

AXIS IN LAST DITCH STAND IN SEVASTOPOL

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Save WITH WAR BONDS

Roseburg News-Review

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Britain Fastens Clamp on Neutral Diplomats to Guard Invasion Plans

Outside Trips Banned, Mail To Be Scanned

Edict of Unprecedented Size Follows Taboo on Visitors to Coast Strip

LONDON, April 18—(AP)—Britain today banned trips outside this country by diplomats of all neutral and allied nations except the United States, Russia and the British commonwealth and made all their communications subject to full censorship.

The action, latest in a series of steps taken to safeguard invasion information, was without precedent, but the foreign office announced that "military operations impending in the present year" made it imperative. Washington and Moscow were consulted in the move.

The order in effect immobilized the diplomats and their staffs, including air, military and naval attaches, within Britain's shores for the time being. None may go home.

Diplomatic pouches, heretofore inviolate, now will be opened and all their contents put through the censorship mill. Not even in the first World war was such action taken. Coded telegrams are banned.

Safety Chief Motive

The regulations went into effect at midnight and will remain in force until further notice.

"Any inadvertent disclosure of information which resulted in helping the enemy or in unnecessary loss of British or allied lives might have such serious effects, not only upon the course of these (invasion) operations but also that the government has reluctantly felt bound to adopt this unusual security measure," the foreign office said.

"These restrictions will, of course, be removed at the earliest possible moment consistent with the national security."

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

AS these words are written, the fall of Sevastopol, in the Crimea, is momentarily expected. Sevastopol's fall will clear the way for a full-scale Russian assault on Romania.

ALREADY the Russians have cleared the remaining Germans out of the area below Odessa, have crossed the Dniester at its mouth and appear to be directing a drive in BEHIND the line the Germans have established in the neighborhood of Iasi. If they are successful in what they are attempting, they will probably force a German retreat to the Galati gap, where the nazis are expected to make their last stand before the Ploesti oil fields.

It is at least a plausible guess that as soon as they get Sevastopol safely in their possession the nazis will attempt a seaborne landing in the hope of GETTING BEHIND the German line in the Galati gap.

WHILE all this is going on, the Russians take Tarnopol, in the north. Tarnopol is one of the outpost defenses of the small Galician oil fields that lies just north of the Carpathians in Poland. It is the last great defense bastion before Lwow, the German spiderweb of communications in south Poland and gateway to the Carpathian passes into former Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

The point is that the nazis seem

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Soft Wood Changed Into Marble-Like Hardness by Simple Chemical Process

NEW YORK, April 18—(AP)

Lumber is changed into a cross between wood and plastics, with the hardness, brilliance and strength of plastics, but all the natural appearance and uses of wood, by a simple chemical process developed by the Du Pont company.

In a few days, a hitherto commercially useless softwood can be made harder than ebony, which takes hundreds of years to grow, and is nature's hardest wood.

The wood of a thousand at present unused species of American home trees can be made to rival the wood imported from any part of the world. The discovery promises America a postwar self-sufficiency in lumber for all uses.

The chemical process was demonstrated here yesterday by Dr. J. F. T. Berliner and associates of the Du Pont ammonia department. Wood is soaked, under heat and pressure, in methyloleurea, a compound of urea and formaldehyde, both cheap, common chemicals whose raw materials are coal, air and water.

In the soaking, the compound forms a resin inside the microscopically small cells of the wood. Structure and appearance of the wood are unchanged, and it can be sawed or turned as readily as

ever, but there is far greater hardness.

Balsa wood, for example, one of the lightest natural woods, almost fluffy in appearance, becomes harder than ebony. In this transmutation the balsa is compressed until it is 10 times heavier than originally and very much less bulky.

Almost Mar-Proof

The half synthetic wood does not shrink, swell or warp. Drawers and doors made of it do not stick in hot, moist weather, even in the tropics.

Floors and furniture are nearly mar-proof, and if damaged have only to be smoothed and rubbed. The plastic wood polishes like marble.

This wood can be dyed in all colors, which completely permeate structure, and do not fade.

The hardening process can be limited to a small depth of the surface when artisans wish to retain the resiliency of the interior of natural wood.

Veneers made of the plastic wood stick together without glue between the layers.

The chemical process also uses sawdust, shavings, fibers of all sorts, cotton, leather or bamboo to form a plastic mass that can be molded. The molded material sets into permanent shapes, with the texture of wood.

Heavy Livestock Loss Feared In Midwest Snow

(By the Associated Press)

One of the most severe unseasonal snowstorms in years had spread out unexpectedly over the high great plains area of Western Nebraska and Kansas last night, threatening livestock and halting already-late farm operations.

McCook, Neb., had an unprecedented 19 inches of snow with the fall continuing into the night, and at Kearney, motor cars stalled in drifts from a ten-inch snowfall. Lighter snow was general throughout Nebraska and as far eastward as North Central Kansas.

Sub-freezing temperatures were general throughout the area last night, bringing fears to livestock men for the safety of both cattle and sheep.

In the Oklahoma panhandle, a 55-mile wind stirred up a dust storm which reduced visibility to less than a mile at some points.

E. C. Bray, of Syracuse, in northwestern Kansas, where seven to nine inches of snow covered the ground, said that livestock had come through the winter in poor condition because of a shortage of protein feeds and that he expected losses from the storm to be heavy.

In a similar storm a week ago, he said two sheepmen alone there lost between 1,000 and 1,400 head.

Eastern Colorado ranchers reported heavy calf and lamb losses in a snowstorm which measured 10 1/2 inches in the vicinity of Boulder, and four inches at Cheyenne, Wyo. The storm extended southward into Northeastern New Mexico.

Little River Soldier Dies in Japanese Camp

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Pfifer, who reside on the Little River road near Glide, have received word through the War department of the death of their son PFC Robert W. Pfifer. Private Pfifer enlisted in the army eight years ago and was serving in the Manila bay defense area when the Philippines were captured by the Japanese. He was taken prisoner and has been held in the prison camp at Osaka. Death resulted from colitis, according to the War department's communication.

Federal Take-Over Looms for Ward's Store in Chicago

WASHINGTON, April 18—(AP)—Unless Montgomery Ward and company complies within a few days with a War Labor board order directing extension of an employer-employee contract, the Chicago mail order house may be taken over and operated by a civilian federal agency.

The CIO United Mail Order, Warehouse and Retail Employees union called a strike at Wards April 12, asserting that the company had "defied WLB orders extending our union contract."

Montgomery Ward, in an advertisement signed by Sewell Avery, chairman of the board, maintained that the WLB "illegally ordered the company" to extend the contract "without requiring the union to prove its majority."

Although the final decision as to federal operation of Wards is still to be made within White House circles, such action was in prospect today following a conference between members of the WLB and Stabilization Director Vinson.

Wards has filed suit in district court questioning the board's authority to extend the contract in view of the quarrel over majority representation. The department of justice, representing the WLB, is challenging the court's jurisdiction and contends that the WLB can not be enjoined because its orders are advisory and it has no enforcement power that can be enjoined.

Drain Robbery, Roseburg Vandalism Investigated

Sheriff O. T. Carter and his deputy R. G. Baker are engaged today in investigation of a robbery at Drain and vandalism at Roseburg. The Drain schoolhouse was burglarized Saturday night, with a loss of about \$15, the sheriff reported. Youths are blamed for vandalism at the Oregon Turkey Growers warehouse in Roseburg, where dozens of sacks of feed were ruthlessly slashed, mixing the various bags of mash, corn and other feeds into a useless pile. Damage is estimated at more than \$350, Carter said.

2 Park Sites Offered For Development

Possibility of Govt. Aid Cited to City Council by Delegation From C. of C.

The Roseburg city council at its regular meeting last night offered two park sites for development under a proposed federal assistance recreational program, repealed the city ordinance requiring stops at railroad crossings, reached a compromise on payments on city liens on two lots in Laurelwood and held brief discussions of proposed budget items and improvements to Second Avenue South.

A "singing delegation" from the Roseburg chamber of commerce, led by President Earl Wiley, was present. While awaiting the start of the council meeting, the delegation engaged in a songfest. The group reported that federal grants for development of recreational sites are being furnished localities supporting war industries and that the Roseburg area may be made eligible for assistance. In response to inquiries regarding land available for recreational purposes, the delegation was informed by Mayor Harris that a block in Laurelwood has been set aside for park purposes and that the city council also has dedicated city property on

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Officials Confer Here On Hospital Facilities

C. E. Stewart, district engineer for the Federal Works agency, and Captain Raymond F. Kaiser, of the U. S. Public Health service, spent several hours in Roseburg today meeting with chamber of commerce officials, physicians and others inspecting the hospital facilities of Douglas county. Application has been made through the chamber of commerce for federal assistance in expansion of hospital accommodations, either through existing or new local agencies as may be directed. The two officers are making a preliminary inspection to determine what expansion is necessary and whether Douglas county is eligible for aid under the federal provisions.

Proposed Aid of Douglas County in "Seeing Eye" Campaign is Discussed

Colonel Stewart P. Arnold, at right, general manager of Oregon Guiding Friends, Tillamook, Tillamook, Ore., was in Roseburg Monday, meeting with the Douglas county court to discuss plans for a county committee to aid the organization, which is engaged in the training of dogs to serve the blind.

County Judge D. N. Busenbark and Commissioners H. B. Roadman and J. Ross Hutchinson are to head the committee, which will seek contributions to assist the organization, Colonel Stewart said.

There are now 1500 blind persons in Oregon, he reported. There doubtless will be a number of Oregon men blinded by war injuries, while industrial accidents will cause blindness to a considerable number of workers in war production.

Oregon Guiding Friends, Colonel Stewart said, is being created to train dogs to be furnished to the blind free of charge. Approximately three and one-half months is required to train a dog and from 3 to 4 weeks will be needed to instruct the blind person in properly handling and using the dog.

The movement, which is entirely independent and not affiliated with any existing organization of like character, has been endorsed by state officers, the county judges association, labor unions and veterans organizations, Col-

Stalemate in India-Burma War Impends

Monsoon Season Nears, With Allies Seen Holding Tactical Advantages

LONDON, April 18—(AP)—The Burma-India campaign, in which both sides are on the offensive in different sectors, appears to be headed for a May monsoon stalemate, with the allies holding stubbornly to a narrow margin of tactical advantage.

When the monsoon strikes it has in the past bogged down all but airborne operations.

The overall picture shows that the allies are trying to blast a short cut through northern Burma to open the Ledo road link between India and China. The Japanese offensive against Imphal and Kohima in India seeks to counter this by cutting off the allies' railroad supply line.

The whole Japanese force actually in action along some 700 miles of broken jungle and mountain front is estimated at six divisions—a maximum of about 90,000 men. It obviously is not aiming at the conquest of India.

The strength of the allied defense force in eastern India has not been disclosed, but it at least equals the Japanese.

The primary goals of the Japanese invasion of India are Imphal, 250 miles north of the Arakan hills, and Kohima, 60 miles north of Imphal, capture of which would give the enemy a base for incursions against the allied supply lines.

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Baby Unhurt by Rampant Horse; 9 Persons Faint

NEW YORK, April 18—(AP)—A runaway horse galloped down a Brooklyn street, stumbled over a curbstone and sprawled headlong onto a carriage in which 11-month-old Almee Ullman was sleeping.

Passers-by ran to the scene and extricated the child who was unhurt. Then, the infant's mother, seven other women and the horse's owner fainted.

Crash of Bomber at Astoria Kills 4 Men

SEATTLE, April 18—(AP)—The pilot and three enlisted crewmen were killed yesterday in the crash of a navy bombing plane as it took off at the naval air station at Astoria, Ore., the 13th naval district announced.

LEMOORE AIR BASE, Calif., April 18—(AP)—Lt. Adolph I. Rodgers, 31, formerly of Unga, Alaska, was killed in the crash of a military airplane near Klamath Falls, Oregon, Sunday. His mother, Mrs. Zinnia Foster, resides at Bellevue, Wash.

Colonel Stewart said. It will be dependent entirely upon public support.

Indian Sees "Red," Wins Medal



Lt. Ernest Childres, 26-year-old Broken Bow, Okla., Indian, is presented the Congressional Medal of Honor by Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers, deputy commander in chief of the allied Mediterranean command. Childres single-handedly killed five Germans, wiped out two machinegun nests, captured a German mortar despite being wounded. Childres explained, "I just got mad." Signal Corps Radio-Telephoto.

Air Battles Staged Over Germany in Wake of Bombings

LONDON, April 18—(AP)—Widespread air battles were fought over Germany today, the Berlin radio said, by the Luftwaffe and strong formations of fighter-escorted American bombers which struck the Reich from the north and continued on to the central sector.

RAF Mosquito bombers blasted the Rhineland city of Cologne last night.

The air ministry announced that one plane was lost during the night operations which also included minelaying operations.

Allied Mediterranean air forces, meanwhile, completed 72 hours of incessant hammering of the enemy's Balkan supply lines last night, smashing at the Plovidiv rail yards, 85 miles southeast of the Bulgarian capital of Sofia.

It was the third straight day, and night that Italy-based bomber fleets carried the major share of the load in the two-way air squeeze on Hitler's Europe, although the Mosquito thrust at Cologne followed a daylight blow at enemy installations in northern France.

The attack on Plovidiv came on the heels of daylight smashes at rail targets at Sofia and Belgrade and plane plants and an airfield in the Belgrade area.

A Stockholm dispatch quoted advice from Switzerland as saying that Romanian railroad and oil field workers were fleeing their jobs by the hundreds as a result of the heavy air attacks. Bucharest was described as without water and electricity and 40 per cent of its population was said to have been evacuated.

The Germans have thrown a cordon of troops around the Ploesti oil works and have forbidden workers to leave even when off duty, it was said. Attacks on the rail centers have hampered the flow of supplies to the eastern front, the report added, and because of a shortage of labor the nazis were being forced to use special troops for repairs.

Bonneville Head Will Speak Here Thursday

Dr. Paul J. Raver, chief of the Bonneville administration, will be in Roseburg Thursday for a public meeting, arranged under chamber of commerce sponsorship. The dinner will be held at the Umpqua hotel starting at 6:30 o'clock. Reservations are limited and must be made in advance, tickets being on sale at the chamber of commerce office and Umpqua hotel.

Dr. Raver's message is expected to be of particular interest to Roseburg, as he will discuss the industrial outlook for the Pacific Northwest.

All civic clubs of Roseburg have been invited to join in the dinner meeting, which also will be open to the general public, limited only to the available accommodations.

U. S. Invasion of Kuriles Forecast By Secretary Knox

WASHINGTON, April 18—(AP)—Invasion of a part of the Japanese Kurile island chain reaching north from the enemy homeland may be expected, Secretary of the Navy Knox said today.

Asked at a news conference whether it was likely that the United States would attempt to take that island group in the North Pacific, he replied "Some time, sure, but nobody knows when."

The discussion was prompted by the increasing regularity of American bombing raids on islands in the chain which extends from the Japanese mainland north to the Russian Kamchatka peninsula.

Among the bases which have been struck frequently there, particularly in the last five days, is Matsushima, less than 500 miles from the mainland of Japan. Other bases frequently bombed from the air are Chimu, Paramushiro, northernmost of the group, and Onkotan.

Knox, discussing the war in the Pacific, said that the Japanese evidently were "trying their best to get some supplies" into the isolated bases in the eastern part of the mid-Pacific Marshalls, but "without much success." From six to ten barges a day are being sunk as they attempt to run supplies into the bases, he said.

Glide Vet of War No. 1 Again Fighting in No. 2

Thomas C. Doyle, resident of Glide, is back in the United States after seven months at sea as a naval gun captain on merchant vessels, according to word received by Carl R. Messing of Glide.

Doyle enlisted in the first World war at the age of 17 years. He was wounded in action and was taken prisoner by the Germans. He spent several years in German hospitals, receiving treatment for the wounds suffered in battle.

When World War II was declared, he again volunteered and was accepted for service in the navy, trained as a gun captain, and assigned to duty with the merchant marine.

He was employed with the U. S. forest service on the Umpqua National forest at the time of his enlistment.

Lovity Fact Rant

By L. F. Rosenblatt

WASHINGTON, April 18—(AP)—Sen. Guy Cordon (R-Ore.) said today he will ask the senate agriculture committee this week to increase forest fire protection funds from \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000.

"Dunkerque" From Burning City Blocked

Streets Barricaded by foe in Preparation for Final Russian Assault

MOSCOW, April 18—(AP)—Two big Russian armies were reported nearing a juncture in the outskirts of Sevastopol today for a final onslaught against a frenzied axis garrison barricaded in the streets after failing to effect a large scale evacuation from the burning city.

(The Vichy radio, quoting a German report, said "the battle for Sevastopol has now commenced," with very heavy fighting taking place in the fortified region of the town.)

(The broadcast asserted that the German-Romanian withdrawal toward the southwest of the Crimean peninsula was "being effected in perfect order and in complete accordance with German plans. The Russian generals Tolbukhin and Yeremko have not succeeded, in spite of all their efforts and numerical superiority, in enveloping the German retreating formations and cutting them off from the rear as they had hoped to do.")

All reports from the front indicated, however, that the German command has not been able to accomplish a Dunkerque scale evacuation, although in the last few days the trapped axis troops tried to get out of the battered port on any kind of craft they could find, throwing caution to the wind as cannonading Russian guns echoed over the city and bombers raked the docks.

City Becomes Inferno
The dispatches estimated that thousands of Germans and Romanians were still stranded on the docks of Sevastopol while others, fighting a determined rearguard action in the suburbs, were pouring machinegun fire on red army engineers clearing barbed wire and stone barricades as well as felled trees and deep mined trenches barring the way

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Force Plan Against 4-F's Sidetracked

WASHINGTON, April 18—(AP)—The house military committee today abandoned plans for special legislation to force 4-F's into essential work through the threat of induction into army and navy labor battalions.

Selective service officials have estimated there are about 3,000,000 men classified as 4-F, rejected for military service because of disabilities.

Many of these, May said, are now in essential work and many others are willing to take war-important jobs when they find them.

Committee members pointed out that under existing authority, selective service may call up 4-F's for reexamination and induct for limited service any who might decline to take war or essential civilian jobs.

The action of the committee resulted in sidetracking, at least for the present, the bill of Rep. Luce (R-Conn.) to establish special work corps composed of 4-F non-fathers.

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Lovity Fact Rant

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Michigan democrats propose lowering the voting age limit to 18. Such a drop from 21 would put the limit nearer the age reflected in some of the orders issued by Washington bureaucrats.