

FR Gets Mines' Dispute

67,000 Idle, Coal Strike Spreads; WLB Gives Up

The war labor board turned the soft coal wage dispute over to the White House yesterday (Wednesday), thus heading it for a final showdown between President Roosevelt and John L. Lewis, the United Mine Workers' chieftain.

With 67,000 miners already idle due to unauthorized walk-outs, the labor board said it could only turn to the White House since its own orders and appeals for continued production had been ignored. It added that, in its opinion, the mine case must be handled like any other, under established

JENKINS, Ky., April 28—(AP)—An estimated 1000 United Mine Workers failed to report for the second work shift Wednesday night and operations ceased at the Jenkins and nearby McRoberts, Ky., pits of the Consolidation Coal company.

It was the first reported work stoppage in the big sandy field or UMW district 19 in north-eastern Kentucky.

procedures, and that if any exception is made the whole system of handling wartime industrial quarrels would break down.

The dispute confronted the president with challenges on two major points:

1. The UMW's refusal to submit its case to the war labor board, the agency Mr. Roosevelt established as a court of final resort for all wartime labor disputes.

(In a letter to Secretary of Labor Perkins, the UMW Tuesday demanded withdrawal of the case from the WLB saying members of the government agency had a "malignant prejudice" against the UMW.

Mrs. Perkins, replying last night, said she found no evidence of prejudice and declared the war effort "requires" that UMW work stoppages "cease at once."

2. The UMW's demands for wage increases without regard for the "little steel" formula which has become basic government policy by incorporation in the president's hold-the-line order against inflation.

Overshadowing these issues, however, was the immediate question of whether Mr. Roosevelt could avert a crippling halt in the production of fuel necessary to keep the wheels of war production turning.

Scarcely veiling the threat of a general work stoppage by 600,000 miners, Lewis declared that in the absence of a new agreement by Friday midnight—when a temporary understanding with the operators expires—the miners "will not trespass" on company property.

In sending the case to the White House, the war labor board said in a statement:

"The WLB unanimously believes that the people on the home front in the United States are filled with a calm but grim determination to exert their very utmost efforts for maximum production of those war materials which are necessary."

Lewis, who was in New York when the board's action was announced, told reporters:

"I have no comment to make at this time at all. I will see the press tomorrow morning."

On the question of wages, Lewis is asking for the miners a \$2 daily increase, a basic wage of \$8 a day, and payment for underground travel time. He also asks unionization of minor bosses.

The operators contended in long negotiations in New York that they were not free under government regulations to grant such increases and pointed to the WLB's little steel formula.

This formula allows an increase of 15 per cent above the level of Jan. 1, 1941. The miners received two years ago an increase exceeding that percentage.

No one knew what President Roosevelt might do to keep the mines operating should Lewis approve a general work stoppage.

Salem Girl Given Award

CORVALLIS, April 28—(AP)—Eileen Holden, Salem, was awarded the Lipman Wolfe award at Oregon State college Wednesday. The honor is given annually to the senior class student adjudged outstanding in scholarship, leadership, contributions to campus welfare and unselfishness and kindness.

Marie A. Hunt, Lebanon, and Veri O. Parrish, Newberg, were pledged to Phi Kappa Phi, national scholastic society.

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Allied Air, Land Drives Smash On

Red Cross Refuses Pole Death Probe As Breach Widens

Russians Hint at Move to Organize New Polish Government Inside Soviet; Roosevelt, Churchill Confer

BERN, Switzerland, April 28—(AP)—The International Red Cross will not investigate the German charges of massacres of Poles near Smolensk unless it is requested to do so by Russia as well as the Poles and Germans, it was stressed Wednesday at headquarters here.

Under Red Cross rules, it was explained, all interested parties must ask for the action, and to send a commission to German-occupied territory in Russia without unanimous consent of all parties would set a precedent whereby all types of investigations in enemy lands could be asked by any belligerent.

By the Associated Press

LONDON, April 28—The bitter Russian-Polish diplomatic breach precipitated by Germany's "Smolensk graveyard story" was as wide as ever Wednesday night after a day which brought these developments:

1. Soviet publication of articles which led observers to believe Russia would demand a purge of the Polish government-in-exile in London or the creation of a rival regime on Soviet soil.

2. A London Polish government appeal "for the release" of all fighting Poles now in Russia, and a declaration that the Poles "have no need to defend themselves" (Turn to Page 2—Story A)

Kaiser Tiff Is Recessed Until Monday

PORTLAND, April 28—(AP)—The 46-day-old Kaiser shipyard labor hearing was recessed Wednesday until Monday pending a ruling of the national labor relations board in Washington as to the admissibility of certain evidence offered by the defense.

NLRB trial examiner Robert N. Denham ordered the recess after he learned the board expected to rule on the matter by Monday. He announced earlier that he had submitted the dispute to the board.

The issue became so heated Tuesday that a recess was called until this morning. Attorneys for three Henry J. Kaiser shipyards in the area and for the American Federation of Labor have sought to get into the record evidence purporting to show that the AFL had a 90 per cent monopoly of skilled shipyard labor on the Pacific coast when a master shipyard agreement was signed in 1941.

Denham contended this evidence was immaterial to CIO charges that the yards entered into illegal closed shop contracts with AFL shipyard unions.

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"Our medium bombers executed most-accurate attacks on two enemy cargo ships 90 miles north of Dobo, scoring a direct hit and a close miss with 500-pound bombs on the stern of a 2000-ton vessel and two near misses on one of 1200 tons," the noon communique reported concerning yesterday's attack.

"Both ships were machinegunned and left stationary in the water."

"Fire broke out on the deck of the smaller."

Tuesday's raid occurred in the same general area, only closer to Dobo, which is on Wamar island in the Aroe group.

Wednesday's attack was made by Dutch-manned Billy Mitchell bombers.

Over New Britain's wide bay a

Air Force German's Nemesis

Concentrated Plane Barge Said Doom Of African Foe

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON.

WASHINGTON, April 28—(AP)—Axis armies in Tunisia are reeling to their doom under a concentrated allied air barrage that in the judgment of air experts is only a foretaste of what is in store for Germany itself once the round-the-clock attack from Britain reaches its full scope.

Official figures from allied headquarters in Africa credit the northwest African air force with having dropped nearly 2,000,000 pounds of bombs on enemy targets on both sides of the Mediterranean and on his sea supply lines within a single week. The results in axis planes, shipping, and base facilities knocked out represent an absolute barrier to the escape of any substantial portion of the axis forces defending the dwindling Tunisian hump, in the opinion of informed allied military judgment men who cannot be further identified.

The air onslaught also lends point to the argument advanced by

(Turn to Page 2—Story C)

Pioneer Clubs To Aid Fete

Champog Festival May 2 Will Hark to Oregon's Beginning

WOODBURN, April 27—Participants in the observance of the centennial "Champog day" on Sunday, May 2, at Champog, will include the Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Oregon war

bond staff and other patriotic organizations.

Responsibility for arousing interest in the centennial has heretofore been assumed by the Oregon Trail Centennial commission and has assisted in planning the observance, one feature of which will be an address by Dr. Howard Driggs, national president of the Pioneer Trails association.

The Daughters of the American

(Turn to Page 2—Story D)

Open Formation Toward the Front



American reinforcements keep to the sides of this Tunisian road and walk in open formation as they approach the active front. Troops such as these Tuesday stormed and captured three strategic heights commanding the road to Mateur and Bizerte.—Associated Press Telemat.

Generalissimo Says Japs Slaughtered Chinese Who Aided American Fliers

Morgenthau Reads Cablegram From China Leader at San Francisco Bond Rally, Warns of Nipponese Danger Here

SAN FRANCISCO, April 28—(AP)—Japanese troops have slaughtered every man, woman and child in the coastal areas of China where American fliers landed after bombing Tokyo, Secretary Henry Morgenthau said Wednesday night.

Morgenthau said his information was contained in a cablegram received from Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek. He read the message at a gathering of war loan workers here.

The secretary of the treasury spoke of the horror with which the nation a few days ago learned that some of the American fliers captured by the Japanese had been executed.

"Now, with a deep sense of shock and anger," he said, "I must bring you further news. I have here a cablegram which reached me this morning. It comes from Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek. Let me read it to you:

"After they had been caught unawares by the falling of American bombs on Tokyo, Japanese troops attacked the coastal areas of China where many of the American fliers had landed. These Japanese troops slaughtered every man, woman and child in those areas, reproducing on a wholesale scale the horrors which the world had seen at Lidice, but about which people have been uninformed in these instances."

"The dastardly execution of these American fliers, who were taken prisoners of war, has made it clear to all Americans that we face an enemy who knows no codes of law or decency. The only language which such an enemy understands is that of the weapons of war, and in the bond campaign which you are pushing for the war effort our people wish you all success."

"We have work ahead of us," Morgenthau continued. "We have much to do."

"Certainly we now have a clearer idea of the nature of the enemy with whom we are dealing. If the Japanese will take special pains to march into a Chinese village, whose only crime is that of offering sanctuary to a handful of American fliers, and wipe out (Turn to Page 2—Story E)

Wage Boost Is Extended

PORTLAND, April 28—(AP)—The west coast lumber commission announced Wednesday extension of its wage stabilization program to the pine industry in four western states and continuance of previous pay equalization orders for the Douglas fir industry and Los Angeles lumber trade area.

With war labor board approval, the commission issued a general order permitting pine operators in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and western Montana who were not involved in pay disputes to grant the same wage increases previously ordered in dispute cases.

Brown Expects Small Homes' Fuel Oil Boost

WASHINGTON, April 28—(AP)—Price Administrator Prentiss Brown announced Wednesday that next winter's fuel oil rations in the 35 states where oil use is restricted will not be cut and that some rations "notably for smaller homes" will be increased.

Registration for next season's coupons will be handled almost exclusively by mail, he said.

Brown said rationing will apply to the same 30 east coast and middle western states and to Washington, Oregon and western Idaho, where fuel oil was rationed during the past winter.

"There is no intention," he added, "to extend oil rationing to additional areas."

British Assault Axis Hill

US Troops Capture 3 Strategic Nazi Mountain Sites

By WILLIAM B. KING

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, April 28—(AP)—The British First army threw in a powerful assault Wednesday against an axis mountain position only 21 miles from Tunis—the Djebel Bou Aoukaz commanding open stretches of the Medjerda valley leading down to the Tunisian capital—while American troops completed the storming and capture of three important hill defenses in the route to Mateur and Bizerte.

To the south the French, who are hammering at the gates of Pont Du Fahs, have driven a column southeast of that town to reach the western slopes of Djebel Zaghouan despite heavy axis artillery fire, the French communique reported. This column cut the main road from Pont Du Fahs to Djebibina.

Other French forces, which had swept forward 15 miles in three days of what official reports termed "magnificent fighting," were beating at the outskirts of Pont Du Fahs, in cooperation with British armored columns striking from the northwest.

The Germans and Italians fought with savage tenacity against the steady, continued allied advance—delayed front dispatched told, for example, of the enemy's unavailing use of flame-throwing tanks in one sector—and a military spokesman again declared that the axis policy to hold every position to the last still obviously was unshaken.

"He (the enemy) will go back only as the result of overwhelming pressure," the spokesman said.

Along the southern end of the front General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's Eighth army was reported also continuing to advance, making the greater progress along his left, along a harsh and twisted line of march formed by the hard terrain itself, heavy axis demolitions and many axis mines.

The Eighth army is facing the enemy's main fortified line, and the Germans are rushing perhaps the greatest concentration of artillery they have employed anywhere outside Russia in their determination to halt Montgomery, said Associated Press Correspondent Roland Norgaard in a front line dispatch. British artillery is pounding back at the strongly fortified German hill positions.

(The German radio commentator, Capt. Ludwig Stierlior, in a broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, said "extensive regrouping" of allied forces begun Monday was apparently not yet completed, but that it was evident that on the southern front the main weight of the British Eighth army was "now shifted to the left wing.")

The allied air forces, although limited somewhat by unfavorable weather, kept the enemy's front line areas and his communications and air fields under strong attack.

The First army's attack on the Djebel Bou Aoukaz, which lies 12 miles northeast of Medjerda-Bab as a barrier before the Medjerda plain, carried to about 400 yards short of the crest in the initial operations.

Daniel De Luce, Associated Press correspondent, reported from the front that the British shock troops went in at 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon in an urgent effort to smash this last important obstruction between them and the Tunisian plain, charging behind a heavy allied artillery and bomber barrage.

In related fighting to the east of Medjerda-el-Bab, British infantry, supported by Churchill tanks that beat back enemy flame-throwing tanks, seized the small settlements of Sidi Abdallah and Sidi Salem.

To the north, the American

(Turn to Page 2—Story E)

Bond Campaign Drives Upward

Marion County Tops Goal by \$267,000; \$3,000,000 Is Aim

The "top" proved no stopping point for Marion county Wednesday in winding up its participation in the national Second war loan drive which closes Friday night.

Non-bank subscriptions for war

The \$18.75 with which you buy a \$25 war bond will pay for:

11 arm Splints. Or—3 tent stoves. Or—220 army tooth brushes.

bonds for the three-weeks campaign jumped to \$2,767,000 Wednesday, \$267,000 over the goal set by the county's Victory committee. Purchases reported Wednesday totaled \$165,000.

Today's report gives us increased confidence that Marion county citizens will make their current contribution to the financing of the war effort a \$3,000,000 blow at the axis," declared Victory Chairman Jess J. Gard. "That's our goal and I (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Convicts to Donate Blood To Red Cross

Prison bars may prohibit them from spilling their blood on battlefields but 125 inmates of the Oregon state penitentiary here will donate some of the life stream to their nation today when they contribute to the Red Cross blood plasma bank.

Through special arrangements, made for the men after they had petitioned Warden George Alexander for the privilege of donating their blood, the Red Cross mobile unit which operated in Salem on Tuesday returns again today from Portland to receive the contributions of the men in the hickory shirts.

Donors at the Methodist church, blood collection center, numbered 11 on Tuesday. Ordinarily 130 may be accommodated, and registrations for next Tuesday here have already been filled, E. J. Scellars, Red Cross blood bank chairman said Wednesday. However, at least one day a week for the duration of the war the unit will operate in Salem if there are sufficient donors. One person may contribute blood only five times a year.

Far East Leaders Confer at Capital

WASHINGTON, April 28—(AP)—Lieut. Gen Joseph W. Stilwell, commander of the United States army forces in the China-Burma-India theater, and Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault, commanding general of the 14th air force in China, arrived Wednesday for a conference with chiefs of staff.

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