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U. S. SNUBS JAP BOMBING APOLOG

Hosiery Mills Face Federal Ban On Civilian Use Of Silk

ICKES MOVES TO CURTAIL USE OF GASOLINE

Act To Shut Stations in East During Night Hours

All Would Have To Close Doors

WASHINGTON —(AP)— In a move toward compulsory restriction on the use of gasoline, Secretary of Interior Ickes today called upon the oil industry to close 100,000 service stations in the Eastern states from 7 P. M. to 7 A. M. seven days a week, effective August 3.

The closings would affect all gasoline retail stations on the Atlantic seaboard from Maine to Florida.

TALKS OF RATION CARDS

Declaring that "voluntary rationing to date has not achieved the reduction which must be accomplished if we are to avoid a more serious situation later," Ickes stated that compulsory rationing remains the ultimate weapon.

"Unless this first action achieves results, it must be followed by other steps to accomplish our aim," the Secretary, who is defense petroleum co-ordinator, said.

That recommendation for closing of service stations during night hours would be applicable "throughout the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, the Peninsula of Florida, the District of Columbia, and all marketing area in or east of the Appalachian mountains in the states of New

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Dealers Here To Co-Operate

Close Stations During Specified Period

An incomplete survey disclosed this afternoon that Charlotte operators of gasoline filling stations are disposed to co-operate with the Federal Oil Administrator's order for early closing of stations after Aug. 3 to promote conservation of limited gasoline supplies available along the Atlantic seaboard.

C. M. Byers, manager of the Charlotte branch of Standard Oil Co. of New Jersey, declared the early closing order "hardly will affect the refiners who are co-operating with the Government and are reconciled to curtailment of sales. The order is one means of impressing the public with the necessity of curtailing consumption." He said Oil Administrator Ickes now holds a cut of one-third of normal consumption is necessary.

Predict Mighty Soviet Offensive Will Start Soon

3,000,000 Troops Expected To Take Part in Drive

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Adolf Hitler's invasion armies may expect a vast counter-offensive by 3,000,000 Red Army troops within two weeks, Soviet military quarters in London predicted today, while the Germans declared that Nazi columns smashing toward Leningrad had destroyed seven Russian divisions (about 105,000 men).

London sources said Red Army ranks which underwent the first violent shock of the German blitzkrieg were now being strengthened by hundreds of thousands of reservists for the predicted counter-drive.

These sources declared that Premier Joseph Stalin would give the signal for the big push immediately he was satisfied that the German armies had spent their reserve strength in attempts to batter their way through the central front to Moscow.

BAY NAZIS HELD

Soviet dispatches asserted that the Germans were being held to a standstill and were exhausting themselves in futile assaults on Soviet defenses.

By contrast, Berlin pictured the Russians as cracking along the entire front and indicated that Nazi forces may soon have Leningrad under siege.

Russians Say Germans Wearing Selves Out

MOSCOW.—(AP) — Russian forces declared today that the Germans have been held to a standstill and are wearing themselves out in fu-

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Reds Fire Forests To Save Leningrad

Germans Report Desperate Efforts On Part of Foes Fighting fos City

BERLIN—(AP)—The Russians are losing in their frantic efforts to save Leningrad, even with such desperate measures as wills of flaming forests set against the advancing Germans, German reports declared today.

The communique from Adolf Hitler's headquarters, mentioning the Leningrad front for the first time in several days, said "units fighting in Estonia threw the opponent back to the north."

Other German reports, which a military spokesman said referred undoubtedly to the assault on Leningrad, reported seven Red Army divisions destroyed on the northwest front.

GREAT SQUEEZE

The Germans are pressing in from the south on the Soviet Union's great Gulf of Finland port and industrial center while their Finnish allies are pushing down from the north in a great squeeze which, Germans say, already has cut the city in peril.

There was speculation in Berlin as to whether Leningrad, Russia's second city, would soon be under German siege. Reticent military leaders, however, indulged in no predictions.

The reported destruction of seven Russian divisions was described as "the successful culmination of a German encirclement movement." Caught within their trap, the Germans said, were "thousands of prisoners," 50 cannon, 65 trucks, seven anti-aircraft batteries, 24 anti-tank guns and "some" tanks.

German dispatches said that

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Nazis Boost Ship Toll

Say Total of Five Convoy Craft Sunk

BERLIN. — (AP) — The German High Command reported today that U-boats pursuing "scattered remainings" of a British convoy attacked in the Atlantic had sunk five more armed merchant vessels, totaling 24,000 tons, bringing the whole toll of destruction to 24 merchant ships totaling 140,500 tons.

Germans reported Tuesday that nineteen merchant ships, a destroyer and a corvette were sunk after a running attack last for two days and two nights by submarines and their "safety craft" protection.

DNB, official German news agency, reported that another 3,000 ton merchantman was sunk by the German air force east of Lowestoft while a number of airports in southeast England were attacked with "good success."

Plants Have Supply for Few Days Operation

Durham Reports On Conference

By J. A. DALY
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The American silk hosiery manufacturing industry is faced with an apparently inevitable early complete exhaustion of raw silk supplies but "will be permitted by the Federal Government to at least start the plants next week on a full time basis," said Taylor R. Durham of Charlotte, secretary, Southern Hosiery Manufacturers Association, today.

Mr. Durham in a telephone conversation gave to THE NEWS a complete report on the deliberations yesterday and today, concerning the silk situation, including the indication that are being held with officials of the Office of Production Management.

High spots in Mr. Durham's verbal report were:

Sidney Hillman, associate director-general of OPM, warned the industry that a complete ban on civilian use of silk to conserve supplies for military use is probable.

Appeals for all possible increase in production of rayon and nylon fibers, to substitute for raw silk, are being made this afternoon at a conference of leaders of these industries and Federal officials.

A conference will be held tomorrow also at Washington to study possibilities of retraining silk mill workers, who will be laid off out of jobs by the silk industry's crisis, for work in defense industries.

U. S. NEEDS FIRST

The Federal Government told the silk industry's leaders that it will take as much of the raw silk supplies now in the United States for military purposes as may be needed." Probably very little silk will be left for civilian use.

The Federal Government declined yesterday to permit a Japanese steamer, docking at San Francisco, to discharge a cargo that included 2,569,000 yards (about 524,000 pounds) of raw silk. This increased the gloomy prospect before the silk hosiery knitting companies.

All dealers, warehouses and manufacturers having stocks of raw silk were requested by telegraph to provide the OPM at once with reports showing total holdings on hand. When this survey has been completed, the totals will be lined up with estimates of Army and Navy needs for silk that also are being obtained. Any statistical surplus of raw silk may (but not necessarily will) be made available for civilian use.

PRIORITY PLANNED

The OPM informed the hosiery industry's leaders that handling of this crisis for both the industry and the Nation's armed forces will require the issue of a priority order for the use of raw silk and also "very likely will require each

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Keyser Gives Up to SBI

Labor Man Arrested In Truck Burning

RALEIGH—(AP)—SBI Director Frederick C. Handy reported today that a man he named as S. M. Keyser had surrendered in Greensboro in connection with the burning of a truck and cargo belonging to the G. and H. Trucking Company of Statesville.

Keyser had nine other men, Handy said, are under $5,000 bail on charges growing out of the incident, which occurred June 21. The director said Keyser was the last man sought in connection with the case.

The Chimp Keeps Cool

With the temperature in the high nineties at St. Louis, Suzie, the sea chimp, gets a bit of relief today with the aid of a cake of ice, a fan and an ice cream cone.

British Air Raids From Land, Sea

Naval Planes Attack Ports in Norway and Finland

LONDON—(AP)—Powerful British air raids, flung from land and sea on Germany, her dominated lands from the French coast to far northern Norway and her sea lanes connecting them were reported officially today.

A severe raid by naval planes on the Norwegian port of Kirkenes, high above the Arctic circle, and Finland's Arctic port of Petsamo were announced by the Admiralty.

This was Britain's first blow of the war against the little Baltic state which she befriended, giving money and offering military help, in the Winter war between Russia and Finland less than two years ago.

She followed up these assaults with a new daylight smash across the English Channel today. RAF Spitfires and bombers piling up where bad weather stopped them several days ago on the German-held French coast.

The Arctic attack admittedly cost sixteen British planes but the Admiralty said at least four supply ships were hit, harbor works were pounded at Petsamo, four opposing planes were shot down and two hits scored on the 7,000-ton German warship Bremse, a pre-war gunnery training vessel, at Kirkenes.

(German reports described the attack as a British-Russian collaboration — the first such joint military action since the USSR became involved — and said 38 British planes launched from an aircraft carrier had been destroyed at a cost of only two Nazi planes. Russian losses were not mentioned.

(Disclosure that a British aircraft carrier—presumably guarded by other naval units—was operating in that area caused widespread interest, but Nazi reports failed to mention any naval as-

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Resume Navy Yard Work

Electricians Going Back to Posts

NEW YORK—(AP)—Work on a $70,000,000 expansion program at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, interrupted since Tuesday by a strike of electrical workers, will be resumed at once under an exemption announced today by union leaders.

Harry Van Arsdale, business manager of Local 3, Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL), said the strikes had been ordered back to their posts at the Navy Yard, but the stoppage on other construction projects throughout the city will continue.

CONFERENCE HELD

The action, which affects 265 union members, followed upon a conference in Washington yesterday with Sidney Hillman, co-director of the OPM. Hillman asked the union to resume work on defense projects pending an investigation of its jurisdictional dispute with an independent union of Consolidated Edison Co. employees.

Decision to accede to Hillman's request, at least as far as it affected the huge Navy Yard, was reached at a conference of union officials this morning.

Tokyo's First Answer Called Insufficient

More Complete Reply Concerning Gunboat Bombing Awaited

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Sumner Welles, Acting Secretary of State, said today Japanese apologies for the bombing of the U. S. gunboat Tutuila in China were insufficient to close the incident.

This Government, he said, awaits a more complete reply from Japan to the American representations here and in Tokyo.

Welles said that immediately upon being informed of the incident at Chungking yesterday morning, a representative of the Japanese Government called at the Embassy in Tokyo and expressed deep regrets.

This was done, he said, before Ambassador Joseph C. Grew was able to carry out instruction to make representations.

Welles disclosed that he had made identical representations here in a conference yesterday morning with the Japanese Ambassador, Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura.

DETAILS MISSING

Detailing to his press conference some further Japanese regrets in connection with the Tutuila affair, Welles said Ambassador Nomura had made a further preliminary reply after Grew had carried out his instructions.

Until a more complete reply is received, Welles said, he could make no further comment.

In reply to a question as to whether the original reply which he was considering sufficient, Welles said that was a justifiable deduction.

Still awaiting clarification on the question of whether Japan had given adequate guarantees that steps were being taken to prevent a recurrence of such incidents.

NOT "MISTAKE"

In announcing that immediate representations were made to Japan, Welles indicated the Government would not accept Japanese explanations that the bombing was an accident and indicated. He pointed out that the Tutuila, and the American Embassy at Chungking, which was largely silenced, were across the Yangtze River from the capital city proper.

The prompt action of the Japanese Government in apologizing and expressing regrets was regarded as an indication, however, that it was anxious to avoid any further tension in the already badly strained relations with this country.

In yesterday's incident during the third Japanese air raid on the Provisional Chinese capital in three days, a bomb which fell near the 570-ton Tutuila wrecked the gunboat's speedboat and badly damaged another of her small boats. None of the crew was injured.

Another bomb crashed about 400 yards south of the U. S. Embassy in Chungking. Both the embassy and the gunboat are within the so-called safety zone where Japanese authorities told Americans they

Japs Move Into Saigon

Five-Class Army Sent to Indochina

SAIGON, French Indochina, July 31.—(AP)—Japanese troops, tanks and motorized units began moving into this French Indochina city today, and Tokyo has sent a "protectorate" to Indochina.

In apparent anticipation of efficiency, the Japanese moved nearly daylight, and in some instances, the Japanese troops were greeted with "Bonjour" and "Bonsoir" in the French manner.