

AIR FLEET HITS IN NAPLES AREA

Italian Rail System Quakes Under Constant Raids By Allies.

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to 45 enemy fighters were driven off by escorting Lightnings. The bombers plastered repair shops and the freight yards.

Hit Loaded Train

Flying Fortresses attacking Sulmona, an important railroad point where east-west and north-south lines join near Rome, ran into 24 enemy fighters, four of which were shot down, while heavily plastering the railroad yards. One big explosion was set off in a repair shop and at least three fires kindled.

The Fortresses needed only 12 minutes to make their attack, touching off a string of fire in station buildings fringing the railroad. One loaded train was believed to have beat the purge in 1938.

Wellingtons using four-ton block-busters wound up the series of raids last night with an attack on Salerno, 30 miles north of Naples on the coastal railroad line, and crew members reported a heavy concentration of bombs tore up storage and switch yards.

Medium and light bombers ringed the toe of the Italian boot with attacks, hitting at the communications center of Catanzaro, Sibari, on the east coast, and Cetara and Paola, on the west coast.

A-36 Invader pilots said they believed the rail and highway junction at Sibari probably was destroyed. A landing barge was destroyed near Diamante on the west coast.

PACIFIC STRATEGY TALKS CONCLUDED

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news conference winding up the Quebec meeting, said approval had been given to concerted "forward action" by the armies, navies and air forces of Britain and the United States in both the Atlantic and Mediterranean. Mr. Roosevelt offered his own suggestion that another big allied push had been blueprinted, but said it could be beaten only by the operations of military forces.

They said they had assured Russia that "full reports" of the decisions made affecting the war against Germany and Italy would be communicated, and offered hope of arranging a future "tripartite meeting" between the U. S., Britain and the Soviet Union. Pre-occupation of the conferees with the war on Japan precluded the presence of Josef Stalin at the Quebec meeting since Russia and Japan are at peace.

Mountbatten is understood to have had virtually no advance notice of his selection as allied commander and consequently still has before him the prime task of assembling a staff.

He undoubtedly will select a British officer for his chief of staff, and it was said he already has obtained an important U. S. army officer as his deputy chief of staff.

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ALABAMA AT VERNON ST.

WASHINGTON Calling

A Weekly Sizup by the Washington Staff of the Scripps-Howard Newspapers

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controls will continue, what tax policies are to be, worry private planners for fast reconversion and high post-war employment.

Black Market Is Booming

BLACK MARKET is booming—and in big-time stuff, not petty chiseling. It thrives in the corn belt, where growers complain whole economy is out of balance from ceilings on some commodities, lack of them on others.

Latest job is being done on tomatoes—and this racket threatens officers say. It's done like this:

Contracted tomatoes are sneaked from the fields to a non-contracted factory at high bootleg prices. There they are turned into tomato juice, catsup, chili sauce and other by-products which can be sold to civilians at a better profit than the army provides for canned tomatoes.

Look for a crackdown on this phase of it, at least.

SUMNER WELLES may turn up as administration candidate against Senator Millard Tydings of Maryland next year, they think on capital hill. Welles has maintained a home in that state for many years, has turned over his Washington residence to Canada to house women in its armed services. Tydings was one of the anti-new deal senators who beat the purge in 1938.

Willkie on 'Front Porch'

SPEAKING OF POLITICS: Wendell L. Willkie has been conducting a "front porch" campaign at Rushville to win hostile Hoosier Republicans to his side for 1944. This week he declined to attend a Republican state committee meeting in Indianapolis, but had some of the G. O. P. state leaders come see him afterward with a pledge of no publicity.

Word leaks out that what he had to say was intended to convince pre-war isolationists that he has no such views on post-war world as those expressed by Vice President Wallace; that America comes first in all his thinking.

Note: Old diehard Jim Watson, former Republican senator from Indiana, predicts Willkie will get only three delegates from the state.

SENATOR TAFT's reaffirmation of presidential support for his fellow Ohioan, Governor Bricker, was prompted by suspicion in the Bricker camp that the senator's friends have inspired a movement for his own nomination.

Situation is a ticklish one for Taft, who, along with Bricker, will attend G. O. P. post-war conference at Mackinac Island. If Taft takes active hand in shaping policies, as he is expected to do, Bricker backers will be even more suspicious.

RUBBER BOSS JEFFERS, concerned over the outlook for tires, has summoned management and labor officials for a conference here next week to find out how production can be pepped up.

STATE DEPARTMENT "confusion" is blamed in some congressional quarters for delaying showdown on repeal of the Chinese exclusion laws. Congressmen say some state department officials favor repeal, with apparent enthusiasm, but refuse to go to bat publicly.

They're said to fear consequences of a big fight. Advocates of repeal say elimination of this slap at the Chinese will be extremely helpful in combating Jap propaganda, will tie us closer to the United Nations that's been fighting the Fascists longest.

A. F. of L. and American Legion help is being sought by advocates of repeal, who insist it will not be opening door to unregulated entry of cheap labor.

WAR MOBILIZATION Director Byrnes has found inter-agency squabble over gasoline rationing too warm, has quietly backed away from settling it. His "detailed study" has been set aside and he'll make no report. He is telling irate congressmen (present rations please neither easterners nor westerners) that reports he had taken charge were erroneous.

G-MEN WEREN'T as elated over Detroit spy ring arrests as their announcement sounded. Report is that some big fish got away.

CONGRESS FORS of grade labeling prepare amendments which would forbid OPA to require labels based on standards fixed by other agencies. After congress outlawed OPA grade-labeling requirements in price regulations, OPA amended rules by adopting grades established by WFB and OES. Critics charge subterfuge in this device and in OPA requirements for "descriptive" labels.

CHILDREN'S BUREAU will ask Congress for more funds to operate maternity and infant care program for wives and babies of servicemen. Baby crop has exceeded estimates and the original \$4,400,000 appropriation is running low.

MORE BANANAS are on the way. The interdepartmental priorities advisory committee has allocated space enough to bring 60,000 more tons of bananas from Honduras, Guatemala and Costa Rica. But, it warns, other imports from the Caribbean must be cut that much if this tonnage is to go to the banana trade.

Intrepid Frankie Promises He 'Won't Run Away Again'

After riding in a bus all the way from Marion to Indianapolis and then "seeing a show he didn't like," little Frankie Brown, a chubby-faced, blond-haired 5-year-old boy today promised his mother "I'll never run away again."

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Brown of Marion, Frankie was found asleep in the Indiana theater here Wednesday near closing time and taken to the Children's Guardians' home.

He was just wandering around Marion and "saw a lot of people getting on a bus and decided to get on with them." The next thing he knew he was in Indianapolis.

Mrs. Brown, who came after her son yesterday, had notified Marion police. Police and the Grant County rescue squad were dragging the Mississinewa river at Marion, believing that perhaps the boy had drowned. The river dragging had been in process about 10 hours when the overjoyous mother heard her son was here.

When Frankie arrived in Indianapolis, he walked into the theater, evidently without first buying a ticket. Then he fell asleep.

"When I got hungry I ate grass," the venturesome youth said when his mother arrived to take him home.

But Frankie had more than grass to eat for he spent about 86 hours in the guardians' home.

MAHOGANY GROWTH Mahogany trees grow in tropical forests, one or two trees to the acre.

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ALABAMA AT VERNON ST.

10 PER CENT OF BERLIN RAZED

30 Square Miles of City Smashed by RAF

Attacks.

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for more than a mile west of Charlottenburg station as far as the big Westkreuz junction on the main eastward railroad through the city. This railroad also runs through the Zoo and Friedrichstrasse stations.

Gas Works Destroyed

Knocking out this great railroad point, even for a short time, would be a most serious blow to Berlin's war industries as well as the general war effort generally because a large part of the east-west traffic from the Ruhr and Rhine-Ruhr industrial areas toward the Russian front passes through it.

The reports said the two big gas works at Charlottenburg which supplied most of the west end of Berlin also were destroyed.

The Siemensstadt, about five miles northwest of the center of the city, constituted the biggest compact industrial target in Berlin. It consists of a huge layout of buildings covering many acres. Among its industries are the Siemens-Schuckert and Siemens-Schuckert electrical engineering works. Destruction of these factories would be a heavy blow to the German war effort.

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two and one-half years and was sent overseas 10 months ago.

He is the father of 5-month-old Joseph Schwert Jr., whom he has never seen.

Honored

FOR EXTRAORDINARY achievement in submarine patrol duty off Northwest Africa three Hoosiers have been awarded alar medals, according to a war department announcement today.

They are 2d Lt. Ernest Salm of East Gary; T. Sgt. Ray C. Gilmore of Wheatland and S. Sgt. Jack Shoemaker of Peru.

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caught the Nazi defenses off guard. Nurnberg lies 240 miles south of Berlin and it would be most difficult for the Germans to shift large forces of night fighters at the last moment.

The four-engined Stirrings, Hallfaxes and Lancasters swept more than 1100 miles across the English channel, occupied France and into the heart of Germany on their round trip to Nurnberg.

The center of Nurnberg is a walled city of closely-packed stone houses. The wall is surrounded by a moat, around which curves a great circular boulevard. Beyond is the industrial area, where Diesel engines for submarines, aircraft parts, tanks and armored cars are built.

The Flying Fortresses' pilots said they had devastated an objective, nearing completion in a forest after having been under construction for several months.

Bombers Fill Sky

British Typhoon fighter-bombers joined in the evening offensive with a raid on a power station at Gosney, three miles from Bethune in North France, and watchers on the southeast coast said the sky at dusk was literally filled with bombers and fighters returning from Europe, tier on tier.

"For an hour and 20 minutes this grand procession of allied air might continued," one watcher said. "No matter where one looked, there were planes, planes, planes, hundreds of them."

The four-engined Stirrings, Lancasters and Hallfaxes streaking out toward Europe provided an even more awe-inspiring spectacle a few hours later. The planes were only dark shadows in the starlit sky. The ground vibrated with the roar of their engines.

At some points, the miles-long procession of bombers took two hours to pass overhead and the London Daily Express called the force of big bombers the greatest ever sent against Europe, an indication that it may have exceeded the 1036-plane armada that raided Essen in the second of three 1000-plane raids on Germany June 1, 1942.

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Pvt. Schwert Wounded in Pacific War

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department has notified his wife, Mrs. Marie Schwert of 514 S. Alabama st.

A letter from her husband August 13 said that he had been wounded July 27 and was in a hospital in the South Pacific.

Pvt. Schwert, a former Allison employee, has been in the army

for more than a mile west of Charlottenburg station as far as the big Westkreuz junction on the main eastward railroad through the city. This railroad also runs through the Zoo and Friedrichstrasse stations.

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