

## Allies Drive On Rangoon

CHARLOTTE—(AP)—British warships have poured Allied forces ashore on the Burma coast on both sides of Rangoon following initial parachute landings in the area of the South East Asia Command announced today.

At last reports other British troops driving down from the north toward the Burma coast were less than 25 miles from the city.

A Southeast Asia communique announced that on Monday and Tuesday a force of battleships, cruisers and destroyers of the East India Fleet bombarded airfields on the coast near the Bay of Bengal, midway between the Andaman and the main Nicobar Islands.

This strike was followed up by an air attack from aircraft carriers.

Later in the day a similar force attacked port installations at Fort Blak, Burma, were satisfactory in all the attacks, the communique said.

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## An Emergency Substitute Scientists Hold Little Hope For Future Of 'Stalk Paper'

By BURKE DAVIS Associate Editor, The News

Some of the most successful experiments yet undertaken with fibers from cotton stalks have just been completed at Johnson C. Smith University under the direction of Dr. C. F. Atkins, but though Smith scientists have produced paper superior to similar British products, they do not hold high hopes for the commercial future of the process.

Dr. Atkins, who originated the idea in 1943 while the Government was desperately seeking substitute materials, directed the eight-month experiment, and announced himself as satisfied with results.

"Our paper is good. It's better than the British (working in South Africa) said theirs was. And it's better than some paper now on the market. But it's inferior to paper made from wood pulp, and all right as a substitute, and in an emergency, but under the present economic system of profit and loss I don't think it will ever challenge wood pulp."

The big obstacle in the way of commercial production is cost. We paid \$40 a ton for cotton stalks, but that was high, and we were not in a position to bargain. A Virginia chemist who has made lumber from cotton stalks says that the stalks could be harvested and marketed for \$7 a ton, but we don't see how we can do it.

It may be that engineers will improve this process, and make something really valuable out of it. But we don't think it's going to open any treasure house for the South. The only thing, the stalks are so light, and it takes so many of them to make up a supply. Then there's the problem of harvesting them. We got cars from Mecklenburg farmers, and they were gathered by hand. One or two companies are considering machines to pick them, but they haven't gone very far.

**OTHERS** The interesting experiments were patterned after others in the field, and the Smith group included Professors U. S. Brooks and D. T. Ray. They made rapid progress. They had the advantage of papers published on work with cotton stalks done in Chapel Hill, Virginia, and Africa, among other places.

Professor Brooks said: "A good deal of work has been done on cotton stalks, you know. Our biggest problem was to get small samples made, and to locate equipment. The Government furnished equipment and financial aid, and the Champion Paper and Fiber Co. of Canton proceeded the paper for us. We found excellent fibers in parts of the stalks—especially in the inner bark. But commercially, these fibers can't be separated, and we used the entire stalks for making pulp."

The development of the process was more or less standard.

Involving grinding pulp, using soda blottings and wrapping papers produced at Smith.

The problem is now the Government's, and may be turned over to private industry for further investigation.



**PAPER FROM COTTON STALKS**—Dr. C. F. Atkins of Smith University demonstrates samples of paper he and his associates have made from fibers of cotton stalks. The paper is found enough to challenge some products now on the market, but Dr. Atkins does not expect it to develop into a big Southern crop—adding that pine wood pulp is superior. (News Staff Photo.)

## Bloody Iwo Jima

## Marine Harris, 18, Vet of 3 Campaigns

18-year-old Marine Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph B. Harris of Route 1, Charlotte, is just now old enough legally to be in service, but already he is a veteran of three of the toughest campaigns the U. S. Marine Corps has waged in this war.

Joe Harris is eighteen, a veteran of four days of action on Iwo Jima, and Hawaii—a "hard" war, the invasion of Saipan, and Tinian. On the fourth day of his action on Iwo Feb. 22, the 18-year-old youth was wounded by shrapnel from a 160-mm. mortar shell.

He was wounded slightly in the invasion of Saipan, but not badly enough to be evacuated. On two other campaigns, "Saipan and Tinian had some real fighting," he said, "but on Iwo it was just plain bloody. We just lay there and took a beating."

He is home now on convalescent leave from the Naval Hospital in Charleston. With two and a half years of service, Harris, behind him, this young man holds the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Citation, the American Theater War ribbon, and the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with three battle stars.

Joe Harris served with the Fourth Marine Division, first under Lt. Gen. Holland Smith in the Marshalls operations, and then under Maj. Gen. C. B. Bates on Iwo. The young man's service was from December, 1943.

The youth is homesick in his evaluation of the fighting. "The Marines are all right—it's the work they have to do that gets me," he says.

## Redd Speaks At PTA Meet

The most vital need of this community as far as the welfare of young folks is concerned, says Judge F. Marion Redd of the Mecklenburg County Superior and District Court, is provision for proper homes and proper places to play.

Judge Redd made the statement last night in an address at the "Friday Night" program of the Midwood School Parent-Teacher Association.

"Other agencies of a community," Judge Redd said, "Sunday schools, churches, educational institutions, and the like run do much for them, but they must have some place to give vent to their youthful energy."

"Their home life must be normal. It becomes more and more obvious to me that most children can be helped to do great things if only someone will take an interest in them. Let a boy or girl know you are interested in his welfare and you will find him eager and willing to better himself. Give a boy something to do with his hands, something he is interested in, let him go fishing or swimming, or play ball, or do one of the many things boys can do and you will be building sturdy, manly citizens for the future."

## Start Pact Writing Job

(Continued from Page One)

vising the proposed security organization charter as future needs may indicate, and provision for allowing the Security Council to recommend treaty changes when deemed necessary to help preserve peace.

## PROBLEM OF AMERICAS

One of the big questions yet without an answer is how much regional organizations as the Inter-American system worked out recently at Mexico City are to be included in the proposed United Nations system.

Both United States and Latin-American groups have been seeking a formula which would allow them freedom of action in putting down regional breaches of the peace without weakening the authority of the World Security Council to act to prevent war.

Following an extraordinary session last night, chief delegates of the 46 United Nations sought to wind up organization of the week, and the chief of the idea is to let the four big commissions and twelve committees buckle down by the end of the week to their real work of revising and completing the Dumbarton Oaks plan.

Chairmen of the four commissions were summoned to meet today. The countries heading the commissions are Belgium, on principles and purposes; South Africa, on general assembly; Norway, on the security council; and Venezuela, on the World Court.

## TO HEAR SPEECHES

Another full conference meeting was called for 3:30 P. M. It was the expression of the hope of Secretary of State Stettinius that this seventh plenary session would be able to hear the rest of the ideas to be heard by the committee chairmen who had not yet addressed the conference. Those left to be heard were from Mexico, Nicaragua, Yugoslavia, Panama, Syria and Yugoslavia.

One last potentially big issue growing out of the organization of the conference by the sponsoring powers, United States, Russia, Britain and China, was met yesterday. This was when committee chairmen were chosen without another dispute which might have put Russia in a minority position as she was on trying to block the invitation to Argentina Monday.

The only difference of opinion at yesterday's steering committee meeting came on the question of voting in this conference.

## Reservations Being Taken

Reservations for the Charlotte Little Theater's final production of this season, "Ah, Wilderness," may be made beginning Friday, May 4, at the box office which will be open Friday and Saturday from 10 A. M. until 6 P. M. and during these hours can be made by mail.

Members of the box office committee will be on duty at the Playhouse on Queens Road. Reservations on all seats will be served, may be made over the telephone or at the booth in the lobby of the Playhouse.

Membership committee members will be on duty each night during week coming week to sign up new members for next season.

## Dr. Winston To Speak Here

Dr. Ellen Black Winston, State Commissioner of Public Welfare, will be the principal speaker at a dinner meeting of the American Association of Public Welfare Workers, Charlotte area group, tonight at 6:30 at Kuester's.

She is to speak on social legislation. Invitations have been issued to members of the staff of social agencies and staff members of the agencies and to Queens College students interested in social work.

Dr. Winston is making a series of talks this week before civic clubs, social agencies and other organizations in the Charlotte section of North Carolina. She will visit Raleigh, Greenville, Durham, Statesville, and to Greensboro as well as Charlotte. The State Commissioner of Public Welfare is also in effect the commissioner of the Department of Social Welfare in the State of North Carolina.

## YWCA Sends 2,000 Letters To Members

Mrs. George Little, chairman of the YWCA, announced that the YWCA will send 2,000 letters to its members of the YWCA informing them of the work done over the past year.

## Miss Peck Gives Recital Tonight

Miss Gertrude Peck of the Queens College music department will be presented in a recital tonight in the Mottus Auditorium at 8:15, and her program is announced today.

She will play "Clara" by Corelli, "The Wind and the Willow" by Handel, "La Fille aux Cheveux de Lin" by Debussy, "Prelude in G" by Prokofiev, "Scherzo" by Salzedo, and "The Little French Suite" (gavotte and minuet).

She will then play in harmony with Miss Margaret Ann Johnson and Miss Jean Sloan, of Charlotte, Clement's "Sublime Opus 26—No. 1."

Teaching an elephant to stand on its head is a difficult task, yet even elephants will stand on their heads in a frenzy of desire.



RENOWNED FOR HER CRUELTY—Inmate of the German concentration camp at Belen recently liberated by the British Second Army.

She is the German woman who was known for her cruelty to women inmates—she is Elisabeth Volkenrath, 25, who hails from Schoenau. She was a prisoner in civilian life and was an SS girl in the Nazi regime. (International News Photo.)

## Stuttgart Affair

## France Stirring Up Occupation Trouble

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS—(AP)—The Franco-American affair over Stuttgart indicated today France has decided to jump the gun on post-war occupational decisions and use her U. S.-equipped First Army at least to underscore her hopes for a slice of Germany from across the Rhine.

At Stuttgart, capital of Wurttemberg, France has taken the first round. Supreme Headquarters demand continuance of French occupation rather than stir up a political issue.

The French First Army has been a problem child for Gen. Eisenhower ever since the bickering in North Africa over its control and employment.

Along the Allied military line-up in the west, Gen. De Lattre de Tassigny's command has two masters, Supreme Headquarters and the French War Ministry.

The Stuttgart affair was settled by what some French sources possibly described as a compromise. The city was captured in an envelopment by two armies, the French First and the U. S. Seventh. The French moved in quickly and shifted their Army headquarters into the city.

Supreme Headquarters asked them to move out. They refused. Headquarters issued a bluntly worded statement that looked momentarily like a showdown. It said that Stuttgart was in the American Seventh Army zone, not that of the French; it described the city as an important rail communication and supply center which was selected to serve the military requirements of the Seventh Army in order that the operations of that Army in the defeat of the common enemy might be facilitated.

And it added that if Stuttgart



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