

By Charles A. Sprague

Is there any relation between events in Italy and the sudden order to overhaul deferments under selective service? There may be. If so, it is probably not the losses around Cassino and Anzio which are so serious as the experience in the Italian campaign which may be regarded as a forerunner to what will happen when the western front is opened. That is, the perimeter of the German defenses will be broken and advances made toward Berlin only by overwhelming force skillfully used, with an abundance of reserves. May it not be that the experience in Italy justifies the selective service administration to push for the expansion of the armed forces up to the original limits, which would mean first to overcome the present deficiency of 200,000 in the schedule of inductions?

Whatever the reason it is evident there is a firm purpose behind the statements of General Hershby as to military needs. The president himself has issued an order directing the review of all occupational deferments. In particular all men in the ages below 26 will be inducted, where physically fit. The review will extend however to all men in the ages of 18 to 37 now listed in classes 2-A, 2-B, 2-C and 3-C. Already there has begun a reclassification into 1-A of many agricultural workers who have previously enjoyed deferment for occupational reasons. Farm workers represented the largest group. On a percentage basis, of men given occupational deferments.

This may mean real manpower shortages. But as time goes on it may mean more of a transfer of workers as continued shrinkage in less essential industrial lines occurs, more women are employed, and as men discharged from the military service become available for reemployment. For the nation as a whole the manpower shortage may not be as acute this year as it has been because of the slackening of war-construction and the completion of our adjustment to a war economy. But the new orders from the president and the head of the selective service system mean that the demands of the military for manpower are going to be satisfied even if that means a further curtailment of civilian activities. But if that is what is needed to do up the job in the shortest time, then we must accept it and do the best we can with what is left behind.

Name Sprague New President Of War Chest

Charles A. Sprague, Statesman publisher and former governor of Oregon, was elected president of the Oregon War Chest, at the annual meeting of the directors held in the capitol here yesterday.

Other officers are Frank J. Lonergan, Portland, first vice president; O. A. Houghlum, Eugene, second vice president; Burt K. Snyder, Lakeview, third vice president; Mrs. Marguerite Stasiek, Tillamook, secretary, and Jesse Gard, Salem, treasurer.

Argentina Says Foreign Policy Not to Change

BUENOS AIRES, Feb. 28. (AP)—Acting Foreign Minister Diego Mason declared today there would be no change in Argentina's foreign policy during the regime of Acting President Edelmiro J. Farrell.

Russian Forces Close in on Pskov

McNary Funeral Friday

State Capitol To Be Scene For Services

Funeral services for Senator Charles L. McNary, who died recently at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., following a brain operation, will be held in the house of representatives in the state capitol here Friday at 2 p. m., instead of Thursday afternoon, as announced by members of the family Sunday.

Change in the funeral plans followed receipt of word from J. Mark Trice, Washington, DC, senate deputy sergeant-at-arms, yesterday that the congressional delegation is making the trip to Oregon by train and cannot arrive here until Friday.

The congressional delegation is scheduled to arrive in Salem before noon Friday. A group of state officials, headed by Governor Earl Snell, probably will meet the delegation in Portland.

Senator McNary's body, accompanied by Mrs. McNary, her adopted daughter, Charlotte, 8, and Mrs. McNary's sister, Miss Mary Louise Morton, will arrive in Portland Wednesday morning. The casket will be brought from Portland to Salem by the W. T. Rigdon company, local funeral directors, under state police escort.

Bishop Bruce R. Baxter of the Methodist church, formerly president of Willamette university, will officiate at the services. Senator McNary and Bishop Baxter had been close personal friends for many years.

Snell Silent On Successor To McNary

Gov. Earl Snell, upon his return here late Monday from Portland, refused to make any statement in connection with the appointment of a United States senator to succeed Charles L. McNary, who died recently in Florida.

It is no secret here that a large number of telegrams, telephone calls and letters were received at the executive department over the weekend suggesting the names of various persons for the appointment. Governor Snell was not expected to announce the appointment until after the funeral services for Senator McNary here Friday afternoon.

An attaché of the governor's office said that out of 12 letters received in one mail the names of 11 different persons were suggested for the office. The appointee will serve only until the November election when a senator will be elected to serve the remaining four years of McNary's term.

Gen. Roosevelt Takes New Post

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (AP)—Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt has left his position as liaison officer with French forces fighting in Italy to "take over an important post in Great Britain," the Brazzaville record said in a broadcast recorded by CBS tonight. The nature of his new duties was not announced.

Jap Freighter Strafed Off Marshalls



Huge geysers spout about a Japanese freighter in a dramatic strafing attack off the Marshalls where US navy carrier-based planes mopped up shipping about the Jaluit atoll. (AP Wirephoto from US navy)

Bombers Hammer Rabaul

200 Planes Join Assault on Jap Pacific Base

By ROBERT EUNSON ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, SOUTHWEST PACIFIC, Tuesday, Feb. 28. (AP)—Army and navy bombers and fighters from Solomon islands airfields hit the Japanese base at Rabaul, New Britain, Saturday with 164 tons of explosives, Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today. It was the seventh consecutive allied raid drawing no enemy aerial interception, but one attacking plane was lost to antiaircraft fire.

More than 200 planes joined in hammering the most-bombed enemy stronghold in the south Pacific, striking especially at Vunapope airdrome, the harbor area. There 14 barges and four jetties were destroyed or damaged and several houses and other buildings were flattened.

It was the 12th straight day of pummeling given the one-time heavily defended enemy base by planes from Adm. William F. Halsey's command. MacArthur's communique told of intense allied aerial activity against Japanese bases, including the Admiralty islands where 36 tons of explosives were dropped on supply and bivouac areas at Lorengau township and Momote airdrome.

Liberator heavy bombers, dive bombers and attack planes pounded the enemy's important troop, air and supply centers of Wewak and Madang on the northeastern New Guinea coast.

But and Dagua air fields in the Wewak area caught 80 tons of bombs which started large fires and destroyed five parked planes. Tadij airdrome at Alitape, to the west, was hit with 73 tons, damaged.

4 Willamette Valley Men Make News on War Fronts

PORTLAND, Feb. 28. (AP)—A Salem youth came home from 25 bombing missions over Germany to declare today that 13 was his favorite number.

US Bombers Make 18th Raid in Month

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR LONDON, Feb. 28. (AP)—Heavy bombers of the United States eighth air force spear-headed a series of daylight assaults on enemy installations in northern France today, raising to 18 their record total of operations during February—six more than in any other month.

Moscow Claims 195,000 Kiev Citizens Slain

LONDON, Feb. 28. (AP)—More than 195,000 soviet citizens were "tortured to death, shot, or poisoned in murder vans" by the Germans during the occupation of Kiev, a commission investigating destruction of the ancient city said tonight in a report broadcast from Moscow.

The account held Erich Koch, German commissioner for the Ukraine, Field Marshal Gen. Fritz Erich von Mannstein, and other nazif officers "responsible for bestial crimes perpetrated against the soviet people."

Before evacuating Kiev the Germans demolished the whole center of the city and destroyed 1742 communal dwellings and 3600 privately owned houses, the Moscow radio said tonight in announcing the report of a commission of inquiry.

The broadcast report, recorded by the soviet monitor, said hundreds of thousands of citizens were transported to Germany, along with factory equipment. Nearly a thousand state institutions were destroyed and 200,000 persons were made homeless, it said.

Robert Kennen Bombs Reich, Back in Salem

PORTLAND, Feb. 28. (AP)—A Salem youth came home from 25 bombing missions over Germany to declare today that 13 was his favorite number.

Allies Win Victory In Burma

By the Associated Press NEW DELHI, INDIA, Feb. 28.—The allies have scored their first major victory in Burma with the destruction of a task force of 8000 Japanese in two weeks of confused fighting in the dusty choking jungles of Arakan north of Akyab, the southeast Asia command announced tonight.

The Japanese "gradually were driven back, hemmed in, split up, hunted and killed. Most, with their accustomed tenacity, fought to the death. Some battered and wounded escaped through the jungle to the south. A few surrendered."

Postwar Planning Session Here Sunday

A portion of the Institute on Postwar Planning for International Peace, in Portland, March 6 and 7, under auspices of the United Nations association, will be brought to Salem Sunday afternoon with Salem branch of the American Association of University Women as sponsors.

Lowell Eddy Gains Fame With Plasma

Capt. Lowell Ladd Eddy, who came from Independence to Salem to attend Willamette university from which he was graduated in 1935, this week gained national prominence for his foresight as a flight surgeon in the south Pacific.

British Capture 2 Points

Tommies Take Over Offensive In Anzio Sector

By KENNETH L. DIXON ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NAPLES, Feb. 28. (AP)—British troops, going over to the offensive on the Anzio beachhead, have stormed and captured two nazi strongpoints southwest of the German-held village of Carroceto after two days of sharp fighting, the allies announced today.

The scene of the British attack, which broke a week of comparative quiet on the beachhead front, is near the headwaters of the Moletta river, a little stream that originates about a mile and a half southwest of Carroceto and runs almost due west to empty into the sea 11 miles up the coast from Anzio.

The German high command communique, giving its version of what apparently was the same engagement, said that about two battalions of allied troops were wiped out after they had been encircled near Buon Riposo, a hamlet situated on the Moletta river approximately a mile and a half southwest of Carroceto and a mile west of the Carroceto-Anzio highway. The German bulletin claimed 650 allied prisoners in the fight. Such an encirclement of allied forces was claimed repeatedly by the enemy last week but never confirmed by allied sources.

Artillery duelling rose to a new intensity on the beachhead, with both sides hurling thousands of shells. American guns frustrated several enemy attempts to infiltrate through lines south of Carroceto.

Douglas County Court Urges Cordon for Seney

ROSEBURG, Feb. 28. (AP)—Guy Cordon, Roseburg attorney and legal advisor of the Association of Oregon Counties, was recommended today by the Douglas county court to succeed the late Sen. Charles L. McNary.

Leonard Davis Wins Medal

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (AP)—Staff Sgt. Leonard D. Davis, who drove a vital army truck out of a blazing field of exploding ammunition has received the silver star, the department announced today.

Helsinki Raids May Hold Up Finnish Peace

STOCKHOLM, Tuesday, Feb. 28. (AP)—The Russian air raids on Helsinki may have jeopardized peace negotiations between the soviet and Finland, the Helsinki newspaper Social Demokratti indicated today.

Bulgaria May Follow Finns Toward Peace

By JUDSON O'QUINN LONDON, Feb. 28. (AP)—Under pressure of soviet air might, Finland appeared moving tonight toward an armistice with Russia, and this prospect that yet another ally would desert Hitler was reported to have caused disorders in satellite Bulgaria.

Bulgaria called more men to arms, the Cairo radio said, to stem spreading clashes between police and partisan bands who were expected by the prospect of Finnish-Russian rapprochement.

Firemen Fight Woolen Mill Blaze 3 Hours

Fire in the flooring of the picking house at the Thomas Kay Woolen mills on South 12th street kept city firemen at work more than three hours Monday night because of difficulty in reaching smoldering runners which lay just above Mill creek and just beneath the heavy picking machine.

Tokyo Says Allied Planes Raid Tarao

NEW YORK, Feb. 28. (AP)—The Tokyo radio said today that 16 "enemy aircraft" had raided Tarao island, part of Maloelap atoll, in the Marshalls Sunday morning.

Germans On Last Defense

Soviets Within Six Miles of Baltic Bastion

By Tom Yarbrough LONDON, Tuesday, Feb. 29. (AP)—The red army announced at midnight that its trip-hammer advance upon Pskov had reached to within six miles of that railway bastion of the Baltic region which the nazis turned into a concentration camp for German soldiers who mutinied on the Leningrad front in January. Three enemy divisions were routed by a Russian column advancing on Novorochev, 70 miles to the southeast.

The German troops in the line struggled at bloody cost to retain Pskov, on which much of their defense is predicated, but the soviet communique broadcast from Moscow told of the slaughter of 700 Germans at one point, 500 at another, a battalion at still another and said everywhere the enemy was being forced to surrender, retreat or die. In vast numbers, the Germans were doing all three.

The continuing soviet offensive has gained up to 25 miles in a day's time, liberated 450 communications close around Pskov, and another 200 troops in the region near Novorochev, the announcement said.

The closest announced approach to Pskov came with the capture of Torshtino, railway station six miles northeast of the city on the Luga line. Due east, on the Staraya Russa line, the soviets were declared to have taken the station of Karamyshevo, 10 miles from Pskov.

Doctors Fear Lower Draft Standards

By J. W. DAVIS WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (AP)—A White House commission of military and civilian doctors asserted today that military physical standards must not be lowered, that to do so would cripple the march toward victory.

Winding up a study on the question whether class 4-F contains men who actually could serve and thereby cut down the father draft, the commission came up with this dual conclusion:

Niel Allen Suggested For Senate Vacancy

GRANTS PASS, Feb. 28. (AP)—Niel Allen, republican state chairman, was suggested today as interim appointee for the senate vacancy created by the death of Sen. Charles L. McNary.