



The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Continued cool this afternoon through tomorrow forenoon.

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FINAL HOME

PRICE THREE CENTS

FDR WARNS AGAINST OPTIMISM

Navy Accepts Ordnance Plant as Important Cog in War Effort



'AWFULLY LONG WAR' IS SEEN BY PRESIDENT

Feels Public Opinion Hinges Too Much on News Which Looks Big for Moment But Has No Major Effect.

WASHINGTON, May 22 (U. P.).—President Roosevelt, declaring that this country still faces the prospect of an awfully long war, warned today against unwarranted and overly enthusiastic optimism about the progress of the conflict.

Discussing recent evidences in this country of optimism over the war, Mr. Roosevelt told his press conference that public opinion had been going up and down according to developments that looked big at the moment but actually have no important bearing on the final outcome of the war.

Mr. Roosevelt said there was no reason to be overly optimistic one week, and overly pessimistic the next, because this is going to be a long war. He reiterated his confidence, however, that ultimate victory will be ours.

He noted a tendency of the American people to make overstatements. That is a mistake, he said, and the press can help very much by not attaching too much significance to developments of a more or less minor nature.

Nation Aware of Sub Peril He was asked whether he thought the joint army-navy review of the war, issued last week-end, contributed to the recent ground swell of optimism.

The president said he had not read the review. He said that as a general rule individuals should rely on the war and navy departments, but should not read too much into their announcements.

Bad news, he said, should be passed by the censors just as much as good news. But no war news should be released until there is no possibility that it will affect military operations, he added.

The president conceded that the sinking of American merchant ships continued to be a very serious problem, but said there was no news in this situation because the country was aware of the gravity of the problem.

Agrees Position Improved The president discussed the possibility of a long war shortly after Senator Walter F. George (D. Ga.), a former chairman of the senate foreign relations committee, cautioned Americans in a similar vein.

The senator said he agreed with Secretary of State Cordell Hull that the position of the united nations had improved and that the war might be over sooner than expected, but that the outlook still was for "a long war."

Senator George gave his views to reporters after a high government official holding one of the most vital war posts warned that "chances are strong" that the war will be a "long struggle."

That official, who declined to permit use of his name, said Japan and Germany might be defeated sooner than we expect, but added: "We just now are on the upswing of a wave of optimism. It is very dangerous to play this up artificially and I get the impression that this is being done."

Step to Combat Inflation A memorandum signed by government agencies in charge of war building and the construction workers said the action was taken to combat "the danger of drastic inflation due to the rapid and uncontrolled increase in prices of commodities."

The stabilization formula provides that "wage rates paid under (Continued on Page 15)

On the War Fronts

(May 22, 1942)

RUSSIA—Soviet offensive reported nearing "immediate goal" at Kharkov against weakening German resistance; Nazi high command claims all Soviet attacks repulsed and says Germans have "regained the initiative."

AUSTRALIA—Japanese 7100-ton cruiser and two supply ships sunk in 200-mile front in eastern China where Japanese mass 80,000 troops for blow at allied bases from which Tokyo might be bombed again.

ROME—Italian high command claims submarine sank U. S. battleship of 31,500-ton Maryland class off Brazilian coast Wednesday.

CHINA—Heavy fighting spreads along 200-mile front in eastern China where Japanese mass 80,000 troops for blow at allied bases from which Tokyo might be bombed again.

MEXICO CITY—Mexico reported on verge of declaration of war against axis after expiration of deadline fixed for "explanation" of sinking of Mexican tanker.

REGISTER 18-19 CLASS JUNE 30

Youths 20 Since Dec. 31 And Eligible for Service Also Will Be Listed.

WASHINGTON, May 22 (U. P.).—President Roosevelt today set June 30 as the date for registration of young men 18 and 19 years of age in order to complete the nation's canvass of manpower.

This was the fifth registration ordered by the chief executive, and will complete the registration of all men from the ages of 18 to 65. The young men of 18 and 19 are not subject to military service under the selective service act.

40,000,000 Now on Lists Also ordered to register on June 30 are men who reached their 20th birthday between Dec. 31, 1941, and June 30, 1942. These men would be subject to military service.

Approximately 40,000,000 men have been registered in the four previous registrations. The registration next month is expected to add between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 persons to the lists.

Seventeen million men were listed in the first registration of men 21 to 35. The second registration turned slightly less than 1,000,000 men who had become 21 since the first listing. About 9,000,000 signed up in the registration of men 20 years old and those from 35 to 44. An additional 13,000,000 were given cards in the recent registration of men of 45 to 64, inclusive.

Subnormal Cool Spell to Continue LOCAL TEMPERATURES

6 a. m. ... 53 10 a. m. ... 61 7 a. m. ... 53 11 a. m. ... 64 8 a. m. ... 54 12 noon ... 64 9 a. m. ... 58

Indianapolis appeared to be facing more cool weather tonight, with the temperature at 9 a. m. standing at 58—two degrees cooler than the average yesterday.

Average temperatures for the last two days have been considerably under those of last year. A comparison:

1941 1942 May 20-26 May 20-26 May 21-31 May 21-31 The weather bureau's early forecast said it would be rather cool today and tonight.

4 R. A. F. CADETS KILLED MONTGOMERY, Ala., May 22 (U. P.).—A severe storm which battered 35 training planes on a routine flight over southeast Alabama resulted in the death of four royal air force aviation cadets and three others are missing, southeast air corps training center officials said today.

LAYS SHIP SINKING TO FIFTH COLUMN Captain Says Sub Crew Failed to Quiz Victims.

NEW ORLEANS, La., May 22 (U. P.).—Fifth columnist probably supplied sailing information to a submarine which torpedoed and sank a medium-sized United States merchant vessel in the Gulf of Mexico May 18, with 21 men missing, Capt. A. Henry Rowe said today.

The ship sank in 90 seconds. Capt. Rowe, whose home is at Alden, Pa., based his conclusion on the fact that after the sinking the sub did not rise to the surface and follow the usual practice of questioning survivors about the vessel's identity, cargo and destination.

Times Features on Inside Pages Eddie Ash ... 26 Inside Indpls. 21 Business ... 16 Jane Jordan ... 25 Clapper ... 21 Movies ... 14 Comics ... 21 Obituaries ... 9 Crossword ... 28 Organizations ... 14 Editorials ... 22 Patterns ... 25 Edson ... 22 Pegler ... 22 Mrs. Ferguson ... 22 Questions ... 22 Financial ... 16 Radio ... 18 Forum ... 22 Mrs. Roosevelt ... 21 Freckles ... 30 Schools ... 6, 7, 8 Barton Heath ... 31 Serial Story ... 31 Hold Everything ... 22 Side Glances ... 26 Society ... 23, 24, 25 Home Defense ... 26 Sports ... 26, 27, 28 In Indpls. ... 9 State Deaths ... 9 In Services ... 26 Leland Snow ... 21 on

It Was Hara-Kiri, Not Harry Carey

HOLLYWOOD, May 22 (U. P.).—Harry Carey, veteran actor, hopes all who attended a celebration of mass for him know he is still alive.

A parishioner of the Rev. Father Will Whalen, one of Carey's close friends, misinterpreted a report that a Japanese general had committed hara-kiri and told the priest that Harry Carey had committed suicide.

Mrs. Carey received a black-bordered note of sympathy from Father Whalen, whose parish is in a Pennsylvania mining community, saying he had celebrated a mass for the actor. Also in the envelope was a note explaining he had discovered "it was all a mistake."

MEXICO NEAR WAR WITH AXIS President Acts to Declare State of Emergency Over Ship Sinking.

MEXICO CITY, May 22 (U. P.).—President Manuel Avila Camacho today was reported preparing to declare a nation-wide state of emergency as the first step toward an expected declaration of war on Germany, Italy and Japan.

The newspaper La Prensa, in an extra edition, said that seizure of axis property and internment of axis nationals would be ordered. Indignation still was mounting over the refusal of the three axis governments to accept a Mexican protest over the sinking of a Mexican ship by an axis submarine last week.

A high government source said last night that Avila Camacho would issue a proclamation today urging the nation to prepare for war.

Deadline Is Past The government had set last midnight as a deadline for an axis reply to Mexico's ultimatum demanding an explanation for the sinking of the tanker Fortero Del Llano off the Florida coast with the loss of 14 lives.

Gen. Lazaro Cardenas, former president now commanding Pacific defenses from the California border to Guatemala, arrived by plane last night and conferred at once with Mr. Camacho.

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ALL-OUT PUNCH AT JAPS HINTED New Zealand Officials Say Ghormley's Arrival Heralds Drive.

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, May 22 (U. P.).—New Zealand government leaders today reported a massing of strength for an allied "all-out punch" in the southwest Pacific, following the arrival of U. S. Vice Admiral Robert Lee Ghormley to assume command of the United States-New Zealand naval forces.

Admiral Ghormley, who arrived yesterday with his staff to set up his command under Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief of the U. S. Pacific fleet, said that "Time is vital and I am here to fight a war."

"I have been assigned to duty in the south Pacific area and I am glad to be in New Zealand," he said. "The strategy of the united nations fully appreciates the importance of New Zealand, the south Pacific and Australia in winning the war."

Plan "All-out" Punch New Zealand's army chief, Lieut. Gen. James Puttick said "We are gaining men for an offensive against Japan; an all-out punch will be required."

Prime Minister Peter Fraser in a public address spoke of New Zealand as a base for the eventual allied offensive.

Admiral Ghormley, in his first press conference with foreign and New Zealand newspapermen at his temporary headquarters, asked to be excused from defining the scope of operations in the area under his command or the extent of the command itself pending further consultations with New Zealand officials.

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Substitute Hunt Pushed War Production Board Chairman Donald M. Nelson, who introduced Mr. Newhall at a press conference, said that rubber is "the most important single scarce commodity" in the war program. He added that no grass would grow under WEP's feet in its efforts to conserve this vital war material or in the production of synthetic rubber.

Mr. Newhall and Mr. Nelson also revealed:

1. That nation-wide gasoline rationing will be inaugurated as soon as details can be worked out by Defense Transportation Director Joseph B. Eastman and approved by the WEP.

2. That the armed forces want all the rubber that the nation can muster and that proper rubber conservation will shorten the war and reduce the number of American lives lost on the battlefield.

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1. Rear Admiral W. H. P. Blandy, navy bureau of ordnance chief ... accepts new Indianapolis naval ordnance plant.

2. Left to right, George A. Bryant, president of Austin Co., plant builders; Comm. G. P. Kraker, navy officer in charge of plant; Capt. David I. Hedrick, naval ordnance inspector, and G. P. Bierbach, executive vice president of Lukas-Harold Corp., in charge of naval plant operation ... attend commissioning.

3. Theodore H. Barth, president of Carl L. Norden, Inc., and the Lukas-Harold Corp. ... directs commissioning ceremonies.

Admiral Blandy Pleads for Faultless Job by Workers

By EARL RICHERT The newest element in Uncle Sam's gigantic, smooth-running navy machine, the Indianapolis naval ordnance plant, was formally commissioned at noon today at ceremonies on the plant grounds at 21st st. and Arlington ave.

Through this event, Indianapolis was joined with the nation in celebration of maritime day—a day marked by the launchings of 27 ships in various shipyards.

Rear Admiral W. H. P. Blandy, chief of the navy bureau of ordnance, formally accepted the plant for the navy and stressed to plant employees the importance of their work.

Calls for Perfection "You will develop and produce precision instruments for the control of aircraft bombing and gunnery," he said. "It is important that each of these instruments be faultless in operation. No amount of careful calculation by the operators of our aircraft will compensate for the failure of such instruments due to faulty construction. This is why you have an important job to do."

Both Admiral Blandy and Theodore H. Barth, president of Carl L. Norden, Inc., and the Lukas-Harold Corp., which will operate (Continued on Page 15)

CLAIMS AXIS SPIES LANDING IN MAINE Defense Head Says Others Cross From Canada.

WASHINGTON, May 22 (U. P.).—Arthur B. Newhall, war production board rubber chief, said today that requisitioning of passenger automobiles may be necessary to meet transportation demands in war-boom communities.

He warned that if Americans did not conserve "the transportation miles in their tires" it may be necessary to transfer the automobiles and tires to other communities where they are more needed.

Mr. Newhall said, however, he does not believe it will be necessary to take tires for use as reclaimed rubber when they still have some mileage left in them.

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'GOAL IS NEAR,' RUSSIANS SAY

Nazis Claim Offensive Regained; Giant Tank Battle Raging.

By JOE ALEX MORRIS United Press Foreign Editor The battle of Kharkov raged on today without a decision, but with the Red army reported it was gaining the upper hand in a fierce tank battle—probably the greatest of the war.

The axis, on the other hand, claimed that the Soviet attacks on the Kharkov front had broken into a fortified town on the heels of retreating Nazi troops and was nearing its "immediate goal," which might be either the breaking of the enemy's communications lines or the city of Kharkov itself.

While the Soviet side claimed that the Kharkov front had been repulsed with heavy losses and for the first time said that the Germans had "regained the initiative."

LONDON, May 22 (U. P.).—Strong bands of Greek guerrillas striking from mountain hideouts were reported today to have disrupted the only railroad over which the Germans can move reinforcements from Greece by way of Bulgaria to the Russian front.

Fighting continued to flare up on various sectors of the Russian front in addition to the main conflict in the Kharkov region.

Strong Attacks in North The Germans acknowledged strong Soviet attacks on the northern front, south of Lake Ilmen, and there was heavy fighting in the far northern Lapland sector, where the Russians yesterday reported they had advanced 13 miles, killed 3000 Germans and shelled the enemy's main communications line.

The Russians also said fighting continued in the Kerch area, where today's German communique claimed that a total of 169,000 prisoners had been taken in mop-up operations.

Moscow advised that the Germans appeared to be cracking as a result of large losses in the 11-day-old battle and that the Red (Continued on Page 15)

STATE QUOTAS CUT FOR TIRES, TUBES

Officials Warn All Drivers to Slow Up.

Another reduction in the tire and tube quota for Indiana next month caused rationing officials here today to warn even those eligible for tire replacements to slow up their driving.

James D. Strickland, OPA director for Indiana, said that a downward trend in recaps is not expected. He warned all persons eligible for truck tires that eventually they will have to use recaps exclusively because of the lack of new replacement.

Also, he said, mere eligibility for tires does not insure getting them since there are many more applications than tires. June quotas are: Passenger car new tires, 1577 as against 1805 for May; recaps 21,573 as against 26,727 for May; tubes 11,605 as against 14,186 for May.

Truck and heavy machine new tires, 7190 as against 7323 for May; recaps, 10,151 as against 10,858 for May, and tubes 8748 as against 9784 for May.

FDR DECORATES HART WASHINGTON, May 22 (U. P.).—President Roosevelt today decorated Admiral Thomas C. Hart with the gold star in lieu of a second distinguished service medal for meritorious conduct of allied naval forces in the southwest Pacific during January and February. The president said Hart "disposed and handled the Asiatic fleet in a manner which left nothing to be desired."

PRINZ EUGEN AT KIEL LONDON, May 22 (U. P.).—The 10,000-ton German heavy cruiser Prinz Eugen has arrived at the German naval base of Kiel after being torpedoed and damaged by British planes while en route from Trondheim, Norway, official British circles reported today.

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