

- THUNDERBOLT -

TIMES

VOL 4 NO 17

LINZ, AUSTRIA

JANUARY 22, 1946

STRIKES PARALYZING U. S.

The largest steel strike in the United States history got under way at 0001 Monday and 75,000 CIO steelworkers in 29 states became idle. This brought the American total on strike to a modern record of more than 1,600,000. From coast to coast workers at mills, fabricating works, iron mines, and some aluminium plants left their jobs. Industry had been slowing down for days in anticipation of the strike, and some plants closed down completely before it had officially started. Practically paralyzing the nation's postwar productive effort, the strike climaxes months of fruitless negotiations in which President Truman recently tried to act as peacemaker.

DeGAULLE TO RETIRE

General Charles DeGaulle Monday cancelled the broadcast to the nation he had scheduled for Monday evening following his resignation as president of the French Provisional Government. A spokesman for DeGaulle said his decision to retire from public life was "irrevocable." In London, the Daily Telegraph Telegraph termed General DeGaulle's resignation "regrettable" and observed that the charge that he is seeking a personal dictatorship is "quite unfounded."

U. S. MAY SEIZE MEAT SUPPLIES

With the nation's meat supply dwindling fast, a federal official who refused to permit use of his name Monday said that the government saw little hope of avoiding seizure and government operation of the striking meat packing industry. The action to take over the idle plants from which more than 250,000 AFL and CIO workers walked out five days ago, may come within the next 24 hours. The question of the seizure, he said, would be discussed in high level conferences in Washington Monday, pointing out that President Truman is known to oppose government operation of private industry except as a last resort. The government spokesman added that drastic action may be taken because the stoppage of the meat supplies affects millions of Americans who will have no alternative but to go meatless. He said a public hearing before a labor dispute Fact Finding Board will be held in the packing house wage dispute in Chicago today.

COMMITTEE TEPID ON RAPIDO RIVER QUIZ

Senate and House Military Affairs Committee chairman showed little enthusiasm Monday for a requested investigation into the bloody Rapido River engagement in Italy. The demand came from members of the 36th Infantry Division Association meeting in Brownwood, Texas, on Saturday, on the eve of the second anniversary of their costly crossing of the heavily defended stream. Representative Andrew K. May (D., Ky.), told a reporter he could not see what good could be accomplished by an investigation now. Both May and Elbert D. Thomas (D., Utah), Chairman of the Senate military group, said if they receive the 36th Division Association resolution they will refer it to the full membership of the committee's for decision. The War Department quickly came to the defense of General Mark Clark Monday, saying the Rapido action was of diversionary action to reduce German pressure against the Anzio beachhead. The War Department said, "Clark had been or-

TRUMAN MAKES TALK ON 'STATE OF NATION'

President Truman told the nation Monday in his combined state of the union and budget message that he intends to transfer America's part in the administration of occupied territory in Europe from military to civilian control "at the earliest possible date."

Discussing European occupation problems in his speech to Congress and the nation, President Truman said: "It is my purpose at the earliest practicable date to transfer from military to civilian personnel the execution of the U. S. participation in the government of occupied territories of Europe. We are determined that effective control shall be maintained in Germany until we are satisfied that the German people have regained their right place of honor and respect."

The President said the existing Allied Control Council in Germany "has made encouraging progress in the face of most serious difficulties." He conceded that "it had not met with unqualified success," and pointed out that "the accommodation of varying views of the four governments in the day to day administration of the occupied territory is a challenging task." "The world," he said, "has a great stake in the political and economic future of Germany."

No Territory

The President reiterated a public statement of American foreign policy which he made in New York last October, in which he said that the U. S. seeks no territorial expansion or selfish advantages, believes in the eventual return of sovereign rights and self-government to all peoples who have been deprived of their rights of free government, and intends to help defeated enemy states to establish a peaceful democratic government of their own free choice." The President emphasized that it was his goal "to attain a world in which Nazism, Fascism and military aggression will not exist." He said, quote "America will never recognize any government imposed upon any nation by force of any foreign power. He added, "that he favored freedom of the seas and equal rights for all nations to the navigation of boundary, waters and waterways which pass through more than one accepted country, and believes "all states which are in the society of nations should have access on equal terms to the trade and raw materials of the world."

President Truman, discussing the control of atomic energy, said that



THUNDERBOLT TIMES

A daily news summary edited and published in Linz, Austria, by the Public Relations Office 83rd Infantry Division APO 83, U. S. Army Telephone: Linz 25158 Editor: Sgt. Ed. Baldinger

Continued from page 1

the Soviet Union, France and China, have joined the United States, Great Britain and Canada in plans to introduce in the UNO assembly a resolution for the establishment of a commission to explore the problems of effective and international control of atomic energy.

He also pledged support of the United Nations and assured small nations that they will have a voice in the preparation of peace treaties, including those with Germany and Japan.

Domestic Problems

President Truman speaking on the domestic problems in the United States, particularly the economic outlook said that "any precise appraisal of the economic outlook at his time is particularly difficult. The period of demobilization and reconversion is fraught with uncertainties," but he added, "in general, the outlook for business is good and is likely to continue to be good," provided we control inflation and achieve peace in labor and management relations, he added: "civilian production and employment can be expected to increase throughout the next year. This does not mean however, that continuing full employment is assured. It is probable that demobilization of the Armed forces will proceed faster than the increase in civilian opportunities. Even if substantial withdrawal of the labor market occurs, unemployment will increase temporarily. The extent to which unemployment will persist depends largely on the speed of industrial expansion and the effectiveness of the policies of the Federal Government. The President reiterated his former stand that aid to businessmen, particularly to veterans who are about to start their own businesses, must be an important consideration of the government. The establishment of efficient small business ventures, I believe, will add to the total business of all enterprises."

Speaking on the present wave of strikes now gripping the country, the President said, "everyone who realizes the need for a swift and orderly reconversion must feel the deep concern of the major strikes now in progress. If these strikes continue for long, it could and will put a heavy brake on our program. I have already made recommendations to Congress as to the procedure best adapted to meeting the threat of work stoppages in the nation-wide industries without sacrificing the fundamental rights of labor to collective bargaining.

Continued from page 1

dered by General Sir Harold Alexander, commander of the 15th Army Group, to make the attack and added that the men who made the assault "did not die in vain."

RED ARMY SEIZES HUNGARIAN OIL FIELDS

A dispatch from Budapest to the New York Times stated Monday that the Red Army seized Hungarian oil fields at Lispe and had also taken physical possession of large fields which were owned by the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. These properties have been excepted from reparations as they are wholly American owned. The Russians are paying Americans for oil produced, the dispatch said. Russians took possession of the fields because the American technique was 25 years behind Russian. The dispatch said it understood however, that Standard Oil considers the rate at which Soviet technicians propose to exploit the field, wasteful.

HEAVY VOTE IN GERMANY

An estimated 85% (60% women) of the eligible voters balloted Sunday as the greater Hessen area of the United States zone of Germany held its first free election in 13 years. The election was for council members in villages and towns having less than 5,000 population. The military order banning Nazis barred about 39,000 Nazi party citizens. Results of the voting seemed to indicate that the Germans looked upon the selection rather as a popularity contest than an assay of political value. For instance, in the Landkreis of Alsfeld, candidates without political affiliations received 98,925 votes while the Left Wing Democrats received 7,430 and the Communists received insufficient votes to secure a single seat on the Council. In Alsfeld, five percent of the ballots were discarded because they were improperly marked.

BRIEF-ITS A transportation strike in New York is pending. It will halt all subways, trolleys and buses for 6,000,000 people The search for the Headquarters of UNO in the New England area continued over the week-end with the committee touring Massachusetts in a Navy blimp Gen. MacArthur has seized 394 Jap war plants which may be turned over to the Allies as reparations. 265 plants had manufactured airplanes and parts for the aerial power of the Nips H. D. Maxwell, heading a committee studying Jap reparations said that the Nips could pay more than we originally expected

TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

- Central — 1310 and 1815 — "Men In Her Diary," with Jon Hall and Louise Albritton (today and Wednesday).
- Cleveland — 1315 and 1845 — "Sunbonnet Sue," with Phil Regan and Gale Storm (last times today). "Man Alive" (Wednesday and Thursday).
- Volks — "And Then There Were None," with Barry Fitzgerald and Walter Hudson (last times today). "Sunbonnet Sue" (Wednesday and Thursday).
- Hollywood — "Col. Effingham's Raid," with Charles Coburn and Joan Bennett (last times today). "And Then There Were None" (Wednesday and Thursday).
- Chattanooga — "Love Letters," with Jennifer Jones and Joseph Cotten (last times today). "Col. Effingham's Raid" (Wednesday and Thursday).
- Music Hall — "Shady Lady," with Ginny Simms and Charles Coburn (last times today). "Love Letters" (Wednesday and Thursday).
- Varga — "The Cheaters," with Joseph Schildkraut and Billie Burke (last times today). "Shady Lady" (Wednesday and Thursday).
- Landes Theatre — Tonight and Wednesday — 1930 — "VARIETY ON PARADE," with Three top bands, Continental Dance Team and acrobats and aerialists. Admission 5 schillings.