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, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 1943 | 13 Pages—Price Five Cents

ALLIED AIR POWER BATTERING ENEMY

UNIONS MUST COMPLY WITH WLB ORDERS

Compliance With WLB Orders Now Mandatory

New Labor Policy Is Announced

By D. HAROLD OLIVER

WASHINGTON —(AP)— A new and drastic policy to force compliance with War Labor Board decisions by unions and employers alike was placed in effect today by President Roosevelt.

Withdrawal of a union's contractual rights and privileges is authorized—or withholding of priorities and war contracts from employers.

It is the administration's first move to penalize unions for ignoring or disobeying WLB decisions, although employers have been acted against in some cases.

The new policy "puts teeth in both upper and lower jaws," said a WLB spokesman.

Included in punishment provided for unions is a prospective blow in the pocketbook, at least for those having the check-off system of dues collection. They would be deprived of dues taken out of members' pay envelopes pending compliance. The money then would be turned over to them.

The broad statement of policy, effective at once, is enunciated under the recently-enacted Connally-Smith anti-strike act. The White House made public a letter to Chairman William H. Davis of the WLB and an executive order empowering Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson to proceed against recalcitrants as reported to him by the board.

Speculation immediately arose as to whether the WLB would cite John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, or the United States Gypsum Co., regarded by the WLB as the principal union and management non-compliers to-date. Board members declined comment.

The President in his letter to Davis said it was his earnest wish that punitive "sanctions," which he said exist "only as a matter of wartime necessity," may not have to be invoked. He praised the board's work to date, asserting that of more than 1,000 disputes disposed of in the last 13 months, only seven were referred to him for "president non-compliance."

"Congress intentionally left the enforcement of these (WLB) orders to executive action," the President wrote Davis in agreeing to the chairman's suggestion that it would be helpful to define a program of compliance under the new anti-strike law in the relatively few cases in which executive action may become necessary."

He then outlined his order as providing for:

1—Government seizure and operation of a plant where either the employer or the union refuses to comply with a board ruling.

2—If this could not be done without impeding the war effort, then "less drastic sanctions" such as withholding or withdrawing from an employer

See WLB ORDER on page 4

Axis Casualties In Sicily Reach 167,000 Figure

Eisenhower Reports 25,000 for Allies; Says Armies Poised To Strike Anew

By RELMAN MORIN

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA—(AP)—Marking the end of the Battle of Sicily, General Dwight D. Eisenhower declared today the Axis had suffered more than 167,000 casualties in killed, wounded and captured up to Aug. 10 against Allied casualties to date of 25,000, and hinted at new blows by stating that the American Seventh and British Eighth Armies are "ready to go at any minute."

The Allied commander-in-chief said that of Axis casualties, not less than 32,000 were killed or wounded and the rest made prisoners.

This total does not include the entire final week of the campaign, and German losses in the evacuation across the Strait of Messina probably never will be known, Eisenhower said. Artillery boomed in duels across the narrow waterway today.

The 25,000 Allied casualties—covering the battle from beginning to end—were not broken down.

The German International Information Bureau, propa-

See AXIS LOSSES on page 4

FDR & Churchill Open War Talks

Momentous Canadian Conferences Map Allied Campaign Strategy

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

QUEBEC—(AP)—President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill conferred on strategy today in the Citadel in their sixth war conference, and members of the Allied High Command and war plans staff streamed into the meeting place.

An announcement that the President would go to Canada's capital, Ottawa, early next week was the first official information that they might complete near the end of this week the task of preparing a formula for the doom of the Axis.

Mr. Roosevelt and Churchill talked until 1 A. M. today and were up again to resume their deliberations at 9 A. M., calling up numerous key advisers from the Chateau Frontenac.

They were busy over their war plans on the fifth anniversary of an address at Kingston, Ontario, in which the American Chief Executive laid down a fundamental foreign policy covering Canadian-American relations.

"I give you the assurance," he said then, "that the people of the United States will not stand idly by if domination of Canadian soil is threatened by any other empire."

At noon today the President, Churchill and Canadian Prime Minister W. L. MacKenzie King were invited to lunch with the Governor General, the Earl of Athlone.

Mr Roosevelt, last to reach the French Canadian scene of deliberations which almost certainly will result in stepping up the war in Europe and the Far East to a new tempo, came in from Washington late yesterday to be greeted by his British colleagues and Canadian hosts.

He rode among cheering thousands through the quaint, winding streets of the city to the parade ground of the Citadel for brief official welcoming ceremonies, then devoted the evening to relaxation as

See FDR & CHURCHILL on page 4

Nazi Forces In Italy

Swiss Reports 15 Divisions in Country

BERN, Switzerland —(AP)— The Lausanne Gazette said today fifteen German divisions were now stationed on Italian territory with an equal number ready to penetrate in case of need.

The Zurich newspaper, Neue Zuercher Zeitung, added in a Berlin dispatch that the Nazis were making the strongest possible preparations to defend Italy regardless of what the Government of Marshal Pietro Badoglio might do.

A Chiasso, Switzerland, dispatch to the National Zeitung of Basle however, reported, "there are few signs of preparation for the defense of northern Italy," leading to a belief among the people there that the war would not long be continued on Italian soil.

The Lausanne Gazette said, Field grey offensive units in mounting greater number are established in Italy, massed in the Brenner Pass between Italy and Austria and spread along the French Riviera.

Famed Milan Opera House Is Destroyed

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Rome radio reported today in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press an official Italian announcement that the celebrated La Scala Opera House in Milan was destroyed during the British air raid Sunday.

Germany Hit In Raids By Americans And British

Heavy Attacks On Vital Points

LONDON — (AP) — RAF heavy bombers made a strong attack on the German research and development establishment of Peenemuende, 60 miles northwest of Stettin, last night while Mosquito raiders attacked objectives in Berlin, the Air Ministry announced today.

The attack on the largest and most important establishment of its kind in Germany was carried out in moonlight almost as bright as day.

Forty-one bombers and one fighter were reported missing from the night's operations, which, in addition to raids on Peenemunde and Berlin, included intruder attacks on northwest Germany, France and the Low Countries by fighter squadrons.

SHUTTLE BOMBING

The night raids followed widespread daylight assaults by American Flying Fortresses which battered two important aircraft factories deep in Germany yesterday, inaugurating daylight Britain-to-Africa shuttle bombing.

It was the first attack on Peenemuende, which is on Germany's Baltic coast opposite Burgen island about 25 miles northwest of Swinemuende.

The Peenemuende plant is the center of the highest type work in developing aircraft, radio-location and armament.

The attack was in the closely co-ordinated pattern of the Allied air offensive which took American Flying Fortresses to other vital factories at Schweinfurt and Regensburg yesterday.

For almost a week the RAF front line bomber fleet from British bases had been concentrating on northern Italian cities. The last big attack on Germany was the raid on Nuremberg the night of Aug. 10.

The raid at Berlin by swift Mosquito raiders was the third in four nights, however. They also struck Berlin Saturday and Sunday nights, keeping the German capital's nerves on edge.

The communique said:

"Last night, the Aircraft Bomber Command made a heavy attack in bright moonlight on the research and development establishment at Peenemunde, 60 miles northwest of Stettin.

"The establishment is the largest and most important of its kind in Germany.

"First reports indicate the attack was well concentrated.

"A great number of enemy aircraft was encountered along the route. Several of these were destroyed.

"Mosquitos bombed objectives in Berlin.

"Fighter Command intruders carried out many attacks on airfield and railway targets in France, the Low Countries and northwest Germany.

"Four enemy aircraft were destroyed. Forty-one of our bombers and one fighter are missing."

Allied Ships Reported As Leaving Gibraltar

MADRID—(Delayed) —(AP)—Dispatches from La Linea today said that three Allied airplane carriers and six gunboats had left Gibraltar for the Mediterranean this morning while 25 merchantmen under convoy departed in the direction of the Atlantic.

Two cruisers and eight gunboats remained in Gibraltar harbor while an American tanker, carrying fourteen planes on its decks, entered the port, the advices said.

During the morning the Mediterranean, between Gibraltar and La Linea was reported covered with a thick coat of oil and bits of wreckage, presumably from a submarine or ship sunk in the near vicinity.

ITALIANS SAY THIS IS ROME DAMAGE—This picture, radioed from Stockholm to New York, was obtained from Pressens Bild, Swedish picture agency, which said it was obtained from an Italian agency by airmail and was described as showing damage in Rome after the Aug. 13 air raid.

Wewak Blow Strips Japs Of Airpower

Allied Bombers Rip Apart 120 Nip Planes on Ground in New Guinea

By C. YATES McDANIEL

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC —(AP)— The Japanese airforce was dealth its most humiliating defeat of the war Tuesday at Wewak, New Guinea, where 225 of its planes were caught on the ground by Allied bombers, 120 destroyed, 50 severely damaged and an estimated 1,500 air personnel killed.

Only seven of the enemy planes even got into the air and three were shot down. Out of some 200 planes in the raiding party, only three were lost.

This staggering blow, virtually stripping the enemy of his air strength in Central New Guinea, was dealt by 10 000 bombs dropped from Liberators, Flying Fortresses, Mitchells and Bostons.

A dispatch from Associated Press War Correspondent Vern Haugland from somewhere in New Guinea said heavyweight bombers of the U. S. Fifth Airforce dropped more than 100 tons of bombs in their predawn strike on the Wewak area and encountered heavy anti-aircraft fire. Seven or eight hours later Mitchell medium bombers escorted by Lightning fighters struck a second hard blow and met feeble anti-aircraft fire and scant fighter opposition.

"Numerically, the opposing forces were about equal in strength but one was in the air and the other was not," Gen. Douglas MacArthur commented jubilantly.

"Nothing is so helpless as a plane on the ground."

OPENING BATTLE

"It was the opening battle for air supremacy over central New Guinea," said Maj. Gen. Ennis C. Whitehead, commander of the advance echelon of Allied Airforces in the Southwest Pacific.

The surprise was complete and devastating.

Allied reconnaissance planes had detected the Japanese massing the greatest force of planes they ever had assembled in the Wewak area. Obviously, the enemy intended to make some surprise move in support of Japanese jungle troops now falling back slowly before Americans and Australians near Salamaua, Nipponese air base 350 miles down the New Guinea coast from Wewak.

The surprise worked the other way.

The first of more than ten waves of American and Australian-manned planes appeared over the four airdromes of the Wewak sector during the dark first hour of Tuesday. Hour after hour until well into daylight, the fliers crisscrossed the spreading areas of smoke and flame.

Many of the enemy planes were standing wing tip to wing tip—perfect targets.

Sixty Japanese bombers and

See WEWAK BLOW on page 4

Soviets Halt Nazi Drives

Counter-Attacks Are Reported Beaten Off

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW — (AP) — The German Command has launched powerful counter attacks with troops, tanks and planes at two points on the Kharkov front but Russian lines held firm, battlefront dispatches reported today.

Seeking an opening for a counter-offensive, the Germans struck at a settlement west of Kharkov held by the Red Army, and along the water line where the Russians maintained a bridgehead on the west bank, the dispatches said.

The fourth battle for Kharkov, which has been taken over by the Red Army and twice by the Germans—became a tug-of-war for the initiative.

Two other Russian drives in the Bryansk and Smea Demensk sectors to the north also met tougher going.

German broadcasts declared the Soviets were attacking all along the winding battlefront, staging new attacks in the Izyum area in the Donets Basin southeast of Kharkov, and local assaults near Staraya Russ and the Neva sector near Leningrad on the northern front. Russian attacks near Izyum were broken after heavy fighting, Berlin declared.

Battle reports from the Kharkov sector said the Red Army — which had forged a ring around the Ukrainian city from three sides—had repulsed the Nazi counter attacks and improved its own positions at some points.

The Germans were reported to have adopted new tactics, shifting the direction of the counterblows frequently, probing for soft spots in the Russian lines. This indicated they were preparing to go over from the defensive to a full-fledged counter offensive if they could find an opening.

Pushed back within fifteen miles of the central front bastion of Bryansk, the Germans likewise were using reserves of tanks and planes in stubborn defense there.

Stage Is Set For Next Step In Campaign

Remnants of Routed Axis Forces Harried on Italian Mainland

By DANIEL DE LUCE

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — (AP)—Allied guns boomed in a duel with heavy Axis batteries across the Messina Strait today in a warm-up against the European Fortress.

The battle for Sicily had been finished "ahead of schedule," Allied Headquarters said, with the occupation of Messina yesterday.

Massed formations of Allied warplanes already were carrying the war to the Italian mainland in pursuit of the discomfited foe, stringing a trail of bombs along highways and roads and chewing up troop-carrying trains and trucks with machine-gun and cannon fire.

The heaviest of these attacks were speared at Battipaglia freight yards south of Naples, a network of highways at Castrovillare near Salerno south of Naples and a bridge at Agitola.

So badly torn were the roads on the sorely pummeled toe of Italy that the Germans were trying to move troops and equipment northward by sea along the western coast, and speedy Spitfire warplanes at once attempted to break up this route.

They destroyed eight vessels of various kinds and damaged 23 others.

Turning in a new long-range direction, Flying Fortresses yesterday smashed at southern France for the first time, dumping great loads of fragmentation bombs among 150 parked German planes at Istres Le Tube and Salon near Marseille and breaking up hangars and administration buildings.

The official report said "heavy damage" was done. Two Fortresses were lost.

READY FOR NEXT MOVE

The Allied Command which had counted on a struggle lasting possibly 90 days was confronted yesterday, after 38 days, with the task of rounding up isolated German and Italian soldiers deep in the Sicilian hills and preparing for the next phase.

These stray prisoners were still straggling in without showing any signs of resistance.

American patrol boats off Cape Rasculmo, at the northeastern tip of Sicily, fought a running battle with enemy motor torpedo boats yesterday, hitting the Axis craft repeatedly with cannon shells, and putting them to flight.

Axis coastal artillery has been pounding incessantly at Messina and adjoining areas ever since the Americans completed their occupation before 7 A. M. yesterday.

AMERICANS FIRST

The American Third Division had been fully established there for three hours when the first British troops from the Fourth Armored Brigade of the British Eighth Army arrived at 10 A. M.

The British had to fight against stubborn rear guards until 5 A. M. when the enemy

See ENEMY LINES on page 4

Nazi Craft Is Blasted

Forts Lay Bombs on Grounded Planes

By RELMAN MORIN

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — (AP) — Flying Fortresses struck necklaces of heavy bombs across a park of 150 German warplanes on French airfields near Marseille in their first attack on Southern France yesterday, it was announced today at Allied Headquarters.

Two Flying Fortresses were lost out of the big African-based force which hit the enemy airdromes at Istres, Le Tube and Salon.

The loads of big fragmentation bombs aimed by precision bombardiers exploded among the parked aircraft, sending a storm of steel through the close-packed mass and causing what even cautiously-phrased official reports said was "heavy damage."

Other big bombs broke through the hangars and administration buildings, causing huge fires.

The airfields are about 25 miles northwest of Marseille.

Great fleets of medium bombers, fighter bombers and fighters based in Sicily meanwhile kept the war going full blast in pursuit of Axis infantry which escaped from Sicily, raking troop trains, truck convoys, roads, bridges and other targets in Southern Italy with withering machine-gun and cannon fire and bomb blasts.

SINK NINE SHIPS

During the last hours of the German flight across the Strait of Messina, it was disclosed, Allied warplanes sank nine more small craft, probably crowded with troops, and dropped bombs so close to a large number of others that it is doubtful if they escaped serious damage.

In the twelve days between Aug. 5 and Aug. 17 a total of 306 Axis ships and boats was destroyed while moving the beaten Axis Army over to the mainland, Allied Headquarters said.

At least 34 ships are known to have been destroyed, 47 left dead in the water but still afloat after direct hits and the remainder severely damaged by near misses.

EXPENSIVE EVACUATION

This damage made it an expensive evacuation for the Germans.

The smashed and damaged ships

See NAZI CRAFT on page 4

Swedes Protest To Germans

STOCKHOLM—(AP)—The Swedish Government announced today that it was protesting to Berlin in connection with attacks by German gunners on a Swedish naval torpedo boat and a Swedish merchant force plane off the coast of Sweden on Aug. 6.

Although a Norwegian freighter was involved in the torpedo boat incident, the Swedish Government said the freighter was manned by a German gun crew and that therefore the German Government was responsible.

Says Russia To Remain Friendly

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Chairman Bloom, Democrat, New York, of the House Foreign Affairs Committee said today Russia had been accepted as "a respected colleague" in war and predicted she would remain one of the United Nations in seeking permanent peace.

"All nations admire and respect what Russia has done in this war," Bloom told newspaper men, "and I don't think we need fear what she will do after the war. She will be just as anxious as the other nations to win lasting peace."

Moscow Dateline

by HENRY C. CASSIDY

Mr. Cassidy, one of the outstanding foreign correspondents of the war, has been in charge of the Associated Press service in Russia since before the war began. His letter to Stalin, the latter's reply constituted one of the epics of modern journalism, "Moscow Dateline" is based on his personal knowledge of the Russian situation.—Editors, The News.

CHAPTER 15

October 2, 1941, seemed at the time to be just another day in the life of Moscow: a day of war, to be sure, but hardly a day of destiny. We in Moscow did not know then that on that day started a tremendous, interminable struggle which was to decide the fate certainly of Moscow, probably of the Soviet Union, and perhaps of the world.

For the Muscovites, the day's big news was of battles at the two distant ends of the front, on the Baltic and Black Seas. Leningrad was buckling down for the terrible siege it was still to be enduring two Winters later. Already, that Fall, the Germans were camped on the approaches to the city and shelling some quarters. Odessa also was under siege, soon to fall, but only after exacting terrible toll of its Rumanian assailants. In the Ukraine, where Kiev had fallen, the enemy had pushed on past Poltava, across the Dnieper and close to Crimea. Grave the news was, but not immediately concerned with the life of a Muscovite.

It was only five days later, on October 7, that we realized the battle of Moscow had been engaged. That, incidentally, was often the time lag between the actual occurrence of events on the front and their publication in Moscow, another factor that fooled the Germans. Hitler took several occasions to refer scornfully to the "miserable information service of the Russians." Actually, those who counted were very well informed. Persons who talked with Stalin on subjects ranging from British aircraft types to Pacific Ocean operations told me they were amazed by his complete, up-to-date knowledge of their subjects. But, just as the United States knew very well

See MOSCOW DATELINE on page 7

WEATHER

Slightly cooler.

Today's Temperatures

2:30 P. M., 75

Sunset Today

Sunrise Tomorrow

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 2.