

"Ol' Man River" has been up to tricks again. The surprise is not that there is another flood on the Mississippi but that it has passed all marks for a century at St. Louis.

For years the finest intelligence of army engineers and experts has been devoted to control of the Mississippi floods; and while the damage may have been lessened by the work done, the height of the floods has not diminished.

After the disastrous 1927 flood, elaborate plans for flood-control were made. Tens of millions of dollars have been spent on engineering works.

The Mississippi in flood is a great sight. The waters spread out for miles across the flat lowlands; bridges seem to be hung just above the rushing waters;

(Continued on Editorial page)

Allies Smash 20 Jap Barges Fleeing Wewak

ADVANCED ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, New Guinea, Wednesday, May 3-(AP)—Allied planes and P-T boats have smashed 20 supply barges fleeing the Japanese isolated base of Wewak and other marooned enemy forces near Aitape, headquarters announced today.

The planes also strafed the inland escape routes in those sectors for some of the 60,000 Japanese estimated to be caught between captured Madang and recently seized Hollandia.

In another action along the New Guinea coast more than 900 miles northwest of Hollandia, a new raid on the Schouten Islands stirred up Japanese air opposition. Six enemy planes were shot down.

On the southeastern end of the New Guinea ground front Australians, who captured Alexishafen, 10 miles north of Madang, last week now have pushed five miles beyond that air base without encountering any opposition.

Today's communique reported raids on Wewak, on Rabaul, New Britain, and Wotani in the western Carolines.

Strong Japanese patrols are operating east of the allied beachhead at Empress Augusta bay, on the western coast of Bougainville island in the Solomons, possibly foreboding a renewal of the attacks which cost the enemy thousands of men in March in futile efforts to crack the American lines.

Germans Make Minor Gains At Beachhead

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Naples, May 2-(AP)—Fighting on the Anzio beachhead south of Rome has increased in the past 24 hours, the Germans making small gains in an attack on allied positions three miles southwest of Carroceto and allied forces raiding enemy-held Cerrito Alto on the extreme right flank of the perimeter.

On the Adriatic sector of the main front numerous German night patrols were driven off in brisk clashes but these actions were minor affairs. There have been no changes in the battle lines on the ground, an allied headquarters communique announced today.

The main weight of the steady offensive of the Mediterranean air force swung against Nazi communications in northern Italy.

Last night RAF heavy bombers made a particularly effective attack on the rail yards at Alessandria, which is the junction of routes linking Turin, Milan and Genoa over which a great volume of enemy supplies is moving.

Air War Continues In Force

Allies Bombard Invasion Coast All Night & Day

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE LONDON, Wednesday, May 3-(AP)—Sky-filling allied armadas spearheaded by hundreds of US Liberator bombers hammered German invasion coast defenses and rail feeder lines from dawn to dusk yesterday, hurling explosives at a two-ton-per-minute clip and smashing key junctions at the rate of one an hour in an unexampled display of aerial might which went almost unchallenged by the Germans.

Jittery German radio announcers predicting that the big allied land invasion was "imminent" came on the air just before midnight to shout: Attention! Attention! Enemy intruders entering western Germany. This signified that giant RAF night bombers were carrying the pre-invasion onslaught into the 19th straight day.

The RAF, in a 1000-plane attack Monday night, had showered more than 2500 tons of explosives on targets in Belgium, France, Germany and Italy before the American daylight fleets took over yesterday in a grinding attrition preliminary to actual cross-channel troop smashes.

Allied sorties daily were running into the 2000 and 3000 brackets, and presumably yesterday's attack would approximate those of the days before, but an official estimate was not available.

Late yesterday US Mustang and Thunderbolt fighter-bombers attacked rail yards at Charleroi in Belgium, and Somain and Tourcoing in northern France, along with an airfield at Peronne without a single loss. Most of these attacks were being concentrated in a circle around Lille, ranging 70 miles inland along vital traffic routes to the Calais coast, which was the main objective of the big bombers.

Nothing like this sustained campaign now running through its 18th straight day has ever been seen before, and it is still rising in violence. These pre-invasion onslaughts, which now

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Holman Opens His Campaign

PENDLETON, May 2-(AP)—Charging that Wayne Morse, his opponent in the primary race for the US senate, is a "new dealer and falsifier," Senator Holman, incumbent, opened his campaign here today.

Holman said Morse does not expect to be elected, but he and his backers hope to split the republican party and permit election of a democrat, after which, Holman said, Morse probably will be rewarded by the current administration.

"I have never denied being an isolationist, but in his attacks on me Morse has never given a definition of the term," Holman said. "When I first campaigned for election to the senate I said 'I want to make America so strong no nation or group of nations would dare attack us, and then let us mind our own business.'"

New Dealers Hill, Pepper Gain Strong Vote Leads

By the Associated Press Senator Lister Hill apparently was headed for renomination in Alabama and a major prestige victory for the administration, and Senator Claude Pepper was running strongly in Florida on the basis of returns early today from democratic primaries in the two states.

Hill, senate majority whip, added to his lead with each tabulation of votes in the early hours of counting and led State Senator James A. Simpson by more than 17,000 votes when a little over half the precincts were heard from. Simpson lagged behind in his own county of Jefferson.

US Air Force Drops 43,500 Bombs on Nazis

LONDON, May 2-(AP)—The US strategic air force based in Britain and Italy hurled more than 43,500 tons of bombs on Germany and German-occupied Europe during April, American headquarters announced tonight. This was a new daylight record.

American losses were 537 bombers, less than three per cent of those used, and 191 fighters, just over one per cent of loss.

Operations were carried on through 22 days and more than 36,000 individual offensive flights were flown, about 20,000 of them by heavy bombers.

A total of 1283 German planes were destroyed in combat in addition to heavy damage to the German aircraft industry. US fighters, corroborated by gun cameras, claimed the destruction of more than 450 German planes on the ground during April.

The percentage of American losses was about the same as for March when 36,172 tons of bombs were dropped on 26 days of operations.

Attacks were made on 29 aircraft plants compared to a third of that number in March. The RAF meantime announced that its bomber command dropped a record 37,960 tons of bombs on Germany and enemy targets during April, 6729 more tons than the previous high in March.

Senate to Call Avery, Biddle In Ward Case

WASHINGTON, May 2-(AP) Attorney General Biddle and Sewell Avery, chairman of Montgomery Ward and Company, will be called as witnesses in a senate investigation of government seizure of the mail order company's Chicago plant, it was disclosed today.

Meanwhile, house critics made it virtually sure that inquiry will be double-barreled, and the national labor relations board announced that a collective bargaining election will be held within seven days among the workers whose dispute with the company led to the seizure.

Chairman McCarran (D-Nev.) of the senate judiciary committee, announcing that he will call Biddle and Avery for testimony, said open hearings will start no later than next week, very shortly after the election.

At the same time Senator Byrd (D-Va.) said he will press tomorrow for senate action on his special resolution for an inquiry into the Ward case by McCarran's committee with particular reference to the seizure.

Silverton Woman Leads Mothers

Mrs. John Zetterberg of Silverton tops the list of Oregon mothers so far reported in number of sons in the military service with six. Douglas Mullarky, private secretary to Gov. Earl Snell, is seeking the name of the Oregon woman with the greatest number of sons in military service. When she is found, she will be recommended by Gov. Snell as a candidate for the American War Mother of 1944.

Siamese Twins Show Slight Improvement

PHOENIXVILLE, Pa., May 2-(AP)—The Siamese twins showed "slight improvement" tonight.

Dr. J. Elmer Gotwals said, after inspecting the twins at 9:30 p.m. (EWT) that their color was "much better" and that the larger twin was in "very good shape."

Their temperature, he added, had risen a point to 104, but he said this "didn't mean much" in babies of their age.

Earlier today, Dr. Gotwals reported that the smaller child had almost stopped breathing. Her waking life is sustained, her doctor said today, only because her sister is giving her oxygen through the arteries that link their tiny bodies.

Air Veterans



Capt. Warren L. Johnson, 23-year-old Elmhurst, Ill., army pilot, and his dog, "LA. Grenada," peer from the cockpit of an A-29 fighter bomber. Capt. Johnson and his mascot, who he says has spent 225 hours in the air—75 of them on bombing missions, are at the army air forces redistribution center at Santa Monica for a rest after service in the southwest Pacific. (AP Wirephoto).

Nazis Predict Three Prong Allied Drive

LONDON, May 2-(AP)—German military commentators forecast tonight that the allies would spring a three-pronged invasion of Hitler's inner fortress — with Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower striking from the west simultaneously with the "imminent" Renewal of the Russian offensive and opening of a coast-to-coast drive in Italy.

"Allied troop movements and shifting of materials on the southern (Italian) front indicate the two (fifth and eighth) armies intend to launch a fresh attack," said DNE's Karl Prager in a broadcast recorded by the British ministry of information.

Nazi invasion-guessing comment filled the European air. "It is very probable," theorized Lt. Col. Von Olberg in a Berlin broadcast, "that the short-lived soviet offensive on the lower Dnepr and in the Iasi area has been halted by the express order of Stalin, who wants the great battle in the east, which certainly is imminent, to coincide with the opening of the second front in the west. The German command is firmly convinced that the major soviet offensive will begin soon."

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"The smaller child isn't breathing often now," Dr. J. Elmer Gotwals reported as the "cute little blonde girls" started their third day of life, and the third day of their fight against a common death which physicians believe will strike momentarily.

They were isolated today in a crib in the nursery of Phoenixville hospital, where they were born early Sunday to 24-year-old Mary Stierly, widow of a war plant worker.

Lt. Victor J. Guthrie Missing in Action

Lt. Victor J. Guthrie, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Guthrie, Portland, is missing in action in the European area, according to information received by friends here from the parents last night. The Guthrie family formerly lived in Salem and his parents were notified by the war department yesterday that he has been missing since April 16.

Allied Submarines Sink 17 Jap Ships

WASHINGTON, May 2-(AP)—Allied submarines hacking at harried Japanese shipping have cut a new gap of 17 ships, four of them war vessels, out of the Nipponese lifeline of conquest. The total represents 12 American kills, including a light cruiser and two destroyers, and five British, including one destroyer, announced respectively by navy headquarters in Washington and the admiralty in London.

The American crews brought to 695 the number of Japanese ships sunk, probably sunk or damaged by United States submarines alone, including 69 warships.

Aside from the combatant vessels, the newly announced lists included: Sunk by American subs—One large tanker, two medium sized cargo transports, five medium sized cargo vessels, one large naval auxiliary.

By British subs—Four supply ships, one reported as medium sized, two more as smaller, and the fourth not described.

The US navy, in line with long-established policy of keeping the enemy guessing, gave no details, but the British were more communicative. The British-sunk destroyer went down south of the Andaman islands in the Indian ocean while escorting a supply ship, which also was torpedoed. Another supply vessel, strongly escorted, was sunk in the same area. In Malaya strait between Malaya and Sumatra the British reported destruction of a medium sized vessel with a deck cargo of motor transport, and the two smaller ships.

Two supply ships and an escort vessel were damaged in addition to the actual sinkings, the British reported, and one of the submarines in the raids bombed military installations at Fort Blair in the Andaman islands, hitting a small escort ship and escaping undamaged after a brisk duel with shore batteries.

American attacks by means other than submarines build up an overall figure of 2224 Japanese ships, including 609 combatant vessels, sunk, probably sunk or damaged.

A breakdown shows this enemy loss: by submarines—combatant ships, 45 sunk; 10 probably sunk; 14 damaged, total 69. Non-combatant ships, 459 sunk, 26 probably sunk, 161 damaged, total 626—grand total 695.

Unofficial tabulation of damage for all causes—combatant vessels, 267 sunk; 30 probably sunk; 312 damaged, total 609. Non-combatant, 922 sunk; 83 probably sunk; 580 damaged, total 1615. Grand total 2224.

AFL Council Raps Military

PHILADELPHIA, May 2-(AP)—The AFL executive council blamed military authorities today for causing "the worst injury to public morale" by their statements on compulsory labor and selective service. The council made four suggestions for the effective use of manpower.

Asserting that the opposition to labor conscription had been justified by events, the federation's chief spokesman said they believed "that the worst injury to public morale on the home front has been brought by military authorities who, in the eagerness to secure enactment of national service legislation, have issued a long series of conflicting, confusing and upsetting statements and regulations."

"In particular, the executive council regards the apparently haphazard and contradictory policies announced from week to week and month to month on inductions into the armed forces as indefensible from any point of view."

Churchill Tells Premiers Of Victory Preparations

By RICHARD R. KASISCHKE LONDON, May 3-(Wednesday)—Prime Minister Churchill, welcoming empire premiers to 10 Downing street, told them they were here "in the most deadly climate of the conflict of the nations, at a time when although we need no longer fear defeat, we are making the most intense efforts to compel an early victory."

Churchill's Monday address, made public today, said he did not expect that "in the heat of war we shall reach complete solution of all problems that confront the British empire and vex mankind. But it's high time we got around the table to exchange views and ideas..."

"There is a second major reason for these conversations," he said. "The commonwealth and the empire now have fighting on their side very powerful allies—the Soviet Union and the great republic of the United States. It is

Weather
Maximum temperature Tuesday 75 degrees; minimum, 33. No precipitation.
Fair Wednesday and Thursday except foggy along coast; slightly warmer inland.

US Navy Hits Truk 3 Days

Planes Destroy 126 Japs; Drop 800 Bomb Tons

US PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, Pearl Harbor, May 2-(AP)—The destruction of Truk of 125 Japanese planes, overwhelming of its defenses with 800 tons of bombs and the shelling of other Caroline bases during a three-day assault of aircraft carrier task forces was disclosed today by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz.

The fleet dealt the destruction while returning from its deep Pacific penetration to support Gen. Douglas MacArthur's invasion of Dutch New Guinea. Truk was swarmed upon Saturday and Sunday by carrier planes. Nearby Satawan was hit by planes and shelled by cruisers Sunday. Ponape in the eastern Carolines was bombed by battleships Monday.

Admiral Nimitz reported the blows were struck at light cost in American aircraft and without damage to a warship. Carrier-borne planes threw the weight of their attack against Truk itself Saturday and Sunday.

Carrier planes and battleships or cruisers bombed and shelled Ponape, 440 miles east of Truk, and Satawan, less than 200 miles southeast of Truk.

The forces were under command of Vice Adm. Marc A. Mitscher and were returning from operations off Dutch New Guinea, where they supported the invasion at Hollandia, April 22, by ground forces under command of Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur.

Demonstrating the wallop packed by Pacific fleet task forces, the carrier planes smote Truk with 800 tons of bombs. Shore installations at that fortress, once considered impregnable, were reported heavily damaged.

In the first day's strike at Truk, on Saturday, 60 Japanese planes (Turn to Page 2—Story F)

Japs Continue China Advance Toward Rail

CHUNGKING, May 2-(AP)—Further advances by a Japanese column striking westward in the general direction of the Peiping-Hankow railroad from north Anhwei province were announced tonight by the Chinese high command which said Chinese forces were beginning "large-scale mobile warfare" in Honan province east of the rail line.

The Chinese, who apparently are carrying out their long-familiar tactics of trading space for time, seem to be striking the Japanese flanks after melting away in traditional fashion before the main enemy spearheads.

Although Japanese columns had reached a point about 80 miles south of Chenghsien and narrowed the Chinese-held portion of the north-south Peiping-Hankow railroad to less than 120 miles, Chinese quarters appeared to be more concerned over the possibility of a Japanese slash westward along the Lunghai railway toward Loyang. Yesterday the high command announced the loss of Hulao pass and expressed the belief the Japanese were aiming at Loyang.

Three other Japanese columns were moving down the Peiping-Hankow railroad and Chinese warplanes supporting ground troops engaged with the enemy attacked Japanese airfields in southern Shanai and northern Honan province yesterday, the communique said.

Portland Boy Dies In Aurora Wreck

When the car driven by his older brother crashed into the southeast end of the highway bridge at Aurora early Tuesday morning, Harold Evans Waymire, 17, Portland, was killed almost instantly, investigating state police said.

With his brother, Marvin LeRoy Waymire, the youth was returning to Portland, where he was employed in the shipyards, following a visit to an uncle, Lloyd Waymire, at Broadacre. The driver said he had fallen asleep at the wheel.