

War Reporter's Notebook

By Hal Boyle

AN ADVANCED AMERICAN FIGHTER BASE IN ITALY, Oct. 16 — (AP)—The German planes which were the first to appear in the sky over the Italian coast, but now the planes are the Allied offensive across the Volturno River is a good illustration of how flexible our strength has become.

DOYLE The weather had grounded those three little fighter-bombers—planes which the German ground forces had come to depend on for a week. They were pretty far back and during a move they were not yet in final shape when the word came through that they must be ready to fly within 24 hours. The planes were in the air, and the German troops in their adventures were across the Volturno River. The planes were in the air, and the German troops in their adventures were across the Volturno River.

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“Wildcat” Strikes Spread In Nation's Coal Pits

Hot Battles Flare Up In Italian Mountains

Many Miners Quit While Vital Fuel Production Drops

Coal Developments Accompany Threat of Railroad Strike Action

Hot Battles Flare Up In Italian Mountains

By WES GALLAGHER

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, ALGERIERS (AP)—Violent mountain battles flared on the Fifth Army front in Italy today as the result of an Allied drive of three miles that took the vital rail and road junction of Sparanico, thirteen miles from the western coast.

The advance of the Fifth Army, witnessed by Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower while on a tour of the front, placed the American and British troops north of the stoutly defended Regia defense line leading to the sea and imperiled the position of the Nazi troops in that area.

“They don't get out there yet,” said a German soldier, “they are caught in a pocket,” a military commander said.

“The Germans launched counter attack after counter attack in an effort to relieve their position, but in the words of the commander, they were driven off with a ‘blow’.”

The entire tempo of the war in the sea and air shifted as the result of the German counter attack. The German planes were in the air, and the German troops in their adventures were across the Volturno River.

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Many Miners Quit While Vital Fuel Production Drops

Coal Developments Accompany Threat of Railroad Strike Action

WASHINGTON (AP)—“Wildcat” strikes spread to more coal pits today in a work-stopping emphasized by a Solid Fuels Administration report of sharply dropping production of the vital fuel in the last reporting week.

Meanwhile there were increasing indications that the War Labor Board would not approve in its present form the proposed Illinois bituminous contract which the miners have held up as a model for the whole industry.

Some return “That difficulty was somewhat offset by the return of about 4,000 men to five mines in the Big Sandy region of northeastern Kentucky after settlement of a grievance which were described as local and unconnected with the national-wide contract issue.

Illinois list of non-working miners climbed to nearly 5,500, compared with about 4,000 last week.

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Connally Post-War Resolution Backed

Described As Forthright Expression of American Policy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Describing the Connally post-war policy resolution as a forthright expression of American intent to end the war and peace through to a “victorious finish,” Senator Vandenberg, Republican, Michigan, told the Senate today it would be “recklessly imprudent” to attempt to blueprint world collaboration plans at this time.

The Michigan Senator took the floor in support of the resolution after Chairman Connally, Democrat, Texas, of the Foreign Relations Committee opened debate with an assertion the hour had struck for the United States to “join with free and sovereign nations in this time.”

Without the adoption of a Federal retail sales tax or some other new levy there appeared little chance the new revenue bill now being drafted, would provide more than \$2,000,000,000.

Today's action left only corporation and excise levies open among the media through which the Administration had hoped to channel new funds to the Treasury.

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First Blow At Germany From Italy Is Reported

Start of 2-Way Squeeze Hinted

LONDON (AP)—RAF Mosquitoes bombed targets in the Ruhr and Rhineland last night, the British announced today, as the Berlin radio hinted at the start of a crunching two-way Allied aerial squeeze on Germany by declaring that American four-engine bombers based in Italy had attacked Southern Germany, Austria and Hungary yesterday.

A brief Air Ministry communique announcing the RAF raids gave no details of the overnight operations, which also included mislaying in many waters. All planes were said to have returned safely.

The American attacks yesterday were the Berlin radio apparently was a heavy task.

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Block Tax Increases

No Estate and Gift Levy Boosts

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Ways and Means Committee voted today to increase the estate and gift taxes, trimming \$400,000,000 from the Treasury's request for \$1,050,000,000 in new wartime revenue levies.

The committee had week turned thumbs down on any increase in individual income taxes.

The Administration had asked \$500,000,000 in additional levies on personal incomes.

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Power City Captured In Red Army's Great Drive

Violent Fight Is Made By Nazis

LONDON (AP)—The power city of Dnepropetrovsk in the upper corner of the Dnieper River bend has been captured by the Red Army, the Moscow radio said tonight in a broadcast recorded by Reuters. The nearby city of Dneprodzerzhinsk also was taken.

In addition Red troops captured the intermediate city of Kamenskaya in the twenty-mile stretch between the two power centers. The Red Army's capture of Dnepropetrovsk was the first of a series of victories in the Dnieper valley where hundreds of thousands of German troops were in order of the day by Marshal Beria.

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Rival Yugoslav Forces In Clash

Partisan Chief Announces Fierce Battle With Mahailov's Men

LONDON (AP)—Rival Yugoslav forces of Gen. Josip (Tito) Broz and Gen. Draza Mihailovic have clashed today in a bitter battle in the hills of Montenegro, Tito's Free Yugoslav Radio announced today as his Partisans continued to engage the Germans in other parts of war-torn Yugoslavia.

The fighting between Tito's Partisans and the forces of King Peter's War Minister was said to be particularly heavy in the Matzevo and Montenegro areas where the radio declared, Mihailovic's Chetniks had joined the Germans.

An earlier communique, which announced that the Partisans had stormed two German strongholds in western Bosnia and captured 2,000 Nazi officers and men, said the Nazis and Chetniks were attacking “without success” at Masnevo and “so far they have lost 200 killed.”

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Insurance Case Review

High Court To Consider Anti-Trust Angle

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Supreme Court agreed today to review a decision that insurance companies are not subject to prosecution under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.

This 1890 legislation prohibits combinations or conspiracies in restraint of interstate commerce. Action by the tribunal was on an appeal by the Justice Department from a decision by the Federal District Court at Atlanta dismissing anti-trust charges against 188 stock fire insurance companies in Alabama, Florida, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

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British Loses Two Warships

LONDON (AP)—The British cruiser Charybdis was sunk and the destroyer Lamington was damaged and had to be sunk during a Channel naval battle Saturday, the Admiralty announced today.

The discussions proceeded amid growing signs in the Soviet press that the points agreed upon by representatives of the United States, Russia and Britain at the conference to discuss a post-war problems moved into its seventh day.

There was no indication of the subjects covered in the talk between the Soviet leader and the highest U. S. official ever to visit the Soviet Union. Stalin last week had allied with a group of U. S. officials to discuss the post-war problems.

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