THE CHARLOTTE NEWS ★★ Final

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1944 | 16 Pages—Price Five Cents

WAVES OF PLANES HIT EUROPE

New Draft Policy May Defer All Men Over 29

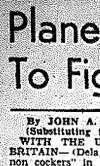
SEVASTOPOL IN HANDS OF RED FORCES

Unsung Men Load Planes To Fight

By JOHN A. MOROSO III
(Substituting for Hal Boyle)

WITH THE U. S. NAVY IN BRITAIN—(Delayed)—(AP)—"Cannon cockers" in the Navy are the men who load our planes with bombs, fuses and ammunition.

At a Naval air base here recently an emergency came up and the lads loaded seventeen planes in less than three hours. In a speed test the boys at the same field belted 50,000 rounds of .50 calibre ammunition in one day.



MOROSCO

You don't hear much about these crews - because their job is not spectacular but it is vitally important and many a Nazi plane has been shot down with bullets that were carefully and lovingly loaded by a boy who will never see page one.

In civil life William F. Leedham, 52, of Providence, R. I., was an accountant. In war he is a fighting man and so is the rest of his family. Bill is now chief storekeeper aboard a transport and he is a veteran of the Sicilian and Salerno attacks. His wife is an inspector in the Army Ordnance Department. One boy, 22, is with the 43rd Division and served in the Guadalcanal fighting. Another boy, 25, is a Government employee working in New England.

Bill served with the Navy in the last war and got ready for this one by joining up in 1940.

Vice Admiral Sir Bertram Ramsay, boss of the Allied Fleets massed in Britain, is highly pleased with his chief of staff and has only one complaint about him. He cannot read his handwriting.

Ramsay himself is an extremely affable man, partly bald, of medium height and wearing row upon row of medals and campaign ribbons. A great factor on his side is that American officers like him and the British officers around him.

One of the most popular bands in the United Kingdom is the Coast Guard's "amphibians" and each of the seventeen players is a bona fide seaman. These boys have been through all the fighting in the Mediterranean but they haven't let it interfere with their jive.

Recently they have been touring hospitals and clubs near their base which with their regular duty hamper them on a 20-hour-a-day working basis.

Leader and Pianist Allen P. Dudley, Wellington, O., says the most popular numbers are "One O'Clock Jump," "Woodchopper's Ball" and "She's Sleep Babe." The band's top vocalist is Allan Cole, Buffalo, N. Y., formerly with Ted Fio Rito's Orchestra, while John W. Brown, Lakewood, O., is the M. C. and ball fiddler. He and his band estimate that they have played to 30,000 customers in 20 performances here.

Churchill In War Report

LONDON —(AP)— Prime Minister Churchill answered in Commons today that Britain had supplied Russia with 5,031 tanks and 6,778 airplanes—2,627 of them American—from Oct. 10, 1941 to [illegible], 1944.

He said the American planes were sent on U. S. lend-lease to the Soviet Union as a part of the British commitment in exchange for a supply of British aircraft to the U. S. forces in the European theater. We also have sent over 50,000,000 pairs (about $320,000,000) worth of tan materials, foodstuffs, machinery, medical supplies and comforts. A considerable portion of these supplies has been funnelled through to Russia along the Arctic route."

The Prime Minister said Britain's Royal Navy had borne nearly all the warship losses in getting the goods through but "in merchant ships on the other hand Allied nations and particularly merchant ships of the United States, have borne the heaviest losses."

An Admiralty communique said ships of the United Nations delivered nearly 1,250,000 tons of war supplies to Russia over the Arctic route in the past six months with a loss of less than sixteen tons out of every thousand.

Crimea Port Toppled In Great Drive

Armies Released For Other Areas

LONDON — (AP) — The fall of the Crimean fortress-port of Sevastopol after a 24-day siege was announced today by Premier Marshal Stalin in an order of the day which indicated one of the two original besieging Soviet armies may already have rushed to the main front for a new Russian westward offensive.

Conspicuously absent from a list of 56 commanders cited by Stalin for distinction in the drive which completely cleared the last of the 10,000-square-mile Crimean Peninsula was the name of Gen. Andrei I. Yeremenko, whose independent maritime army struck 150 miles westward across the peninsula from Kerch and on April 19 reached Sevastopol's southern environs. The implication suggested that Yeremenko and his men might have been moved elsewhere in preparation for important new operations.

THREE-DAY PLUNGE

The order of the day was addressed jointly to Gen. Feodor I. Tolbukhin, whose Fourth Ukraine Army toppled Sevastopol late yesterday in a final three-day plunge through three deep German defense belts, and Marshal Alexander M. Vasilevsky, chief of the Red Army General Staff.

Through fall of the city the Soviet Black Sea fleet regained the second of two valuable ports from which to venture against Axis forces on Romania's coast 200 miles to the west. The other is Odessa, 150 miles to the northwest, recaptured by the Russians April 10.

In the overall 31-day Crimean offensive, which the Tolbukhin and Yeremenko armies ushered in April 8 at least 100,000 Germans and Romanians were believed killed or captured. Some 25,000 were said to have remained in the Sevastopol pocket as the Russian victory drive began Sunday. Many died trying to escape by sea the Russians said.

The capture of Lyubimovka, three miles north, first brought Sevastopol under Russian artillery fire April 16. The Soviet infantry struck savagely Sunday after heavy artillery and aerial bombardment and quickly broke the main German defenses.

A midnight Moscow communique said Russian artillerymen hauled about 60 guns yesterday to the north shore of Sevastopol Bay and destroyed many enemy ships in the inlets while infantrymen on the east and south side of the city plunged through for the final mop-up.

SUICIDE FIGHT

German suicide corps were said to have clung to the last to three-storied defense works carved into the city's bluffs—caves that the Russians used as ammunition depots and defense headquarters in the 250-day German siege of the port in 1941-42.

The Berlin radio announced be-

See SEVASTOPOL on page 2

Rules Regarding Older Men Likely Will Be Liberal

Pool Of Those Under 30 Seen As Enough To Meet Calls For Months

WASHINGTON —(AP)— Indefinite draft deferment of all men over 29, in essential occupations, regardless of whether they are "necessary men" by present standards, was understood today to be one of the provisions of a new Selective Service policy to be made public tomorrow night.

While officials refused to confirm this report, indications that the pool of men under 30 is sufficient to meet calls for several months gave weight to prospects of wide liberalization regarding older men.

Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey has predicted that calls can be met until early Fall with men eighteen through 25. Those 26 through 29 will be inducted next with deferments granted only to those in a necessary job in essential work.

Under present regulations, this same yard stick is being applied to men over 29.

The new policy would provide blanket deferment of men in this group, no matter what their job so long as it is in an essential occupation.

Nazis Now Await Blitz From Allies

Lowlands Attack Anniversary

LONDON — (AP) — The Germans were reported striving hastily to tighten up their shaken western defenses on this fourth anniversary of the Nazi drive through the Low Countries as the gigantic British-American air campaign developed new aspects pointing toward a climax in preparation for invasion D-Day.

Thus the war in the west had swung in a full cycle, reversing the position of May 10, 1940, when the Germans, supreme in the air and on the ground, sent their legions crashing into Belgium and the Netherlands and the all-conquering blitzkrieg which led quickly to Dunkerque and the collapse of France.

AIR CHIEF

With conclusive defeat in the air staring him in the face, Adolf Hitler has designated 29-year-old Maj. Gen. Oberst Pelz to command German air forces in the west and ordered him to assemble a force to combat the impending Allied invasion, said reliable advices from underground Europe.

Pelz, looked upon as an air genius and a prime favorite of Hitler, was given the task of keeping together a force to strike back at the invasion fleets—no matter what damage the homeland suffers in the meantime.

This reorganization, a part of the desperate German effort to strengthen the air force despite great losses of production through Allied bombing, included the disarming of the Western Air Force into three "corps," two composed completely of fighters and one of bombers.

Supply could be simplified by the creation of separate fighter and bomber corps in which some planes may be "cannibalized" to keep some of the force in the air. Germany's air corps consisted of mixed forces of bombers, fighters, transports and reconnaissance craft.

German plane manufacture was reported cut to four or five types of fighters and bombers.

CAN RULE AIR

No matter what the Germans do, even the most conservative American and British air leaders are agreed the Allies can win full control of the air within ten to ten days after the invasion starts.

In addition to the enormous acceleration in Allied attacks—in the first ten days of this month there has been almost as much activity as in the two previous months — there

See NAZIS AWAIT on page 2

THIRD TERMER — Only the fourth president of the United States Chamber of Commerce to do so, Eric A. Johnston, is slated for a third term as head of the organization. He'll leave in near future for Soviet Russia, at the invitation of Premier Stalin.

Allied Aerial Armadas Swing Mighty Blows

Both Berlin And Paris Attacked In British Strikes

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

LONDON—(AP)—The Allies threw another series of armadas, probably totaling 2,000 planes, against German defenses of Europe in day and night strikes today, blasting front-line airfields and railways and war-supporting industries with more than 3,000 tons of bombs in preparation for the invasion.

German accounts, telling of violent aerial battles over the eastern Alps, indicated that this massed aerial strength was being supplemented by Mediterranean Air Force "heavies" perhaps striking at Austrian targets.

An Ankara broadcast said Bucharest in Romania was bombed.

A night fleet of approximately 750 British bombers carried their greatest load of the 20-day offensive in smashing at both Berlin and Paris and hitting at least ten targets of the highest priority, including the Annecy ballbearing works near the Italian frontier in France.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES—(AP)—American heavy bombers raided Vienna and nearby Wiener Neustadt in Austria today.

RIDE FAR

The British rode 1,000 miles in bright moonlight in knocking the Munich objective.

Then disciplined waves of medium, light and fighter bombers streamed across the channels with their tons of explosives.

The attack last night was probably one of the heaviest of the war on the French invasion coast.

The Air Ministry disclosed that the Germans were using the Annecy factory extensively for making castings for airplane engines since the ballbearing plants at Schweinfurt were damaged so heavily recently.

Marauders and Havocs dropped more than 450 short tons of bombs on three rail centers in Belgium and France today and on an airfield near Amiens. Two bombers failed to return.

HEAVIEST ATTACK

The heaviest attack, it was announced, was on the railway yards at Criel, 25 miles northeast of Paris, by about 100 Marauders which hit a roundhouse and locomotive shops.

Two waves of planes, with Marauders following the Havocs in, hit rail yards at Tournai, Belgium, 15 miles east of Lille, with good results. Crews of the Marauders said they left 12,000-foot columns of smoke rising from rolling stock at Mons, 30 miles southwest of Brussels on the main Paris-Brussels line.

A small force of Marauders hit the airfield at Poix, near Amiens.

The RAF lost seven aircraft in its night operations. Five bombers and three fighters were lost yesterday out of nearly 1,000 lighter aircraft of the Allied expeditionary air force which joined in the 4,000-plane blows reach-

See GREAT RAIDS on page 2

Ward Injunction Case "Dismissed"

CHICAGO —(AP)— Federal Judge William H. Holly today dropped injunction litigation stemming from Government seizure of Montgomery Ward & Co. Chicago properties without ruling on legality of the Federal action in taking possession.

The court told company and government counsel that he "considered the case dismissed" but wanted Friday on whether it should be recorded as dismissed with or without prejudice.

Judge Holly said he would not rule on legality of the seizure because "events have transpired which apparently have taken the case out of my hands."

COPIES DESTROYED

Subsequently the judge told reporters he had ordered destroyed all copies of the decision he had been prepared to issue today in the injunction case. He said he "regretted having to do so," having spent a great deal of time studying the evidence and arguments submitted by government and company lawyers and preparing the ruling.

The company properties are back in the hands of its management, Judge Holly said, and it is a well established fact that Federal courts are not required to rule "on a moot question."

He said there was now "nothing before me," events having "transpired" while he was considering the petition of the government for a temporary injunction to prohibit Ward officials from interfering with government operation of the plant.

The Chicago plant was in government possession from April 26 until yesterday when Secretary of Commerce Jesse Jones turned it back to the company.

The jurist made the statement after the government relinquished possession of the company's Chicago units and the properties were turned back to the hands of Board Chairman Sewell Avery.

A CIO union won a collective bargaining election at the plants last night, and followed up with a demand upon the War Labor Board to extend and enforce an expired contract with the union.

"The case is out of my

See WARD CASE on page 2

North Burma Drive Opens

By CHARLES A. GRUNICH

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, Ceylon—(AP)—Allied forces are operating on three sides of Mogaung in northern Burma, Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's Headquarters disclosed for the first time today, indicating that a determined Chinese-British-American drive was in full swing to reopen a land route to China.

A communique said heavy casualties had been inflicted on the Japanese south of Mogaung—the first official announcement that Allied forces, presumably Chindits, are operating in that sector. Sharp blows also have been dealt the enemy in the vicinity of Mawlu, some 75 miles southwest of Mogaung, where the airborne Chindits have been operating since March against the Mandalay-Myitkyina railway.

Pitting into the picture were Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's American-Chinese forces in the Mogaung Valley and native Burmese beating down Japanese attacks in the Fort Hertz Valley in their double-barreled push to the south against Mogaung and Myitkyina. These latter forces are closing in on the Japanese 18th Division, which already is reported becoming disorganized.

Stilwell's forces, supported by tanks and artillery, have been attacking strong Japanese positions east of the main Mogaung Valley road and south of the Hardon River, headquarters said.

KOHIMA FIGHTING

In northeastern India, meanwhile, fighting continued yesterday in the Kohima area, where the enemy still is present in strength, the communique declared. Some 85 miles south of Kohima, the British said, 500 Japanese invaders launched two attacks along the Palel road toward the Imphal plain but were repulsed each time.

Allied aircraft were reported active over all battlefronts, blasting enemy troop concentrations at Namkwin southeast of Mogaung, starting large fires at Nalong on the Myitkyina-Bhamo road and strafing supply depots at Mohrang, 25 miles southwest of Imphal.

8th Army Drives Toward Nazi Base

By NOLAND NORGAARD

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES—(AP)—Still pursuing withdrawing German forces, Eighth Army troops have thrust a wedge deep into enemy territory along Italy's mountainous backbone and at last report were driving directly toward the German base of Sulmona, it was announced today.

Front advices indicated there was little or no opposition, although the Germans were said to be carrying out extensive demolitions.

A communique announced Allied troops had entered the town of Palena, on the little Aventino River 25 miles inland from the Adriatic and 11 miles southeast of Sulmona, and a subsequent announcement told of the occupation of the mountain villages of Fallascoso, seven miles northeast of Palena and San Angelo, 12 miles southeast.

The Eighth Army forces also seized high ground near the hamlet of Gamberale, two miles northwest of San Angelo on the road to Palena.

The advances carried the Allied troops a minimum of nine miles beyond previously announced positions.

A full explanation of why the Germans pulled back was not yet available, but the move apparently was taken to shorten and straighten their mountain lines.

The Germans, who have broadcast various propaganda reports of Allied preparations for a new offensive somewhere in Italy, appeared to be increasing their defenses on the main Fifth Army front south of Cassino. While their big guns provided a covering fire, German working parties were heard felling trees and digging in on the west bank of a river. An enemy patrol was thrown back in the same area.

PATROL RAID

An Allied patrol with tank support raided an enemy-held house west of Cisterna on the Anzio beachhead inflicting casualties. Headquarters said six enemy tanks attacked the raiders, but four hits were scored on the German vehicles and one was left afire.

Allied visibility kept heavy bombers on the ground for the second day. British Wellingtons last night struck at targets on the west coast ports of Genoa and Livorno. Marauders, Bostons, Thunderbolts, Warhawks and Invaders hammered at communications north of Rome. Eight Allied planes were lost.

Bailey Hits Radicals

WASHINGTON. —(AP)— Senator Bailey, Democrat, North Carolina, attributed to what he termed "Left Wing" labor today an organized drive to renominate President Roosevelt for a fourth term.

Leading off the second day of Senate debate on an anti-poll tax bill, which he said was sponsored by the CIO Political Action Committee, Bailey declared:

"We have in this country a well - organized, well - financed movement by the leftist wing of American labor to capture the Democratic Party by infiltration.

"They propose to nominate the President for a fourth term and they are noisy about it.

"They propose to defeat any Senator or any member of the House who does not bow down to their policy of coercing the working men of America.

"Their policy is to say to a worker, 'If you don't pay imitation fees and dues you don't work.'"

POLL TAX DEFENSE

Asserting Southern states "do not coerce men into paying the poll tax," Bailey declared:

"It is indescribable, shameless hypocrisy for a labor union, a political party or an administration to raise a racket here that seven or eight states require a small poll tax to participate in their government, and at the same time with force of arms to bring about a situation where the humblest man in Montgomery Ward is denied not only the privilege of voting in the union without paying a tax but is denied the opportunity to make a living."

Hopkins Leaves Mayo Clinic

ROCHESTER, Minn. — (AP) — Harry Hopkins, personal friend and adviser to President Roosevelt, left Rochester for his home today. Mayo Clinic physicians said they now feel that after an additional short rest period he will be able to return to his duties at Washington.

German Statement As To Turkey Expected

LONDON.—(AP)—The Berlin radio said today that Franz Von Papen, Nazi Ambassador to Turkey, had left Germany and added that a German statement regarding "the Turkish problem" can be expected soon.

Turkey and Germany have been holding talks on trade relations since Turkey suspended chrome shipments to the Reich last month.

Von Papen was reported to have left Istanbul for Berlin April 26, at which time the German radio, terming this suspension of chrome shipments a breach of contract, asserted that he would not return to Ankara "for the time being."

The broadcast today said that no announcement was made regarding Von Papen's destination.

Foremen Union Strike Scored

DETROIT—(AP)—The Automotive Council for War Production, claiming to represent 20 per cent of the industry's war output, urged Congress today to clarify the law "to make it clear that it does not intend to permit labor leaders to take over the management of our war production plants."

In a statement issued through the Council President Alvan MacAuley, the group noted a strike of more than 3,300 foremen in Detroit area plants had affected war production and said the executives' drive to unionize foremen was "a long step towards putting industrial management in the hands of union labor."

"What kind of collective bargaining is it when union leaders sit on both sides of the table?" the council asked.

The statement, which the council authorized MacAuley to send to President Roosevelt, other Government officials and all members of Congress, was issued just a day after the Ford Motor Company, a major war producer, signed a one-year sole bargaining contract with the Foremans Association of America, an independent organization.

Henry Ford II, executive vice-president of the Ford Company, is a director of the council.

Meeting Of Admirals Ominous For Japan

By Associated Press

The meeting in San Francisco of the Navy's ships-threat to Japan—Admirals Halsey, Nimitz and King—is looked upon by military observers as a time that will tell the Japanese invasion legend. Tokyo may be too busy to listen to the radio.

The Navy said little about the meeting except that it had been held. Only Vice Adm. Nimitz, Pacific Fleet chief, had received a new decoration—his second Distinguished Service Medal for his sound judgment and masterful conduct of operations in 1941 and 1942 following the enemy assault on Pearl Harbor. It was a national hero—Nimitz, other ranking officers to be similarly decorated are Admiral King, the South Pacific commander, and Gen. Thomas Holcomb of the Marine Corps, retired. The Navy said the three admirals met last weekend.

The West Coast meeting is believed to have been singularly significant because the United States fleet commander-in-chief, Admiral King, is known to feel that the Pacific fight must be carried through without cessation no matter what happens to Hitler's empire before Tokyo falls.

LINE OF STRATEGY

And the forces under Nimitz and Halsey have no alternative from the obvious line of strategy. They must forge new links in the line to Japan, either by battering Truk, in the Caroline Island group, or by skirting Truk

See NAVAL CHIEFS on page 2

Cops Must Have Hit Each Other

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Two more Washington policemen ticked their wounds today after the capital's third slugfest within a week between members of the armed forces and local law officers.

The latest free-for-all started early today in front of a 16th St. hotel when an Army and Navy man argued over who had priority on a taxicab.

A crowd gathered, fists began to fly, police sirens screamed, and when the smoke of battle cleared the original disputants were gone and Patrolmen Louis A. Lostumbo, 28, and Robert J. Wagner, 25, had cracked knee bumps and bruises. They were treated at Garfield Hospital.

WEATHER

Fair to partly cloudy and mild tonight and tomorrow.

Today's Temperatures
2:30 P. M. 79 ..... 5 P. M. [illegible]
Sunset Today ..... [illegible]
Sunrise Tomorrow ..... [illegible]

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

Return This Newspaper For Front-Line Service

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

SAVE WASTE PAPER

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

Newspapers are doing everything possible to save paper. It actually costs more 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.