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NO. 306.

2 PENDLETON BASE BOMBERS CRASH

News Behind The News

by Paul Mallon

Washington, March 16—The key to the whole world war situation is on the Russian front. It will be turned one way or the other within 60 to 90 days.

If Hitler's last desperate effort this spring fails to destroy the red army and reach oil, reasonably prompt counter action by the United Nations could

force him to his knees. Japan could not long continue the war without the distracting assistance of her Berlin ally. But if the reds are eliminated from this war as a formidable force this spring, Japan and Germany will rule the rich resources of two continents. It will be the world against the U. S. and Britain. A devastating conflict of many years duration would be the least of the live possibilities.

This realistic interpretation is apparently moving current policy of our government. Aid to Russia has recently been rushed through both houses. A sign that the Nazis know the importance of this aid was given when Hitler moved the Tirpitz up the Norwegian coast.

THE reds are supposed to be mustering a secret army of a million and a half men (91 divisions) to throw in upon the Nazis massing for a spring drive on the south Ukrainian front. The idea is to get the jump on the Germans, throw them off balance, before they can get their own offensive going.

The tale, however, seems to be just a little too well known. It has been sweeping out of Stockholm, Bern, Vichy and even London. No doubt the reds have organized something along this line. Question is whether it is as strong as these sources have represented.

An ideal spot for such an attack exists, south of Kharkov. The reds have outflanked the Germans north of the city and if they can drive a salient in south

(Continued on Page Four)

Freight Rate Boost Delay Is Ruled Out

Washington, March 16—(AP)—The interstate commerce commission denied today the petition of the office of price administration for a postponement of the effective date of freight rate increases on certain commodities. The OPA had asked postponement from March 18 to April 15.

Earlier the railroads had told the ICC that the OPA petition for postponement of the effective date of freight rate increases on certain commodities had no merit and asked the commission not to abdicate its responsibility.

Radio Highlights

(Pacific War Time)
Tonight: Blue—6, Rep. C. A. Woodrum on "Need for Economy"; MBS 7:30, music that endures, Sen. Taft, speaker.

Tuesday: The war—5 a. m., NBC, CBS, BLU, 5:45 NBC, 5:55 BLU, 6 CBS, 7:00 NBC, 7:15 BLU, 8 CBS, 8:15 MBS, 9 CBS, 10 Blue, 10:45 NBC, 11 MBS, 12:15 P. M., CBS, 1:45 CBS, 1:55 BLU, 2 MBS, 3 CBS, 3:25 NBC.

SIDE GLANCES

BY

TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Gold Hill merchant Norman Gail looking worried while trying to drive his pick-up through Medford's noonday traffic.

Harry Wilson displaying a large agate which was found in 1917 on the Eagle Point desert. pered by "the incision, the re-

FOUR KNOWN DEAD IN ONE MACHINE; OTHER UNREACHED

Both Planes Engaged in Routine Night Training—Motor, Wing Burned.

Pendleton, Ore., March 16—(AP)—Four army airmen, including the pilot and co-pilot, were killed and two injured in the crash of a B-17 bomber three miles south of Gowen field at Boise, Ida., Col. Frank W. Wright, commander of the Pendleton airbase, announced this afternoon.

Another B-17 which went down in the rugged Blue Mountains 20 miles south of Pendleton, will not be reached until late today by a crash crew of 21 men and doctors sent from the Pendleton base.

Both ships were stationed here and were engaged in routine night training flights.

At Boise the dead are: Second Lieut. Charles S. Hosford III, Butler, Penn., pilot.

Second Lieut. Duane T. Crosthwaite, Pleasant Ridge, Mich., co-pilot.

Pvt. Harold L. Gilliam, Everett, Wash., crewman.

Pvt. Arthur L. Schiffer, address unknown, crewman.

Injured are: Sgt. Morton L. Howard, route 6, Danville, Penn., radio operator, fractured leg and dislocated right ankle.

Corp. George A. Gurlack, 65 West Street, Danbury, Conn., engineer, possible fracture ribs and punctured lung, condition serious.

The ship had signaled with its lights and was circling to land. Col. Wright explained. Coming in on the wrong runway, the pilot was radioed to make another attempt and apparently did not see the wooded hills on which the plane crashed. The left motor and left wing were burned and the fuselage broken apart.

TREASURY INSISTS SALES TAX UNFAIR

Washington, March 16—(AP)—The treasury department estimated today that a general five per cent retail sales tax with no exemptions would yield \$5,018,000,000 in new revenue, but renewed its objections to that type of levy.

A sales levy has been suggested by the National Association of Manufacturers and was proposed today by the Brooklyn chamber of commerce.

At the specific request of the house ways and means committee, Randolph Paul, tax advisor to Secretary Morgenthau, gave committee members statistics on various types of sales taxes and said in a memorandum:

"For a variety of reasons, any type of general sales tax would not affect all taxpayers uniformly. . . . Even though levied on all items at a uniform rate, a sales tax of whatever form is unlikely to affect all prices equally."

Probe Promised in WPB Dillydallying

Washington, March 16—(AP)—A congressional investigation of the recently created war production board was promised today to examine charges that the arms program was being hampered by "the indolence, the resistance and the caution" of some WPB officials formerly connected with industries that must be converted to military purposes.

The train of events was touched off Saturday night by the abrupt resignation of Robert H. Guthrie, head of WPB's textile division, and two of his aides.

Guthrie charged that his efforts "to hurry the conversion of as many industries as possible to the war effort have met with continued resistance within the WPB" from those previously connected with "the affected industries."

Sub Victims Rescued in Caribbean



Four sailors whose ship was the victim of an axis submarine in the Caribbean limply leave the two little rafts on which they lived for seven days to board the rescue vessel which took them to Philadelphia.

DIVORCEE FOUND GARROTTED AFTER LATE HOUR PARTY

Portland, Ore., March 16—(AP)—Police traced today the few clues left them by the strangled of 28-year-old Margaret Gwen Ponsness, Portland stenographer.

Her naked body, covered neatly by a quilt, was found last night in her apartment, in which there was no evidence of a struggle and only one thing was out of place.

That was a missing lamp cord. Deputy Coroner Gideon Snook said it probably was used to garrot the woman, then was carried off by the slayer. He said there was no evidence of criminal assault.

Of the woman, police knew little.

They said her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Philip Ponsness, Seaside, Ore. A sister was also believed to live at Seaside. Mrs. John B. Shank, apartment house manager, said the woman had lived alone since a divorce two years ago.

Carl Magnuson, another apartment tenant, said two men were at a party in the woman's apartment, but left at 2:30 a. m., when he complained of noise. He could not identify them.

The deputy coroner fixed death at 6 a. m., and police said anyone might have gained admittance to the apartment through a back door, which was unlocked.

MURRAY, LEWIS NEAR SHOWDOWN

Pittsburgh, Pa., March 16—(AP)—Hometown friends and associates of Phil Murray said today the breach between the CIO president and John L. Lewis has so widened an open showdown between the two seems imminent.

Some of Murray's closest friends said they are convinced Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, has been moving some time to have that union desert the CIO and become the nucleus of a third labor movement.

These sources declare Lewis has been quietly tightening his reins over his union with the idea of forcing Murray out of his \$18,000-a-year job as its vice president. That is the only salary Murray draws, although he is president of the CIO and of the steel workers organizing committee.

SET MILK HEARING

Portland, March 16—(AP)—The Oregon milk control board today announced that a public hearing on creation of a fluid milk supply for an army cantonment in the Corvallis area has been set for Corvallis next Monday.

War Contract Profit Control, Unlimited Work Week Sought

Washington, March 16—(AP)—Legislation to limit profits on war contracts to a maximum of six per cent and to suspend federal statutes prescribing maximum hours of work was introduced in the house today by Rep. Howard Smith (D-Va) and Chairman Vinson (D-Ga) of the house naval committee.

Their action followed reports on the floor by nearly a score of representatives that they were receiving thousands of letters from their constituents demanding immediate action on labor legislation.

Smith is the author of a house approved bill to ban strikes in defense industries, which was passed before this country's entry in the war and which is still pending in the senate.

The measure's declaration of policy said that in the prosecution of war work "there should be no limitation by law or by contract upon hours of work" and "no individual should receive, at the expense of his government compensation in excess of that paid as straight time under prevailing law."

The declaration also said that it is "the inherent and inalienable right of American citizens to work" without being required to maintain membership in "or pay tribute to any person, association or organization."

TIRE RATIONING BOARD ASKS RETURN "PART C"

The local rationing board today requested tire dealers to return the "Part C" of the Certificate of Purchase to the local board within a period of three days, except in the case of mail orders, which may take the required time. The board stressed this request should be complied with as the "Part C" is greatly needed in the work of the board.

Hitler Revises His Victory Timetable Now Plans to Crush Reds In Summer

Fuehrer Fearful Declares Welles

Washington, March 16—(AP)—The new importance of Adolf Hitler's speeches, Acting Secretary of State Sumner Welles told a press conference today, lies in the fact that "there is implicit in every word and every phrase Hitler's own recognition of his impending downfall."

Welles added that it was only natural that Hitler in his latest speech should have referred to the kind of world in which President Roosevelt and the American people wish to live in as a "new, detestable, alien world."

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AUSTRALIA HEARS JAPS GATHERING FOR HEAVY BLOW

Fear Partially Offset By Rumors of Counter Offensive—Sub Wrecks Havoc

By Clyde A. Farnsworth Associated Press War Editor

Reports current in Australia of Japanese troop movements from China in an ominous gathering of offensive power, which Australians assumed was pointed at them, were partially offset today by talk of air and sea counter-offensives against Japan.

Fourteen Japanese bombers struck again at Darwin, capital and port of the vast northern territory and potentially one of the few remaining naval strong points of the united nations in the southwest Pacific.

Reassuring word of a United States assault on Japanese communications with a vast fleet of submarines as its spearhead was published in the Australian press but with no authority for the report.

This particular hope was undoubtedly nourished by announcement of the arrival of a United States submarine at Perth, Australia's main western port, after a 15,000-mile, 60-day rampage through Indonesian, Philippine and Malayan waters, leaving an average of 1,000 tons of destroyed Japanese shipping in its wake each day.

The hope of a United States British aerial offensive against Japanese territory itself was based on the promise of Air Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, RAF chief in India, but whether such a joint effort could be started in time to help Australia was left unanswered.

Australia and her allies already are locked in a battle for the island approaches to the thinly settled continent which stands as the last great barrier to Japanese conquest in the southwest Pacific.

Australian observers said that allied bombers were helping the Royal Australian air force accelerate the assaults on insular bases seized by the Japanese on the way to Australia but that the need for reinforcements was still urgent.

United nations strategy was increasingly concerned with the future relations of Japan and Russia. Some reports said that the U.S.S.R.'s Siberian forces and naval bases were ready for instant action against any Japanese attack.

Corvallis, March 16—(AP)—The American soldier is so much better fed than the average civilian that there is no point in giving him vitamin capsules, Dr. Margaret Finkle, Oregon State college food specialist, told fellow scientists at the Oregon state biology colloquium Saturday.

COORDINATOR COMING FOR TUESDAY PARLEY

Salem, March 16—(AP)—State Civilian Defense Coordinator Jerrold Owen conferred today with county defense councils in Roseburg and Grants Pass, and will meet tomorrow with the council in Medford. He will be in Klamath Falls Wednesday.

SILVERTON HAS FIRE

Silverton, Ore., March 16—(AP)—Fire destroyed the Beck service station and store today. Origin of the fire was not determined immediately.

WREATH ON THE WAR DEAD MEMORIAL IN UNTER DEN LINDEN

He acknowledged frankly that the German armed forces had met unanticipated obstacles in Russia after achieving victories which he said had "no parallel in history." Winter, for instance, he said, came weeks earlier than expected.

"But one thing we know today," Hitler declared: "The Bolsheviks who could not defeat the German troops and their allies in one winter will be annihilatingly defeated by us in the coming summer."

Russia's only hope of ultimate victory, Hitler said, vanished when her armies failed to inflict upon Germany a "Napoleonic" defeat in the snow and cold of a winter he described as the worst in 140 years.

Hitler reiterated assertions that "Jewish and capitalist conspirators" had caused the war

and laid much of the blame upon President Roosevelt.

"In what kind of a world the American president wishes to live is a matter of complete indifference to us Germans," he said. "But his aims to organize Germany or even the European world in accordance with his own needs * * * and to build a detestable new alien world will not only fail but bring about the collapse of his own world."

Hitler referred disparagingly to the Riom trials of French leaders charged with responsibility for France's fall.

"The characteristic of this trial," he said, "is that not a single word of guilt of those responsible for the war is mentioned and nothing but inferior preparation for war is talked about. We see in this a mentality incomprehensible to us, but which, perhaps, is better than anything else in revealing the causes of the new war."

War Bulletins

Washington, March 16—(AP)—The war department reported today that nine army fighter planes destroyed three Japanese aircraft in a fight north of Australia. One American plane was lost in ramming an enemy fighter, a communique said.

The engagement took place Saturday when nine American pursuit planes of the Curtiss P-40 type encountered a large flight of enemy bombers escorted by fighter planes.

London, March 16—(AP)—A single raider which broke through the coast defenses and gave London its first daylight alarm in almost a year was chased away today without dropping bombs and the mid-day life of the city went on without missing a beat.

New York, March 16—(AP)—Neutral Chile's first ship loss was revealed by the third naval district today with announcement that a freighter had been sunk by an axis submarine with a heavy loss of life—possibly 27 men.

(Dispatches from Santiago, Chile, identified the vessel as the Tolten, of 1,858 gross tons.)

High Court Upholds Power Commission Valuation Practice

Washington, March 16—(AP)—In an opinion holding constitutional the 1938 federal natural gas act, the supreme court today left the federal power commission free to adopt a proposal advocated by President Roosevelt for valuing public utilities for rate making purposes on the basis of the amount "prudently invested."

Chief Justice Stone delivered the unanimous opinion that upheld a power commission order directing the Natural Gas Pipeline company of America and Texoma Natural Gas company both of Chicago, to reduce their rates sufficiently to lower operating revenues by \$3,750,000 annually.

The justice department had asked the tribunal to give judicial sanction to the prudent investment theory of valuing utilities and to overrule an 1898 decision, hold that the reproduction cost was an essential element in arriving at a fair valuation.

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BRITAIN SMASHES AT AXIS BASE ON TURKEY'S FLANK

Action Underscores Prospect of German Invasion Attempt to Middle East.

By Clyde A. Farnsworth AP War Editor

The British smashed at an axis base on Turkey's Mediterranean flank over the week-end, indirectly underscoring the prospect that if the Germans do not get going in Russia they may try to turn Turkey into an invasion route to the middle east.

Whether there was an overt threat to Turkey at that axis base, the Italian island of Rhodes, could not be ascertained from the British report of the raid, which spoke only of "objectives" bombed at two places on the island.

TURKEY PRESSED

Turkey, a non-belligerent ally of the British, is under considerable German pressure to join the "new order" in Europe without a fight. Rhodes lies only about 15 miles from the nearest point of Turkish territory.

Berlin reports of the war in Russia was marked today by an admission that Germany's central front had been cracked temporarily at one point.

Coinciding with the striking German admission of the Red army's driving power was a Moscow report via Stockholm that Russian paratroops had captured fortified positions behind the German lines near Smolensk. German attempts to mop up the paratroops had failed, a Swedish correspondent wrote.

WASI LINES BROKEN

The most astonishing of the latest reports from the war in Russia was Berlin's bald admission that the Red army had breached the German line on the central front during a heavy snowstorm and that "heavy defensive fighting developed there."

That appeared in a special announcement of the Hitler command while the regular communique admitted that the Russians had renewed mass attacks against German forces on the Kerkh peninsula of Crimea.

From the Russian side came reports that liberation of the great industrial center of Kharkov, on the southern front but north of the Crimea, was imminent.

JAPS CLAIM 400 YANKS CAPTURED

Tokyo (from Japanese broadcasts), March 16—(AP)—Four hundred American troops were captured by the Japanese at Bandoeng, central Java, and 100 more in eastern Java, a Domei dispatch said today.

All are now prisoners of war, it was said.

War material seized from the Americans included 93 automobiles, 8 field guns, 19 machine guns, 390 automatic and regular rifles and 80,000 rounds of ammunition, the dispatch said.

TORNADO KILLS 8 IN EAST ILLINOIS

Danville, Ill., March 16—(AP)—Eight persons were killed in a tornado that cut across eastern Illinois today, striking hardest north of here at the village of Alvin, where at least four were killed and perhaps two score hurt. Four others were killed in Champaign county.

Reports were that most of the buildings in Alvin, a town of 339 population, were destroyed and at least three burned when fires started in the wreckage.