Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

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

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 1943 | 18 Pages—Price Five Cents

BRITISH SHIPS SHELL PANTELLERIA

WLB CHECKS COAL DISPUTE BACK TO F. R.

Action Left To President In Mining Controversy

Order Cessation Of Negotiations

WASHINGTON— (AP) — The War Labor Board checked the coal mine walkout back to President Roosevelt today "for such action as he deems appropriate" and told the disputing parties to stop their contract negotiations.

UMA President John L. Lewis and the operators' representatives had just begun on fresh efforts to settle their dispute, which has resulted in half a million miners staying away from work in the war vital industry.

However, said the board unanimously, "any agreement on the issues by the parties while the workers are on strike" and the negotiators are subject to "strike coercion" will not be considered or approved.

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Chairman Donald M. Nelson of the War Production Board said today that "United States steel production will drop sharply late this week unless a flow of coal to steel plants is maintained, and practical paralysis of the war production program will follow any serious curtailment of coal supplies."

The miners and the operators, informed of the board's order, went back into joint session immediately without making any comment. They had suspended meeting briefly while waiting for an expected announcement from the board.

The negotiations here have been confined to soft coal mines. Thomas Kennedy, secretary-treasurer of the Mine Workers, announced today that anthracite negotiations would be resumed in New York at 2 P. M. tomorrow. Kennedy made the announcement after a telephone conversation with Major W. W. Inglis, chairman of the operators committee. He said "the meeting will definitely be held."

Earlier the producers and Lewis called another conference in Washington with the expressed intention of going at the problem from the beginning. This was decided on after each side rejected the other's compromise offers yesterday when the second fifteen-day truce expired and 500,000 coal diggers quit work.

Interior Secretary Ickes termed their action a strike against the Government. As Fuels Administrator, he has been operating the mines by Presidential direction since the wage argument came to a stalemate May 1.

CRITICIZES BOTH SIDES

Ickes, urging resumption of work, declared Lewis could not escape responsibility for the stoppage, and at the same time criticized "a few powerful operators" for what he called their uncompromising attitudes.

Lewis said the Government appeal to get the mines going again was a matter "to be given consideration."

Ickes estimated that only 49 days supply of coal lies above

See COAL DISPUTE on page 7

Coast Guard Cutter Destroys German Sub, Captures 40 Members Of Crew

Depth Charges Flush Nazis To Surface & Guns Do The Rest

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Destruction of a German submarine and capture of 40 members of her crew by the Coast Guard cutter Spencer was reported by the Navy today.

With depth charges and roaring guns, the cutter sank the submarine in the Atlantic several weeks ago when the raider was detected lurking in the path of a "large and important convoy making for an Allied port."

Completely submerged and with her periscope down, the submarine was located by Soundman Harold V. Anderson, Kewanee, Ill., and the Spencer, commanded by Commander Harold S. Berdine, 41, of Staten Island, made two depth charge runs over it.

SUB EFFORTS FAIL

Efforts by the submarine to get under the convoy in hope that the noise of the cargo ship's screws would interfere with the Spencer's detection devices failed, and the cutter remained on the raider's trail and dropped a third "basket of eggs."

"The worst threat was now over," the Navy related. "Not a 'fish' had been fired, nor had a ship been touched. However, the cutter still continued her pursuit. The U. S. Coast Guard cutter Duane charged in to assist, and the Spencer made ready to let go her fourth attack when a lookout shouted:

"'Conning tower on the port quarter!'"

"Gun crews on both the ships trained their guns instantly on the submarine, and opend a withering, effective fire. At the same time, the Spencer rang up full speed and headed for the U-boat prepared to ram.

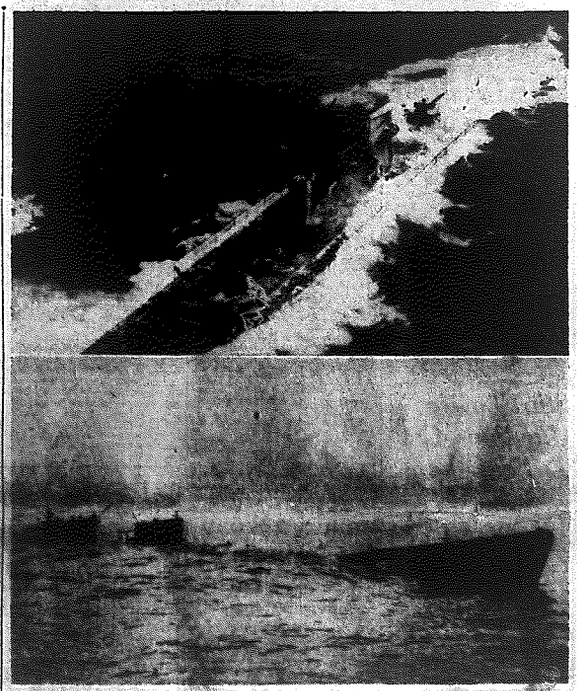
SUB GUN FIRED

"As the damaged sub moved slowly ahead through the calm seas, members of her crew took stations on the bridge and returned the fire of the American ships with the light gun mounted there. The Spencer's lifeboats were riddled, a boat davit was nearly cut in two; bridge flag bags, bulkheads and doors were damaged.

"Submarine crewmen who made for the heavy deck gun, however, were driven back by the accurate fire from the escort vessels' guns.

"Round after round was pumped into the undersea raider, and the after part of the conning tower was completely torn away. Then, just as the Spencer was on the point of ramming, the fire from the submarine suddenly ceased, and many members of her crew were observed abandoning ship through the conning tower.

See COAST GUARD on page 7



DEATH OF A U-BOAT—These are official U. S. Coast Guard photos of Nazi submarine sunk by the Spencer. Upper photo shows effect of the Spencer's gunfire on the surfaced submersible; lower photo, lifeboat from the Spencer picks up survivors from the sinking sub.

Italian Island Handed Heavy Bombardment

No Losses Suffered By British Although Fire Returned By Enemy

By DANIEL DE LUCE

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA — (AP)—British warships in their second bombardment of Pantelleria in less than 48 hours yesterday heavily shelled the harbor area, barracks and batteries of the Italian island, it was announced today.

United States Flying Fortresses joined the air offensive off the Tunisian coast while other American attacks were made on the islands of Sicily and Sardinia.

The warships blasted Pantelleria Sunday night and then returned yesterday afternoon, an Allied headquarters communique announced, to carry out a heavy shelling without loss although there was some retaliatory fire from the shore.

The communique's announcement of the bombardment said:

"The island of Pantelleria was successfully bombarded by naval surface forces on the night of May 30-31. There was no effective opposition and our ships sustained no casualties or damage.

"Another successful bombardment of the island took place during the late afternoon of June 1. Hits were obtained on the barracks and battery areas. There was some retaliation from the shore, but our ships sustained no casualties."

The Italian Fleet dispersed along the Italian west and east coasts appeared powerless to intervene against the British Navy and no enemy air attacks against the warships were reported.

FORTRESSES ATTACK

The second bombardment almost coincided with a smashing assault by Flying Fortresses, augmented by bombing and strafing formations of Lightnings, against the volcanic rock which has become the most-punished Axis territory in the world.

The warplanes plastered small vessels in the island's shallow port and covered hideouts of the enemy garrison with bomb bursts.

The Italian seaplane base on Stagnone Island, off the western tip of Sicily between Trapani and Marsala, and shipping in the Sardinian Harbors of Terranova, Porto Ponte Di Romano, and Porto Torres also were extensively damaged by the nonstop air offensive.

One plane was lost in the widespread operations by the American squadrons and there was only one air combat during the day, when ten enemy fighters attacked a formation of Mitchells over Terranova.

Mitchell crewmen said the enemy continued their tactics, making simultaneous passes at the bombers from the sides and below. No fighter was shot down and it was not specified officially whether any Mitchell was lost.

SEAPLANES DESTROYED

However, in the slashing raid on Stagnone Island by Warhawks, a considerable number of seaplanes at anchor was destroyed and others were damaged, it was announced.

Want More U. S. Planes

Needed for Assault From Britain

LONDON— (AP) —American daylight bombing "dovetailed ideally" with British night raids in May but greatly increased numbers of US.AAF planes are needed for the aerial assault on Germany, a RAF commentator said today.

The commentator, who may not be named, told a news conference that particularly heavy and accurate attacks by the Americans on Flensburg May 19, Kiel May 14 and Bordeaux May 17 contributed greatly to making last month by far the most successful of the bomber offensive.

OFFENSIVE PEAK

The May offensive reached its peak in the week ended May 30 when 7,500 tons of bombs fell on four cities, Dortmund, Essen, Duisburg and Wuppertal.

This was more than the RAF dropped on all targets in the first four months of 1942, he said.

The disaster to Dortmund, the objective of the first 2,000-ton raid, was more complete than to Essen, previously rated as the most bombed city, the commentator said.

He indicated that the success of the supreme saturation had been amply proven and would have a strong influence in future RAF tactics.

While the enemy is undoubtedly trying to maintain his air mastery in the Mediterranean, the commentator added, the fact that 100 Flying Fortresses were able to attack Leghorn without loss is a clear indication that the time when day bombers can operate without molestation is rapidly approaching in Italy."

He asserted that the intensity of the Nazi propaganda efforts to discredit the efforts of the bombings is the best possible evidence that the war of attrition is beginning to be felt.

Ten Believed Killed in Bombing of English Town

LONDON — (AP) — Ten persons were believed killed in an east Anglian town bombed early today by German aircraft.

Four were killed in one street, a great section of which was shattered by a single bomb, as two or five enemy fighter-bombers swooped over the town soon after midnight.

Pursuing British Spitfires were reported authoritatively to have downed one of the invaders.

There was no report of overnight British air activity against the Continent, but yesterday RAF planes shuttled back and forth throughout the day, attacking enemy shipping in coastal waters and railway targets in northern France. Five enemy fighters were shot down.

War On U-Boats Rings Bell In May

Best Month of Conflict for Number Of Enemy Undersea Craft Sunk

LONDON —(AP)— Increasingly deadly Allied convoy escort services sank more enemy submarines in May than in any other month of the war and in the past two months the number of operating U-boats in the Atlantic appears to have decreased, A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, declared today.

He told the House of Commons that in the last twelve months the total enemy submarines sent to the bottom exceeded the number sunk in all of the previous war period and that in the last six months the rate of destruction was 25 per cent above the previous half year.

TRIBUTE TO AIRMEN

Paying tribute to the work of the U. S. Air Force and the RAF in bombing U-boat bases, Alexander predicted that "as time goes on bombing of the building yards and component factories should have an ever-increasing effect" on the Battle of the Atlantic.

He said it appeared that the number of sea marauders sent to the bottom during the month just ended was greater than the Germans could produce in all the facilities available to them.

Besides those sunk a large number of the sea prowlers were damaged in various attacks by Allied naval and air attacks, Alexander reported.

In the past two months, he asserted, the number of U-boats in Atlantic waters appears to have decreased. This, he said, no doubt was due to more than one cause, but the principal one was undoubtedly due to the rising rate of this destruction.

Alexander described March as "a poor month" in the battle against

See RING BELL on page 7

Actor Lost With Plane

HOWARD

Leslie Howard Reported Aboard Airliner

LONDON —(AP)— A spokesman for the British Overseas Airways said today that a British passenger airliner "disappeared" yesterday en route to England from Lisbon and reports from the Portuguese capital said the actor, Leslie Howard, was among the thirteen passengers.

A Lisbon dispatch reported that the last word heard from the plane was "enemy plane attacking us."

Kenneth Stonehouse, former chief of bureau at Washington for Reuters News Agency, who was en route to London to take a new assignment, was said to be aboard the aircraft with Mrs. Stonehouse.

"SHOT DOWN"

The reports from Lisbon said the plane with its Dutch crew was shot down in the stormy Bay of Biscay about half way between Lisbon and England and that an

Invasion Tips Sought By Nazis

Trying Hard To Learn Time and Place of Expected Allied Attack

By JOHN COLBURN

STOCKHOLM—(AP)—The German General Staff and other Nazi military circles appeared to be grasping for straws today in an effort to learn the time and place of the expected Allied Summer invasion.

Berlin dispatches continued to insist that the Germans have planned no Summer offensive of their own, and Nazi military circles were quoted by the neutral correspondent of the Stockholm Tidningen as saying that a large-scale combined Russian and British-American offensive from the East and West might not start until Fall.

German military commentators said that all signs on the Russian front indicated that the Soviet Union was preparing for a Winter offensive while they maintained that the British and American forces lacked sufficiently seasoned troops to conduct anything but large scale Commando raids this Summer, the correspondent added.

Behind the fact that the rigid German censorship permitted speculation regarding the Nazi military views on the invasion situation lay further indications that the Axis is conducting "fishing expeditions" for information on Allied plans.

Since the cryptic statement which was issued at the conclusion of the Churchill-Roosevelt conference in Washington, the Nazis have been allowing publication of stories saying they could no longer hide the effects of Allied aerial bombardments, and that their military, manpower and material strength has been sapped by their defeats in Russia and North Africa.

COMPLETELY IN DARK

Competent observers in Stockholm without a motive and said the obvious motive is that the Axis is completely in the dark about the United Nations strategy for ridding Europe of the Nazi-Fascist tyranny.

The correspondent of the Stockholm's Tidningen said Berlin military authorities have acknowledged that Adolf Hitler, theoretically could conduct a Summer offensive on the Eastern front, but have considered it would be useless in view of the experience of the past two Winters which showed that the initiative reverted to the Russians when cold weather came.

He said that the German General Staff fully expected Allied attacks from the East and West, but that the British and American forces in North Africa and Iceland needed more preparation.

Bus Strike in California City

LONG BEACH, Calif.—(AP)—Bus drivers in this busy, war industry city have voted to continue their walkout pending negotiations on increased pay and a shorter working week.

Attu Score: Dead Japs, 1,500; Captives, Four

WASHINGTON —(AP)— More than 1,500 Japanese were killed and four were captured during the first twenty days of fighting on Attu Island, the Navy reported today, as operations on the formerly enemy-held island continued in a mopping up phase.

A communique said that from the start of the American invasion of Attu May 11 through midnight of May 30 the enemy casualties were so estimated. A Navy spokesman, amplifying, said the total number killed might have been 50 or 100 per cent greater.

It would be impossible, for instance, to estimate the number killed by high explosive naval shells or those buried by their comrades under the snow.

The number of enemy soldiers remaining on Attu could not be estimated, therefore, even though the Japanese have reported that there were approximately 3,000 of their force on the island to start

From Bataan To The Solomons—

They Call It Pacific

By Clark Lee

CHAPTER 3

Two days before the Coolidge departed a telegram came for me. Before opening I knew what it was. It said: "Remain Manila until further orders stop regards kuper." Kemper is Kent Cooper, general manager of The Associated Press.

The telegram was disappointing; but it was no great surprise. I had felt guilty about planning to leave the Orient at a time when tension was growing so great that something had to snap soon.

I had been in the Orient and I was anxious to determine how the attitude of Americans toward the Filipinos contrasted with that of the Britons in Hong Kong and Shanghai toward the Chinese. My first experience was not reassuring.

The night before the Coolidge sailed, a small group of us went to the modern chromium, steel, and glass Jai Alai building and afterwards stopped in at the Manila Hotel taproom for a nightcap. The only other customer was an American woman, who had

After 2 A. M., the legal closing time, she demanded another drink. A sergeant of the Philippine Constabulary, who was assigned to the bar to see that the law was obeyed, told her politely that the boys were not allowed to serve her.

She turned on him in blazing fury and poured forth insult after insult. The words were unprintable, the general tenor was: "We Americans are the ruling race here. You Filipinos are dirt." She struck the sergeant in the face with her

WEATHER

Continued warm.

Today's Temp.: H. 93; L. 73.
Sunset today