

U. S. COMBAT ENGINEERS SLAIN ON ROER



CASUALTIES AT PONTOON CROSSING—Medical corpsmen of an American infantry division attached to the Ninth Army carry the body of a combat engineer who was killed by an enemy shellburst while working on a pontoon bridge across the Roer River in Germany. Another engineer victim of the same blast is about to be placed on a stretcher.—A. P. wirephoto from U. S. Army Signal Corps.

GERMAN CIVILIANS HELD BY YANKS



NEAR THE RHINE RIVER—German civilians, rounded up by troops of the United States Ninth Army in their advance to the Rhine River, sit and stand in front of a house under guard of a soldier.—A. P. wirephoto.

VOTING PLAN OF 'BIG 3' FAVORED

WASHINGTON, March 6.—(AP)—Capitol Hill heard today that the Anglo-Soviet-American international voting formula may enhance the prospect of American membership in a world-security league.

The Dumbarton Oaks blueprint for world organization, however, appears headed for an inning of controversy spearheaded by the small and middle-sized nations. An alignment of France and the smaller states at the San Francisco conference to seek major changes in the security plan is considered a likely development.

Meanwhile, the Senate with virtual unanimity hailed the nomination of Economic Stabilizer Fred Vinson to be federal loan administrator succeeding the ousted Jesse Jones.

High lighting Senate comment on the latest Yalta disclosure is the idea that acceptance of the "Big Three" voting procedure at San Francisco will brighten the chances of Senate approval of the world peace plan. Senator George, Democrat, Georgia, ranking Democratic member of the foreign relations committee, said the nation will be better satisfied about joining a world league if it is assured of prior American agreement before our forces can be directed against another country.

Senator Hall, Republican, Minnesota, suggested that "adoption of this agreement certainly will weaken any argument in the Senate over the powers of the American delegate to the international council."

The vista of France and the smaller nations rallying to attempt a reshaping of the Dumbarton Oaks plan arises from the failure of the De Gaulle government to join with the "Big Four" in sponsoring the San Francisco meeting. Controversy apparently will pivot on the relative powers of the small and middle-sized countries and the great nations. Russia, America, China, France and Britain will dominate the proposed security council. Though slated for permanent council membership, France somewhat detached itself from the "Big Four" line-up by refusing to join in sponsoring the April 25 conference.

President Roosevelt's nomination of Fred M. Vinson as federal loan administrator was approved unanimously today by the Senate banking committee. The committee acted without hearings. Chairman Wagner, Democrat, New York, said the nomination was approved "enthusiastically."

Price Administrator Bowles, it was rumored, may get the economic-stabilization post with Oklahoma's Gov. Robert Kerr possibly being asked to take either the Office of Price Administration or stabilization jobs.

Joyous reaction to the Vinson appointment was somewhat muted by the gloomy outlook for Aubrey Williams' nomination as rural electrification chief. The administration decided to delay Senate action a week after surveying the prospects.

Senator Guffey, Democrat, Pennsylvania, offered in the Senate today legislation to give each member of the armed forces a year's base pay on his discharge.

Representative Havenner, Democrat, California, said today the new House committee on un-American activities has promised to investigate "perjury testimony" given against Havenner to a subcommittee of the old Dies committee.

The Senate banking committee today approved a bill authorizing \$1,468,000,000 in subsidies next year for butter, meat, rubber, petroleum and metals needed in the nation's war effort.

The Senate military committee asked the War Department today to estimate how large an Army will be required in peacetime.

Senator Chandler, Democrat, Kentucky, an opponent of universal military training, indicated that some senators hoped to offer inducements for voluntary enlistments so as to eliminate any need for a peacetime draft.

RUSS BAR FRENCH FROM S. F. 'BIG 5'

By HELEN KIRKPATRICK
Chicago Daily News Foreign Service
PARIS, March 6.—Blame for the exclusion of France as one of the five major powers at the San Francisco world security conference is not, this time, the fault of the United States. It is partially Britain's but principally Russia's.

Before Foreign Minister Georges Bidault went to London, he drafted a reply to the invitation asking France to be a sponsoring power. The draft asked that the passage reading, "The Dumbarton Oaks agreement shall be the basis for the world security organization," should be revised to, "The Dumbarton Oaks agreement shall be a basis for discussion of the world security organization."

Change Deemed Reasonable
This draft was discussed in London with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and other British and American diplomats.

It was agreed that the change was reasonable, though unnecessary, as Britain, too, had amendments to propose in the Dumbarton Oaks agreement. The American minister cabled Washington. The reply was that the change was acceptable there. The British undertook to secure Russian agreement.

On Saturday night, Bidault was informed that the Russians would not accept the alteration. Their attitude was "Take it or leave it." Bidault was at a loss to know what to do since General De Gaulle was touring Limoges and Perigueux. The issuing date, already deferred because of the French amendments, had been agreed on as March 5.

Russ Act Recognized
There was no doubt this time in French minds that it was Russia which had put its foot down. They did not believe before that it was Russia which had been the obstacle to offering France a zone of occupation in Germany and which had refused to consider French participation at the Yalta conference.

The general attitude of French officialdom and of the French people is that it is just as well that France goes to San Francisco untied by Dumbarton Oaks. This is slightly "sour grapes," but it does reflect De Gaulle's attitude. The general was opposed from the beginning to French sponsorship. He believes that, therefore, France will be freer to propose amendments "to sign a peace procedure agreed upon by the 'Big Three' at Yalta."

The same position, in even more outspoken form, was taken today by the Royal Netherlands government. A spokesman said the feeling in Dutch official circles was that the small nations would have considerable reluctance "to sign a pact under which any nation, however great, could have a position making it legally a judge in its own cause."

The spokesman said the big nations in prewar years "repeatedly attempted to buy peace by sacrificing the security and vital rights of some weaker power."

Other nations, including Belgium, are known to hold similar views and France may seek to lead a Western European bloc at San Francisco.

Trade With Greece Reopens
WASHINGTON, March 6.—(AP)—Greece moved out of the category of "enemy territory" today. The Treasury lifted its ban on commercial communications with that country, and mail and cable services were ordered restored.

MINK COAT IS GIFT



IN NEW YORK YESTERDAY—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt wears a mink coat given her as "representing all the women in the United States" by the Quebec Fur Breeders' Cooperative Association. The coat, valued at \$11,000, is stamped with a facsimile of the crest of the Province of Quebec.—A. P. wirephoto.

Dateline: Pacific No Ration Points on Saipan, But You Take It or Leave It

By ROBBIN COONS
Associated Press Foreign Staff
B-29 BASE, Saipan—Memo to the folks back home: This is a civilian shopper's heaven. No ration coupons, no parking problems (a jeep will snuggle happily wherever it can get one wheel on the ground) and all the clerks know there's a war on but keep it their own little secret.

It's also a clerk's heaven. Ask Tech. Serg. Norman Wolfe, Camar Wash. chief clerk at the local "Saks Fifth Avenue"—or quarter-master's, as the sign over the wood-and-canvas emporium labels it.

"There's just one thing good about this job," I overheard Sergeant Wolfe telling a pretty Army nurse, Eleanor Gene (Lazzy) Lazynski, Milwaukee, Wis., who had come in with four others from the hospital here to buy her "spring wardrobe."

"Take It or Leave It"
"And that is—?" asked Second Lieutenant Lazynski.
"We've got what we've got. You take it or leave it," Wolfe grinned. "And believe me—that's good when a guy's job in civilian life was selling women's hats!"

Second Lieut. Mary Ribakuski, Mountain View, N. J., was shopping for a dainty feminine item labeled "Suit H. B. T."—a pair of fatigue overalls.
"There are just two sizes, Mary," advised 2nd Lieut. Grace McKay, Milwaukee. "Two sizes—too large, too small."

"But you can get a real girl-size real elastic," said 2nd Lieut. L. Arley Wolfe, Mankato, Minn. "Tell that to the girls back home!"
The other nurse was looking over

an assortment of "brassieres bandeau," "panties cotton," "stockings women's rayon." I quote the labels on what at home are known as intimate garments. She was 2nd Lieut. Ellen M. Thompson, Eagle River, Wis., and she bought.

Woman Shopped Three Hours
Sergeant Wolfe, the ex-hat salesman, helped the girls to their jeep. "Back in New York, when I sold hats," he said, "the women would come in and 'shop.' This little nuttier wasn't fancy enough; that one was too fancy. This one was cocky, that one too daring, or too extreme, or too silly, or it didn't do anything for their faces. One woman tried on hats for three hours—I must have dragged out 50 models for her. But here—see?"

Sure. My own shopping had initiated me. It began up Tinian. My snappy, highly polished low shoes were caked with Guam's soupy red mud. Recommended were G. I. brogans, high-topped. The clerk pointed to the shelves, well-stocked. What size? Er, could I try a few? Sure thing. Trial and mostly error worked. I couldn't walk for a few hours, just dragged the two tons along the ground, but time heals all heels.

Here it was shirts, a cap, a couple of bath towels—the maid service is awful here, or did you know? You bring your own towels. Or you dry in the wind. The clerk pulled the items off the shelves, wrote them up. But shopping ends here as it does at home: You're introduced to a nice little man behind a cash box.

Mineral production in the United States made a new record during 1944 with an output valued at \$3,543,000,000, or nearly \$1,000,000,000 more than in 1943.

3 OFFICERS IN 716TH ACQUITTED

PARIS, March 6.—(AP)—Three company commanders of the 716th Railway Operating Battalion, charged with neglect of duty in the looting of supply trains, were acquitted today by a general court-martial.

They were the last officers facing charges in connection with the black-market cases. Sixty-two enlisted men still are awaiting trial. Eight officers were tried and five of them were acquitted. So far more than 160 enlisted men have been convicted and sentenced, two acquitted and the cases against a score of others have been dismissed.

Of those convicted and sentenced, 115 have been given suspended sentences and another chance to make good as soldiers. They have been formed into a special combat group and will begin training tomorrow.

Economic Pact For Americas Is Toned Down

MEXICO CITY, March 6.—(AP)—The Inter-American Conference was expected to give formal approval today to an "economic pact for the Americas" toned down considerably from its original form but calling in general for more free trade and increased industrialization in this hemisphere.

After 16 hours of torrid debate a conference subcommittee late last night approved the charter with three important revisions. Only Uruguay and Colombia made exceptions, which will be explained by their representatives at a meeting late today of the committee on postwar economic problems.

Full committee approval, tantamount to conference adoption, appeared certain. The charter would appear in the final acts of the conference as a preamble to economic resolutions already adopted.

MEXICO CITY, March 6.—In a resolution adopted by a conference committee, 20 American republics today advocated full freedom of the press and radio, unhindered access to sources of news and abolition of peacetime censorship. The resolution proposed that all wartime press controls be lifted immediately after the war.

The conference, meanwhile, is trying to complete a formal statement on Argentina.

The Argentine statement is generally expected to express a regret that the Argentine people are not represented at the conference and a hope they will soon rejoin the American family of nations.

The articles in the economic charter which underwent complete revision in the subcommittee last night pertain to the reduction of trade barriers, equality of access to trade and raw materials, and reduction and elimination of economic nationalism.

Strikers Under 38 Reclassified 1-A

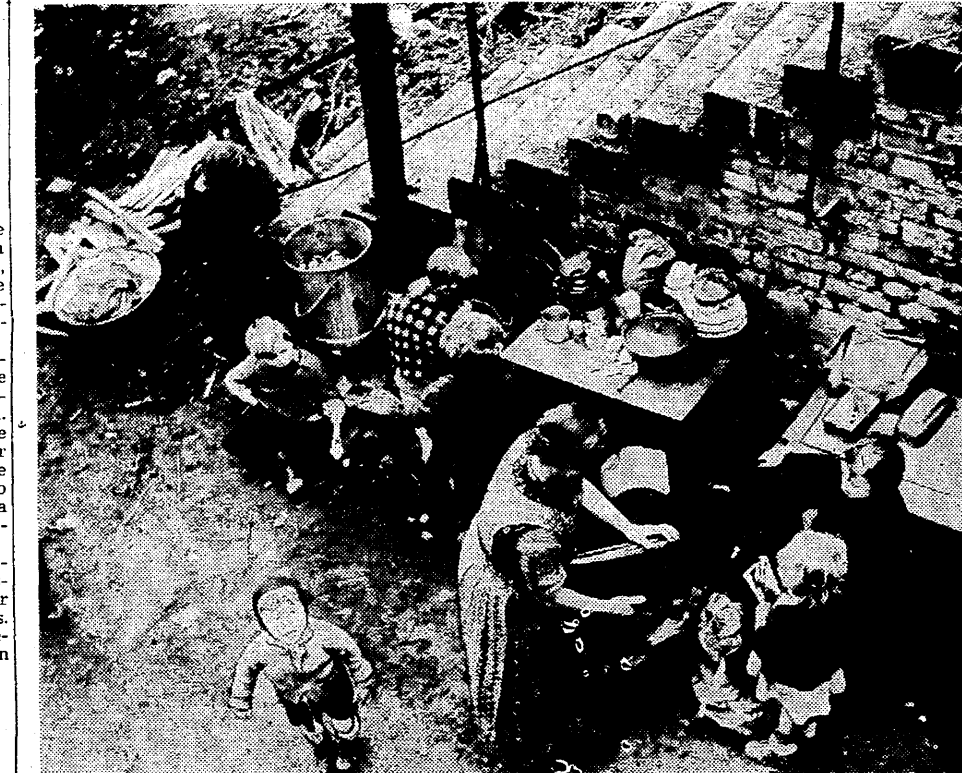
LEBANON, Pa., March 6.—(AP)—All Reading Street Railway Company operators under 38 in age jurisdiction of local draft board No. 1 here have been classified 1-A, the board said yesterday.

The board said 19 operators are registered with it, but would not say how many deferred men were affected by the change.

Transportation has been tied up in the Reading-Lebanon area by the work-stoppage for more than a week because of a dispute before the regional War Labor Board, which the union says involves time-and-a-half pay for all hours in excess of 40 during the work week.

Australian Wheat To Aid Freed Nations

SYDNEY, Australia, March 6.—(AP)—Australia probably will be able to supply millions of bushels of wheat to liberated countries next year, despite the severe drought which cut down production last year, authorities said yesterday.



THE OUTDOORS IS THEIR HOME—This mother has her hands full trying to fix meals and take care of all these children at the same time. The family is living in a fort in Neuf-Breisach, Rhine town in Alsace, until homes can be found for them. They were left shelterless when nearly all the buildings were destroyed before the Germans were driven out. Luftwaffe bombings destroyed the few that were left standing.

Woman Writer on Iwo Sees Wounded Smile for Aid

(The following article was written by Barbara Miller Finch, of Reuters, British news agency, first woman correspondent to land on Iwo Jima.)

By BARBARA FINCH
Representing the Combined Allied Press
(Distributed by Associated Press)

ABOARD A U. S. NAVAL AIR EVACUATION PLANE IN WESTERN PACIFIC, March 6 (Via Navy Radio).—Fifteen boys, veterans of the hell of Iwo Jima, are being flown out aboard this transport plane only a few hours after they were wounded.

Daily hospital planes will operate between Iwo Jima and base hospitals on Saipan and Guam under a new naval evacuation unit. As a volunteer nurse's aide, I am making this flight back with them. Every man on the plane, even a gray-faced marine who lost his leg and most of the toes of his right foot by mortar fire yesterday, brightens eagerly at the mention of a hospital—clean, white, with real beds—by nightfall.

The marine dozed when we first took off from Motoyama Air Field No. 1 at Iwo Jima, then stirred restlessly and motioned me close to his litter. "Are we still moving?" he murmured anxiously.

Our plane, Nellie V, piloted by Lieut. Daniel H. Durden, San Diego, Calif., is moving so smoothly at 9,000 feet above white clouds and blue water that his question is understandable. Reassured, he smiles faintly, and closes his eyes.

On another litter a black-eyed boy with an engaging smile is fumbling with a small bundle of blood-stained letters. He looks up and says, "I'm afraid my girl will be pretty mad at me for getting her letters dirty."

Bullet in Leg

"I'll have to write Mother that I'm doing all right," a 19-year-old lad from New Hampshire tells me. "Last night I was lying there in the dirt on Iwo with a bullet in my leg. Tonight I'll sleep in a hospital bed. I don't believe it yet."

"The only trouble is I hate to leave the boys. I cried when the captain came to say good-bye."

But he isn't crying on the plane. He's grinning and helping cheer other marines with more severe injuries. It is the typical attitude.

I found the same thing on the beach when I visited the medical evacuation station serving the 3rd, 4th and 5th Marine Divisions with Lieut. Comdr. Leo Thalen of Elgin, Ill., medical company commander, in charge.

Two corpsmen carried a lad with a bloody bandage around his head past us on a litter. He raised his head painfully, grinned and called, "Hello, Ma'am; what are you doing here?"

The bulk of the marines brought en route home.

NISEI BACK ON ROLL OF HONOR

INDIANAPOLIS, March 6.—(AP)—National headquarters of the American Legion announced today Hood River Oregon Post No. 22 had agreed to restore to its honor roll the names of 15 Japanese-American service men which it voted to scratch out last December.

Originally, 16 names were struck off, but since the Oregon post took its action December 2 one of the Japanese-Americans was dishonorably discharged from the Army and his name will not be restored.

National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling ordered the names restored on January 19, backed by the executive committee of the Oregon Department of the Legion. Word of the Oregon post's decision to restore the names came in a telegram to Scheiberling from J. B. Edington, post commander.

HOOD RIVER, Or., March 6.—(AP)—The American Legion post here said today that, although it was restoring Japanese-American soldiers to its honor roll, it still objected to Nisei returning to this area. The national Legion threatened an investigation if the post would not agree to reinscribe the Japanese-American names.

Britain and Sweden Complete Trade Pact

Chicago Daily News Foreign Service
LONDON, March 6.—A bilateral trade and payments agreement, aimed at the speedy revival of trade between Britain and Sweden after Germany's defeat, was signed in London today.

The agreement tentatively schedules trade in certain essential goods during the 12-month period immediately following the end of the European war. The monetary section of the agreement, which is valid for five years beginning today, provides that each country will accept payment in the blocked currency of the other country. (Copyright, 1945.)

Rotary to Hear Dr. Goffin

Dr. Robert Goffin, former Brussels criminal attorney, will speak on "The Belgian Underground" tomorrow noon at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Seattle in the Olympic Hotel.

Radio to Holland Reopens

NEW YORK, March 6.—(AP)—Direct radioteletype service between the United States and The Netherlands was reopened yesterday, according to R. C. A. Communications, Inc.