was a matter of days were carried prominently. One of these reports that landing craft were concentrated in Tunisian, Algerian and Moroccan ports was a favored topic. The Rome radio repeated the story of the landings craft today.

"The enemy intends to invade Italy with thousands of barges full of Marines under an enormous air umbrella," a military commentator on the Rome radio said today in a broadcast heard by the Associated Press. The commentator said that if the Allies "attempt to land on our islands or on the mainland, they may be able to gain an initial foothold, but they would soon come up against such a formidable defense that they would soon be thrown back once more."

"The greatest naval operation in history is imminent. It will be a landing of an Allied Army on the Continent of Europe. The Navy is ready. Boat builders all over the country have for many months been constructing a great number of invasion barges. America already has built many thousands of similar craft. The construction of millions more tons of small naval craft is underway."

The correspondent added that the merchant shipping situation evidently was satisfactory. He said that the index of Allied needs for the original North African landings were 2,000,000 tons and that 11,000,000 tons of shippings had been needed since.

The Daily Express played up the combined Allied aerial assault on Germany in Italy and front-page a headline saying, "Next move: We may take Pantelleria."

"Hitler's hesitation in launching his expected offensive against the Russian front indicates something of his present dilemma."

Fish-Hook Ridge Taken By Yanks In Attu Fight

Bottle Up Main Enemy Force

WASHINGTON (AP)—United States troops have captured Fish-Hook Ridge, important Japanese stronghold on Attu Island, the Navy announced today, and the main enemy force on the island now contained in a mountainous area of only three to four square miles.

The conquest of Fish-Hook Ridge, flanking the main remaining Japanese-held area, was described by officers here as contributing to the security of American lines stretching northward along the base of the northeastern peninsula on Attu in the Chignik Harbor area.

A Navy communiqué said that the Japanese position on Fish-Hook Ridge were "bottle-necked" above Japanese and American soldiers had been "bottle-necked" in the face of "strong enemy fire to reach them."

"On May 28th: (a) The strong point of Japanese defense is centered in the area formed between the north wall of Chignik Valley, Holtz Bay Pass and... (b) There is little Japanese activity in the Khibinok area except... (c) One Japanese unit... (d) Other parts of the island are devoid of enemy activity."

"(e) Air operations were hampered by bad weather. (f) South Pacific mail dates east longitude. (g) On May 28th: a force of... See RIDGE IS on page 6

"The Berlin correspondent of Svenska Dagbladet of Stockholm reported that Americans were supplementing their bombing attacks on Italy with three kinds of leaflets. The first addressed Italians to withdraw their money from banks. The second pointed out that 12,000,000 Americans of Italian descent, 4,000,000 have connections with Sicily. The third related how the Germans destroyed the Italians in North Africa."

"We never can be sure our food and ammunition will get to the front. We even have to use some of our front line troops to fight the partisans."



BLUES AT ITALIANS — Italian mainland cities felt the night of U.S. Sam's air power yesterday when American bombers smashed at Leghorn (Livorno), a large port 160 miles north of Rome, and Foggia, 80 miles east of Naples. Lucera, twelve miles northwest of Foggia, also was attacked.

Naming Of Byrnes Peps Up Congress

But Members Hasten To Urge Other Actions To Reduce "Confusion"

WASHINGTON (AP)—James Byrnes by President Roosevelt's order placing James F. Byrnes in command of the home front, members of Congress hastened today to propose additional moves to cut through the "confusion" widely of them said has marked the domestic war effort.

"Patrols widely in variety and subjected to immediate controversy. These suggestions included: 1. Passage of compulsory manpower control legislation to 'vitalize' this aspect of the war-reading program outlined for the new office of War Mobilization headed by Byrnes. 2. Creation by Congress of a separate civilian supply agency having equal claim with the Army and Navy on resources and materials, and its representation on Byrnes' Mobilization Committee. 3. Reorganization and consolidation of civilian war agencies, with a 25 per cent reduction in 'unnecessary' personnel and the elimination of duplication of effort. 4. Operation of the Mobilization Committee which includes Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Knox, Chairman Harry Hopkins, Board and Judge Fred M. Vinson, who succeeds Byrnes as an actual War Cabinet to resolve disputes without public controversy."

"Indicating his intention to grapple with some of these problems, Byrnes told a press conference yesterday he would have full responsibility over the home front, with power subject only to Mr. Roosevelt's approval to formulate policy as well as to direct operations. He will direct, he said, programs entailing the maximum use of natural and industrial resources for military and civilian needs, the effective utilization of national manpower outside the armed forces, and the stabilization and adjustment of the civilian economy to wartime demands."

"At I see it," Byrnes said, "this should save the President from many burdens. His time must necessarily be devoted to the conduct of the war and conferences with the staffs concerned with the military program. This order provides a place where all the various Government organizations and agencies can get to settle things around the conference table."

Attack Made On Leghorn By U. S. Bombers

Devastation Wrought At Large Italian Port By Fortress Assault

BY EDWARD KENNEDY ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA (AP)—Almost 100 Flying Fortresses, striking the most distant objective yet assigned in the attack on Italy from North Africa, bombed Leghorn yesterday and left a smoky trail of devastation in the oil refineries, docks and shipyards of that large port 160 miles north of Rome.

At the same time, Cairo dispatches said, some two score American Liberators smashed at Foggia and dropped 80 tons of bombs on that air base 80 miles east of Naples. The planes from London, said dispatches from Italy's Fleet, which has seldom ventured to sea since the start of the war, may have been at Leghorn—known as Livorno to the Italians—when the Flying Fortresses visited the harbor.

"This was the first time that Leghorn had been bombed." Two waves of Liberators attacked Foggia, near the Adriatic side of the Italian Peninsula, and a United States communiqué from Cairo said direct hits were made on several hangars, numerous fire engines and at least thirteen enemy bombers were destroyed or damaged.

British and American medium bombers and bomb-carrying fighters also carried the attack. War across the Mediterranean with unabated fury to objectives in Sicily, Sardinia and the stronghold of Pantelleria, the nearest Axis-held territory. Among these targets were the Castelvetro airfield in Sicily which was attacked by Mitchell, Marauders, Lightnings and Warblers which sent up such thick clouds of smoke that further observation proved impossible.

"Patrols were sent up such thick clouds of smoke that further observation proved impossible. However, other large fires were started in the railroad yards and oil storage tanks. Every Fortress got home. See RAID ITALIAN on page 6

Many Transit Employees Work Again At Baltimore BALTIMORE (AP)—The Baltimore Transit Co. reported that 9,000 of its striking employees, members of an AFL-affiliated union, trickled back to work today, after the operations rising to 91 per cent of normal as the strike went into its fifth day.

"Nine cases of alleged violence were reported to police overnight, bringing the total to 20. Sixteen on street cars was reported by company officials at 9:39 p.m. Toledo Labor 'Holiday' Ends TOLEDO, O.—(AP)—Production of axles and transmissions for military vehicles was resumed today as Spicer Manufacturing Co. employees began a four-day 'holiday' here after the jeep assembly line at Willys-Overland Motor Inc. for lack of parts. (The Berlin radio, in describing what appears to be the first major assault of the long-expected German offensive, said that the Russians suffered heavy losses. It added.) The Russian dispatches said that the Germans had suffered considerable losses and that booty and prisoners had been taken. (The Berlin radio, in describing what appears to be the first major assault of the long-expected German offensive, said that the Russians suffered heavy losses. It added.) The Russian dispatches said that the Germans had suffered considerable losses and that booty and prisoners had been taken. (The Berlin radio, in describing what appears to be the first major assault of the long-expected German offensive, said that the Russians suffered heavy losses. It added.)

Allied Drive Toward Berlin May Follow One Or More Of 10 Roads

By WILLIAM FRYE WASHINGTON (AP)—The Allied march to Berlin may follow one or more—and preferably more—of ten roads, none of them easy. Some of the enormous difficulties to be expected are outlined today by Col. Conrad H. Lanza, the country's most noted military writer, in an article for the authoritative Field Artillery Journal.

Attu Commander Declares Japs Will Be Given No Time To Recoup

By EUGENE BURNS GENERAL LANDRUH'S HEADQUARTERS, MASSACHUSETTS, ATTU, May 18—(Delayed)—"The Japs will be given no time to recoup," said General Landruh, commander of the island, who will be expected to capture or destroy them. "The situation on Attu, he added, at no time has been more encouraging than it is at this moment. "My troops forced their way through Massagers Pass last night. Patrols have made contact between Holtz Bay and Massagers Pass. The principal Jap force is now bottled in at Chitchee go Valley and the Massager commander leading to it. "Booby was great. At Holtz, the Japanese set heavy 4MM agencies. Two were repaired quickly and turned against the enemy in the hillsides along Massager Pass. They abandoned machine-guns, food stores and ammunition stores with reckless abandon. General Landruh said. "I was talking, one could hear the occasional bark of a sniper's rifle and the reverberation of enemy cannon fire echoing through the high corridors. "Our casualties," said the General, "were not excessive. However, the casualties resulting from exposure to cold water and temperatures have been quite a few. See NO RESPIRE on page 6

Weather

Today's Temp: H: 78; L: 65 Sunrise Today Sunset Tomorrow Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 6