

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1944

SECRET SERVICE AIDS OPA PROBE**Assists in Hunting Black Market Operators in Gasoline Here.**

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But the counterfeiters, it appears, outsmarted themselves by threading some coupons, the genuine counterparts of which had not been threaded by OPA.

Bogus gasoline tickets are circulated in all large Indiana cities by one of the most extensive distribution setups to appear on the crime scene since the demise of prohibition, secret service officials asserted.

In many cases, truck drivers with established routes have been enlisted by black marketers to contact certain gasoline station operators who serve as the principal agents, they revealed. Present investigations point to the East coast as the origin of the fake ration stamps, but Chicago evidently is a primary distribution terminal, they added.

Although Assistant Secret Service Chief James J. Maione said in Washington today that suppression of coupon counterfeiting activities was its second most important function, the protection of the President being No. 1, Mr. Morton indicated that staff limitations in the Indianapolis office preclude any wide-scale prosecution tactics in this area.

So far, OPA has been given supreme authority in actual prosecution of coupon counterfeiting cases and unless the local office is augmented by additional personnel, it appears that this custom will continue, with secret service agents serving in advisory capacities only.

Shad Poller, head of the national secret service enforcement corps, appealed from Washington today for funds with which to buy evidence against black marketers.

"No other law enforcement agency in the country is asked to break down crime rings without funds to buy evidence," he said.

National secret service officials said their aim was to smash the gasoline black market before its criminal directors, impressed by profits from bogus ration coupons, were tempted to "branch out" into currency counterfeiting.

Meanwhile, John E. Scott, chief OPA enforcement attorney for the Indiana district, blamed lack of public co-operation for the sudden outcropping of phone coupons. OPA personnel shortages make it "virtually impossible" to trace the statewide black market operations, he complained.

"We have only 10 investigators for the 91 counties in the Indiana district. We have to spread ourselves too thin to even make a dent in this racket," he declared.

CITY HALL'S LEADERS FACE BUDGET QUIZ

City hall department heads today were prepared to face their "inquisitors," the J. L. Jacobs budget-engineering firm of Chicago, at a conference scheduled for 4 p.m.

Representatives of the Jacobs company said they would distribute a large variety of questionnaires in all city departments in an attempt to learn just what each job holder does and what is supposed to do.

Administration politicos have been turning a cold shoulder toward the impending salary and job classification survey, wary lest it should slice a sizable chunk off their patronage lists.

STRAUSS SAYS:**IT'S ONE DAY NEARER VICTORY!****GEORGE HESS GABARDINE DRESS (at its best!)****"Simply Beautiful" in line and detail (as only George Hess knows how)—In the spring 1944 version of the Shirltailed classic—with side button opening (all the way down)—stitched collar with Sport neckline—in a beautiful, tailor-made Gabardine (rayon) —colors Maize, White, Rose, Aqua, Beige—sizes 12-18****14.95****L. STRAUSS & CO., INC. THE SPECIALTY SHOP FOR TAILORED WOMEN SECOND FLOOR****Cassino Was a Great Show, But Nazis Are Still There**

(Continued From Page One)

Our medium and light bombers were "right on the button" time and again, but their bomb loads were less destructive.

The fact that the Germans are still able to defend one hill, after the colossal battering it had received, is nothing short of incredible.

It must be accepted as irrefutable evidence of the repeated statement that brave and seasoned troops, given sufficient time to dig in, have to be dug out with the bayonet and grenade.

Nobody will attempt to deny the Germans credit for being able to "take it" after what we saw today.

What military experts will have to ask themselves, on the basis of this experience, is to what extent we can plan on the air force to clear the way for us through strong German defense lines in western Europe.

We cannot turn a force the size of the one we used today on every fortified town and village we encounter in future, or, if we can, the reduction of strong points by such means will certainly be unreasonably expensive and tedious.

Bombing, in other words, just does not seem to be the answer.

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Thought 13 Lucky; Enlists On 13th, Dies on 13th Raid

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Know," and "My Buddy," for the rest of his combat trips.

Sgt. Zahn, whose father, Curtis Zahn, 2711 Guilford ave., also enlisted on Friday the 13th in the last war, was killed Feb. 25.

In one of the 200 letters he has sent Mrs. Duncan, Sgt. Zahn said he "may lose his life in this war but cannot let the judge of that."

He published a story of a raid over Germany and also has written eight poems to his mother about the war.

1200 JAPS SLAIN ON BOUGAINVILLE ISLE

(Continued From Page One)

shelling in the fighting, and the beaten enemy left 1173 dead behind when they broke off their counter-attack. American losses were placed at 123 killed.

Kaske was waiting for a street car when he saw a broken window in a tavern. He leaned in through the opening and saw a burglary in progress. Before he could withdraw, one of the burglars fired at him. The bullet went through his jaw and lodged in his neck.

Kaske walked to his home, called the police and then went to a hospital, where the bullet was removed.

Police arrived too late to thwart the burglary.

Guard Puts Neck Out Too Far, Shot

(CHICAGO, March 16 (U.P.)—

William W. Kaske, 35, a private watchman, stuck his neck out too far this morning and was shot in the jaw.

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MRS. W. J. HOCKETT, P.T. A. LEADER, DIES

(Mrs. W. J. Hockett, president of the Indiana Congress of Parent-Teacher Associations from 1930-1934, died today at her home in Ft. Wayne after a long illness.

An active P.T.A. worker for many years, she had been unable to attend the meetings during the last few years because of her illness. Members of the P.T.A. board who live in Ft. Wayne will represent the state association at the funeral.

She is survived by her husband, a son and a daughter.

MELLIS, LAWYER, FILES

Frank Mellis, Indianapolis lawyer, today filed his declaration of candidacy with the secretary of state for the Republican nomination of circuit court judge here. Mr. Mellis lives at 1606 Leonard st.

The Indiana section, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and the Indiana Society of Professional Engineers, Indianapolis, held their annual meeting at the Hotel Antlers, 6:30 p.m.

Brightwood junior class received its new separate attack on the Carolines and the eastern Marshalls without the loss of a plane.

American bombers also attacked Rabaul, on New Britain, Bougainville in the Solomons and thrust into the Carolines to hit Oroluk atoll, only 190 miles east of the big enemy bastion at Truk.

American planes carried out seven new separate attacks on the Carolines and the eastern Marshalls without the loss of a plane.

American bombers dropped 174 tons of explosives on Boram and Bandi plantation at Wewak.

Allied ground troops were pushing forward from Cape Rigny to pass through the villages of Saipan and Yokoi in their thrust toward Madang, approximately 200 miles east of Wewak.

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