

OPM CLAMPS DOWN ON TWO MATERIALS

Vanadium And Chlorinated Products Made Subject To Complete Allocation

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The OPM clamped down today on the use of vanadium and chlorinated products, subjecting them to allocation control.

Henceforth, Donald M. Nelson, priorities director, will make monthly allotments to manufacturers from available supplies of vanadium. The metal is used in manufacture of steel for machine tools, special casting, armor plate, and alloy iron.

A similar program with respect to chlorinated products will be put into effect Feb. 1.

During the day, the Office of Price Administration issued a new price schedule on acetone, butanol, and ethyl alcohol, basic industrial chemicals.

The new levels, effective January 1, put a maximum of 15.8 cents a pound on acetone compared with the original ceiling of 7 cents; the butanol ceiling, formerly 10 3-4 cents, and the ethyl alcohol maximum was increased from 24 1-2 cents a gallon for the basic formula to 30 cents.

Price Administrator Leon Henderson also announced that ceiling prices would be established on all types and grades of leather at levels prevailing between November 6 and December 6.

A conference of representatives of the machine tool industry here on January 7 was called by the OPA to discuss details of a projected price ceiling on new machine tools.

Malta Sends Message To Men At Hongkong

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—(AP)—The hard and British Mediterranean island fortress of Malta, which went through its 106th air raid today, took time out to send a message of encouragement to its beleaguered brother fighters in Hongkong, the British radio said tonight.

The message signed by Sir William Dobby, governor of Malta, read: "In the name of the people of Malta I send the warmest greetings and sympathy."

"Our hearts are with you in your gallant defense against the Japanese attacks."

CBS heard the broadcast.

A new steel frame, canvas-covered hangar has recently been announced which appears to be a satisfactory solution to the storage problem for private planes.

ARMY MEETS AN EMERGENCY WITH COLORS FLYING



While the city of Fayetteville, N. C., was entertaining 20,000 soldiers from nearby Fort Bragg in a "Welcome Day" program, an emergency arose when a baby became separate from its nurse in the throng. The infant, Sergeant R. W. Vaughn is temporary custodian of the bottle. The baby later was identified as Carl Collins of Fayetteville.

F.D.R. CONSIDERING CREATION OF COUNCIL

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indications that Willkie would be given a prominent place in the defense effort. Willkie lunched with President Roosevelt last Monday, and at that time there was widespread speculation that he would be appointed moderator of the new industry-labor conference.

That position was not tendered, however, and subsequently there were general reports that Mr. Roosevelt had a more important position in mind for his 1940 opponent.

There have been repeated reports that Leahy would be called back to this country to take a more active part in the war effort.

Wallace naturally would be appointed to any war council, it was said, first, because of his position as vice president, and, second, because of the President's confidence in his ability to work out economic and sociological problems.

Whether Murray might be given such a post, informants declared, probably would depend upon whether the Chief Executive felt

it advisable to have a labor representative on that type of council.

Informants said the general idea was that the war council would have power to work out differences between various departments and agencies, would perform "special tasks" which would not fall directly under the jurisdiction of any one department, and would relieve the President of many questions of policy which he now must handle.

As an example of how the council might work, one informant told reporters that if the President was dissatisfied with coordination between the Army and Navy he might delegate one member of the supreme group to give any "direct action" orders necessary to bring about harmony.

Along with the supreme war council idea, the President was said to be considering an arrangement for unifying military commands by geographical regions. This would involve placing a single commander in charge of all allied forces in a single area.

L.A.F. DOWNS FOUR JAPANESE PLANES

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encountered ten Japanese planes detailed to raid Kunning, important terminal on the Burma road, and shot four of them out of Yunnan province skies without a loss to themselves.

At the same time Chinese Army headquarters announced its forces operating at the heels of the Japanese attacking Hongkong had penetrated to Shumchun on the Canton-Kowloon railway right at the mainland frontier of Hongkong colony.

Apparently the thrust was only a raid, for the Chinese said heavy fighting subsequently developed about 10 miles northeast of Shumchun after the Shumchun railway station and Japanese defense works had been blown up and destroyed.

However, the attack had the result of forcing the Japanese to divert some of their forces from the attack on the hard-pressed defenders of Hongkong to defend their rear, the Chinese said.

Present area of the fighting, as described in Chinese dispatches, would be in the neighborhood of Pingshan where the Chinese have been reported active previously.

Details of the first action of the International Air Force were not available here.

Long in process of organization, its strength and equipment are secret.

WEATHER

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WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(AP)—Weather Bureau records of temperature and rainfall for the 24 hours ending 8 p. m., in the principal cotton growing areas and elsewhere:

Table with columns for Station, High, and Low. Lists weather data for various cities including Alpega, Asheville, Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Buffalo, Burlington, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Duluth, El Paso, Fort Worth, Galveston, Havre, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Key West, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Meridian, Miami, Minn.-St. Paul, Mobile, New Orleans, New York, Norfolk, Pittsburgh, Portland, Ore., Raleigh, Me., Richmond, St. Louis, San Antonio, San Francisco, Savannah, Tampa, Vicksburg, Washington, and Wilmington.

EMPTY STOCKING NEARING CLOSE

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will know none of the joy and happiness experienced each Christmas for 1941 years.

It will mean these children will awake next Thursday morning to find their stockings empty—the most tragic and heartbreaking experience that could befall any child. You don't want this to happen in Wilmington, do you?

Then come to the Star-News offices Monday and leave your contribution to the Empty Stocking fund. Or you can leave it with J. Henry Gerdes at the Peoples Savings Bank and Trust company.

These poor children will be grateful to you forever.

The fund to date: Previously acknowledged \$1,109.17

- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Loyal Union No. 495 5.00
Tommy & Pat 2.00
A Friend 1.00
The Texas Co. Employees 10.00
A Friend 1.00
Omnicor Alpha Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity J. A. Lawson 5.00
Donald Eugene Brown 1.27
Benefit Wrestling Match at Thalian Hall 10.00
Aggie 1.00
A Friend .25
A Friend 2.50
Office of Gen's Supt. Motive Power A C L RR 10.50
Tide Water Power Co. Employees Party 28.65
Police Sergeant 1.00
A Friend 1.00
Employees Of Cape Fear Terminal 25.00
A. C. L. Car Dept. Employees 8.55
Atlantic Tobacco Co. 15.00
George C. Lewis, Jr. .50
Manor Theatre Matinee 30.10
TOTAL \$1,262.99

BRITISH PROLONGING HONGKONG'S DEFENSE

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chief of the tired and tattered forces of defense.

This news, a spokesman said, "shows that some troops are still fighting."

"Hopeless" At the end of the day he added: "If we hadn't lost the Prince of Wales and the Repulse (capital ships sunk last week off Malaya) it might have been different. Now, apparently, we haven't the strength to get a relieving force all that distance. Surrounded by hostile seas on one hand and hostile land on the other, Hongkong's position is as hopeless as her fight is magnificent."

Other spokesmen held no hope that poorly equipped Chinese troops, battered by day and night at the back of the Japanese forces at the mainland opposite Hongkong, could exert enough pressure to relieve the garrison.

The Chinese did, however, report that they had raided Shumchun, on the outer mainland border of the Crown colony, Friday, destroying Japanese defenses, burning down the railway station and exploding an ammunition dump. This, a Chungking dispatch said, forced the Japanese to withdraw troops from the Hongkong mainland area to fight the Chinese northeast of Shumchun.

Hongkong came under full siege at dawn last Sunday, when the Japanese, having occupied the mainland part of the colony, launched a ferocious offensive by air and land. They fought their way across the mile-wide strip of water to the island heart of Hongkong Thursday night under cover of dive bombing and artillery barrage.

The paint shop of the new "blackout" plant of an aircraft plant at Bethpage, Long Island, is operated with air pressure higher than that outside the plant. When the shop doors are opened, the air pressure forms an invisible "wall," preventing the entry of dust.

JAYCEES ARRANGE SOLDIER DINNERS

Citizens Asked To Volunteer To Entertain Soldiers On Christmas

The Junior Chamber of Commerce has established temporary headquarters in the Woodrow Wilson hut to arrange Christmas dinners in Wilmington homes for service men.

Several hundred men from Camp Davis and surrounding military centers have accepted invitations for Christmas dinners here. Most of them will not be able to be at their homes on that day because of recent changes in furlough restrictions.

The office will be attended by a group of WPA secretaries, in cooperation with the USO, who will see that every soldier desiring a Christmas dinner gets an invitation.

It will be open daily from 9 a. m. until 11 p. m. beginning December 21 and through December 25.

Men in the service have been asked to call at the Woodrow Wilson hut and leave their names at the desk. Then, when they return on the morning of December 25 between the hours of 9 and 11 a. m., they will be given the name and address of their host.

Citizens of Wilmington wishing to entertain a soldier at dinner on Christmas have been asked to telephone Jaycee headquarters at 2-1262 or the Woodrow Wilson hut at 2-1104. Simply call and tell the secretary how many men you wish sent for dinner.

The Jaycees asked that ministers in Wilmington churches make announcements of the Christmas dinner arrangements in their churches.

ENEMY SUBMARINES SINK U. S. SHIPS

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ficer at an Atlantic naval base recently heard a radio announcement of sub-freezing weather in the Dakotas and a temperature of nine degrees at Duluth.

From his knowledge of continental weather tracks, he deduced that a few days later "his patrol area would have a clear day or two with high visibility and conditions ideal for enemy submarine attack."

"Special precautions were taken in patrol work on the calculated day, which turned out as predicted, and in the course of operations it became apparent that enemy submarines had also picked up the same information and made the same deduction.

"It was pointed out that the information so inadvertently broadcast would also have been of benefit to an enemy air attack along any part of the 'weather route' in the North American continent."

The Japanese troop transport bagged today was the second such reported sunk by a U. S. submarine.

Blockade Started? The submarine operations were widely taken as an indication that the Navy had begun the long and laborious process of laying a blockade about Japan to cut off the flow of raw materials to her industries and of food to feed her overpopulated islands.

The meaning of the Japanese landing on Mindanao awaited clarification, but it was thought significant that the landing was made at a point where the people are predominantly Japanese, and fifth column work was commonly thought to have figured in the operation.

The Navy said in its communique that there were no developments to report in any American war theater except the Far East, leading to the supposition that the Marines at Wake Island were still in command of the situation there.

Referring to the Far East, it said: "A U. S. submarine sank an additional enemy transport, Cavite sustained a heavy bombing raid at noon of the nineteenth, this raid caused some damage to property, but only light casualties to our own forces and civilian personnel."

PENANG ISLAND TAKEN BY JAPAN

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Hongkong. A Domei broadcast indicated the island's capitulation was expected today or tomorrow.

British guns on Victoria Peak were reported sporadically shelling the invaders, but the Japanese already were said to have captured more than 500 vehicles, 22 big oil dumps, supplies of rice, flour, and medicine, and have disarmed many imperial troops.

British guns on Mount Davis Fort were reported put out of action, the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking corporation's main office was destroyed, and big fires were raging in the colony.

In the Philippines, the Japanese claimed that six American planes were shot down and five others on the ground set afire in an air attack yesterday at Delmonte. (No such town is listed in Gazeteers.)

Eight other American planes were reported destroyed in attacks on Nichols Air Field and other military camps, and two more planes, a hangar and an oil depot destroyed in Thursday's attack on Nolo, Panay Island.

The crown council met today at the Imperial Palace with Emperor Hirohito and later it was said that the government would make "a statement on an important diplomatic affair" at noon tomorrow.

KING GIVEN FULL COMMAND OF NAVY

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unpreparedness for the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Apparently it was a shakeup in organization as well as in personnel, for in his new post, King outranks the Chief of Naval operations, Admiral Harold R. Stark, and is to be responsible only to the Secretary of the Navy and President Roosevelt.

He has been serving as commandant of the Atlantic fleet, directing its patrol and convoy work for months before America's actual participation in the war began. Rear Admiral Royal E. Ingersoll was appointed to that post.

Under the old setup, the chief of operations was in supreme command of the Navy. Under him was the commander in chief of the United States fleet, with authority stemming from him to the commanders in chief of the various fleets. Kimmel, while in direct command of the Pacific fleet, was simultaneously commander in chief of the United States fleet.

Under the new arrangement, King will have charge not only of the Navy afloat, its operating forces in the Atlantic, Pacific and Far East, but also of the coastal defenses, and air bases off the coast.

What duties and responsibilities remain to the office of chief of

naval operations and to Admiral Stark, remained unclarified. However, no orders were announced abolishing that post.

King's appointment was a continuation of an apparently new administration policy of giving army men the big Army and Navy jobs.

The Pearl Harbor shakeup included the removal of Lieutenant General Walter C. Short as commander of the Army's Hawaiian department and the appointment to that post of Lieutenant General Delos C. Emons, chief of the air force combat command.

When Kimmel was replaced by Rear Admiral Chester V. Nimitz, disappointment was expressed by naval fliers, some of whom think that recent developments had reduced the ships of the Navy to the

position of auxiliaries to the air force.

Many of them thought that a proper recognition of air power would have placed King in the job. Their elation was consequently great when they learned tonight that a flier had been given command, not of the Pacific fleet alone, but of the entire Navy.

They were pleased to learn, too, that Major General James E. Chaney, also an airman, was the Army's representative in preliminary staff talks in London.

They recalled, too, that some months ago Colonel Henry Harms of the Air Corps was given command of ground troops as well as air forces.

A quail can travel about 85 feet per second.

JUST RECEIVED SHIPMENT TRIKES CHAIN DRIVE \$21.95 FIRESTONE 220 Market Street Dial 6170 EASY BUDGET PAYMENT PLAN

E FIRD'S Last Minute Gift Suggestions EVENING WRAPS Long and short velvet and wool crepe with lining. With and without hoods. Some fur trimmed. 7.95 to 19.50 Chiffon EVENING HAKKIES All Colors 97c

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