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THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

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NAZIS WAGE GRIM ODESSA FIGHT

Colonel Gets The Cognac From Kaid

By RUSSELL LANDSTROM
(Substituting for Hal Boyle)

WITH THE AEF IN BRITAIN—(AP)—Lt. Col. John Corley, of Brooklyn, has a fixed idea—that the American soldier, for all his lack of a traditional military spirit, is the "best in the world."

If that is true, officers such as Corley are in large measure responsible.

Veteran of North Africa and Sicily, Corley is one of those upon whose experience the high command will rely in the forthcoming invasion.

"BUCKO" HIS NAME

Just in his thirties but enormously battle-wise, he is a favorite among the enlisted men of his distinguished unit, and also among the other officers, to whom he is known as "Bucko."

At El Guettar he and his bodyguard attacked a machine-gun nest against heavy odds. For that Corley was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. That's one reason the men say "he's got it down in the belly."

But he has a rare and forthright humor, too.

While a major in Southern Tunisia he was invited to dinner by

See REPORTER'S on page 10

Yanks Raid Zagreb Area

By LYNN HEINZERLING
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples —(AP)— Heavy bombers of the U. S. Fifteenth Air Force again attacked a Balkan target yesterday, hammering this time at a German airfield in the Croatian capital of Zagreb as ground action on all Italian fronts remained at a virtual standstill.

Zagreb was vigorously defended by some 120 German planes. Sixteen were shot down in battles over northern Yugoslavia, headquarters announced, and three heavy bombers were lost.

Flying Fortresses and Liberators, escorted by Thunderbolts and Lightnings, took part in the attack. Returning crewmen reported that the fight was hot and heavy, but there was nothing here to substantiate German reports last night describing the battle as "one of the greatest strategical defeats suffered so far" by the 15th Air Force.

On the contrary, the Allied communique listed the raid as small.

While the big bombers were over Zagreb a formation of Spitfires, some carrying bombs, swooped down on the German airfield at Banja Luka, about 80 miles northeast of Sarajevo, and destroyed a large number of planes on the ground.

A naval announcement said that three enemy supply schooners were captured in the Eastern Adriatic in the past few nights during the course of constant prowlings along

See YANKS RAID on page 4

Will Call On King To Quit

SORRENTO, Italy—(AP)—A formal request for King Vittorio Emanuele to retire as soon as possible and name Crown Prince Umberto as his lieutenant was expected today following an agreement by six opposition parties to seek the King's retirement as a preliminary to the formation of a war cabinet.

The action constituted virtual agreement to participate in a coalition Government with the Badoglio regime if the King retires.

Enrico de Nicola, former president of the chamber of deputies who had obtained the King's agreement to such a move when Rome is liberated, was expected to inform the monarch of the parties' desire that his action be hastened, political leaders said.

General Bradley Expects Invasion Losses To Be Low

Ground Force Commander In Britain Scoffs At Talk Of Great Casualties

By JAMES F. KING

WITH AN AMERICAN INFANTRY DIVISION, SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND, April 7—(AP)—Lt.-Gen. Omar N. Bradley told American officers preparing for the invasion of Europe today that "this stuff about tremendous losses is tommyrot."

"The success of the whole war depends on this operation and I have no fear of its outcome," the commander of American ground forces in the United Kingdom assured officers who will lead the doughboys into action.

"When the time comes you will be surprised by the naval gunfire and air power we have.

"Some of you won't come back, but it will be very few.

"In the Tunisian campaign we lost only an average of three or four men to 1,000 and certainly seeing a show like this ought to be worth that chance.

"They say Barnum and Bailey had the greatest show on earth, but that will be only a sideshow compared to the one you will be in. When your men get up to fight you will be scared, but it will be up to you to get up and lead your men in attack.

"Put your men in the right frame of mind. You can't surrender in warfare. Fight it out to the last ammunition. The enemy might be as bad off as you are. It is much better to do that than to be made prisoner.

"I have heard rumors that 50 percent of us wouldn't come back," he continued.

"That is tommyrot. I think you are lucky to have this opportunity and I am happy to be with you. We have the best soldiers and best equipment and more of it than the Germans ever dreamed of. After a few days of it you won't have anything to worry about."

He urged them not to "underdrain your men too quickly if they show fear in the early stages" but to "exert your leadership and lead them forward."

'Hold-Line' Order Seen As Effective

Wage And Price Controls Backed

By DOUGLAS B. CORNELL

WASHINGTON —(AP)— President Roosevelt made public today — with an indirect endorsement—a report from his top economic advisers which declared present wage and price control policies must be continued.

Coming at a time when organized labor is pressing for relaxation of wage controls, the report said the stabilization program has worked so well that "the cost of living as a whole" is actually lower today than it was a year ago and that wages have been stabilized."

"We must not jeopardize these gains by any change of policy or relaxation of effort in the critical months ahead," it said.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The report, taking note of the fact that tomorrow marks the first anniversary of his "hold-the-line" order on the cost of living, was submitted by Fred M. Vinson, economic stabilization director; Chester Bowles, price administrator; Marvin Jones, War Food administrator, and William H. Davis, National War Labor Board chairman.

Mr. Roosevelt described it as important because it showed how the Government was trying to keep prices from going up through the roof and ultimately bankrupting everybody in the country.

"On this first anniversary of the issuance of the 'hold-the-line' order," the document said, "we can report that the task of stopping the rise in prices has thus far been carried out. . . . As a result the cost of living, which before the 'hold-the-line' order was rising three-quarters per cent a month, has for a solid year been held without change of any consequence."

The quartet of government officials declared that "stabilization has brought tangible—indeed bankable—benefits to all groups." They declared stabilization had paid off to every hand in lasting rather than illusory benefits, and had been of benefit particularly to some 20,000,000 persons whose income cannot be boosted to keep place with rising prices.

STILL NEEDED

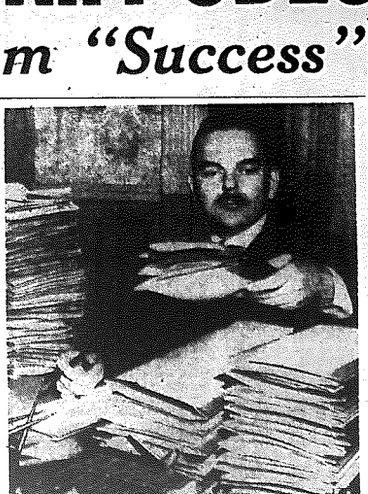
"The need for continued restraint and continued cooperation with every phase of the stabilization program is evident," the report concluded.

"Obviously, too, we should cling to the policies and machinery which have served us so effectively so far."

Asked at a press-radio conference whether the stabilization report could be interpreted "as an answer to demands to shatter the Little Steel Formula," Mr. Roosevelt replied that it wasn't an answer to anything but a statement of fact.

The report concedes there had been price increases in some lines — clothing, for example. But it said these had been offset fully by reductions in prices of other items, notably foods. The record of a year of stable living costs, it said, is

See STABILIZATION on page 4



DEWEY SILENT ON WILKIE'S WITHDRAWAL—Gov. Thomas E. Dewey (above), piles into a stacked desk at his Albany, N. Y., office silent on the withdrawal announcement from the GOP Presidential nominee race of Wendell Willkie. The attention of the nation was thus focused on Dewey, the generally recognized, thought professedly unaspiring, leading possibility among Republican Presidential prospects. (AP Wirephoto)

Huge Draft Calls To Be Continued

By MAX HALL

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Draft Director Lewis B. Hershey declares that only with the backing of military strength will the voice of the United States be heard at the peace table.

Coincident with the announcement that the Army today is set its planned maximum strength of 7,700,000, Gen. Hershey indicated that huge monthly quotas of men will be poured into the draft mill almost indefinitely and that demobilization must be slow.

MAY LAST AFTER WAR

He said that 150,000 men a month—"a very conservative estimate"—would be required merely to maintain the Army and Navy at full strength in war time and he hinted that many inductions might be required even after the war is won.

If his estimates are right, Hershey said in a speech reviewed and approved by the State Department, we must be prepared to produce at least 150,000 men a month "until such time as the international picture indicates that this nation can support its vital national interests with a smaller number."

"To maintain the results for which we have fought," he said, "depends to a very large degree upon the evidences we possess that we are prepared to back with force our recommendations. Many of us, probably most of us regret that force is the ultimate court of appeal. Certainly America, with its possessions unusual in this world, cannot afford to shut her eyes to the fact that this world leaves to a nation only those things for which it is not only willing to fight, but for which it is constantly prepared to fight.

"Our voice in the establishment of peace will be heard only as it is backed by military strength.

MUST NOT LONE PEACE

"Then we have a principle recognized in demobilization—the principle that our reduction in forces will be made as it can be without losing a peace after winning a war.

"Adherence to this principle will mean that we evolve a permanent system for our armed forces that will provide at all times adequate military strength sufficient to insure the maintenance of our national interests."

Army and Navy announcements issued last night through the Office of War Information (OWI) indicated that around 200,000 a month—roughly the rate of the last few months—would have to be taken between now and July 1.

Even then, no tremendous slackening in the induction pace could be foreseen. Accurate estimates of how many men will fall in invasion operations were impossible. But Gen. Hershey said he believed 150,000 men a month would be required to fill gaps resulting not only from battle but from "normal" discharges due to accidents, disease and disabilities.

The Army, in its announcement, cautioned draft boards not to relax their efforts to deliver the maximum possible number of young men and said "this will require continuous pressure on industry and agriculture to eliminate all but the vitally essential deferments between the ages of 18 and 26."

"As future calls on Selective Service will be for replacements

See DRAFT CALLS on page 6

U. S. Bombers Aid Reds In Balkans

By WES GALLAGHER

LONDON—(AP)—Military co-operation between the Western Allies and Russia, which often has left much to be desired in this war, has taken a sudden turn for the better with American bombers co-ordinating closely with Red Army ground forces in the conquest of the Balkans.

Allied raids on Rumania and Bulgaria and Nazi bases in Greece carried out with the knowledge and consent of the Red Army, the best informed military centers in London said. The attacks, frequently on a rough co-ordinated basis, are being developed by the use of liaison groups into close and specific teamwork, these informants said.

The last assaults have been carried out on what was described as a "broad strategic basis" and the Russian and Allied liaison now is in the "transition stages," working toward operations conducted much the same way as the American and British forces work in direct liaison.

TEAMWORK NECESSARY

The hard necessities of war are bringing about this teamwork where continuous diplomatic and military missions attempts have failed.

Now as the Russians drive into the Balkans it is imperative that the Allied air effort be co-ordinated with the Red Army advances to avoid conflict in bombing targets—as well as the possibility of bombing advance units of Soviet troops.

If Russian and the American planes should elect to bomb the same target at the same time without liaison the result would be an air melee with a good chance the two forces would mistake each other for the enemy and engage in battle.

The Russians have had military missions in London and in the Mediterranean for some time.

It has not been made known whether American air liaison officers would be allowed to accompany the Red Armies in future

See U. S. ATTACKS on page 4

Hollandia Hit Again

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC—(AP)—A 250-plane raid against Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea testified today to the steady westward movement of the war against Japan.

Hollandia caught 320 tons of bombs and 250,000 rounds of ammunition from this formidable—especially for the Pacific theater—force of war planes. The attack, which occurred Wednesday, followed up a great smash at the enemy base on the New Guinea coast Sunday, when 400 tons were dropped. That assault wiped out the remnants of a 208-plane fleet gathered by the Japanese at this staging base.

Concentration of Allied air power against Hollandia seemed to indicate that previous blows against Rabaul on New Britain and Wewak on New Guinea, both east of Hollandia, had gone far toward rendering them ineffective as enemy bases.

Not one enemy plane rose to fight the Allied planes in the Wednesday attack and all the four-engined Liberators, medium Mitchells and Boston bombers, and their fighting escorts got back to base. Anti-aircraft fire was moderate at the start but tapered off quickly.

GREAT FIRES SET

The attackers set great fires in fuel and supply dumps. They hit a ship in harbor and set it ablaze.

Thunderbolts and Lightnings, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique today added, meanwhile strafed islands and shipping down the New Guinea coast to Aitape and Wewak.

The wide-ranging Southwest Pacific fighters started fires at Dili and Koepang on Timor in the Dutch East Indies; strafed coastal villages on Waterfall and Wide Bays, New Britain, bombed the Buka airdrome and seaplane base on Bougainville in the American-dominated Solomons, and attacked installations on the Hansa-Madang coast on New Guinea.

British Easter Market Meagre

LONDON—(AP)—A bright bonnet with blue ribbons on it still is a post-war dream for women in Britain's Easter parade, but offerings in big department stores today mostly were limited to models of felt cloth in standardized wine, black, navy and brown.

Some smart shops, however, clever at making something out of nothing, had a few bright numbers—at $60 and upwards. Even the standard models came at three times their pre-war price.

Mustang Pilot Claims Record Of 27 Planes

A U. S. FIGHTER BASE IN ENGLAND —(AP)— Capt. Don S. Gentile, 23-year-old Mustang pilot from Piqua, Ohio, today claimed 27 enemy planes downed in combat—one more than the American record established by Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker in the First World War and equalled by two Marine fliers in this war.

Gentile is the first American pilot in this theater to equal the record, and perhaps the first in any theater of war to exceed it. Only available records here show Marine Majors Joe Foss of Sioux Falls, S. D., and Gregory (Pappy) Boyington of Okanogan, Wash., equalled Rickenbacker's record of 26 in the Pacific. Boyington is now missing.

Jap Puppet Is Killed

NEW YORK —(AP)— The Japanese Domei agency reported today that Chen Yao-Tsu, puppet Governor of Kwangtung Province in China, had died Wednesday of a bullet wound inflicted by "Chungking terrorists", as he passing through Canton. He was 51.

RAF Lashes At Hamburg

LONDON —(AP)— Striking anew at targets previously flattened by British heavy bombers, RAF Mosquitos attacked oft-battered Hamburg and other objectives in the Ruhr and Rhineland last night in the resumption of a campaign designed to thwart German efforts to reconstruct much-needed war industries.

The stab into the heavily-defended industrial area of the Reich by the all-wood bombers, now capable of carrying 4,000 pounds of explosives, was made at the cost of one plane, the Air Ministry said.

Apparently it was the only blow aimed last night at the continent from the west, but shortly before noon today the German radio warned that "single enemy planes" were over northern Germany, indicating the Allied offensive was being continued by daylight.

It was the speedy Mosquitos' third foray over Germany this month and their 26th night assault on the Reich since the first of March.

The overnight activity followed a heavy daylight attack by American Liberators on the Pas-de-Calais area on the French invasion coast during which 600 tons of explosives were unloaded on German military installations.

The Liberator raid—the second on the Pas-de-Calais area in two days—was carried out without the loss of a single plane. Returning crewmen said they did not sight any German fighters and that antiaircraft fire was negligible.

Thunderbolt fighter-bombers of the 8 Ninth Air Force also bombed and strafed targets in northern France without loss yesterday.

Worst Strikes Since 1926 Threaten Britain

By JAMES M. LONG

LONDON —(AP)— The whole economic labor situation which Britain held in check through the urgency of national need and the machinery of arbitration is erupting in this fifth year of the war with every indication that 1944 will be the worst strike year since the paralyzing 1926 general walkout.

The number of work days lost through strikes has increased sharply and steadily since 1940. Last year was the second worst year for strikes in Britain's history. With more than 1,000,000 work days lost walkouts during March, 1944 alone cost more production than the whole year of 1941.

The 200 strikes of September, 1943 up to then the worst month of the war—involved only 90,000 men. More than that were idle in a single strike this March and in another this month.

The walkouts have had this in common: (1) Most of them have been unauthorized and have in fact been opposed by the union leadership; and (2) the coal fields—chief trouble spot of the past two decades — have been the scene of at least half the strikes.

This there has developed under the wartime essential works order

See BRITAIN HIT on page 4

Special Troops Rushed Up To Oppose Soviets

Strike Out In Strong Counter-Attacks Against Threatening Russians

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW—(AP)—The Germans have rushed special units into line with orders to defend Odessa at "any cost" and are battling on the close approaches to that Black Sea port from favorable positions behind the many lagoons and lakes protecting the stronghold, Red Star dispatches reported today.

While the Germans struck out in strong counter-attacks from the almost beleaguered base, Russian Stormovik planes and bombers pounded at the city's defenses and escape lines of communications.

Three hundred miles to the northwest the Russians engaged in stiff battles against large groups of enemy tanks, infantry and self-propelled guns sent to rescue another besieged German garrison at Tarnopol.

STREET FIGHTING

The attack was launched from German-held territory southwest of Tarnopol, the Russian bulletin said, and came after Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov's First Ukrainian Army had captured more than half of the area within the city. Street fighting has been reported going on since Monday.

Attempts to lift the siege yesterday were repulsed with heavy losses, the communique announced, but added that fierce fighting is continuing.

The Germans, it appeared, were attempting to rescue both the Tarnopol garrison and the remnants of fifteen divisions encircled in the Skala sector northeast of Czernowitz and have thrown formidable forces into the drive to crack the Red Army cordons.

Zhukov's troops, however, were reported to have established a ring of encirclement near Skala by capturing important defense strongpoints, including the fortified town of Skala Rail.

The Russian communique announced the capture of huge stocks of war booty in the Skala fighting, including six tanks, 200 vehicles, 29 transport planes and four fighters. The transport planes apparently had been held in readiness to fly high military personnel from the encircled area after delivering supplies to the trapped forces.

Gen. Rodion Y. Malinovsky's Third Ukrainian Army struck toward Odessa in a 15-mile drive from captured Razdelnaya, which brought it to a point 23 miles northwest of the Black Sea port, posing a new threat to that Nazi-held bastion.

Malinovsky's drive, a brilliant flanking movement that apparently caught the enemy by surprise, drew closer the Red Army ring being forged around the beleaguered port, already threatened from the north and northeast.

Inside the rapidly constricting area, harassed Germans and Rumanian troops were being herded closer to the shores of the Black Sea and their last remaining escape corridor across the Dniester Estuary, 20 miles southwest of Odessa.

The drive from Razdelnaya, important rail junction 38 miles above Odessa, which fell to the Russians Wednesday, smashed a fierce Axis counter-attack aimed at recapturing that control point for traffic westward into Bessarabia, a Soviet war bulletin said. Malinovsky's veterans then pushed down the railway to storm Karpova, 23 miles northwest of Odessa, and fanned out to take Crosulova, 18 miles northwest of Razdelnaya.

From the north another Soviet column surged down the banks of the rain-swollen Kogalnik river for 13 miles to capture Maryanovka, 21 miles from Odessa, while from the northeast a third force swept along the shores of the Black Sea to storm the town of Sverdlevo, 14 miles from the heart of the metropolis, according to the communique.

For the fourth straight day, the Moscow communique made no mention of the progress of Marshal Ivan S. Konev's Second Ukrainian army, last reported across the Prut River nine miles above the Rumanian city of Iasi.

Reds Raid Finnish Port

LONDON —(AP)— Thirty Russian bombers with fighter escort attacked the Finnish port of Kotka, east of Helsinki, today and caused damage and casualties, the German radio said, quoting a Finnish communique.

Japs Deeper Into India

NEW DELHI—(AP)—Japanese jungle detachments striking deep into Allied defenses guarding the Bengal-Assam railway have reached positions some 40 miles from that lifeline supporting Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's North Burma offensive and the air-borne supply route for China, it was disclosed today.

It was officially announced that enemy road block parties which had cut the communications on Imphal by establishing strongpoints along fifteen miles of the road north to Kohima had infiltrated into the area west of the highway where they were being engaged by British troops.

IMPHAL CUT OFF

Imphal itself has been cut off since last Sunday when it became known that Japanese parties were on the 60-mile Imphal—Kohima road, the main line of communications for the garrison of the Manipur state capital.

Today's communique said the Japanese were continuing to make small, isolated attacks in the Imphal area itself, but all these were repulsed, while aggressive British patrols hampered the enemy by striking across his line of communications west of the Chindwin River.

A broadcast from Tokyo declared Japanese forces were only six miles east of Imphal where they were launching furious attacks on Allied positions.)

Stettinius Is Now In London

LONDON — (AP) — Edward R. Stettinius Jr., U. S. Undersecretary of State, arrived today for a series of important foreign policy conferences with British officials—meetings which may prepare the way for another Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin roundtable.

Stettinius' arrival came at a time of mounting criticism and uncertainty in Commons and Congress over British-American foreign policy and the degree of cooperation between London and Washington and with Moscow.

His talks with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Foreign Office experts are expected to cover a wide range, including the prospects of Finnish peace negotiations with Spain, and Allied efforts to wrest the Balkan satellites from Hitler's grasp.

Find Jap Graves On Bougainville

AN ADVANCED SOUTH PACIFIC BASE—(AP)— Army patrols fanning out from their Empress Augusta Bay perimeter on Bougainville have found 300 hitherto unmounted Japanese graves.

Estimates of Japanese dead in their assaults on well-defended American positions have run into the thousands.

Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon's headquarters reported that patrols were having difficulty keeping up with the rapidity of the Japanese withdrawal.

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.

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 Barber 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.

SAVE AMERICAN LIVES

WASTE PAPER

WEATHER

Forecast: Increasing cloudiness and warmer tonight, with showers tonight and early tomorrow; cloudy and mild tomorrow.

Today's Temperatures: 2:30 P. M. 66
Sunset Today 6:46
Sunrise Tomorrow 5:46