...you're MORE time to read the NEWS!

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

ESTABLISHED 1888 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1945 | 30 Pages—Price Five Cents

AUSSIES MENACE BORNEO OIL FIELDS

YANKS PRESS ON LAST OKINAWA HEIGHTS

3 Divisions Grind Ahead While Tanks Hurl Flames

Enemy's Hold On Plateau Pared

By ROBBIN COONS

GUAM — (AP) —Three American divisions drove across Hara Kiri Plateau today behind flame-throwing tanks toward the last three commanding heights on Okinawa Island still in the hands of suicide Japanese forces.

The enemy's hold on southern Okinawa, nicknamed "Hara Kiri" plateau by doughboys, has been pared down to a base eight square miles and Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, Jr., said they couldn't last for another week. Only about 10,000 Japanese, many of them second rate troops and Okinawan conscripts, were left on the plateau where Tokyo radio admitted they were undergoing murderous naval and aerial fire.

SUICIDE ATTACKS

Japanese broadcasts reported suicide air attacks were renewed Thursday night, after a lapse of three days, against rapidly growing American naval forces swarming in Okinawan waters.

Alarmed enemy propagandists said American sea forces, including many new assault boats, were increasing with such speed that a new attack on the Rising Sun empire appeared to be in the making. U. S. sea patrols cruising around Okinawa were reported in enemy broadcasts to be ranging half way up to Japan.

Buckner's Tenth Army speared ahead in the center and at both ends of the three-mile-long line against resistance that still was ferocious despite the enemy's great casualties and the fact that many of the defenders were service troops or Okinawan conscripts.

HILL CAPTURED

In the center, the 96th Infantry Division, commanded by Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley, completed the capture yesterday of 500-foot-high Yaeju Hill, which the troops call "The Big Apple," and then swung west and attacked Yuza Hill with tanks to knock out positions from which the Japanese were heavily harassing the First Marine Division flank.

Robert Geiger, Associated Press correspondent writing from the top of Yaeju Hill, said that the line already had advanced a half-mile beyond the peak.

Maj. Gen. Pedro A. Del Valle's First Marines, a mile and a half westward on Kunishi Ridge, consolidated their hold despite a phinking automatic fire from the Japanese on Yuza Hill and sent patrols out ahead of their lines.

The Marines Thursday night repulsed a small Japanese counter-attack and numerous infiltration attempts.

JAPS SKIFFLE

The Japanese were making skilled use of the difficult terrain of coral ridges and caves, Geiger said and he to be blasted and burned out individually by flamethrowing tanks.

The countryside is mountainous for manmed terrain, but the tanks nevertheless were giving a good account of themselves, while American warships, field guns and planes hammered away steadily at the enemy's death-hard positions across the southernmost tip of Okinawa.

Japanese Throwing Up 'Emergency Dwellings'

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — The Japanese Government, struggling to keep up its bombed and burned out war production, has undertaken the construction of 1,200 "emergency dwellings" into which barracks housing 20 persons each, the Japanese Domei news agency reported today.

Domei likewise reported in its broadcasts received by the Federal Communications Commission that the Government was experimenting with underground homes, possibly a development of the "dugouts" which radio Tokyo reported were housing thousands after the two great B-29 fire raids last month burned large areas of Tokyo.

Tried To Save Ciano

Edda Mussolini Risked Her Life

CHICAGO — (AP) — The Chicago Daily News said today that Edda Mussolini Ciano risked her life—once posing as a pregnant woman—to prevent the German Gestapo from obtaining the diary of her husband, Count Ciano, Mussolini's Foreign Minister, and to smuggle it out of Italy.

The Daily News, beginning publication of the diary Monday, in a dispatch from Berne, Switzerland, today said in part:

"The Gestapo tried at all costs to get the Ciano diary and its compromising revelations. The Nazis offered 100,000,000 gold lire payable in Switzerland, for it. They even tried to barter the life of Ciano against his previous documents, but the diary escaped them.

STRANGE SCENE

"Twenty hours before his (Ciano's) death, a strange scene occurred at the Rocca fronting Village of Verazzano, in Tuscan Aldeul to palace, a Shabbah dressed, black veiled old woman with Italian Baccarat eyes had entered Switzerland stating her life had been threatened in the Rocca Fascista.

"She readily admitted her identity—Edda Ciano. On hearing her identity, the gay Tuscan lads goggled. For the famous countess, old and dishevelled as she appeared, was obviously pregnant.

"Edda Ciano was not pregnant. Strapped under her dress were five compagnolare notebooks—the Ciano diary—once held in the right drawer of the magnificent desk of the foreign minister in Rome's Chigi Palace.

"On Dec 20 (1943), 50 days before Ciano's execution, Edda got wind of German interest in Ciano papers. She was staying in a clinic at Rapallo near Parma, on her father's orders. Mussolini also feared his favorite daughter, Edda, so kept quiet as she did not want

See EDDA BUSIED on Page 5

France Rebuffed

5-Power Parley Request Rejected

By ALEX H. SINGLETON

LONDON — (AP) — Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, former Polish premier, flew to Moscow today to confer on reorganizing the Warsaw government while in a second postwar dispute Britain was reported authoritatively to have rejected France's proposal for a five-power discussion of Middle East problems.

Both developments were preliminaries to the next Big Three conference scheduled in Berlin sometime before July 26.

Accompanying Mikolajczyk, the Peasant Party leader, were Jan Stanczyk, who who was Labor Minister in his London Polish government, and Jan Drzybowski, a foreign affairs expert in Mikolajczyk's group.

A Moscow dispatch said preliminary discussions were underway among Poles already on the scene. The Big Three commission on Polish reorganization — Foreign Commissar Molotov and the U. S. and British Ambassadors to Russia — was said again to have asked ailing Wincenty Witos, 72-year-old former Polish Premier to attend the meeting.

POLISH CHARGE

The Polish government in London charged last night that a "reign of terrorism" existed throughout Poland, and demanded immediate withdrawal of Russian troops and political police from Polish soil.

As for the Middle East, authoritative Paris quarters said Britain turned down the French request for a five-power conference. The British Government previously had expressed preference for a discussion only by France, Britain, and the United States. The United States also is reported to have rejected the five-power plan.

Details of the British reply were not disclosed immediately. British Ambassador Alfred Duff Cooper conferred with Foreign Minister Georges Bidault.

Meanwhile, preparations were underway for the meeting of President Truman, Marshal Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill, with the site to be Berlin.

This was made official last night by an announcement from 10 Downing Street, official residence of Prime Minister Churchill. A spokesman said the date had not been fixed definitely, but the Prime Minister himself had said it would be before July 26.

First Lord of the Admiralty Brendan Bracken said the conference would take place at "the very time the votes are being counted" in Britain's national election. This would mean it could be any time between July 5, date for the election, and July 27, when the results are expected to be announced.

Bracken recalled a statement by Harold Laski, chairman of the Labor Party, that Labourites would not be found by Big Three decisions, despite the fact that Labourite Mat Clement Attlee, who was Deputy Prime Minister in Churchill's coalition Cabinet, had accepted the Prime Minister's offer to attend as a "friend and counsellor."

Ribbentrop Questioned

By DANIEL DE LUCE

MONTGOMERY'S HEADQUARTERS, Germany — (AP) — Captured Nazi Foreign Minister Joachim Von Ribbentrop was reported to be under questioning today at Gen Eisenhower's headquarters at Frankfurt-on-the Main.

The Supreme Command's most skilled examiners were said to have been assigned to try to pry loose some of the state secrets known to the 52-year-old former Reich ambassador to London who was reported to have convinced Hitler on his return in 1936 Britain would not intervene when Poland was invaded.

Officially Ribbentrop left Luneburg airfield here for an undemonstrated destination "somewhere in Europe" yesterday after being arrested in Hamburg Thursday along with an attractive brunette divorcee in whose apartment he boarded under the name of "Herr Rose."

By telephone from Hamburg, Lt. R. Adam of Parker, Maryland, told how his detail of a Belgian and two British sergeants arrested Ribbentrop. He said:

"We called at a very nondescript block of flats about 9 A. M. and knocked on the door of the top floor, but getting no answer we nearly had decided to break it down when a lady in a dressing gown appeared. She was dark, bobbed and very attractive and we learned later she was 35 and divorced. We brush her aside, saying we had come in and search."

The Belgian discovered Ribbentrop, shook him and woke him. Lt. Adams said "we searched him from top to bottom" but they did not discover the taped on poison phial which a medical examination at headquarters later found hidden between his legs.

Sleepily Ribbentrop dressed, muttering to himself. He then spoke up to his captors in good English saying, "You know who I am, all right, don't you? I congratulate you. If you had been two days later I would have given myself up voluntarily."

Mecklenburg's Casualties

(Stories Inside)

KILLED IN ACTION
Pfc. Odum Webb

WOUNDED IN ACTION
S/Sgt. Conrad E. Carter

Yanks Race For North Luzon Tip

Reach Floor Of Cagayan Valley

By SPENCER DAVIS

MANILA — (AP) — American troops were out on the floor of the broad and fertile Cagayan Valley today, pounding along at nearly a mile an hour within 150 miles of Aparri at the northern tip of Luzon.

Maj. Gen. Robert S. Beichler's 37th Ohio Infantrymen, who had been battling north along a tortuous mountain gorge for three weeks, also was racing in a climb to Kamiala near Palma, on her father's orders. Mussolini also feared his favorite daughter, Edda so kept quiet as she did not want

When the typhoons strike they will bring flood waters roaring over the valley's low-lying fields, and corn lands, bogging down motor vehicles and grounding aircraft.

LAST PASS

The veteran Buckeyes rolled ahead 22 miles in 24 hours after breaking through the last Japanese defenses at the valley's southern gateway, and liberated the important Isabela Province town of Santiago and Echague.

The 37th Division's advance into Cagayan Valley marked the first time any of MacArthur's troops have been fighting on level terrain since they crossed the central plain to Manila in January.

Other American units on the island are still battling in the jungle-covered mountains. The tested 6th Division, teamline with the 37th in the northeast, pushed ahead off near the southern end of the valley, and advanced southwest four miles along Highway No. 4, west of Bagabag.

In the mountain area east of Manila the 38th Infantry Division, the 1st Cavalry Division and the 112th Cavalry Regimental Combat Team encaged Japanese pill-box units, counting 500 enemy dead.

North of Baguio, near the island's west coast and almost due west of the Cagayan Valley, the 33rd Infantry drove along the Agno River sector in the Tabio sector MacArthur reported 400 enemy dead there.

MINDANAO FIGHTING

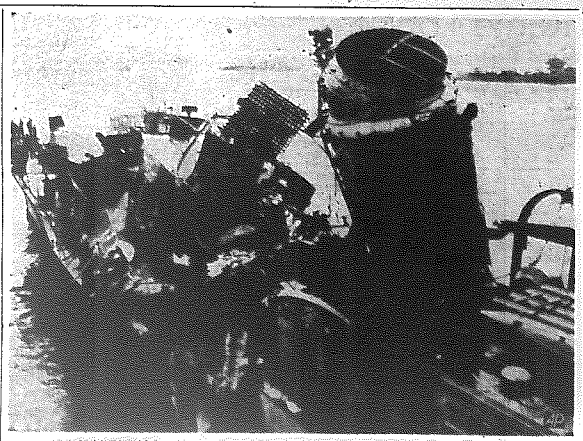
On Mindanao at the southern end of the Philippine chain the 24th Infantry Division pinned down at an arduous job of dislodging out hard-to-get caves and pillboxes near Davao. Units of the division also captured a rocket launcher supply dump there.

South of the Tabono Trail in the mountains east of Davao the 31st Infantry engaged closely negrating units in a series of small-scale attacks. They reported 100 Japanese dead.

WEATHER

Partly cloudy and continued warm and hot 71 today, tonight and Sunday with scattered thundershowers this afternoon and Sunday afternoon.

Temperature at 2:30 Today 81
High and Low Last 24 Hours 91; 70
Sunset Today 8:35
Sunrise Tomorrow 6:05



USS HAZELWOOD DAMAGED BY JAP SUICIDE PLANES—Her superstructure shattered by two Jap suicide plane hits, the U. S. destroyer Hazelwood lies dead in the water off Okinawa after the enemy attack last April 29 which took a toll of ten officers and 67 men, dead or missing. The Hazelwood is now under repair in a ship yard on the U. S. West Coast. (AP Wirephoto from U. S. Navy.)

U. S. Seizes Truck Lines

CHICAGO—(AP)—Military Police reached Chicago today, apparently prepared to enforce Government control of Chicago's trucking industry, seizure of which was expanded at midnight to forestall the possibility of a drivers strike.

Several hundred MP's from Camp Custer, Mich., and from near-by Camp Grant, Ill., encamped in Grant Park on the lakeside edge of Chicago's downtown "Loop" district as large numbers of truck drivers reportedly were staying off their routes awaiting military protection.

A total of 1,700 trucking lines were under Government orders, directed by Ellis T. Lonsenecker, office of Defense Transportation president-elect who also was Federal manager of truck lines seized last August in Minneapolis. Of the 1700 lines 1169 were seized last month.

In charge of the military arm of the seizure was Maj. Alexander Baxter, chief of the highway division, Zone Transportation Corps, Sixth Service Command, and two liaison aides, Capt. A. Beadle and Lt. F. W. Harm.

The expanded possession of the lines came 24 hours after a week-old strike was broken May 23 by seizure of the 1,169 lines. Perishables and war essential supplies were moved in Army trucks at that time, and the strike was called off in a few hours after Government seizure.

General Observes 10th Year Of Army Service

U. S. 6TH ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN THE PHILIPPINES — (AP) — Buddy-faced Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger, commander of the Eighth Army returned today from a tour of inspection to Mindanao island in time to celebrate completion of his 10th year of military service.

The burly 59-year-old general who led the assaults with his infantry doing the job neared to the heart planning new crushing blows against the Japanese.

Parley Is Speeded

Big Five Winning Battle Over Veto

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER
Associated Press Diplomatic News Editor

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — Small nation opposition to a Big Five veto over future changes in a World Security Charter is cracking up, and leaders of the Big Power bloc hope to win out on this issue tonight.

It is one of three which Conference committees are struggling to wipe out this week-end, in line with a high-speed schedule which calls for President Truman to address a final session of the United Nations Conference next Saturday.

The other two controversies are:

1. Whether colonial powers, such as Britain and France, should be directed to make reports on their colonies to the proposed new trusteeship system, which Australia promises that they should. The two Big Powers object.

2. Whether the projected General Assembly of United Nations should be empowered to debate any aspect of international relations or any matters concerned with peace and security. This is an old issue, previously settled over Russian objection in favor of the right to debate any international affair. But Russia has insisted that it be reopened, demanding the peace-and-security restriction.

IN HOT DEBATE

Discussion of a Big Five veto and Latin amendments proposed to alter and soften it began late last night in a subcommittee late last night in its quarter. Senator Henri Rolin of Belgium said he proposed to open the second amendment to the Big Five veto, which would make it the duty of the Security Council to "take into account the interests of the Members of the United Nations and the peoples of non-self-governing territories."

Manuel Pinto Pedreira, Brazilian Foreign Affairs Minister, said the veto should be avoided because it would be used as an instrument against the weak and small nations.

See VETO BATTLE on Page 5

Truk Attacks Reported

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — An Allied carrier raid on by-passed Truk Island fortress went into its third day today, Tokyo Radio reported, after an hour-long bombardment by a supporting naval task force.

Japanese broadcasters "presumed" British fleet and carrier units made the attack on the island group in the center of the Carolines.

These unconfirmed broadcasts, received by the Federal Communications Commission, included the first report of a task force bombardment of Truk. It was reported raided by U. S. carrier aircraft during the days when it was one of the most formidable of Japan's island outposts. Truk now encircled by Allied held bases.

The strike began Thursday when about 60 sea-borne aircraft raided the isolated base, once Japan's greatest stronghold in the Central Pacific broadcasts said.

A task force of about two cruisers and four destroyers followed up the attack an hour later, being supported by about 30 carrier planes. Sixty seaborne aircraft are customarily operating from an attack carrier of the British Pacific Fleet, carried the attack into the third day, Tokyo said.

The Japanese Domei News Agency claimed that several raiding planes were shot down.

Kidnaped FBI Agent Shoots Abductor Dead

CHICAGO— (AP) —Police Sgt. Alfred Peltz and Russell Marvin Stamper was shot dead today by a Federal Bureau of Investigation agent whom Stamper had kidnaped while the agent was trailing an escaped Army deserter.

Sergeant Peltz identified the agent as R. Scott Reardon. He and Stamper ordered the agent into the back seat of Reardon's car in a drug store on Chicago's West Side. During the ride, Peltz said Reardon shot Stamper who died shortly afterward in hospital.

Hirohito Congratulates King Gustaf Of Sweden

NEW YORK — (AP) — The Tokyo radio said today Emperor Hirohito had sent a message of congratulations to King Gustaf V of Sweden on the occasion of the Swedish monarch's 87th birthday.

Japs Report Allied Fleet Approaching Balikpapan

Refinery Center Threatened

By JAMES HUTCHESON

BRUNEI BAY — (AP) — The African-experienced Australian "Rats of Tobruk" drove toward prized West Borneo oil fields today as an unconfirmed enemy broadcast reported an Allied fleet, led by three battleships, was approaching the oil refinery center of Balipapan.

Tokyo said a fleet of three battleships, an aircraft carrier, sixteen destroyers and "other warships" was moving in on Balikpapan, on the east coastal coast.

(The broadcast was heard in the United States by the Federal Communications Commission).

AIR RAID

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique today said only that Balipapan's defense guns and airdromes were pounded by more than 50 fighter-escorted Liberators.

(Any Allied move on Balikpapan would be a grasp for some of the biggest refineries in the East Indies.)

MacArthur said the raiders from the 13th (Jungle Fighter) Air Force "concentrated 76 tons of bombs on Balikpapan gun positions, destroyed two fuel tanks and hit nearby airdromes at Mangkar and Sepinggan."

The enemy report came less than a week after the Australian Ninth Division invaded the Brunei Bay area of Northwest Borneo under the guns of the U. S. Seventh Fleet and bombs and rockets of the 13th and Royal Australian Air Forces.

The "Rats of Tobruk," who fought the Germans in North Africa, overran three airfields—within 800 miles of Singapore—seized the capital city of the Sultanate and now are moving south toward the enemy-fired Seria and Miri oil fields.

Melbourne reports said the Aussies were pushing into the state of Sarawak, within eighteen miles of the Toutong oil refinery.

AIRFIELD OCCUPIED

MacArthur's communique today announced the occupation of the 3,600-foot Tumbalai airfield on Labuan Island and complete security of that island, commanding entrance to the fiet anchorage of Brunei Bay.

Balikpapan is 300 miles south of Tarakan Island where Australian forces opened the reinvasion of Borneo. Tarakan has been virtually conquered in a bitter campaign which opened May 1.

The Aussie victories at Brunei Bay were accomplished in six days against negligible opposition in which Digger losses were light and American naval personnel sustained no casualties.

Troopships At Staten Island

NEW YORK — (AP) — Two troopships, the S. S. Archbishop Lamy and the S. S. Santa Cecilia, docked at Staten Island today, bringing a total of 725 troops home from the European Theater for reassignment.

There were 357 soldiers on the Lamy and 368 on the Cecilia.

Philippine President Has Prepared Budget

MANILA — (AP) — President Sergio Osmena will present the Philippine Congress with a one-year budget of approximately $50,000,000 Monday, together with a message urging swift passage, according to reliable sources at the Malacanan Palace.

The finishing touches to the first post liberation budget are being applied this week-end, and the exact amount is yet unknown. But the final sum is expected to be close to the 1941-42 budget, which was $45,500,000.

New items in the current budget will include slightly more than one million as the national contribution for reestablishment of provincial and municipal governments, one million for public works, and eight and a half million for reopening of the Philippine National Bank.

New Worry For Japan

Defenses Of Kyushu Bolstered As U. S. Navy Threatens Attack

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — Alarmed by increased American naval activity around Okinawa, the Japanese are making Kyushu, southernmost of the Nipponese home islands, "one large fortress," Domei News Agency reported today.

The Domei broadcast, recorded by the Federal Communications Commission, said the number of American ships in the Ketama Islands, about 20 miles west of the southern tip of Okinawa, had increased greatly and that the United States Fleet had extended its patrol line to the vicinity of Amami I-land, 120 miles north of Okinawa.

"It is especially noteworthy that the number of fully laden cargo ships and landing craft suddenly increased lately," Domei said, and added: "These increased movements of enemy surface craft in Okinawa waters may point to an enemy scheme to launch by carriers against the Japanese homeland."

A correspondent of the Tokyo newspaper Mainichi reported by radio that two American battleships and several cruisers had laid down a "curtain" bombardment on the death-stand Japanese force on the southern Okinawa tip.

"In view of the fact that one enemy battleship by its shelling can cause as much effect as 1,000 small planes, it can be said that our men in this area are being subjected to fire fire equal to being bombed by at least 1,500 small planes," the correspondent wrote.

Forces of the British Pacific Fleet constituted Okinawa and three was defense at all points possible on Kyushu, Domei reported and quoted a dispatch from a naval correspondent of a certain air base as saying South Kyushu lies closest adjacent to the Okinawa battle area, and its defense constructions crew at amazing speed in keeping with the united fighting spirit of the people here in the last December, have forties with the aid of our new scientific findings."