

Nazis Smash Through Crimea Peninsula

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has begun," it added. Aside from the Sevastopol base, the Crimea is strategically important for two other reasons: 1. Its eastern extremity guards the narrow strait into the sea of Azov.

2. Troops crossing the strait would have a short-cut route into the Caucasus.

Although Sevastopol is Russia's main naval base on the Black sea, authoritative London quarters said its capture would not be disastrous to the soviet fleet. Base facilities could be transferred across the sea to Batumi or Novorossiisk, on the Caucasian mainland.

Moscow Thrust Weaker. On the bloody front before Moscow, the Russians acknowledged the development of a menacing new thrust by the Germans to the vicinity of Volokolamsk, 72 miles northwest of the soviet capital, about midway between Mzhalsk and Kallinin.

Soviet front-line reports, however, declared that the Germans had lost 60 per cent of their effectiveness in the past few days of savage fighting around Moscow and that it had become apparent the invaders would not take the city.

A red army bulletin said General Zhukhov's defense forces, under no-retreat orders, had recaptured four villages northwest of Moscow.

Throughout the night, the soviet communiqué said, fighting raged in the familiar regions of Mzhalsk, 57 miles west of Moscow, Maloyaroslavets, 65 miles southwest, and the new sector of Volokolamsk.

Bad weather conditions continued to hamper the movement of troops and vehicles struggling over mud-bogged roads and fields.

German military reports conceded that the Russians were launching strong counter-attacks, especially in the Kallinin sector, but withheld details.

Hitler's Schedule Upset

The Russia newspaper Pravda acknowledged "great danger" at Moscow, the Donets basin, the Crimea and Rostov, but declared that Adolf Hitler's prediction of victory before winter had collapsed.

Pravda said the naz high command had thrown almost the entire German land army, artillery and tanks, and nine-tenths of the air force into the Russian campaign.

"The enemy has not yet been halted. He is still pressing on despite heroic resistance and counter-attacks by the Red army, which is strewing the route of advance of the naz troops with heaps of German corpses.

"Nevertheless, it is perfectly clear that no temporary successes can bring Germany her desired victory and peace."

Travelers arriving outside the U. S. S. R. from Kulybyshev, auxiliary soviet capital, said the first 15 days of November would probably be the most crucial period in Russia's struggle.

Aerial activity surged to peak violence over the snow-covered battlefield, with naz bombers heavily attacking industries and supply lines in Moscow itself while soviet warplanes struck back at German troops in the field.

A Russian communiqué said a single Red air unit in three days had destroyed 27 naz tanks, 135 ammunition trucks and a large ammunition dump.

"Nearly one and a half battalions of enemy infantry were annihilated by bombs and machine-gun fire," the communiqué said.

Nazis Start Digging In

Russian dispatches said that Germans were digging trenches and tank traps, essentially defensive works, in some areas before Moscow in an effort to consolidate earlier gains against soviet counter-attacks.

This followed reports that trench warfare had developed in the siege of Leningrad.

Germans declared today that that northern city was being subjected to an ever-increasing bombardment by German artillery and planes, with aerial raiders dropping half-ton and one-ton

missiles on fortifications and war industries.

Artillery was the weapon of which Moscovites boasted. The hammering of Red army batteries before the capital, linked with the fighting of other services under orders against a retreat, was declared to be so fierce as to make the defenses impregnable.

Soviet airmen were said to have struck heavy blows at the invaders west of Moscow, knocking out 42 tanks, 86 armored cars and 430 trucks Monday alone and breaking up two infantry regiments.

British Convoy Blasted

At sea, Hitler's high command credited naz U-boats with sinking 14 ships totalling 47,000 tons in a six-day pursuit of a convoy traveling from Gibraltar to England.

An escorting British destroyer was also torpedoed and sunk, the high command said, and almost the entire convoy was wiped out.

Both German and British airmen took off on offensive flights in cross-channel warfare overnight.

British pilots flying American-built Havocs bombed German airdromes in northern France without a loss, the air ministry news service said, raiding one airport near Abbeville three times in two hours.

A British communiqué acknowledged slight damage and a small number of casualties from small-scale German raids on southwest England.

Australia's government proposed heavier taxation of her 10,000,000 population to meet costs of her war effort.

Treasurer J. B. Chifley introduced in parliament at Canberra a record Australian budget of \$1,049,100,000, which included \$700,476,000 for war purposes.

Lewis, Taylor Meet in Try to End Coal Strike

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problem of work stoppages affecting defense, and the pressure for action increased with the overnight threat of a general strike of airplane factory workers in five eastern states.

The general strike threat arose from the protracted CIO dispute with Alr Associates, Inc., at Bendix, N. J. Richard Frankenstein, national director of the CIO union involved, telegraphed President Roosevelt that unless the controversy could be settled to the union's satisfaction by Thursday, he had no recourse but to use the economic strength of the union to protect its members.

The sole issue in the captive mines dispute was the United Mine Workers' demand for a union shop in the coal shafts which the steel companies operate to obtain fuel for their blast furnaces. Under a union shop provision, each employee would have to become a member of the union after a period of probation. The dispute directly affects 53,000 miners, claimed to be 95 per cent organized by the UMW, whose strike became effective Monday in captive mines in

Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky and Alabama.

Steel Firms Receive

The United States Steel corporation told the national defense mediation board yesterday it was willing to accept the board's recent offer to decide the dispute—an offer which contained the proviso that both parties to the dispute must agree in advance to accept the board's decision as final.

This morning the Youngstown Sheet and Tube company telegraphed it was also willing for the board to decide the dispute, if principal other companies interested agreed and if the procedure set no precedent.

But the Weirton Steel company and the Wheeling Steel corporation, whose interests likewise are affected, notified the board that they preferred another alternative—that the dispute be settled by a joint board made up of miners and operators.

Peace Outlook Poor

U. S. Steel's action, however, was taken as an advance hint that Taylor would present some such settlement proposal to Lewis, and that prospect dimmed the conference's chances for success from the outset.

Lewis already has assailed the mediation board's handling of the captive mine controversy, and it seemed unlikely that he would consent to entrust the dispute to the board again for a decision which would be binding upon the union and management.

President Roosevelt indicated yesterday that he had under consideration new legislation designed to cope with defense strikes in general, but he avoided direct comment on the captive coal mine stoppage.

On Capitol Hill, the discussion of legislation was specific, and while some proponents of anti-strike measures were encouraged by the disclosure that the president was studying the subject, others were manifestly in no mood to wait.

In house circles, talk was heard of seeking action on a bill by period and freeze shops at their present open or closed union status for the duration of the defense emergency. Should this ef-

fort be unsuccessful, there is a substitute bill providing for compulsory arbitration and a cooling-off period.

WELDERS' PICKET LINE AT SHIP YARDS AGAIN CRASHED

SEATTLE, Oct. 29.—(AP)—A mild outbreak of violence flared again today at the Lake Washington shipyard across Lake Washington at Houghton as workers, protected by AFL Seattle metal trades council members, crashed a picket line of striking welders to enter the plant.

Deputy Sheriff Paul Bell, caught in a melee of massed pickets and the rushing workers, was knocked down but unhurt. Fifteen deputies, led by Undersheriff Louis J. Forbes and Capt. Ed Storgaard, restored order. Three state patrolmen were also on the scene.

The plant management reported later nearly 90 per cent of the workers were on the job.

Welders, part of 1,700 in the Puget sound area who have walked out in protest against the American Federation of Labor's refusal to grant them a separate international union, were ringed around the plant at 8 a. m. when non-strikers started to enter the yard.

A call, "come on, men, let's shove 'em down the road," came from the metal trades' sound-truck and the rush began.

Strike Ranks Broken.

In Seattle, shipyard workers went to jobs without clashes with pickets and the metal trades council said an even larger proportion was returning to work than yesterday. Few striking welders, however, went back to the yards. At Houghton yesterday, "flying wedge" tactics were used to get men into the plant and fist fights ensued.

Meantime, a welders' spokesman, replying to an office of production management demand that the striking welders return to work in shipyards and other defense industries here and at Tacoma, said any such notification should come directly from the white house.

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Local Air Spotter Unit Meets Try-Out Nicely

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telephone calls usually double during blackout tests, F. L. Crittendon, manager here for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company, has requested that telephone users keep their calling to a minimum during the scheduled blackout Friday night.

"This doesn't mean that regular calls should not be made," he said. "We simply want to discourage non-essential calls so that the lines and facilities will be readily available for civilian and military needs."

SALEM, Oct. 29.—(AP)—All truck on Oregon highways during Friday night's blackout for the

air-raid drills should pull off the highway and have their lights turned out, the public utilities commissioner's office said today in a warning to truck operators.

Boy With Rifle Makes Repeater Out of Himself

ASHLAND, Ore., Oct. 29.—(AP)—Roy Wilson, 16, loading his .22 calibre rifle the other day, held the extra shells in his mouth. He tested the gun with one shell. It fired. Wilson gulped.

The next day he noticed a pain in the chest. A fluoroscope showed a shell in the lower right lung. The surgeon decided to probe for it the next day. That night Wilson coughed. Up came the shell

into his mouth.

It was such a shock that Wilson gulped again. Down went the shell. More fluoroscoping. The shell definitely was no longer in the lung. They took a gander at

his tummy. There it was—or rather, there they were—two shells.

The physician prescribed a double castor oil and sent Wilson home.

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Stock and Bond Averages. STOCKS: Wednesday 58.3, 16.5, 30.7, 40.8. Bonds: Wednesday 62.8, 105.0, 101.8, 48.9.

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