Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

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GREAT U. S. RAID HITS GERMANY

Russians Drive To Clean Up Crimea

Here And There In War-Time London

By SID FEDER

(Substituting For Hal Boyle)

LONDON—(AP)—Blackout blues: Everybody here has his favorite air-raid story. One of the best is about the newspaper editor, Harry Meller, who was caught by the alarm one night not far from a pub adjoining a recently-bombed churchyard.

The pub-keeper, not letting anything go to waste, had "borrowed" several of the churchyard's uprooted gravestones to bulwark the entrance to his thirst-quenching dispensary . . . When the siren went off this night, Meller headed for the pub door like Whirlaway coming down the stretch . . . He thought it was a mighty convenient and handy spot to be in during a raid . . . Then the name on one of the gravestones caught his eye . . . It was Meller . . . Harry's thirst went right away from there . . .

Broadway hits London for the first time and gets an eye-opener . . . for instance, if you like mine-strone, the tasty Italian soup with the vegetables and macaroni, you get the best in town in one of all places: a Polish restaurant on Oxford St. . . . Add horrors of war: A lady bookmaker was arrested the other day . . . Your first air raid puts more lumps in your throat than a bad case of tonsils . . . Head for the nearest underground and the Brooklyn-Manhattan line is practically a second story job compared to the depth they've dug the local subways—and the lumps drop right into your heart . . . Women with babies in their arms, kids who should be home reading fairy tales, old codgers who'd look natural on the front steps whittling, all trying to get a few minutes rest and sleep in the double-decker bunks put up on every station platform . . . Some of them have been sleeping there four years now . . . A lot of the youngsters, in fact, never knew any other bed . . . Bronx Broadway or Michigan Avenue Mitch can't picture this one until he sees it . . .

Fashion page: Many women this summer will be wearing dresses made from curtains, says one authority . . . And a Mayfair clothing firm announces it is turning fine quality traveling rugs into Winter coats this season . . . A woman on old Nelson Street has a coat in her garden made from the jawbone of a whale. She rents short "shifts" in it for donations to the Red Cross . . . You won't find a bouzouki in a brasserie here . . . That's French for a saloon, and a lot of you put on the dog on their street shingles that way . . . page Frank Sinatra: In the Daily Sketch's letters-to-the-editor column, Nora Wilde complains about how terrible women crooners are . . . And a few days later, George Hobin writes to inquire why Nora left out the male breed, too . . .

There's one section of London the local folks call Little America now . . . G. I. Joes and their buses all the way up to the fellows with the chickens and the cold deposits on their shoulders have taken over the place . . . You "queue up" for practically everything here . . . Waiting lines form for buses, outside of restaurants and pubs and in front of food shops . . . You go to buy a pipe at 1 P. M. and the precise spinster clerk is she-ked . . . "Who, sir, you must be here at 7:30 in the morning and queue up . . . Step into a restaurant and you "jerk toad in the hole" . . . It's like a peak pudding and they go for it around here . . . Have corned beef sandwiches in Lindy's and roast beef at Toots Shor's . . . Then there's the war sausage . . . It's skinny, but you can bite through the skin . . . And, of course, you must always wind up with one of six mild and bitters . . . In case of a tie . . .

Say Nazis Used Poison Gas During Odessa Raids

NEW YORK — (AP) — The Germans and Rumanians "used poison gas against the Partisans" during their occupation of Odessa the Moscow radio said today.

OVERSEAS CORRESPONDENTS TO WED—Twelve years ago Margaret Smith, then 13, of Ipswich, England, picked Joseph Elwood of New Albany, Ind., from a magazine list as an American with whom to correspond. Recently, writing her sister and Elwood, she mixed up the letters, so that her sister got the letter to Elwood and Elwood got the letter to her sister, containing the sentence, "I think I'll marry this Yank and raise 12 children." This photo shows them at New Albany, where she came from England to wed Elwood.

Huge Force Of Germans Entrapped

Reds Near Iasi In Romania

LONDON — (AP) — The Red Army has occupied Kerch in the Crimea, Marshal Stalin announced tonight.

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW—(AP) — Russia's Fourth Ukrainian Army stormed down into the Crimea from two directions today in a drive aimed at completely clearing South Russia of the Axis invaders as Gen Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Third Army smashed to within six miles of Ovidiopol, escape bottleneck through which the remnants of the Nazis' Odessa garrison were fleeing toward Romania.

The Fourth Army, under the command of Gen Fedor I. Tolbukhin, was attacking in the Crimea along a 75-mile front from the Perekop Isthmus at the northwestern corner of the peninsula to Sivash Bay on the northeast, field dispatches said.

LONG ADVANCE

In two days a Russian communique declared, Tolbukhin's forces advanced more than twelve miles through strong German defenses to kill 5,500 enemy troops and capture another 1,000. About eleven German divisions, totaling 150,000 men, were believed locked in the Crimea.

To the northwest another Red Army thrust triumphantly crossed the Siret and Suceava Rivers in Rumania, the war bulletin announced, and reached a point less than five miles from the rail junction of Iasi. This drive by Marshal Ivan S. Konev's Second Ukrainian Army was said to have captured 180 towns and villages along a 65-mile long front and smashed to within fifteen miles of the Campulung oil fields and within 160 miles of the Ploesti wells.

Deepest penetration reported on this sector was at Solca, nineteen miles northwest of Suceava and 35 miles from Transylvania. Konev's right wing was striking westward along the Dornesti-Bodaiesti railway toward the Carpathian Mountains and captured Radauti, one of the largest cities in Bukovina.

With Iasi half-encircled, Konev's left wing was reported wheeling southward toward the Danube, taking Targu-Frumos, 25 miles west of Iasi and sixteen miles from Parsani, Vultura, four miles northwest of Iasi and Gorghi, twenty miles west of Iasi.

There was no mention in the Russian communique of the progress of Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First Ukrainian Army, which reached the Czechoslovakian frontier Saturday.

In the newly-mounted Crimean offensive, Tolbukhin's troops cracked the heavily fortified defenses on the Perekop Isthmus, the communique said, captured Armyansk, and reached the Ishuny area in a two-day, twelve-mile drive on the east his forces crossed Sivash Bay to the southern shore where enemy defense

See REDS DRIVE on page 6

Wall Crashes Onto Bank

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — (AP) — Rescuers pulled the bodies of two men from the debris of the wreckage of a high wall blown onto the Fort Wayne National Bank Building by a high wind, and continued digging for three women and employees reported still in the debris.

Five other women were dug from the wreckage and hurried to hospitals. Several other persons were hurt.

The wall was the west side of a five-story building destroyed by fire two weeks ago. Parts of the wall crashed through the roof of the bank.

Yank Fighter-Bombers Strike At Burma Road

CHUNGKING — (AP) — Fighter-bombers of the 14th Allied Air Force yesterday bombed the Burma Road north and south of Wanting, on the Yunnan-Burma border, scoring direct hits that will require considerable repairs before the road can be used again, Lt Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's headquarters announced today.

The communique said MH bombers attacked two railroad junctions and railroad equipment between Vinh and Phu Dienchau, in French Indo-China, destroying rail track and a locomotive.

ALLIES SEARCH FOR SNIPERS AT CASSINO—New Zealand infantrymen search a wrecked house in Cassino, Italy, for enemy snipers during the heavy fighting for possession of that German-held stronghold. This is a British official photo. (AP Wirephoto).

Made After RAF Strikes 4,000-Ton Record Blow

Nearly 2,000 U. S. Planes Attack

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

LONDON—(AP) — Nearly 2,000 American bombers and fighters, following up a record 4,000-ton attack by the RAF, carried the onslaught against German air defenses through its fourth day today with assaults against plane factories at Oschersleben and Bernburg and other targets deep in Germany.

The American task force of nearly 1,000 bombers and an equal number of fighters returned to England as the RAF was disclosing details of the heaviest attack in the bomber command's history. The bulk of the offensive was borne by 900 heavy bombers attacking five French and Belgian railroad centers. Other Lancasters meanwhile dropped many 8,000-pound bombs on a "very important" depot declared to contain large stores of signal and radar equipment for use of the German Air Force. This depot was at St. Cyr, near Paris.

The RAF had poured down more than 3,200 tons of bombs on several previous night operations, and on March 22 smothered Frankfurt with well over that figure—but never, the Air Ministry said, had the load been so heavy as last night's.

AIR BATTLES

The German radio told of terrific air battles over the Reich today, and at Oschersleben the Eighth Air Force lost 60 bombers Jan. 11. Both it and Bernburg had been hit Feb. 20 in the American first big series of assaults on the German Air Force in the air and on the ground.

Headquarters announced a final tabulation of yesterday's U. S. air victories showed the bombers and fighters downed fifteen planes while many additional enemy planes were destroyed or damaged on the ground. Three bombers and four fighters were lost in the attack upon four airfields, three repair works and an assembly plant.

(Five American heavy bombers made forced landings in Sweden today, and six crewmen parachuted from another United States plane after it apparently had been hit by anti-aircraft fire, the Stockholm Aftonbladet reported. A German plane believed to be a fighter was shot down in flames and its crew killed near Skovde near Marianna; two near Brinkley, one at Monroe; one at Duncan, and ten Negroes at Duncan and Parkin.

At least 140 persons were injured in Arkansas.

Floods fed by heavy rains routed hundreds of families from their homes in the Arkansas River watershed of Oklahoma and Kansas and in Kingfisher County in Western Oklahoma.

Lt. Peter Lehman Killed Overseas

A U S FIGHTER BASE, England — (AP) — Lt. Peter Lehman, adopted son of former New York Governor Herbert H. Lehman, was killed several days ago during aerobatic maneuvers in a fighter plane over his home base, it was learned today.

The 26-year-old airman was expecting a visit from his father, head of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, who is en route to London to organize a relief setup. His father was last reported in Cairo, recovering from an injured knee suffered while alighting from a plane.

Japs Aiming New Push At Kohima

By CHARLES A. GRUMICH

NEW DELHI — (AP) — A second determined attempt by the Japanese to take Kohima, northeast India strong point, appeared in the making today as the Southeast Asia Command announced the enemy continued to press in on that area and sharp patrol actions inflicted casualties on the Japanese on the near approaches to Imphal, main Allied base.

Patrols along the Imphal-Kohima road south of Imphal were in contact to a point well down the road from the edge of the plain while in the northeast it was estimated that fighting was going on eight to ten miles from Imphal itself.

MAY TRY BY-PASS

The enemy pushing around Kohima, which guards the approach to the Bengal-Assam railroad at Dimapur, 75 miles away, seemed to indicate he would try to bypass the town in case the second attack fails. Sniping was reported along the road to Dimapur.

Heavier fighting was reported in Central Burma where Indian troops ...nded by glider and plane in the area of Katha and Mawlu were spreading deep behind enemy lines. The operation already has cut rail and river communications serving the Japanese who are facing the advance of American-Chinese forces of Lt Gen Joseph W. Stilwell from the north. Now these airborne Chindits aim at destruction of communications behind the Japanese lines, an offensive which would have a serious effect when the enemy reserves lodged along the Chindwin River are depleted.

A Japanese thrust near Palel, 25 miles southeast of Imphal, was thrown back.

AMBUSH JAPS

Allied patrols struck out from the Imphal plain against enemy units laying siege to that strategic area. They ambushed the Japanese near the Tuitum road and inflicted casualties in a number of clashes in the foothills northeast of the plain, the communique from Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's headquarters said.

To the west, in northern Burma, Chinese forces driving down the Mogaung Valley area captured Wakawng, six miles south of Shadungup which had been seized by American troops.

On the Arakan front of Western Burma, Japanese resistance stiffened, especially near the main Buthidaung, south of the Maungdaw-Buthidaung road, the bulletin added.

Deferment List Given

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Selective Service headquarters today put out the official list of critical occupations which will rate draft deferments for registrants under 26 years of age.

The list, issued by Selective Service Director Lewis B. Hershey to state draft directors, covers a considerable catalog of work which the Government agencies considered vital to winning the war.

WHAT IT MEANS

And the listing boils down to this:

If you are a physically-fit man farming Selective Service registrant under 26, and your work is not included in the official list, you can expect a quick call to the induction station. If your work is on the list and your employer considers you a key man, he can apply for your deferment from the draft, and get it.

The list did not include coal mining but it was announced that state directors in certain coal-producing areas are being given special authorization to defer individual registrants whose induction would result in "serious curtailment in coal production."

Pre-professional students will be

See DEFERMENT on page 6

Small Boys In Boat Drowned

RICHMOND, Va. — (AP) — Three small boys were drowned yesterday when an old rowboat they were paddling on the James River was swept into the strong current of a power plant canal and overturned.

Officials of the Allemarle Paper Co notified that the boys appeared to be in trouble at the mouth of the canal and notified the power plant. Before aid could reach the boys their boat had capsized either in collision with the gates leading from the river to the canal or because of the swirling currents of the canal. Rocks used for removing debris from the canal brought the bodies of the boys and the battered empty rowboat to the surface.

The dead boys were identified as Edward G. Vanter, seven, and Thomas Allen Daniels, nine, both of Richmond, but the third, a freckled-faced youngster of about twelve, had not been identified early today.

Swedes Down German Plane

STOCKHOLM — (AP) — A German war plane was shot down by Swedish anti-aircraft fire over southern Sweden today, and crashed in flames, killing the crew.

The incident occurred as the eleventh U. S. bomber to land here since Easter came down at Angelholm. The crew was uninjured.

MacArthur Test Comes

By GARDNER BRIDGE

Associated Press Staff Writer

Georgia Douglas MacArthur's voter appeal was tested today in Illinois, birthplace of the National MacArthur—for President Clubs, while Nebraska plumbed the popularity of another absent Warrior, Lt Comdr. Harold E. Stassen.

In neither of the Presidential preferential primaries were she and Stassen delegates to be chosen, but more and the Democrats eight more later. Six of the 80 Republican candidates have expressed a preference for Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York, three for Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio, one for MacArthur, and one each for Governor Dwight H. Green of Illinois, Col. Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of The Chicago Tribune which is backing MacArthur, and Henry J. Kaiser, The Democratic delegation is expected to favor a fourth term for President Roosevelt.

Nebraska Stassen was left unopposed after Wendell Willkie withdrawal from the Presidential contest. It was too late to remove Willkie's name from the ballot, however, and there may be a sizeable sentimental vote for him. Supporters of Governor Dwight H. Griswold, who is seeking a vote for the New Yorker, Nebraska's Governor Griswold was entered as a Stassen son, and it is believed his backers will concentrate on a Vice-Presidential nomination for him.

MacArthur, who has declared his only ambition is to make a triumphant return to the Philippines, won three delegates in last year's Wisconsin primary, which Willkie won by political waterfire. Those who would like to see the General nominated hoped that he would receive such a resounding endorsement in Illinois that the movement would be booming out to all parts of the country.

The same popularity-plus idea prevailed among the Stassen advocates in Nebraska which will send fifteen delegates to the right-wing convention. Former Minnesota Governor who pulled out four of Wisconsin's delegates has said he would not seek the nomination but would not turn it down if it were handed to him.

Stettinius And Eden Confer

LONDON — (AP) — U. S. Undersecretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr. opened talks today with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and a statement said the discussions covered the whole range of foreign policy relations.

Japs In Retreat Toward Rabaul

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific—(AP)—American forces control most of New Britain, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today. The Japanese have abandoned supply and fuel bases at Gasmata and Cape Hoskins and are in full retreat eastward to Rabaul for a last stand.

The Nipponese have lost around 10,000 men dead and wounded since American soldiers and Marines opened the New Britain campaign in December with landings at Arawe and Cape Gloucester, MacArthur said.

JAP LOSS HIGH

A headquarters spokesman estimated the loss at one-fifth of the 50,000 Japanese strength on the island at the start of the campaign, leaving 40,000 to man machine gun positions and pillboxes for the final fighting around Rabaul, enemy base which has taken thousands of tons of Allied bombs in recent months.

Since soldiers of Lt. Gen. Walter Krueger's Sixth Army landed at Arawe Dec. 15 and the Marines' invasion of Cape Gloucester on the western tip of the island Dec. 26, Japanese casualties have been 232 prisoners and 4,575 abandoned dead, with wounds, starvation and disease more than doubling this figure, MacArthur's communique said.

Allied conquests in the Bismarck archipelago in the past few months have cut Japanese supply lines and stranded the enemy troops in New Britain, Rabaul, once a mustering point for enemy warships and planes operating against American invasion forces in the Solomons, has been hammered into near-uselessness by Allied aircraft.

The communique today said 50 tons of bombs were poured on Japanese supply dumps and airfields at Rabaul in the latest of Allied assaults on the base.

Gasmata, the base abandoned on the south central coast of the island was in the path of American patrols operating from Arawe.

Cape Hoskins, on the north central coast, was within reach of Marine force which had captured Talasea March 4 after a peacetime invasion from Cape Gloucester.

30 Killed In Tornadoes

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

A series of tornadoes killed 30 persons in Arkansas last night. Other tornadoes in Oklahoma and Texas killed one person each. Violent Spring storms and floods left a trail of property damage in other parts of the Southwest.

The Arkansas tornadoes killed five persons at Woodson, Pulaski County; five near Stuttgart; two at Pine Bluff; one at Harrison; two near Marianna; two near Brinkley, one at Monroe; one at Duncan, and ten Negroes at Duncan and Parkin.

At least 140 persons were injured in Arkansas.

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Lt. Peter Lehman Killed Overseas

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Italian Troops Turn Back Nazi Assaults

By EDWARD KENNEDY

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS NAPLES — (AP) — Italian troops holding Mt Marrone miles-high peak fifteen miles southeast of Cassino have repulsed small German attacks at two points killing seven of the foe and taking one prisoner, the fifth successive satisfactory report of a Nazi by the new allies of liberated Italy.

An American ambush patrol on the Anzio beachhead meanwhile trapped a six-man German patrol, three miles west of Littoria killing three and wounding two. British forces two miles southeast of Carpineto on the other side of the beachhead drove off a German platoon with casualties and other Nazi attempts at infiltration in that sector were repulsed.

As shelling and patrol clashes continued along the main Fifth Army front a headquarters commentator said that recent German replacements in Italy have included soldiers who lost some of their toes as a result of frostbite on the Russian front.

The Navy announced that a U. S. seaplane bombarded German positions around the beachhead Sunday and that an American mine-sweeper on patrol off Anzio shot down a Junkers 88 Saturday night.

Flying more than 900 sorties, Allied planes hammered at German communications yesterday, with medium bombers striking at rail bridges at Orvieto, Attigliano and Montalto, while fighter-bombers hit at others at Fano, Popoli and Falconara. Last night medium bombers blasted the ports of Piombino and Santo Stefano on the Italian west coast. Returning fliers reported a number of direct hits on bridges and new cuts in rail lines.

Shipping along the Dalmatian coast also was attacked. One enemy plane was shot down during the day and two Allied planes were lost.

Peace Subject Of Editorial

MADRID—(AP) — Declaring that there seems to be a "miracle on the part of the Anglo-Saxons not the Germans for re-establishment of the independence and integrity of conquered peoples," the newspaper Arriba, organ of the Falange, expressed today its belief that "peace is possible in Europe."

"This is the most important moment," an editorial said, "lies in irreconcilable interests among the Allies themselves. . . . The change of fields could not be more complete."

(Dispatches from London said there was an inclination in some quarters there to regard the Arriba editorial as a German-inspired peace feeler.)

WEATHER

Showers and thundershowers and mild this afternoon and tonight; partly cloudy and cooler tomorrow.

Today's Temperatures

2:30 P. M. 79 — Lo. 60

Sunset Today 6:56

Sunrise Tomorrow 6:00

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 8.

Return This Newspaper For Front-Line Service

The paper on which this newspaper is printed today is literally worth its weight in gold to the war effort.

SAVE A SOLDIER'S LIFE

The need for paper for the boxing, packaging and wrapping of war supplies cannot be overstated. It is truly critical.

"Newspapers are doing everything possible to save paper. It actually costs nearly all you pay for this newspaper in paper and delivery expenditures, to give you the news from every corner of the world.

But, more important, the armed forces need it back—need it desperately.

Starting today, therefore, will readers of The News agree that this newspaper is simply loaned to them? It is a precious war commodity to be saved and turned back to be sent to the front.

There are several ways in which you may return this paper to service. Junior Commandos are working with The News and the Junior Chamber of Commerce in collecting waste paper. Chief Hendrix Palmer and the Charlotte Fire Department are co-operating, bins being placed at each fire station in which paper can be placed. Supt John Barbee and the City Sanitary Dept., are helping, too. Paper will be collected by the sanitary trucks if bundled and placed alongside the garbage containers. All these agencies are doing a splendid job.

But whether you return this loaned copy of The News through the Junior Commandos, deliver it to the bins at a fire station, leave it for collection by the Sanitary Dept., or deliver it to dealers direct, it must be returned.

It is destined for front line service.