

Weather Forecast
Rain with occasional showers.
Tomorrow clearing, cool.
Temperatures today—Highest, 54, at 12:01 a.m.; lowest, 45, at 9 a.m.; 48 at 1:30 p.m. Yesterday—Highest, 65, at 6:10 p.m.; lowest, 52, at 4:50 a.m.
Late New York Markets, Page A-11.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

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WASHINGTON, D. C., MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1944—TWENTY-EIGHT PAGES. ***

U.S. Bombers Hit French Airfields After RAF Night Raid on Essen; Reds Begin Shelling Old Rumania

2,000 Tons of Bombs Batter Industrial City

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Mar. 27.—Strong forces of American Liberators and Flying Fortresses blasted at Nazi air dromes in Southwest and Central France today, following up a night assault by RAF bombers on Essen, home of the Krupp works. The RAF dropped 2,000 tons of explosives on Essen.

"A very strong escort" of fighters, including Lightnings, Thunderbolts and Mustangs, accompanied the American bombers into France. The terms indicated more than 500 big bombers and perhaps 1,000 or more fighters engaged in the strike at the Nazi air bases.

It was the 21st American attack of the month, three over the record set in February.

Hannover Also Raided.

Along with the crushing assault on rebuilt factories at Essen, smaller forces of British bombers hammered the rubber center of Hannover 125 miles to the northeast, and railway targets at Courtrai in Belgium last night. Probably more than 750 RAF night bombers were out.

By daylight yesterday about 1,700 American planes, including heavy bombers, struck hard at targets in the coastal areas of France and Holland.

Other unspecified targets in Western Germany also were attacked and mines were laid in enemy waters during the sweeping overnight operations, which the Air Ministry said cost a total of 9 planes.

Last Big Raid in July.

Clouds made full observation of the results of the attack on Essen impossible, the Air Ministry said, but it was apparent that the RAF had dealt another concentrated blow at the city in an effort to wipe out the results of desperate reconstruction work which the Germans have been carrying on in this vital industrial center.

Essen was last raided in force by the RAF the night of July 25, 1943, when more than 2,000 tons of explosives were unloaded on the city as the culmination of a series of terrific massed assaults.

The great summer assaults were estimated to have damaged nearly two-thirds of the Krupp works, knocking out at least six months of production. But the Germans were believed to have repaired about one-fifth of the area of some 10,000 square feet of floor space that had been damaged.

Important Rail Center.

Hannover is the site of rubber goods and synthetic rubber plants and important rail yards, workshops, locomotive, tank and aircraft parts factories. The most important rail center between Germany and the low countries, American bombers have hit it repeatedly.

The four-engine craft returned to Germany after an interval of only one night since their last great blow in the Ruhr—some 2,000 tons of bombs on Berlin Friday night, carried out at a loss of 73 bombers.

The venture into occupied territory was a follow-up to the Saturday night heavy bomber assault on Aulnoye, a French railway junction on the Belgian border, and Liege in Southeastern France. Mosquitoes gave Berlin a light going over the same night.

Enemy Targets Blasted.

American heavy and medium bombers and fighters beat a rapid raid throughout yesterday on targets near the coasts of France and the Netherlands, and in one foray Thunderbolts shot up airdromes within sight of Paris without opposition.

Flying Fortresses and Liberators used thunderous waves of bombs against the Fosse-Chalais area and bombed military installations in the Cherbourg area 200 miles to the south. American Marauders hit the IJmuiden docks of Holland.

The American operations cost five bombers and one fighter.

British Cabinet Shift Reported Planned

Eden Reported Dissatisfied Over Churchill Powers

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Mar. 27.—Rising criticism of the Churchill government was coupled with reports today that the Prime Minister is planning to reshuffle his cabinet.

The latest reports said Anthony Eden might leave the Foreign Office and the Lord Beaverbrook might be shifted to some post other than his present one of lord privy seal.

Mr. Eden, these reports said, is dissatisfied because foreign policy making has been taken over largely by Mr. Churchill. Should he re-tire, his most likely successor, it was believed, would be Lord Cranborne, Dominions secretary and leader in the House of Lords.

An answer to criticisms of his government at home occupied a large section of yesterday's speech of the Prime Minister, who usually seems to notice his critics.

Defending the coalition government, Mr. Churchill said it had "brought the British Isles and the British Commonwealth and empire out of the jaws of death, back from the mouth of hell."

February Arms Output Below Requirements of Armed Forces

Nelson Blames Manpower Shortage; Aircraft Production Shows Increase

By JAMES Y. NEWTON.

Total production of munitions in February was below requirements of the armed forces, War Production Board Chairman Donald M. Nelson disclosed today, declaring that manpower shortages limited the output of many important war items.

While the output of all war goods last month totaled about the same in January, the aircraft industry supplied a bright spot in the picture with a production gain of 4 per cent. Heavy and medium bombers featured this increase, with four-engine bombers setting a record. Mr. Nelson said aircraft accounted for 30 per cent of the month's munitions production, emphasizing the growing importance of air power in the war effort.

By major categories, February production showed the following changes from January:

Aircraft, including air frames, engines, propellers, spare parts and equipment—up 4 per cent; all types of ships, including maintenance and repair—down 4 per cent; guns and fire control—down 1 per cent; ammunition—down 9 per cent; combat and motor vehicles—down 10 per cent; communication and electronic equipment—down 5 per cent, and

miscellaneous equipment and supplies—down 3 per cent.

Some cuts were scheduled. Production scheduled for a reduction of manufacture in several of the munitions categories, notably small arms and certain types of ships.

"Throughout February manpower still remained a limiting factor in the output of many items," Mr. Nelson said, "especially such critical components as bearings, castings and fractional horsepower motors."

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that manpower will become more and more critical problem in munitions production during the months ahead, because the Nation faces the problem of maintaining an overall munitions output slightly higher than at present, in the face of intensified manpower drains in the lower-age brackets to meet the needs of the armed forces."

Better Use of Manpower Seen.

Mr. Nelson said programs most likely to be affected by manpower shortages are those like radar, aircraft, 100-octane gasoline and synthetic rubber, which are forced to rely on many young engineers, technicians and skilled workers with very special training.

He declared that in some production, Page A-2.

Draft Official Expects Strain on Manpower in Many Industries

Men 26 to 28 Expected To Bear Brunt of Later Inductions

By MIRIAM OTTENBERG.

Locally needed activities, such as industries and food and fuel distribution, will be hit hard by supporting activities recognized nationally will be hit hard by the draft in the coming months, a high selective service official predicted today.

He pointed out that with war production facing cuts because of the tough deferments policy the civilian economy is bound to suffer even more.

Draft Boards, anxious to defer

men in the 26 to 28 age group, are dropping many of them into 2-A as necessary in civilian activity, the draft spokesman declared. Of the 2,200,000 fathers now holding occupational deferments, nearly 800,000 are classed in 2-A.

Men Over 26 Face Review.

In his group are plumbers, bus drivers, school teachers, laundry supervisors, Government officials, repairmen, police and firemen and scores of others who make their contribution to the civilian economy rather than to direct war production.

An overall review of occupational deferments of men over 26 is to be made as soon as the younger men have either been drafted or deferred as a result of national action. Draft boards, however, are expected to tighten up as the deferments of fathers expire and come up for renewal.

Since draft boards started classifying fathers out of the now abandoned 3-A last October, many of the deferments are coming up for renewal now.

The draft spokesman also predicted that, with the pattern of supplying military manpower by age groups now clearly defined, occupationally deferred men in the 26 to 28 age group will be the next to bear the brunt of filling calls.

Squeeze Due in Two Months.

The squeeze probably will come in about two months when draft boards will reach the bottom of their rapidly dwindling supply of fathers without claims to occupational deferments and will have to start combining their lists of 2-A and 2-B men again just as was ordered for men under 26.

The next age jump, from 28 to 30 years, is expected by summer.

Draft boards, it was predicted, will continue to be liberal in granting occupational deferments to fathers over 30, but those under 30 will have to pass much the same tests for occupational deferments as men in the younger age brackets.

The weight of the coming arrangement will fall heaviest on fathers, it was said, since draft boards have been working under instructions to be more generous with them than with nonfathers.

It was pointed out, however, that for the armed forces as they are now, but that the pressure will be off occupationally deferred fathers over 30 in the degree it is heavier on men under 30.

Boards Ordered to Tighten Up.

District Selective Service headquarters already has indicated the way the draft is going by instructing draft boards to tighten up on occupational deferments.

"The continuing increase in occupational deferments since October, 1943," District Selective Service Director J. Edgar Hoover said, "is a matter of concern."

(See MANPOWER, Page A-4.)

Russians Ready For First Drive Onto Enemy Soil

(Map on Page A-4.)

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Mar. 27.—The Red Army was poised today for its first thrust onto enemy soil after smashing triumphantly to the Prut River border of Rumania from which Adolf Hitler launched the southern wing of his ill-starred invasion of Russia nearly three years ago.

Russian big guns already are laying down a barrage on Rumanian territory, Moscow dispatches said today, and Soviet infantrymen were expected to surge across the narrow Prut, which they reached on a 53-mile front yesterday, only a week after they spanned the broader Dniester, now 60 miles behind them.

As 24 volleys from 324 guns thundered in Moscow last night and green, white, yellow, red and purple rockets burst above the city in celebration of the drive to the enemy's border, the army newspaper Red Star, confidently anticipating a continuation of the offensive, asserted: "The Red Army there are no boundaries; her boundaries are victory, Berlin, and a straitjacket for the mad German tyrant."

Byelists Captured.

Premier Stalin, who announced the conquest of part of "our state frontier," also reported the capture of the Byelists rail city of Odessa, a victory which closed an arched German avenue of retreat from Lower Russia. Other Soviet forces were declared within 20 miles of Jassi (Jassy), through which runs the major Nazi escape railway from the big Black Sea port of Odessa.

The surge to the Prut was regarded in London as already booming a German stand at Odessa and besieged Nikolaev. Turkish reports that Hitler was rushing masses of armored reinforcements through Hungary and Rumania suggested that he probably would make a stand in Rumania in an attempt at least to save the Ploesti oil fields. The Russians were reported within 200 miles of the vital oil regions and 250 miles from Bucharest, Rumanian capital.

The Russians also hammered out new gains near the Middle Dniester River yesterday, a Soviet communiqué announcing that Kamenetz Podolsk, in the southwestern corner of the Ukraine, had been entered and that the Red Army already was storming through its streets. The communications center is vital as an escape gap for defeated German troops streaming southward from fallen Prukurov.

Tarnopol Surrounding.

In old Poland, where some Russian units are within 35 miles of the 1941 Bug River frontier between Germany and Russia, the Red Army declared it had surrounded Tarnopol, bitterly defended for weeks, and to be wiping out the garrison, capturing street after street. Other Russian forces already had passed the city in their drive toward Lwow, big Nazi communications center.

The Russians, in their epic military comeback since the Nazis hammered them back to the Rhine, were close to Moscow that its people could hear the boom of big guns and see the flashes of exploding shells, have recovered all except about 60,000 square miles of pre-1939 Russian territory. Since Stalingrad they have marched back 800 miles.

By Russian count, the abortive German attack has cost the invaders more than 130,000 casualties. Stalin announced on February 23, 1943, that the Germans had lost 9,000,000 troops, including at least 4,000,000 dead. Last November he said that during "the last year" the Nazis had lost more than 4,000,000, of which 1,800,000 were slain.

Almost five months of almost incessant Russian victories have ensued, to swell these totals. The Russian casualties, while heavy, have not been announced for some time.

Allied Artillery Fire Stepped Up as Third Cassino Drive Fails

Infantry Activity Shifts To Beachhead; Two Small Nazi Attacks Repulsed

By the Associated Press.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS

Naples, Mar. 27.—The Allied assault on Cassino has changed into an artillery duel in which a superior mass of Allied guns is seeking to knock out the troublesome German positions remaining in the town's southwest corner.

An announcement today said Allied artillery had begun a systematic campaign to destroy both the Continental Hotel and the Hotel des Roses which the Germans have converted into fortresses.

A large explosion occurred when artillery engaged a cluster of German six-barreled mortars, possibly indicating an ammunition dump was hit. The only other ground activity at Cassino was by patrols.

Nazi Raiding Parties Repulsed.

The center of infantry shifted to the Anzio beachhead where Allied forces drove back two small raiding parties, which probed the center of the line. Losses were inflicted on the enemy. German guns shelled the left flank of the beachhead line.

In the air, American and British heavy, medium and fighter-bombers attacked scattered targets in Northern Italy yesterday, including Fiume, Mantua airdrome 50 miles northeast of Venice, and the rail yards of Rimini and Vicenza. Seven enemy planes were shot down and five Allied planes are missing.

At Cassino, at the same time Allied guns turned on the Continental Hotel, which the Germans have made a gun-bristling thorn-in-the-side for Allied troops, and the Hotel des Roses in the same general area at the apex of Highway 6, the Germans trained their artillery on the town, which has been held since the town was captured by the Allies in January. The town is extremely troublesome to the enemy.

The inactivity of ground troops made it plain that the third Allied attack to drive the Germans from Cassino, the key to the road to Rome, had been unsuccessful.

In the mountains north of Cassino snow blocked many roads in the area.

(See ITALY, Page A-4.)

Yanks' Tears Recall Blushes of Heroic 'Miss Mac'

By NEWBOLD NOYES, Jr.,

Star War Correspondent.

NAPLES, Mar. 16 (by Air Courier).—We stood with our hats off and thought about Miss Mac. We hadn't seen her for a couple of months, but the days when she took care of us in ward 4, D-East, in a British general hospital in Naples seemed very close this afternoon.

A pale, slender English girl with dark hair and eyes, she was very conscious of the two pipes on her shoulder which meant that she was a nurse and a lieutenant in the British Army Medical Corps. The British call their nurses "sisters," but it is not a term of familiarity. Miss Mac liked discipline and order. That was why she had such a hard time with ward 4, where the American field service volunteer ambulance drivers stayed when they were sick. We were unruly, untidy and sometimes a little impolite, which she couldn't understand at all.

Some of us were in D-East long enough to get to know her pretty well. Bernie, who had been in bed six weeks was "dean" of the ward. I was there nearly as long. The

atmosphere of the place was that of a club and our chief business was teasing Miss Mac.

We never called her by her real name, but we had plenty of other names for her—"Spittfire," and "the Young Witch" and "Pistol Packin' Mamma," sometimes we called her "Beautiful," which made her blush quickest of all.

That was a remarkable thing about Miss Mac—she blushed fast and more violently than any woman we ever saw. It became a game with us. Somebody would compliment her on her hair, or ask her if she had a date that night, or refer to her as "the Dean's girl"—"Beautiful"—which made her blush quickly of all.

Her worst days were those on which the colonel inspected the wards. She could not believe that Wally could really want to smoke a cigar just at the crucial moment. She would rush about opening windows, getting the smoke out of the room. And no matter how often it happened, it always shocked her deeply, to find the drawer of our



High Court Affirms OPA Power Over Price And Rent Ceilings

Two Meat Dealers Lose Appeal From Conviction For Overcharges

By the Associated Press.

The Supreme Court today held constitutional the price-fixing provisions of the Emergency Price Control Act and the OPA's rent-control program.

In the price-fixing case, Chief Justice Stone wrote the 6-3 opinion on appeals by two Boston meat dealers—Benjamin Rottenberg and Albert Yakus—from their conviction on charges of selling wholesale cuts of beef at prices in excess of the OPA maximum.

They were sentenced to six months' imprisonment and fined \$10,000 each by the Federal District Court at Boston.

Justice Roberts read the majority opinion in the absence of Chief Justice Stone. Justices Roberts, Rutledge and Murphy dissented.

Justice Douglas delivered an 8-1 decision in the rent control case involving Mrs. Kate C. Willingham of Macon, Ga. Justice Roberts wrote a dissenting opinion.

Bowles Sought Injunction.

Chester Bowles, OPA administrator, sought in the Federal District Court at Macon to restrain Mrs. Willingham from prosecuting State court proceedings seeking to enjoin the issuance of an order fixing a rent ceiling for her property.

The District Court held the legislation was an unconstitutional delegation of legislative power. The OPA appealed that decision directly to the Supreme Court.

The majority opinion stated that there was "no grant of unbridled administrative discretion" as Mrs. Willingham argued.

"Congress has not told the administrator to fix rents whenever and wherever he might like at whatever levels he pleased," Justice Douglas said.

Standard Supplied by Congress.

"Congress has directed that maximum rents be fixed in those areas where defense activities have resulted or threaten to result in increased rentals inconsistent with the purpose of the act."

"And it has supplied the standard and the base price to guide the administrator in determining what the maximum rentals should be in a given area. The criteria to guide the administrator are certainly not more vague than the standards governing the determination of the Secretary of Agriculture . . . of marketing areas and minimum prices for milk."

Furthermore, the court said, "to require hearings for thousands of landlords before any rent-control order could be made effective might have defeated the program of price control, or Congress might well have thought so. National security might be jeopardized."

(See PRICE FIXING, Page A-4.)

Red Cross Campaigners Appeal For Increase in Donations

BULLETIN.

Gifts of \$47,139 were reported today by residential, city and nearby Maryland and Virginia area divisions. This brought the total to date to \$1,703,949, or 63.94 per cent of the campaign goal of \$2,665,000. The total number of gifts reported today was 2,754, bringing the total gifts to 228,231.

With the District lagging more than \$1,000,000 behind its \$2,665,000 goal and with just five days remaining in the Red Cross campaign, Lloyd B. Wilson and H. L. Rust, Jr., chairman and vice chairman, respectively, of the campaign, today issued the following statement:

To the Residents of The Nation's Capital and Nearby Communities:

Those in charge wish to report to you on the progress of the War Fund Campaign of the American Red Cross.

In reality this undertaking belongs to and is carried on by and in behalf of the people of this area in soliciting funds for the Red Cross for essential services to their own relatives and friends in the armed forces. The Red Cross is the channel through which we send aid and comfort to them. The workers who have volunteered to represent you in soliciting funds are your friends and neighbors. In every sense of the word this is a community enterprise and is entitled to the generous support and co-operation of each and every individual who has the good fortune to live here.

The President in his proclamation states that the American Red Cross is an auxiliary to the United States Armed Forces and as such is providing indispensable services to our troops throughout the world, as well as to their families at home. Our military leaders tell us that Red Cross services are vital to the war effort.

(See RED CROSS, Page A-4.)

Nebraska Republicans Push Gov. Griswold For Vice Presidency

Is '100 Pct. Wrong' in Censorship Charges

Executive Will Have Convention Delegation Backing His Choice

By GOULD LINCOLN.

LINCOLN, Neb., Mar. 27.—Nebraska Republicans, who on April 11 will elect 15 delegates to the Republican National Convention, have a double-barreled interest in the party national ticket. Their Governor, Dwight Griswold, is an outstanding figure among the new young Republican Governors.

Few, if any, of the Nebraska Republicans believe that Gov. Griswold has a real chance at the presidential nomination. On the other hand, they are hopeful that he will land second place on the ticket. Much stranger things than that have happened in politics.

The Governor of Nebraska, serving his second term, is forthright and able. He twice has been elected by the people of Nebraska. He hails from a section of the country—the Midwest—which has led the way in the revival of Republican strength. He is no ultraconservative. He is no isolationist. He has said frankly that some of the New Deal innovations should be retained and that the Republicans should admit it. And he has said: "The party must make a pledge to co-operate fully with the nations."

(See LINCOLN, Page A-4.)

Denies Department Has Requested London to Cut Political News Stories

Secretary of State Hull said today Gov. Thomas E. Dewey was "100 per cent wrong in the accuracy of his statement" made in a New York speech last Friday that the State Department had requested British censors to suppress political news in dispatches for American newspapers.

Mr. Hull was asked to comment on Gov. Dewey's statement before the Press Photographers' Association that "when we find the State Department requesting the British censor to suppress political news sent to American papers by American correspondents abroad it begins to amount to a deliberate and dangerous suppression of news at home."

Secretary Hull replied: "Gov. Dewey is 100 per cent wrong in the accuracy of his statement. All my life I have not only talked about a free press, I have fought for it."

"When these rumors of political censorship in England started in November, 1942, I wrote Byron Price and cabled Ambassador Winant to tell Mr. Eden my conviction that 'fundamentally the long-range interest of international friendship are best served by permitting the people of any country to know what people in friendly countries are thinking and saying about them, however unpleasant some of those opinions may be.'"

"Both Mr. Price and Mr. Eden expressed full agreement."

"These rumors cropped up again while I was in Florida last month and Mr. Stettinius made unequivocally clear that this is still our policy. His statement was published widely at the time."

"I was glad to see a press dispatch from London yesterday stating that the British government fully understands and shares our opposition to political censorship and our conviction that plain speaking is more healthful than suppression."

Late Bulletin

Gas Rate Boost Upheld

The Supreme Court today upheld a \$201,000 rate increase granted to the Washington Gas Light Co. by the Public Utilities Commission in 1942, which the Government contended was in conflict with the wartime stabilization program. The court split, six to three, on the issue, with Justice Roberts writing the opinion and Justice Douglas, Black and Murphy dissenting.

Supreme Court Upholds Portal Pay for Miners

7-to-2 Decision Backs Claims of Alabama Iron Ore Workers

By J. A. FOX.

The Supreme Court, by a 7-to-2 vote, today held that Alabama iron ore miners are entitled to portal-to-portal pay under the Fair Labor Standards (Wage-Hour) Act.

The Wage-Hour Act "must not be interpreted or applied in a narrow, grudging manner," the court said in upholding the right of the miners to travel pay which the operators said would add millions yearly to their costs.

The decision is expected to weigh heavily in current litigation pressed by the United Mine Workers to define rights of coal miners with respect to pay for the time consumed in underground travel when starting and finishing work.

Roberts and Stone dissent. Justice Roberts wrote a dissent in which he was joined by Chief Justice Stone. Justice Murphy delivered the majority opinion and Justices Frankfurter and Jackson wrote separate concurring opinions.

The decision affirms the ruling of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals which held that iron ore workers employed by the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Co., the Schoss-Sheffield Co. and Republic Steel Corp. were entitled to have their travel time included within the 40-hour work week prescribed by the Wage-Hour Act, and consequently, to be compensated at overtime rates after the statutory period.

Addressing himself specifically to this point, Justice Murphy said: "In determining whether this underground travel constitutes compensable work or employment within the meaning of the Fair Labor Standards Act, we are not guided by any precise statutory definition of work or employment. Section 7A (of the act) merely provides that no one who is engaged in commerce or in the production for commerce shall be employed for a work week longer than the prescribed hours unless he is compensated for the excess hours at a rate not less than one and one-half times the regular rate. Section 3G defines the word 'employ' to include 'to suffer or permit to work,' while section 3J states that the 'production' includes 'any process, occupation necessary to . . . production.'"

Rights of Toilers at Stake.

"But these provisions like the other portions of the Fair Labor Standards Act are remedial and humanitarian in purpose. We are not here dealing with mere chattels or articles of trade, but with the rights of those who toil, of those who sacrifice a full measure of their freedom and talents to the use and profits of others."

"Those are the rights that Congress has specially legislated to protect. Such a statute must not be interpreted or applied in a narrow, grudging manner. Accordingly, we have used section 7A, 3G and 3J of the act as necessarily indicative of a congressional intention to guarantee either regular or overtime compensation for all actual work or employment. To hold that an employer may validly compensate his employees for only a fraction of the time consumed in actual labor would be inconsistent with the very purpose and intent of those sections of the act."

"It is vital, of course, to determine first the extent of the actual work week. Only after this is done can the minimum wage and maximum hour requirements of the act be effectively applied, and in the absence of a contrary legislative expression, we cannot assume that Congress here was intending to work around or employment other than words are commonly used—as meaning physical or mental exertion (whether burdensome or not) controlled or required by the employer and pursued necessarily and primarily for the benefit of the employer and his business."

Hazards Taken in Consideration.

"The exacting and dangerous conditions in the mine shaft stand as mute, unanswerable proof that the journey from and to the portal involves continuous physical and mental exertion, as well as hazards to life and limb. And this compulsory travel occurs entirely on petitioners' property and is at all times under their strict control and supervision."

The court said its opinion did not foreclose "reasonable provisions of contract or custom governing the computation of