THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

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YANKS RAID 5 ROMANIAN CITES

AMERICAN BOMBS LASH CALAIS AREA

A Crash-Boat Is Painful But Good

By SID FEDER
(Substituting for Hal Boyle)

ANZIO, May 1—(Delayed)—(AP)—If you're around the Mediterranean battle zones sometime and happen to spot a handy little gadget that looks like a surf-board with St. Vitus Dance and behaves, like a bucking bronco in a rodeo, don't be surprised. It's only a crash-boat.

The fellow who named this seagoing instrument of torture ought to get a medal for the war's best job of calling them right. It knows all the old days of whacking the waves and has invented a whole set of new ones to drive your backbone up around your neck.

This 63-foot craft is a Coney Island roller-coaster with salt water flavor. And if you want to prove it, inspect the collection of black and blue bumps decorated a traveller who has ridden one for the 90 miles between Naples and the Anzio beachhead.

USEFUL CRAFT

In spite of all their tricks they're as useful a tool as Uncle Sam has roaming around the Mediterranean. They were built originally to handle rescue work for aviators coming down at sea. But since then they've covered an assortment of jobs all the way from capturing an island to running a bus service.

Lt. Herbert Grant Prizer, who hails from Evanston, Ill., and did his footballing at Brown, runs one that had its pint-sized bridge house blown away once by an artillery shell. This happened when it and a few more crash boats were participating in an attack on an island that enabled a force of 50 Americans to capture a garrison four times that large.

Another time a piece of shrapnel went clear through the gun turret, which is about as big as a stall shower in the modern bathroom. As a souvenir, the shrapnel—about the size of a pie plate, is kept aboard by the crew. Warren (Brownie) Brown of Lemon Cove, Calif., Vic Grossi and Lou Janes of Long Island, Leo Pecjan of Lafayette, Ind., Bill DeYoung of Patterson, N. J., Jake Fenz of Hammond, Ind., the usual Brooklyn delegate, Whitey Noguis, and a sea going soldier, Cpl. Matt (Sheets) Maslak of Albany, assisted bellyman from Stan Janes-ton, Pa.

Incidentally Janes, after being swept from here and about a year, was sitting on the dock in Naples the other day and who should show up but his father. It seems Pop is an engineer on a Liberty Ship now.

If you're spending the night on a crash boat and there's an air raid don't worry about a thing. The roof of the cabin is of sturdy plywood—and the bunks are mattresses laid over large gas tanks. What can you lose?

Draft Calls Decreasing

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, director of Selective Service, was responsible today for achieving plenty of pre-induction headaches, he indicated, but "there are enough volunteers and men under 26 to fill draft quotas," he said.

Gen. Hershey, in an interview at Richmond, Va., recorded that draft calls had been increasing during the last few months, intimating that the Army is coming to pay more attention.

He added, too, that while Selective Service had been doing its calls on the theory that the supplies of men would be exhausted by fourteen months, the Army's needs assessed had dropped. In other words, Selective Service quotas, spurred by the Army's manpower needs, may be extended further than fourteen months, he explained, to the point where the Army's needs are met by induction of men from elders behind the combat front. Hommel declared.

The Hershey said he advised selective service boards that commanders after completing the induction of men over a ton of Mediterranean coast defenses and quoted him as saying:

"My inspection of the interior of the country has shown the existence of an interesting system of tactical measures which can be described as a complete novelty."

Rommel, whose forces were driven from Africa by the triumphant Eighth Army troops of Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, made no reference to that experience.

Before the attack on El Alamein, Rommel said, Montgomery asked his men to kill German-

Return This Newspaper For Front-Line Service

The paper on which this newspaper is printed today is invaluable both its weight is added to the war effort.

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 nearly all you pay for the 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.

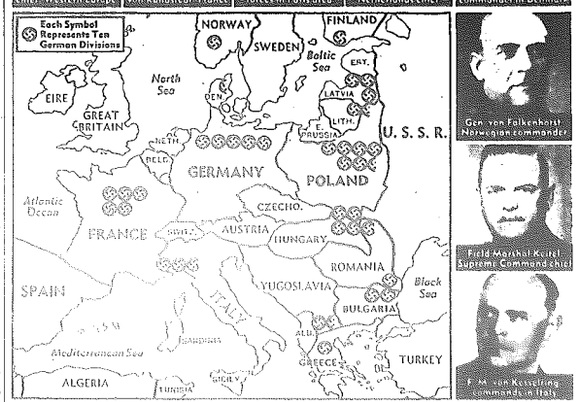
Starting today, therefore, will readers of The News agree that this newspaper is simply loaned to them? It is a precious war commodity to be saved and turned back to be sent to the front.

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 bonded 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.

GERMAN TEAM THAT FACES ALLIES



Surrounding above map, which shows approximate disposition of German forces in Europe, are pictures of the generals who command them and form the backbone of Hitler's defense against the Allied invasion.

Only Small Force Used In Assault

Offensive In 22nd Day

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR

LONDON—(AP)—American Liberators dumped bomb loads into German installations in the Pas-de-Calais area of France today as the Allies' pre-invasion air offensive continued for the 22nd day, despite miserable flying weather over the English Channel.

It was the twelfth consecutive day of heavy bomber operations from British bases, but once more it was only a small force, probably less than 150 bombers with an equal number of escorting Lightnings, Thunderbolts and Mustangs which hopped the Channel to hand Hitler's Atlantic Wall emplacements their sixth blow by heavy bombers in seven days.

The daylight blow followed a night in which British planes laid mines in enemy waters without loss and Canadian-manned Mosquito bombers on an offensive patrol over northern France attacked and severely damaged several parked enemy aircraft.

From the south, the Mediterranean Allied Air Force capped its dramatic three-way daylight smash Friday at Ploesti and Turnu-Severin in Romania and the Pescara dam in Italy by night blows on the Romanian oil city of Campina and targets in northern Italy.

The British-based U. S. Liberators did all their bombing in the Pas-de-Calais through an overcast so thick the German ground gunners did not even bother to shoot at some of the attackers. No enemy fighters were encountered.

Returning crewmen said they bombed pin point targets along the French coast, going over in relays with each group bashing a separate objective.

Liberators can carry 8,000 pounds each, and the crewmen said they dumped the heaviest type of bombs on this trip. That perhaps close to 1,000 tons were hurled on the German installations by this streamlined force.

NAZI RAID

The jittery Nazis sent the German Air Force on a reconnaissance expedition over northeastern Scotland last night. The German planes set off a barrage from ground guns, but no bombs were reported to have been dropped.

Allied aerial operations from British bases were curtailed yesterday morning by a 60-mile-an-hour gale which swept the Dover Straits. The wind sent great waves crashing over the "invasion beaches", piers and harbors.

On clearer days it has become able to strike against the bitter wind and driving rain. The temperature also dropped.

GUERRILLA—No character in a Gilbert-and-Sullivan operetta is the fighter pictured above, but one of the leaders of Gen. Mikhailovitch's Yugoslav guerrillas, who are battling German invaders of their country. He is Capt. Dusko Sokolitch, staff chief in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Non-Stop Air Drive Roaring On In Balkans

Rail Yards and Aircraft Plant Blasted As Raiders Break Through Screen

By EDWARD KENNEDY

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES — (AP) — American Liberators and Flying Fortresses perhaps 500 to 750 strong hurled explosives into five Romanian cities today, slamming rail targets and an aircraft factory in a non-stop assault on the Balkans.

The big bombers and their fighter escorts struck through an 8-screen of German interceptors, hammering rail yards and an aircraft plant at Brasov, 75 miles north of Bucharest; Campina, site of oil storage and railway yards ten miles northwest of Ploesti, oft-assaulted Turnu-Severin, rail bottle-neck on the Romanian side of the Iron Gate; and Pitesti and Craiova; rail cities on the Bucharest-Budapest line about 70 miles northwest and 120 miles west, respectively, of the Romanian capital. It was the first attack of the war on Pitesti and Craiova.

Immediate reports on damage and Allied losses were unavailable. Some enemy aircraft were shot down.

The heavy daylight blows quickly followed up heavy overnight RAF assaults on Romania and Friday's daylight attacks on Balkans targets and the spectacular breaching of the Pescara Dam in Italy.

The all center of Campina was hit last night by British Halifaxes and Wellingtons for the first time of the war; Turnu-Severin was still reeling from yesterday's assault in which the daylight raiders also hammered Ploesti. Official photographs of the latter attack showed bombs had wrecked workshops, warehouses and were well concentrated on the rail yards which serve as a particularly important transshipment center for Danube River traffic.

Today's newest blows on the Balkan communication system came as German forces dug in opposite the British Eighth Army on the Adriatic sector of the Italian front were believed to be suffering extreme communications hardships as the result of the destruction of the Pescara River Dam by RAF dive-bombing Kittyhawks and Mustangs.

Reconnaissance photographs made this afternoon showed that all waters in the river formerly impounded by the dam were gone, but the official Mediterranean Air Force report said it had been impossible so far "to assess the full damage which will be done to German communications." The flood resulting from the dam break apparently inundated a considerable area.

The stroke against the dam ranked with the RAF's successful attack last year on the Mohne dam in Germany. The iron sluice gates were ripped apart by underwater explosions from bombs planted on the upper side of the structure.

FIRST STRIKE

Sgt. Alexander Duguid of Scotland apparently dropped the first bomb to breach the dam. Ken Richards, an Australian pilot, saw his explosives make another break in the iron walls.

As the last Allied flier left the scene a wall of water followed by five even higher waves already was a mile downstream. The water began flooding over German-occupied Italian cities and the German defenses erected opposite the British Eighth Army lines in the Ortona sector, ten miles below the port of Pescara.

An indication of what could be expected from the blasting of the dam was seen in the disastrous experience of the Italians in 1936 when they attempted to release water through the dam and inundated the town of Pescara to an average depth of three feet. It took a week then for the water to subside.

India Offensive Opened By British

SOUTHEAST ASIA HEADQUARTERS, KANDY, Ceylon—(AP)—British and Indian forces striking in a general offensive in the Kohima area of eastern India have cleared the Japanese from a number of important positions and are continuing to advance, headquarters announced today.

A communique said that Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell's Chinese troops were forging ahead south of Inkangkhawng, highly-contested Japanese defenses near the Lakkaw River in the Mesaung Valley.

A Reuters correspondent cables that the Kohima battle "may prove the biggest so far on this front. It may decide the fate of the present Japanese offensive in Assam."

The communique said U. S. planes destroyed, three and damaged two Japanese planes while on the ground at Imphal airfield, and that four more were destroyed and twelve damaged in an unsuccessful Japanese raid on an Allied landing strip in central Burma.

Rommel Warns Invasion Close

LONDON—(AP)—Field Marshal Erwin Rommel added his voice today to the invasion guessing din, declaring the attack "must be reckoned as imminent" and asserting that the German soldier, "armed with new weapons, is ready for the utmost."

The Nazi he declared in a Germ- wherever they meet them. On- man broadcast monitored by the account of this order wounded Ministry of Information, will come and captured German soldiers were to against many great surprises. murdered at El Alamein.

This is particularly true of "We German officers do not give those enemy formations which orders to our men which are in have contact to military honor."

AIR INVASION

Capt. H. H. Balfour, Undersecretary for Air, declared that for all practical purposes some 2,000 Allied airmen already have opened the main battle of the invasion.

He asserted that the destruction executed during April "throughout the length and breadth of occupied Europe by these airmen would make the invasion path from the coast to Berlin quite direct."

Looking to the peace beyond the invasion, the London Daily Herald said today that the United Nations Advisory Commission now had "practically completed" a detailed document setting out armistice terms to be presented to Germany.

The commission authorized by the Moscow conference, has been meeting behind closed doors since Dec. 15. Although it is understood to be chiefly concerned with plans for dealing with Germany after the war it is empowered to make recommendations on any matters concerning the conflict.

Reports received here through Stockholm, possibly German-inspired, said the Nazis had sent 70,000 reinforcements into restive Denmark and 30,000 into Norway as anti-invasion moves.

Earth Shocks Recorded

NEW YORK — (AP) — Two mild earthquake shocks probably occurring in the Caribbean or Mexico were recorded here today by the Fordham University seismograph.

The Rev. Joseph J. Lynch, Fordham seismologist, said the shocks were registered at 8:20:02 P. M. Eastern War Time, and 8:25:11 P. M. They occurred he said approximately 2,100 miles south or southwest of New York City.

Ward Order Extended

CHICAGO—(AP) — Federal Judge William H. Holly today extended his order restraining officials of Montgomery Ward and company from interfering with Government control of the huge mail order firm's Chicago plants.

The Judge said he would rule at 10 A. M. Wednesday on the company's motion to dissolve the restrainer and the Government's plea to have it replaced by a temporary injunction.

The time for Judge Holly's decision is a day after a NLRB election, set for Tuesday, to determine whether the CIO United Mail Order Warehouse and Retail Employees Union still represents a majority of nearly 6,000 eligible employees.

OPPOSES ACTION

George B. Christensen, Ward attorney, said he had opposed Judge Holly's action and had protested the Court to decide the injunction phase of the case before the election.

There is a question whether the election would be held while the employees are employees of the U. S. Government, as they are under the sweeping terms of President Roosevelt's order for seizure of the properties because the National Labor Relations Act specifically excludes U. S. employees from its operations, Christensen told reporters.

Christensen, Harold Smith and Charles Culbertson, Ward counsel, and U. S. Attorney J. Albert Woll conferred with the judge in chambers yesterday and today on the intervention matters.

Christensen said he reminded the judge of the Court's original announcement that the injunction decision would be given Monday, and that thereafter the NLRB election was set for Tuesday.

The lawyer said Judge Holly replied that validity of the election was not up to him but up to the NLRB and that he, the Court, would extend the restrainer because he had not had opportunity completely to go into the case.

A short time later George B. Hoot, regional director of the NLRB said the election would proceed Tuesday as scheduled and it would be up to the NLRB in Washington to decide any legal technicalities that might be raised.

Parents Of Big Family Resume Landlord Hunt

RAHWAY, N. J. — (AP) — After restless night in which they said none of their 12 children slept on mattresses, bureau drawers or the floor, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Compton broke completely with each for a landlord who objected to children as tenants.

The Comptons and eleven of their children, ranging in age from early infancy to 17 years, were to move at the Salvation Army's emergency home in Newark, the twelfth child, a son, 22, is in the Navy. He left with former neighbors while the rest of the family except for an older son who is overseas, was packed and loaded on both the parents' backs.

On Thursday Compton a rubber worker at 928 St. George Ave., tried to find his furniture on the street walk. He had been evicted from the former one-room store which they had partitioned with curtains. Compton searched for a new home but could find no landlord willing to rent to a large family. For the same reason, he said he had been refused to live in the store.

Aiding Compton were church and welfare organizations which sought unsuccessfully to find another home for the family.

William Whaley, tavernkeeper and the Compton's former landlord, said he had evicted them only as a last resort. After having served the family several legal notices to vacate so he could erect a new building on the site.

Reds Massed In Poland

LONDON — (AP) — German reports relayed through Stockholm said today that the Russians had massed men and equipment "on an enormous" scale in old Poland for a new drive on the path to Berlin.

The reports said the Red Army was concentrated in great strength in the vicinity of Kowel, 170 miles southeast of Warsaw, and also was gathering near Kolomyja, 30 miles southeast of Stanislawow near the old Czech border.

A Russian Tass agency military commentator said, meanwhile, that the sectional struggles which have been going on near Stanislawow since mid-April were significant because of strategic railways in that part of former Poland. A Soviet communique said 300 Germans were slain in a two-hour battle in that area yesterday.

140,000 Trapped Japs Faced By Grim Choice

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Southwest Pacific — (AP) — [illegible] on Japanese-held islands [illegible] Japanese troops [illegible] Allied forces [illegible] Japanese [illegible] Allied [illegible] Japanese [illegible] Allied [illegible] Japanese [illegible] Allied