

Planes Over Rocket Coast Keep 17-Day Offensive Active

LONDON, May 3 (U. P.)—United States Liberators attacked the French "rocket coast" today, the 17th straight day of the pre-invasion offensive, in the wake of British night bombers smashing at transport hubs and war plants in Germany, France and Italy.

Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle sent a small formation of his 8th air force Liberators against the mysterious German installations in the Pas de Calais area of France to maintain on a reduced scale the unbroken series of aerial assaults on western Europe.

Thunderbolt and Mustang fighters accompanied the Liberators in the 12th consecutive day of offensive operations by the 8th air force alone.

Hit Gas Plant

Fleets of swift Mosquito bombers struck by night at Leverkusen, German site of poison gas and chemical works, and the French rail hub of Achères, while Italy-based R. A. F. planes exploded a broad-scale against Italian harbors and rail yards.

Early reports indicated that bad weather over the continent today had enforced a temporary lull in the bombing offensive softening the Atlantic wall and its feeder lines for invasion armadas.

On the basis of American and British summaries of the record aerial campaign in April, experts concluded that the German transport system keying the defenses of western Europe was partially immobilized on what has been described as "invasion eve."

Recapitulations of the unprecedented bombardment since April 17 brought out in bold relief a picture of tremendous destruction, the full extent of which will not be known until allied troops land in western Europe and see for themselves.

Hundreds of freight cars loaded with anti-invasion supplies were blown to bits as American and British

with the opening of a western front.

Happens Tomorrow



UNION PROTESTS WARD ELECTION

Week Declared Insufficient Time to Prepare for Test by Vote.

CHICAGO, May 3 (U. P.)—Union spokesmen today protested the national labor relations board's decision to conduct a collective bargaining election at Montgomery Ward and Company's Chicago plant within a week and said they would ask for a 21-day extension to prepare for it.

"It's obviously a trick," Francis Heisler, union attorney said. "The board is hostile to the union because it is standing on its law-given rights."

Leonard Levy, vice president of the United Retail Wholesale and Department Store Employees union (C. I. O.), said an extension of at least 21 days would be requested.

Compromise Suggested
"If we can't get that, we'll ask for a week on 10 days," he said. "If the board insists on an election within a week, we'll comply but we'll hold it under protest."

Henry B. Anderson, president of the local, said the union regarded the election as too close to give it time to prepare for it.

The election was ordered by the NLRB in Washington yesterday, six days after troops were called to take over the Chicago properties of the nation's second largest mail order house.

Decision Pending
Meanwhile, Federal Judge William H. Holly weighed his decision on the government's right to seize a retail store.

Judge Holly, who issued a temporary injunction restraining Ward's officials from interfering with government operation of the firm's Chicago properties last Wednesday night at the request of Attorney General Francis Biddle, heard final arguments on the government's plea for a continuance of the injunction yesterday and took the case under advisement until Monday, when he will render his decision.

Democrat Opposes Probe of Seizure

WASHINGTON, May 3 (U. P.)—Chairman John J. Cochran (D. Mo.) of the house accounts committee today assailed the proposed house investigation of the government's seizure of Montgomery Ward & Co. Chicago properties as "nothing but the cheapest brand of politics."

Cochran's committee would have jurisdiction over authorizing funds for the inquiry as advocated in the resolution of Rep. Charles S. Dewey (R. Ill.). Dewey's proposal, calling for a special committee of four Democrats and three Republicans to conduct the inquiry, is scheduled to come up on the house floor late tomorrow or Friday, and there were indications it may be approved.

Cochran charged that Sewell Avery, Montgomery Ward chairman, was inconsistent in seeking to defend his "outrageous conduct in defying the U. S. government on the ground that his enterprise is not so vital to the war effort as to justify presidential action."

"This," he said, "is an amazing position for the gentleman to take in view of the fact that the war production board informs me that Montgomery Ward has filed between 30,000 and 36,000 applications for priorities."

In the senate, action appeared temporarily sidetracked on the resolution by Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D. Va.) for a specific inquiry into the use of troops in the Ward seizure. Byrd would need unanimous consent to get his resolution before the senate prior to consideration of a contract termination bill. The war contract bill is expected to take at least two days.

153D ANNIVERSARY OF POLAND NOTED

WASHINGTON, May 3 (U. P.)—Polish-American congressmen observed the 153d anniversary of the Polish constitution today by calling for return of Poland's pre-war boundaries and demanding American guarantees against a fifth partition of their country.

"We should not recognize any unilateral boundary changes," declared Rep. Thad F. Wasilewski (D. Wis.) in a speech prepared for delivery in the house. He also called for reaffirmation of the principles of self-determination of peoples.

The Polish-American legislators were supported in their pleas by Rep. Hamilton Fish (R. N. Y.), who predicted in a radio address that "surrender" of Polish territory to Soviet Russia would sow the seeds of another war.

The Polish-American speeches in the house were delivered a few hours after President Roosevelt cabled Polish President Wladyslaw Racinewicz in London recalling that the Poles were the first to resist the Nazi hordes and asserting that the continued resistance of the Polish people was an inspiration to all.

MISSISSIPPI FLOOD WATERS RECEDED

ST. LOUIS, May 3 (U. P.)—The Mississippi river continued to drop between St. Louis and Chester, Ill., today as the crest of the worst flood in 100 years neared Cape Girardeau, Mo.

It was still eight feet above flood level here and lapping at weakened levees.

River traffic moved slowly as army engineers warned that high waves from heavy boats might crumble water-soaked levees.

Levees to the south appeared to be holding after numerous break-throughs in the St. Louis area lessened the pressure of the flood.

Mexico Outlaws Siesta as Waste

MEXICO CITY, May 3 (U. P.)—The siesta—widespread Latin American custom of resting two to three hours daily in the afternoon—will be outlawed in Mexico June 1 in accordance with a presidential decree signed yesterday.

Shot to death was Louis Heller, 45. The shooting occurred only 15 feet south of a busy entrance to the subway.

Identification was through a union membership card in the International Cleaners & Dyers association and this caused police to speculate on whether it was another phase of the violence which has characterized labor troubles in that union for years.

GROTTO GROUP TO MEET
The entertainment committee of the Sahara Grotto auxiliary will meet at 12:30 p. m. tomorrow at the home of Mrs. Ruth Reinhardt, 1533 N. Gale st.

UNION MAN SLAIN ON CHICAGO STREET

CHICAGO, May 3 (U. P.)—A man was shot to death early today on brightly lighted State st., while night club patrons celebrated a short distance away, in what police said was the first murder on a street within Chicago's loop in 16 years.

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**80 Organizations
Join Safety Move**

RESOLUTIONS of co-operation with the "Safety Now" pedestrian and driver education campaign to reduce accidents have been passed by more than 80 organizations.

The latest resolving are the Irvington Chautauqua club, F. T. A.'s of schools 15 and 85, Crooked Creek Garden club, Wednesday Afternoon club, Women's association of Memorial Presbyterian church, Ohio Study club, Coasnia club, Egyptian chapter of International Travel-Study club and the First Baptist church of North Indianapolis.

The campaign is backed by the police department, Chamber of Commerce safety council and the Hoosier Motor club.

'LONG ROAD BACK,' STILWELL STATES

NEW DELHI, May 3 (U. P.)—Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, commander of American forces in the China-Burma-India theater, said on the second anniversary of his retreat from Burma that the allied armies in Burma now are "stretching our shoestring as far as it will go."

He issued his statement yesterday after his "shoestring armies" regained 75,000 square miles of the territory they had lost in northern Burma and killed more than 7000 Japanese in the process.

"We haven't much to boast about," he said. "The Japs ran us out of here a damn sight faster than we are coming back. It is a long road yet with a lot of hard work."

WOMEN OF MOOSE CONVENE
The social service committee of Women of the Moose will meet at 8 p. m. today at the home of Mrs. Martha Thompson, 1227 College ave.

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