

Reds Breach Heart of Kharkov Defenses

No Berry Prices Fixed at Joint Conference

Assurance Given of Federal Supporting Program As With Vegetables

No berry prices were fixed at a closed meeting today here of canners and packers and berry growers with Edmond Maher, regional director of the office of price administration from San Francisco. But Maher did give assurance that an effort would be made to work out a supporting program for berries similar to that worked out recently for processed vegetables and until that is done there can be no determination as to what the fruit prices will be to growers. He gave assurances he would endeavor to furnish further information within 48 hours, if possible, as to the chances of a supporting program being established.

"With a freeze on preserves in the east which permits only an 11-cent price for strawberries delivered barreled on the Atlantic coast it's impossible to work out an arrangement without government support where by either the grower or packer can handle berries except at a loss," said Mr. Maher in a statement issued following the meeting.

Program Expected In fact, information given at the meeting indicated that if packers buy at prices which the growers say is necessary to meet advancing costs they would "take a licking" of about \$50 a ton.

"The government has just announced a supporting program for canned vegetables," continued Mr. Maher in his statement, "and meetings in Washington, D. C., are scheduled to take place within a couple of weeks to consider a supporting program for berries."

"At this meeting today both the growers and packers felt that if some announcement could be obtained that such a program would be undertaken they could go forward with their harvesting and packing, even though they would have to wait some time for details of the program to be announced."

Support Essential It was the consensus that the question of government support is of highest importance not only in view of this year's harvest but to assure that acreage will be replaced and replanted to (Concluded on page 9, column 8)

Hull Hopeful Of Early Win

Washington, May 20 (AP)—Secretary of State Hull indicated today he saw some grounds for hope that victory for the United Nations might come sooner than had been expected earlier this year.

He was asked at his press conference whether developments in recent weeks on the home and foreign fronts encouraged him to believe in an earlier victory. In reply he pointed out that the powers and facilities of the United States have been developing on a more and more massive scale, not only for offensive-defensive operations but for outright offensive war.

It was only natural, he suggested, that calculations as to the duration of the war should be made in the light of those facts.

In reply to other questions, Hull said the work of immobilizing French warships at Martinique still was going on, but that the task of removing fuel oil from the vessels had been completed. This, he said, made it impossible for the vessels to put to sea, but left enough oil to operate their electric lighting systems and other minor installations.

Walsh Cleared Of Charges Made By Newspaper

Justice Prob Shows Accusations False—Plot To Smear Senate Seen

Washington, May 20 (AP)—Democratic Leader Barkley (Ky.) told the senate today Attorney General Biddle had informed him that a justice department investigation had "completely exonerated" Senator Walsh (D., Mass.), of published statements that Walsh had visited a "house of degradation" in Brooklyn.

Addressing a crowded senate in which Walsh's was one of the few vacant seats, Barkley told of the publication in the New York Post of charges that Walsh had been a frequent visitor to a house in Brooklyn at which Barkley said there were reports that soldiers and sailors were "plied with liquor" in order that information on the movement of ships might be obtained from them.

Never Saw Place Walsh told him personally, Barkley said, that he never had been to the house in question and had been in Brooklyn only three times in his life, on each occasion to make public speeches. The Kentuckian added that a justice department investigation, which he and Republican Leader McNary of Oregon agreed should be made, "completely exonerated" Walsh.

Barkley took the floor at the opening of today's session to say that he wished to make a statement involving the high privilege of the senate and "the highest personal privilege of the members of the senate."

Accused by Crook On May 1, 1942, Barkley said, the New York Post printed a story growing out of the trial of a case in Brooklyn involving a defendant by the name of Gustave H. Beekman. Beekman was on trial, Barkley continued, for "an offense too loathsome to mention in the senate or in any group of ladies and gentlemen."

Senator Clark (D., Mo.) congratulated Barkley upon his statement, but said that he personally believed that "for the maintenance of its own integrity, it is the duty of the senate to examine into the motives behind this filthy conspiracy."

To that end, Clark suggested that the publisher of the New York Post and Walter Winchell be called before the bar of the senate for questioning.

He referred to Winchell as "that commentator who disgraced the uniform of the navy of the United States" by undertaking in a radio address "to smear not only Senator Walsh but three other members of the senate whose names happen to start with 'W.'"

Chinese Stall Jap Burma Road Drive

Chungking, May 20 (AP)—Chinese demolition squads and guerrillas have stalled Japan's invasion machine along the Burma road, but a serious new threat developed today in eastern China as plane-supported and reinforced enemy columns drove toward allied aerial and supply bases.

A Chungking communique described bitter fighting in Chekiang province below Shanghai where the Japanese were pressing southward along five routes toward the air bases at Lishui and Chushien.

"There are heavy casualties on both sides and fighting is continuing bitterly," the communique added. The Japanese were basing their southward drives from Chukhsien, evacuated by the Chinese Sunday night after severe street fighting, and Feng-

Gas Rations To Spread All Over Nation

Washington, May 20 (AP)—The possibility of further gasoline rationing spread over the map today as the government considered curtailment of automobile driving throughout the country to conserve rubber.

The war production board directed the office of defense transportation to draw up a nation-wide plan, in consultation with Petroleum Coordinator Harold L. Ickes and Price Administrator Leon Henderson.

July 1 was mentioned as the logical date to start the program, if it finally was adopted. That is the date consumer rationing by coupon books will become effective in the east and Pacific northwest, supplanting the present temporary card rationing system.

British, French Clash Off Algiers

Vichy, France, May 20 (AP)—A gunfight which developed from an aerial patrol incident is reported in official dispatch to have cost France one plane and Britain two Monday in the western Mediterranean off Algiers.

The clash was regarded as important militarily only in that it further aroused the Vichy government's temper, already stirred by the British occupation of Syria, Lebanon and Madagascar and a series of maritime developments.

The official dispatch announced last night, gave this account of the action: A British seaplane flying over Algiers bay was hailed by a French pursuit craft with a machine-gun burst and forced down.

A British destroyer nearby opened fire on two French torpedo boats which, the French declared, had been ordered out to save the British plane. Instead, under the destroyer's shelling, they turned their guns on the plane and sank it.

British destroyers threw up a heavy anti-aircraft fire. The squadron, nevertheless, succeeded in shooting down another British plane.

One French plane failed to return to its base. Officials said "Once again the French see what means our former allies are using."

Italians Admit Loss Of Submarine

Rome (From Italian Broadcasts), May 20 (AP)—The high command announced the loss of an Italian submarine today, saying it had failed to return to its base.

"The next of kin of the crew have been notified," a communique said. (Italian submarines are reported operating in the Atlantic as well as the Mediterranean. Where the vessel was lost was not announced.)

Australians Renew Demand For More Planes

America Criticized for Sending Troops to Ireland—Hunt for Invaders

Melbourne, May 20 (AP)—Australia renewed its demand for more planes, men, guns and ships today as Gen. Douglas MacArthur's allied air force continued its wide reconnaissance flights in search for an enemy invasion fleet.

One newspaper by implication criticized the United States for sending additional forces to northern Ireland unless they are intended for an immediate offensive against the German-held continent of Europe.

Air Minister Arthur S. Drakeford, in a statement, said: "The need for planes cannot be too strongly stressed. . . our slogan should be planes, more planes and still more planes. Without them our task will be made heavier and longer."

"The request made at London by Dr. Herbert Evatt, Australian foreign secretary, for delivery of planes to Australia as rapidly as possible needs the support of all Australians. It is encouraging to find that his spirited and capable appeals are meeting with public support throughout the world."

The critical newspaper was the Sydney Daily Telegraph. Commenting on the arrival of American troops in northern Ireland, it said:

Australia Needs Help "Australia would be the first to cheer the Americans if they were bound to Britain to participate in the coming critical weeks in an offensive against the axis."

"But we shall not be so pleased if the Americans are going to camp for the summer. The United Nations should be rushing more men, ships, guns and planes to points where fighting is actually taking place."

(At his press conference yesterday, President Roosevelt was told that some Australians feared the arrival of more American troops in northern Ireland, might mean the United States was minimizing the dangers in the southwest Pacific. Mr. Roosevelt replied that he hadn't heard of it.)

Home Canners Get Certificates

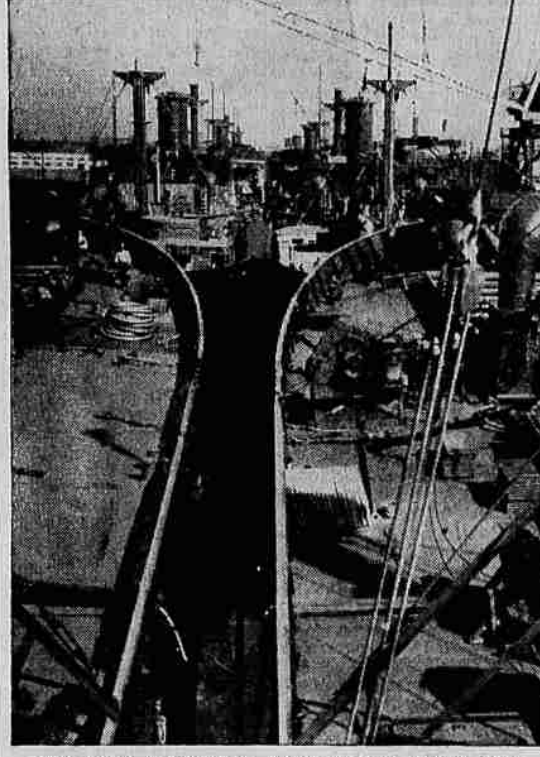
Portland, May 20 (AP)—All Oregon county rationing boards are authorized to issue sugar certificates immediately to home canners, the state sugar rationing office announced today.

Those who have not registered will be given opportunity at a later date, the office said. Present regulations permit five pounds of sugar a person per year for canning purposes, the office disclosed.

Japanese Marry At Assembly Center

Portland, May 20 (AP)—There was more excitement at the Japanese assembly center here yesterday than the day the evacuees moved in.

The first wedding was held there. The principals, both Oregon State college graduates, were Molly Kageyama, whose father was unable to attend because with other evacuees from the Hood River area he is held in an assembly center at Pinedale, Calif., and Milton Maeda, former Junior engineer of the Bonneville administration.



War Races Shipbuilders—Lined up two abreast, here are some of 12 Liberty ships being outfitted at a large U. S. shipyard. Among other things, this war is a race between United Nations shipbuilders and the toll of axis sea raiders.

More Raids on Japan Probable

Washington, May 20 (AP)—More raids on Tokyo may be possible if the base from which Brig. Gen. James H. Doolittle and his 79 men took off to bomb the Japanese capital remains a secret, officials indicated today. It is one of the most provocative secrets of the war and not the least interested to learn the answer are the Japanese. Officials hinted that a repeat performance of Doolittle's daring raid, which left a wake of death and destruction among warships, airplane factories and other military objectives in Japan on April 18, depends upon how well that secret is kept.

Doolittle, the dare-devil speed flyer of more peaceful days, when asked if he was going to try another raid, replied: "That I don't know. It's in the laps of the gods and the war department."

But those who watched him receive the congressional medal of honor from President Roosevelt yesterday and later listened to him answer questions at a special press conference had no doubt that the short, baldish, 45-year-old flyer was rarin' to go.

Doolittle revealed virtually all details of the raid that he knew—except where the two-engine North American medium B-25 bombers took off, where they landed and how many were involved. And no hint came from anyone else as to whether they started their "hazardous and important" flight from China, aircraft carriers or a secret base.

Col. Owens said the men were stationed at McChord field, Tacoma, Wash., last year, moving to Phelps field, Spokane, later, and then to army maneuvers in Louisiana last fall.

From the Louisiana war games, the men were transferred to Pendleton, Ore., where they underwent rigorous training in specialized and long distance bombing attacks. Except for a brief interlude at Phelps field, all training designed to fit them for the attack on Japan was carried out at the Pendleton airbase.

British Aim at 1000 Bombers a Night

London, May 20 (AP)—Allied air commands are aiming at expansion enabling them to send 1000 bombers a night against German targets, an authoritative source indicated today.

"A thousand planes is not a fantastic figure," this source declared. "At present we have the facilities for sending 800 planes on raids, and these can be expanded."

The capacity of Britain as an air base has not yet been fully developed, he added. The objective is expansion so great that on any night with good weather conditions we will be able to send 1000 aircraft to bomb Germany," he said, pointing out that this would not mean every night.

Invasion of Europe Planned By Churchill

Amassing Strength for Attack on Continent—Air Raids a Prelude

London, May 20 (AP)—The Churchill government informed the house of commons today, at the conclusion of a two-day war debate, that Great Britain is amassing strength and intends to "make a carefully planned attack on the continent of Europe."

The assurance was given by Sir Stafford Cripps, lord privy seal and government spokesman in commons, after former war minister Leslie Hore-Belisha had warned that Japan probably would attack Russia in the east if the allies invade western Europe.

Prelude to Invasion Cripps said that the RAF's heavy offensive against the vitals of Germany's war production is a prelude to an ultimate invasion, and the best way that Britain can aid Russia at this time.

"This bombing is, in our view, of material assistance to Russian resistance and the best way in which we can give assistance until such time as we are able to make a carefully planned attack on the continent of Europe, which we intend to do," he said.

Cripps defended Churchill against attacks on his conduct of the war, both as defense minister and prime minister, and said that the government is willing to stand or fall on a vote of confidence on its war policies.

Rejects Public Inquiry The government leader rejected demands for a public inquiry into the British reverses in the Pacific, including Malaya, Burma and Singapore.

Of his successful mission to India to seek a defense agreement under a British offer of post-war dominion status, Cripps said that Britain has not closed the door to negotiations and is anxious to settle the problem.

Meanwhile, he said, the British are doing their best to solidify the defense of India against a threatened Japanese invasion. Pledge to Australia Cripps wound up the debate for the government after Hore-Belisha had attacked the Churchill war policies.

Cripps repeated a pledge made earlier by Major Clement R. Attlee, deputy prime minister and dominions secretary, that Britain will do all in her power to aid Australia.

Discussing the war in the Mediterranean, Cripps said that during April more bombs were dropped on Malta than were dropped on Britain "in any month during the worst period of the blitz."

The German luftwaffe made more than 5000 sorties against Malta during April, he said. Churchill was unable to take part in the two-day war debate.

Nazis Mass for Aerial Invasion Of Caucasus

100,000 Chutists Assembled—Russians Repel Counter Attacks

Russia's armies storming toward the great Ukraine steel city of Kharkov were reported by London sources to have fought their way "into the heart of the city's defenses" today, while the Germans were massing 100,000 paratroopers for a giant air-borne invasion of the Caucasus.

The German high command said that axis Crimean troops had already overrun the Kerch peninsula, across the narrow Kerch strait from oil-rich Caucasus. Moscow said battles still raged there.

Richthofen Leader A Berlin communique also announced that General Baron von Richthofen, who directed the bombing of Belgrade and paved the way for Germany's aerial invasion of Crete, had arrived in the Kerch battle zone. Baron von Richthofen is an expert on troop transportation by plane-towed gliders.

In the Ukraine, the red armies, led by monster 52-ton tanks, were pictured in soviet dispatches as advancing over fields littered with many hundreds of German dead in the nine-day-old offensive against Kharkov, while the nazis desperately attempted to ease the pressure with a diversionary attack 80 miles to the south.

Apparently the Russians refused to be decoyed. Smashing Ahead A bulletin from red army headquarters announced tersely: "Our troops waged offensive battles, beat off enemy counterattacks and advanced."

At mid-day, the Russians reported they were smashing ever closer to Kharkov despite stiffened German resistance and declared the fighting was spreading like wildfire along the entire southern flank of the 125-mile front.

Meanwhile, the Russians declared that the German offensive against Arctic Murmansk, port of entry for United States supplies to Russia, has been thwarted by the sinking of 95, 115 tons of German shipping in the Barents sea during April. (Concluded on page 10, column 7)

Mannheim Hit By British Bombs

London, May 20 (AP)—One detachment of four-motored Stirling bombers carried 40,000 fire bombs to Mannheim and attacked that southwestern German city last night, air ministry sources said.

In the resumption of major air attacks on German industrial centers after an 11-day lull, the air ministry said other large forces of Halifaxes, Lancasters, Manchesteres and Wellingtons attacked Mannheim with "great loads" of fire missiles and "the heaviest high explosive bombs."

"The first reports of the crews give an encouraging description of many fires left burning and of heavy high explosives bursting among industrial buildings," the air ministry news service added.

The air ministry said 14 planes were missing from the night's operation, including two fighters.

While bombers were hammering the Nazi submarine base at St. Nazaire, in occupied France, in their first night blow after a weather-enforced lull of 11 days, the communique disclosed, British fighter planes raked enemy airbases in France and Holland, downing one of the enemy planes which rose to challenge them. (Concluded on page 9, column 7)

Soldier's-in-laws To Get No Benefits

Washington, May 20 (AP)—Mothers-in-law, fathers-in-law and grandchildren won't get any benefits from a soldier's or sailor's pay or from government aid to his dependents. The house military committee voted such relatives out and sent the dependents' allowance bill to the whole house today for final action some time next week, after congress decides whether to raise private and seaman to a \$42 or \$50 monthly minimum.

Aside from ruling out grandchildren (which not many doughboys have) and in-laws (which more of them are getting), the committee left the dependents' bill unchanged. A soldier with class "A" dependents (wife or children) would get \$20 taken from his pay check every month. In addition, the government would add \$20 for a wife,

\$10 for each dependent child, \$15 for a child but no wife, and \$20 for a divorced wife legally entitled to alimony. Under this scale, a wife with four children would receive \$20 from her husband's pay and \$60 from the government. The allotments from a service man's pay would be mandatory if he had dependents, but would be applicable only to lower-grade men, up to the rank of the lowest army sergeant and the corresponding naval grade. The payments would not begin until the fourth month after (Concluded on page 9, column 5)