

PROBLEMS OF PANTELLERIA ISLANDS

Coal Miner Fines Bring Threats of New Strike

Lewis Says U. S. Order Illegal

WASHINGTON (AP)—A powder keg atmosphere hung over the nation's coal fields today as Government fines on miners for their last walkout brought threats of a new strike.

War Labor Board coolness toward a wage increase agreement between the United Mine Workers and a Pennsylvania group of operators contributed also to the tenseness of the situation.

MONEY TO CHARITY

Interior Secretary Ickes, Federal operator of the mines since May 1, ordered the fines yesterday. They follow terms of the old UMW contract, \$1 a day for each miner for each day he is off the job without a valid reason. In this case, the men were away five days. The money goes to charity.

Ickes pointed out that the Government ordered the old contract continued when negotiations were deadlocked over U. M. W. President John L. Lewis' demands for \$2 a day pay boost. The union contended through a number of spokesmen that the fines were illegal because the contract had expired.

Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky union officials warned that the Government fines would be "resented" by the men. Several unions flatly with a prediction of another walkout, and Lewis summed up his opinion of Ickes' order in these words:

"An unwarranted, illegal act which takes nearly \$1,000,000 worth of food from the fingers and mouths of children of the mining camps—a brutal application of economic sanctions against free citizens... another step toward political repression in America."

The men are working under a truce that expires midnight June 20. Lewis ordered them back last Monday with that stipulation.

Meantime Lewis and the Appalachian joint wage conference

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Late Kermit Roosevelt's Son To Go Into Service

GLENN COVY, N. Y.—Dr. Kermit Roosevelt, third son of Major Kermit Roosevelt who died recently in Alaska while on active duty, has volunteered for military service and will report for his physical examination next Monday.

The eighteen-year-old grandson of the late President Theodore Roosevelt, who is attending Brooks school in North Amherst, Mass., last Thursday. He will be in the United States Army and will be sent to the Grand Central Palace military center in New York by Draft Board 711.

If accepted, young Roosevelt will have two older brothers already in service, will be the 14th member of the President's family in the armed forces.

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PANTELLERIA SURRENDERS—The little Italian island of Pantelleria, target of terrific attack for nineteen days, has given up its fight and the Allies have won their first stepping stone across the Mediterranean toward Italy itself. Pantelleria is 15 miles east of Sicily. It is 220 miles by air from the toe of the Italian boot.

F. R. Appeals For Italy To Get Out

President Hails Surrender of Pantelleria as Very Good News

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Roosevelt declared today that the surrender of Pantelleria was very good news and at the same time he appealed indirectly but strongly to Italy to get out of the war.

He held a press conference that the United Nations could assure the Italian people the opportunity of choosing the kind of non-Nazi, non-Fascist Government they want established after Fascism has been put down, and the Germans have been driven from their territory.

It is the hope and intention of the United Nations, Mr. Roosevelt said, that Italy be restored to nationhood and make her place as a respected member of the European family of nations.

The Chief Executive made it obvious that he considered Mussolini and his aides responsible for the position of Italy in the war, rather than the Italian people. He said the present effects of the Anglo-American campaign against Italy were the direct result of the ruthless course Mussolini had followed in the past few years. In forming a military alliance with Germany, Mr. Roosevelt declared, Mussolini betrayed his own country in a struggle for personal power and aggrandizement.

PEOPLE PEACEFUL—Mussolini's acts were not those of the Italian people, he went on, but a succession of acts committed by the Duke's personal Fascist regime. The people of the country, he said, are largely devoted to peace.

Mussolini's whole policy was, he illustrated, Mr. Roosevelt asserted, to bring about a complete and

Great Air Attack Forces Surrender

British Infantrymen Have To Fight 22 Minutes Against Scattered Isle Defenders, However

By DANIEL DE LUCE

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—(AP)—Aerial bombardment of the greatest fury the world had ever known compelled the little island fortress of Pantelleria to surrender unconditionally today, but British troops landing under cover of naval guns had to fight 22 minutes against scattered enemy defenders.

The strategic stepping stone, some 60 miles from Sicily and 45 from Africa, was occupied at 12:22 P. M. (6:22 A. M. Eastern War Time) after a noon landing by assault forces twenty minutes after the display of white flags on Pantelleria's hills and a white cross on its air field.

The Axis garrison commander, it is believed, was unable to inform all his troops of the decision to capitulate before the actual invasion began and isolated gun posts fought on briefly.

British cruisers and destroyers hurled shells at scattered points of resistance as assault boats bore the British infantrymen ashore.

Blockade by air and sea and a "crossing barrage" by hundreds of Allied bombers which laid waste the area about Pantelleria Harbor by the island engulfed in dust and acrid smoke, the senior Italian officer sent this message:

"Beg surrender through lack water."

Pantelleria depended partly for water on supplies from Sicily and with the island engulfed in dust and acrid smoke, the senior Italian officer sent this message:

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It was the first time in history that an enemy island fortress gave in to an air force ultimatum for surrender. No destructive achievement in the record of the German Air Force matches this. The ring around the island, the Southern European from invasion is ruptured.

The Germans opened this field of battle by the capture of Grotte with air-borne troops two years ago, but this is now overshadowed by the Allied force to curb an enemy island stronghold to surrender through the shock of aerial bombardment.

EISENHOWER ON SHIP

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander in chief, and Adm. Sir Andrew Cunningham

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Anti-Strike Bill Passed By House

WASHINGTON (AP)—Commerce legislation to curb strikes in war industries and outlaw them in Government-operated plants was passed by the House today. The Senate has yet to act.

Living Costs Rise Decried

WASHINGTON (AP)—Predicting a "spontaneous revolt" of wage earners unless living costs are cut, President William Green of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) today said a Senate Committee today \$2,000,000,000 yearly subsidy is necessary to roll back living costs to levels of thirteen months ago.

The only alternative, the AFL chief said, is to increase the 15 per cent little steel formula controlling wage increases "per cent for per cent of our failure to cut the cost of living down to the May 1942 level."

"The workers of the nation feel that their Government has gone back on its promise to extend them equality of treatment in cost of living control," said Green. "Unless immediate and express action is taken to carry out the policy pledged and promised to the wage earners of the nation, living costs to protect and spontaneous revolt on the part of the

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Pantelleria Story: First Fortress In History To Get Haymaker Blow From Air Power

By HAROLD V. ROYLE

AN ADVANCED AMERICAN BOMBING BASE IN NORTH AFRICA—(AP)—Pantelleria, Mussolini's island that couldn't take a blow from the sea but was rendered in the vicinity of its bomb-cratered airport today.

It thus became the "first fortress in history to be blasted into submission chiefly by air power."

Pantelleria has been bombed almost daily since the Axis collapse of Allied fighters had been hundreds of Allied fighters had been light, heavy and medium bombers began pouring over in increasing numbers.

Just after the greatest weight of bombs ever plunged on such a small target in a 24-hour period had left the defenders

Air Gate Opened By Island's Fall

Way Cleared for Allies To Strike at Sicily and Sardinia; Then at Italy

(Editors: Wes Gallagher, veteran Associated Press war correspondent, was still in North Africa when the continuous air assault on Pantelleria was begun. He obtained data for the following article from authoritative sources. Gallagher, who accompanied the Allied Armies into North Africa last November and filed the first dispatch received in this country from General Eisenhower's headquarters, has just returned to the United States to recuperate from injuries received in a jeep accident while he was covering the fall of Rome.)

By WES GALLAGHER

NEW YORK—Hitler lost his first battle to keep America and Britain out of Europe as General Dwight D. Eisenhower's forces seized Italy's sole—the tiny island of Pantelleria midway between Sicily and Tunisia.

A day's drop of land on the maps of the Mediterranean, Pantelleria's importance as the first stepping stone to invade the continent far outweighs its size.

It is an air base, a gateway to Sicily and Sardinia, which in turn are the gateways to Italy and France.

IT'S AN AIR BASE

The importance of Pantelleria lies in its airfield and underground hangars.

Short range fighters such as Spitfires, Hurricanes and Hurricanes cannot successfully fly the 90 miles from Tunisia to Sicily, provide air cover for a landing force by fighting off

the water gap between Sicily and Africa. While the field's capacity is limited it can be used by Allied fighters returning from engagements over Sicily as a refueling point.

But for this reason, Eisenhower's potential invasion forces might well have bypassed the island.

THREAT TO ITALY

The present stage of the Mediterranean war is a battle for bases. From Pantelleria Allied fighters can range over Sicily. From Sicily they can range over Sardinia. Allied bombers and fighters under Lieut.-Gen. Carl A. Spaatz and Air Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder can give Hitler's wobbly Axis partner a 24-hour pounding with high explosives.

The war in the Mediterranean has passed from the stage of trying to open the great sea to shipping and drive Hitler from Africa into

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German fighters and then return to Tunisia. The single isolated Allied fighters could fly over Sicily but if engaged in a battle would not have enough gasoline to return to Tunisia. This meant that if an invasion of Sicily were attempted only the American P-51 Lightning with its long range could provide fighter cover for the initial landings with the aid of what fighters could be flown from Malta.

The Pantelleria airfield will bridge the water gap between Sicily and Africa. While the field's capacity is limited it can be used by Allied fighters returning from engagements over Sicily as a refueling point.

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See AIR GATEWAY on page 4

WEATHER

Little change in temperature.

Thunderstorms tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 75; L. 64

Sunset Today 8:07

Sunrise Tomorrow 6:08

See AIR GATEWAY on page 4

Reds Report Nazi Assault Stopped

Drive at Russian Lines Between Rostov and Taganrog Called Futile

By WILLIAM MCGAFFIN

MOSCOW—(AP)—The Russian Air Force has established supremacy in the Kuban Valley after two months of violent mass aerial combat over the Axis Western Caucasus bridgehead, dispatches from the front said today, and this fact was declared to account for the comparative lull in fighting in that area.

An Ivestia dispatch said that since the end of May "our Storm-bomber bombers have been able to punish German troops on the battlefield at will, without loss to themselves."

Military observers here said it was understandable that the German troops were not anxious to do battle if deprived of strong air support and that the German Air Force was unwilling to engage the stronger Russian air fleet, with its faster, higher-climbing planes.

NAZI PLANES SHIFTED

One other explanation for the let-down in the Kuban was offered here. The Germans had shifted their place to concentrate on bombing vital targets such as the Gorki war production factories behind the center of the Russian line.

Furthermore, according to these observers, the Germans expected a Soviet attack on the Kuban, front rather than in the Kuban,

and they may be holding their air reserves for use in that sector.

Recent Russian communiques have been silent on the Caucasus war, where recently heavy land battles northeast of Novorossiysk and in the swamps of the Kuban delta were reported supplemented by heavy aerial warfare.

The Soviet midnight communiques told, however, of a German launch yesterday with hundreds of tanks and plane-supported troops against the Russian lines between Rostov and Taganrog. 35 miles westward. A German armored division was pushed back by a Red Army counter-attack that cost the Germans 300 men, five tanks and two planes, it was announced.

The action in the area along the northern shore of the Sea of Azov.

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