



The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Cloudy tonight and tomorrow; warmer tonight, with lowest temperature about 35.

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F. D. R. ASKS 17-BILLION BUDGET, ORDERS NAVY OF WAR STRENGTH

Sands of Libya Never Grow Cold When British Forces Maneuver



Practice made perfect. The countless times which the Australian cavalry maneuvered in the desert sands of Egypt proved of value when the time came for their successful attack on the Italian stronghold of Bardia.



Mother Nature adds her obstacles in the North African war. Here New Zealand troops are shown battling the blinding, cutting blast of a sandstorm as well as the heat of the sun. These soldiers are moving up to the front line.

PLEA MADE FOR TOTAL DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACY

FLEET DIVIDED INTO 3 PARTS; HEADS SHIFTED

Warns More Billions Needed to Arm 'Axis' Foes.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—President Roosevelt today laid before Congress a \$17,485,528,049 budget "for the total defense of our democracy."

He served notice that he soon will ask still more billions to provide munitions for Britain and other countries battling the Axis.

Informed Legislators talked in terms of \$3,000,000,000 to \$10,000,000,000 for helping Britain over a long period. Any such sum would push the budget far past \$20,000,000,000.

But today's budget was all for America—an America in which the President said "democracy as a way of life is at stake."

Effective Feb. 1 there will be an Atlantic fleet, a Pacific fleet and an Asiatic fleet. Commander-in-chief of the U. S. fleet will be Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel. He also will become commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet. The present commander-in-chief, Admiral James O. Richardson, will report to Mr. Knox for a new assignment.

The Asiatic fleet will continue under command of Admiral Thomas C. Hart and the new Atlantic fleet, heretofore known as the Atlantic patrol force and comprising about 125 warships, will be under command of Rear Admiral Ernest J. King.

232,000 Enlisted Men. The additional authorization of enlisted naval personnel raises that force from 192,000 to 232,000 men.

Mr. Knox expressed as his own personal opinion that the Navy should not transfer more destroyers to Great Britain. He said that such additional transfers might seriously impair the fleet's efficiency.

Mr. Knox also said that he will ask Congress soon for authorization to construct 250 auxiliary vessels for the Navy.

"We gradually have been enlarging our Atlantic fleet and it has assumed the dignity which warrants setting it up as a separate fleet," he said. He added that no change in the size of the Atlantic fleet is contemplated now. Its force now is composed of about 125 ships.

Plan Pacific Maneuvers. Mr. Knox said the reorganization, so far as can be determined now, will have no effect upon plans to hold customary fleet maneuvers in the Pacific next spring.

The increase in enlisted strength also applies to reserves. Mr. Knox said that as the fleet grows, further increases will be made.

Mr. Knox announced that about Jan. 18, the command of submarines in the scouting force will be given to Capt. Thomas Wither, present head of the naval torpedo station at Newport, R. I. He will succeed Rear Admiral Wilhelm L. Friedell, who will report late in February to take over the Mare Island Navy yard.

There was strong demand for railroad shares based on anticipation that the excess profits tax setup, which favors railroad shares, would be changed little.

BILL STRIKES AT BRIDGES. WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—Rep. A. Leonard Allen (D. La.) today introduced a bill to require immediate deportation of Harry Bridges, Australian-born West Coast C. I. O. Maritime Union leader.

FASCIST ARMY ADDS 500,000

German Press Call F. D. R. 'War Profiteer No. 1'; Tobruk Siege Near.

BULLETIN. BUCHAREST, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—Maritime circles in Constantia reported today that a number of Soviet warships, estimated at about nine, have been warned to stay out of Rumanian territorial waters after appearing off Sulina, Rumanian Danube port on the Black Sea. There was no official confirmation of the report.

By UNITED PRESS. Italy called 500,000 youths to Army duty today as a made-in-England "blitzkrieg" sizzled across the Libyan desert west of Tobruk and raised the question whether the British would halt short of an attempt to drive the Fascist Army out of North Africa.

Italy's military plight shared attention with an officially inspired press explosion in Berlin against President Roosevelt's State-of-the-Union message to Congress.

Authorized Nazi sources and the German press reacted with charges that President Roosevelt and the "U. S. people" are enemies of "Germany, Italy, Russia and Japan."

President Roosevelt is "war profiteer No. 1 and war profiteer No. 2."

The President's address was "provocative and marked by arrogance which would hardly be exceeded."

Bulgaria on Watch. Other developments included:

The German anger was accompanied by London reports that Germany is moving increasing forces of planes and unknown numbers of troops into Italy to aid Benito Mussolini's hard-pressed forces.

Some previous reports have said that German planes were being sent to new bases in Sicily and southern Italy in a position where they could co-operate in the defense of North Africa both by protecting Italian sea routes from the mainland to Libya and by attacking British sea communications and land forces in the desert.

Air War Restricted. Today was the day selected by many Balkan sources for a German move into Bulgaria. But the hours ticked away without evidence that the much-rumored invasion was about to come off.

The Bulgarian Government announced that Premier Bogdan Filov and other spokesmen will address the nation Sunday at meetings in 11 sections of the country to "explain the Government policies."

Air action by both Britain and Germany was restricted by bad weather. The German High Command reported scattered attacks in Britain yesterday and an attack by (Continued on Page Three)

Victim's Relatives Oppose Freedom for Stephenson

Tell Clemency Commission of Fears If He Gets Paroled; Minister and Others Testify for Prisoner.

Fears that D. C. Stephenson, former Indiana Klan dragon, would attempt to "get even" with some witnesses if paroled from his life sentence for murder, were voiced before the State Clemency Commission at a hearing today.

The Commission, which heard a dozen witnesses both for and against hearing until tomorrow morning to hear additional witnesses.

The hearing was in Stephenson's formal petition for parole from the life sentence for the murder of Miss Mildred Oberholzer, Indianapolis stenographer, 15 years ago.

Marshall Oberholzer, Indianapolis, a brother of the murder victim, testified that "Stephenson is a dangerous man."

Wife Testifies. Mrs. Marshall Oberholzer testified before the Commission that she feared for the safety of her daughter, if Stephenson should be released.

He has threatened us and I am afraid that something might happen to my daughter if he is released," she said.

Commission members questioned Mrs. Oberholzer about the threats and she explained that she referred to the threats that were made against the family at the time of the trial.

"We've heard no recent threats," she said.

Women Protest Parole. Two Indianapolis women civic leaders who refused to give their names for publication also protested Stephenson's parole.

"We object on moral grounds to release of a man of this type," one of them said.

"The name of Indiana was never more disgraced than by the Stephenson case and surely no one is considering disgracing the state again by releasing him," she added.

Alban Smith, Le Fort, attorney for Stephenson, presented seven witnesses who urged a parole for the prisoner.

Sponsor Offers Job. George Weber, a South Bend manufacturer, who sponsored the parole petition, testified that Stephenson has no intention of going out to look for any enemies if released.

He said the prisoner would be given a job in his factory.

George Richter, former Circuit judge at La Porte, testified that (Continued on Page Three)

GOVERNORSHIP FIGHT HINTED

Lake County Candidate Charges 'Thousands of Aliens' Voted Nov. 5.

By EARL RICHERT. Republican legislators, already in a turmoil over cutting the patronage melon, had a new bombshell tossed in their laps today.

It was a possible protest against the election of Governor Henry F. Schricker on the basis of charges made by Virgil Whitaker, Hammond attorney, who was defeated in a Lake County judgeship race Nov. 5.

Mr. Whitaker alleged he had proof that "thousands" of aliens voted in the recent election in Lake County, which went heavily for Mr. Schricker.

Protest Expected. Up to noon today, State G. O. P. leaders said that Mr. Whitaker had not contacted them. It is reported that Mr. Whitaker is to file his protests with leaders of both Republican-controlled houses.

Glen R. Hillis, Republican candidate, who was defeated by Mr. Schricker by 3478 votes, said he knew of the investigation but asserted that he was not a party to the protest.

He said he would take no steps toward asking for a legislative investigation "without approval of the State Committee."

William E. Jenner, Senate president pro tem, said the matter would be discussed at the party caucus this afternoon, regardless of whether the protests had been filed by that time. He said Mr. Whitaker would be permitted to explain his charge if he appears.

Arch N. Bobbitt, State G. O. P. (Continued on Page Three)

Hoosier Troops At Fort Custer

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Jan. 8 (U. P.).—Fort Custer's soldier population hit a high of 11,000 today with the arrival of the 11th Infantry from Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Ind., one of the three infantry regiments making up the principal strength of the Fifth Division.

Concentration of the Fifth Division at Ft. Custer, with the exception of two Second Infantry battalions will be completed Friday with the arrival of the 50th Medical Battalion and Seventh Engineer Battalion from Ft. Harrison.

As soon as the concentration is complete, officers said, the division will start an intensive winter training program which will include instruction in the use of ski.

'SUPER FOUR' OPENS DRIVE TO REARM

Roosevelt Counts on OPM to Make U. S. an Arsenal.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—President Roosevelt's new super defense agency, ready to subordinate everything in national life to rearmament efforts, began its drive today to make the United States the world's great arsenal for the defense of democracy and freedom.

OPM—The Office for Production Management—came into existence last night when Mr. Roosevelt signed commissions of the four members—Industrialist William S. Knudsen, Labor Leader Sidney Hillman, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson, and Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox.

The letters OPM probably will become as significant and well known to the average citizen as did NRA in the early days of the New Deal. Whereas NRA was one of the President's attempts to defeat the depression of the 1930s, OPM is designed to gear war production (Continued on Page Five)

YEGGS TAKE \$500

Burglars broke into the office of the Seaboard Co. insurance agency, in Room 303 of the Security Trust Building last night and escaped with approximately \$500 after rifling drawers and knocking the combination from a safe.

Ernie Pyle in London

Not So Bad if You're With Someone as Bombs Fall

LONDON (by wireless).—Although I've had my big night of fire and plenty of bombs, too, I have not achieved any intimate acquaintance with a bomb.

And I'm quite willing to have the introduction filed under "things pending."

I've heard plenty of bomb explosions at a distance, and I've even felt the building I was in shake, but I have yet to go through that horrible experience of hearing a

bomb whistling right down toward me. Just the same, I've had this weak old heart stopped once.

It didn't happen on our big night of fires. It happened before that.

During your first few days in London you are all at sea. You are tense and jumpy and expectant, waiting and wondering how you will feel when you get your first bad scare. Well, one night I was awakened by the guns about 2 a. m. They kept firing off and on for about an hour, and then stopped. London was black and silent. There was no sound of any kind anywhere. I just lay in the bed staring at nothing.

And then there was a small explosion. (Continued on Page Three)

G. O. P. SPLIT ON ASSEMBLY EVE

Seeks to End Cleavage Before 61-Day Session Opens Tomorrow.

With the opening gavel less than 24 hours away, Republican majority leaders of the 1941 General Assembly struggled today to line up ballyhoo members on a program to take over the State House and its patronage.

This intra-party activity overshadowed all other developments as the 150 Senators and Representatives moved into town and squared away for the 61-day session beginning tomorrow.

There were other attractions—lobbyists already in action, organizations polishing up bills they hope to see passed, and informal get-togethers—but the four-star special was this afternoon's final pre-session G. O. P. caucus.

Put Reorganization Ahead. At a last minute session, the Steering Committee decided by unanimous vote this afternoon to put their reorganization bill into effect May 1.

Other committee action included: 1. Approval of a bill to place the State Welfare Department under a four-man board, two members to be appointed by the Governor and two by the Lieutenant Governor.

2. Approval of a bill to separate appropriations for State education, penal, benevolent and correctional institutions from the welfare budget.

In this afternoon's caucus the leadership of the Republican steering committee faced its acid test. The leaders were prepared to wield their biggest clubs to swing a solid party vote in both houses for their proposed State Government "decentralization" bills. They admit that failure to get a united front might bring defeat for their proposals.

Jenner Expects Unity. "If we go to the floor of the General Assembly with two or three different party measures for government reorganization there will not be time enough to straighten out the differences in committees before adjournment," declared Senator William E. Jenner, Republican Senate Majority Leader.

He and his political associate, Rep. Frank T. Mills, House Majority Leader, spent most of yesterday conferring on strategy with State Republican Chairman Arch N. Bobbitt and Lieut. Gov.-elect Charles M. Dawson, who will be presiding officer of the Senate.

Senator Jenner said he expected most of the differences to be ironed out this afternoon and tonight. (Continued on Page Three)

STOCKS UP SLIGHTLY ON BUDGET MESSAGE

NEW YORK, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—Wall Street's first reaction to the President's budget message today was bullish. The stock market rose fractions to more than \$1.

There was strong demand for railroad shares based on anticipation that the excess profits tax setup, which favors railroad shares, would be changed little.

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RED CROSS TO AID SPAIN AND FRANCE

Mercy Ship to Leave U. S. Late This Month.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—Chairman Norman Davis of the American Red Cross announced today that a mercy ship bearing vitamin concentrates and milk for unoccupied France and Spain would leave late this month.

The Ministry of Economic Warfare at London had announced earlier in the day that it had agreed to passage through the blockade of such shipments which are to be distributed under Red Cross supervision.

The distribution, chiefly to children and mothers in unoccupied France, was requested personally by President Roosevelt.

A Red Cross spokesman explained that if the first shipment and its distribution are successful, other shipments will be made to France and Spain and that Spain likely will receive some wheat.

REVEALS BOMB DAMAGE

LONDON, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—The Ministry of Information today revealed that Westminster Cathedral, Westminster City Hall and the Temple have been damaged in recent German air raids on London.

Defense Budget At a Glance

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (U. P.).—The budget in a nutshell: Total Spending—\$17,485,528,049—highest in history except for war year 1918-19.

Defense Spending—\$10,811,314,600 for U. S. alone, up \$4,347,000,000. Billions more for Britain to be asked soon.

Non-Defense Spending—\$6,674,213,449, a little less than this year.

Revenue—\$8,275,435,000, an all-time high.

Deficit—\$9,210,093,049, second highest on record.

Taxes—More will be needed, says President.

Public Debt—Will pass \$49,000,000,000 limit by June 30, 1942. President suggests removal of debt limit.

Farm Program—\$1,175,903,000 to maintain agricultural aid at present level.

WPA—\$995,000,000, a drop of \$400,000,000 from this year.

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