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Wilmington Morning Star

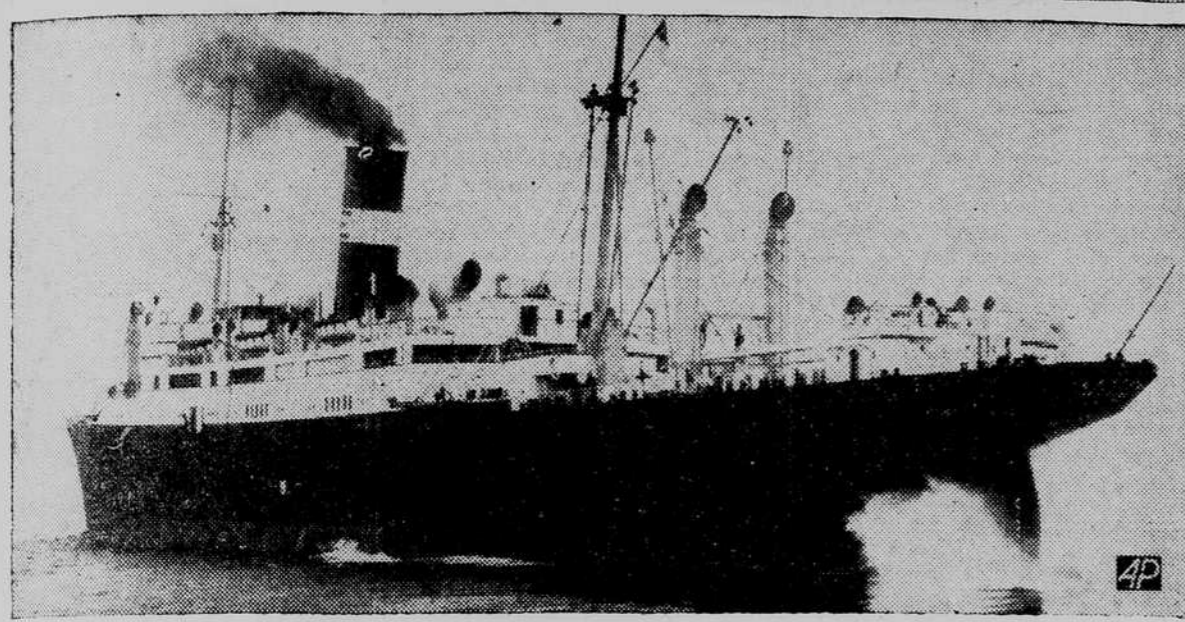
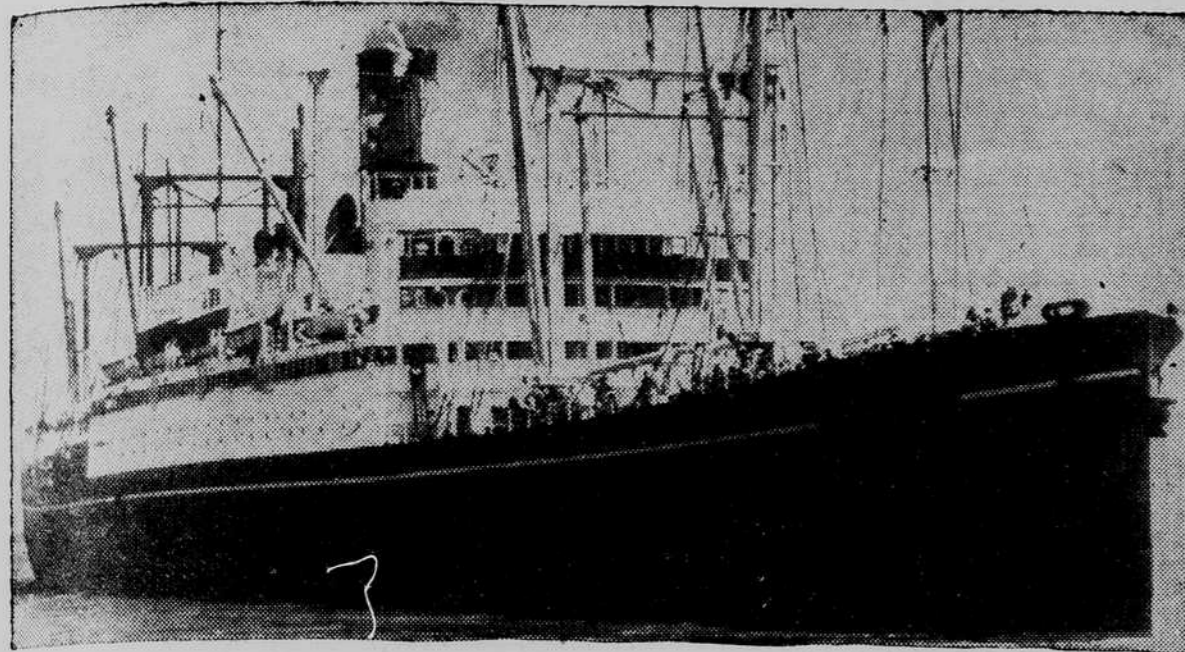
REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR AND BATAAN

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WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1942

ESTABLISHED 1867.

U. S. Transports Sunk Off North Africa



The U. S. Transport Hugh L. Scott (top), formerly the liner President Pierce, and the Edward Rutledge (bottom), formerly the liner Exeter, were two of five transports sunk off North Africa during the landings of American and British troops, the Navy has announced. This picture of the Exeter was made before her conversion into a transport.

Japanese Troops Now Suffering In Guadalcanal And New Guinea

Have Turned To Dropping Aid By Parachute Due To Sea Losses

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Saturday, Dec. 5.—(AP)—The Japs have found the cost in ships so heavy in attempts to aid their trapped ground forces on the northeast New Guinea coast that they now have turned to the dropping of supplies by parachute, the high command said today. The noon communique told of dropping up of pockets of opposition left behind by the Allied spearhead which fought its way to the coast near Buna and then turned toward Buna. More than 400 enemy dead have been counted. In addition an estimated 40 Japs were sunk when two large barges were sunk from under them by bombers of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's air force. The fighting in sectors other than around Buna was referred to as intermittent. Allied planes bombed airdromes up the New Guinea coast at Lae and Salamaua and also ranged above New Guinea to New Ireland, setting fires last night among aircraft at Kavieng.

Proposed Extension Of City Water Line Is Approved By FWA

Senator Josiah W. Bailey advised the Star-News yesterday afternoon that the Federal Works Agency had approved a water and sewer facilities project for Wilmington amounting to a cost of \$86,000. W. B. Campbell, city attorney, also reported the receipt of a similar notification, and revealed that the project was for the extension of city water facilities to the federal war housing projects on the Carolina Beach highway. The construction of this line will afford city water supply to the housing projects.

WEATHER

FORECAST:
NORTH CAROLINA—Continued cold today.
(EASTERN STANDARD TIME)
By U. S. Weather Bureau
Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday:
Temperature: 3:06a., 11:30p., 1:30 p. m., 4:47 p. m., 7:30 p. m., 1:30 p. m., 4:47 p. m., maximum 54; minimum 27; mean 46; normal 51.
Humidity:
1:30 a. m., 22; 7:30 a. m., 93; 1:30 p. m., 66; 7:30 p. m., 68.
Precipitation:
Total for the year ending 7:30 p. m., 42.1 inches; total since the first of the month, 6.24 inches.
TIDES FOR TODAY:
From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey:
Wilmington
High 7:22a., 1:36a.
Low 2:28p., 8:42p.
Masonboro Inlet
High 5:04a., 11:23p.
Low 3:15a., 9:34p.
Moore's Inlet
High 5:06a., 11:30p.
Low 3:20p., 9:39p.
New Topsail Inlet
High 5:14a., 11:35a.
Low 3:28p., 9:44p.
Sunset 7:02a.; sunrise 5:05p.; moonrise 3:01a.; moonset 3:31p.

RED CROSS AIDS STORM VICTIMS

Organization Relieving suffering Of Columbus County Homeless

WHITEVILLE, Dec. 4.—Relief for the storm sufferers in Columbus county left homeless by the tornado which ripped through three populated areas Tuesday night, was being effectively administered today as Red Cross officials from eastern area headquarters in Alexandria joined the Columbus county Red Cross officials and the OCD motor corps here in alleviating the suffering. Miss Mary Pegram, general field representative for the American Red Cross in eastern North Carolina, has been on the scene since Wednesday night, and two Red Cross nurses from Alexandria arrived yesterday morning. Also, a doctor from area headquarters was expected this afternoon to aid in the relief work. I. B. Tucker, Sr., chairman of the disaster committee of the Columbus county Red Cross chapter, said today that everything was being done that could possibly be done for the storm victims and that there is no actual suffering among the homeless. The three hundred homeless Negroes in the stricken areas have been provided food and shelter, many of the neighbors opening their homes to those left without shelter. At Honey Hill, where the storm damage was greatest, the North Carolina Lumber company owned most, if not all, of the demolished homes, and it has already provided shelter for the homeless families in other houses which were vacant at the time of the storm. At Bolton where about 15 houses were completely destroyed, the homeless victims have been taken care of, Mr. Tucker said, by neighbors. Of the 12 victims of the storm who are still in the Columbus county hospital, the condition of 10 of

Latest Attempt To Land Supplies Indicative Of Material Shortage

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—(AP)—Japan's latest costly and futile attempt to deliver troops and supplies to Guadalcanal Island was cited by Secretary of the Navy Knox today as evidence that enemy forces there must be running short of material. Knox described the attempt, made Monday night, as a complete failure for the Japs and he called it "round 3" in the battle for control of the southeastern Solomons. An American naval force sank six warships, two transports and a cargo vessel. "They lost a lot of ships," Knox said, "and they went away. They failed to gain their objective. They did not get ashore." The secretary told his press conference, in fact, that he believed the enemy had been unsuccessful in landing any reinforcements or supplies for the past three weeks; that is, since their greatest effort to retake the island was smashed by a great American naval victory November 13-15. They must be expected to try again, however, he said, and the only safe theory is that they will return with ships and men as long as they can. On the island, Knox said, American forces are gradually expanding and "taking in more territory." One objective of the expansion was brought out by Major General Ralph J. Mitchell, chief of Marine aviation, who said that construction of another airfield on Guadalcanal was contemplated when suitable territory was won. Mitchell expressed some concern over the effect the imminent rainy season will have on the vital Guadalcanal airfield. The rains will be at their worst in late December and January, he explained, "and just what will happen to those flight strips at that time we don't know." Some of the strips are surfaced with steel mats but others consist only of dirt rolled hard.

Shipyard To Celebrate First Anniversary Here

Principal speakers at the celebration of the first anniversary and also the launching of the 47th Liberty freighter at the North Carolina Shipbuilding company Sunday morning, will be two men who have seen the horrors of the war on the other side of the globe, Professor Wendell Brown and Sailor John J. Smith. Too busy building freighters to take time out for lengthy exercises the workers nevertheless will not briefly the birthday of Wilmington's first Liberty ship. The program, details of which were announced today by officials

SITUATION AT TEBOURBA IN DOUBT; ROOSEVELT ORDERS WPA ABOLISHMENT

NAZIS SURROUNDED

Upwards Of 2,500 Of Enemy Killed By Russians In Drive

GAIN AT STALINGRAD

Soviet Communique Reveals Slight Forward Move Inside City

MOSCOW, Saturday, Dec. 5.—(AP)—The Red Army seized 11 more villages in the Stalingrad area yesterday, presumably in the Don River bend west of that city, surrounded a German stronghold near Velikie Luki on the frozen central front, and killed upwards of 2,500 Nazis in twin offensives that still are gaining ground, the Soviets announced early today. The regular midnight communique said the Russians gained 200 to 300 yards inside Stalingrad itself, occupied two important points northwest and southwest of the Volga river city, and were beginning "the liquidation of encircled enemy strong points" in the area of Velikie Luki, only 90 miles from the Latvian border. Throwing In Reserves. Dispatches said the Germans were throwing reserves into the central front in a desperate effort to stem the Red army in the Rzehev-Velikie Luki-Vyzma triangle northwest of Moscow. The communique said that several more populated places had been seized west of Rzehev, and for several days the Russians have reported numerous holes torn in the German lines between that point and Velikie Luki. One German infantry battalion counter attacking west of Rzehev was smashed, the Soviets said, and another battalion was routed from a height controlling an important road in the Velikie Luki area. "Hundreds of enemy dead remained on the field of battle" in the latter sector, the bulletin said. In the Stalingrad area, the communique said, the Russians still were advancing on the eastern

He Gave His Life



Arthur St. Germain, 27, of Haverhill, Mass., a long-term convict at the Norfolk state prison colony, gave his life in a secret Navy test which may lead to saving thousands of lives. He and 39 other prisoners voluntarily submitted to the test. A posthumous pardon for St. Germain was voted by the Massachusetts executive council meeting in Boston.

NEW WATER UNIT WORK PROGRESSES

City Filter Plant Now About 25 Per Cent Complete, Says Engineer

City Engineer J. A. Loughlin announced yesterday that work on the new water filter plant is about 25 per cent complete. Located at the end of North Fourth street, just south of the old Hilton pumping station, adjoining the city's Christmas tree, the plant will have a capacity of seven million gallons of water for 24 hours. The pipeline, leading to it, from King's Bluff will have a capacity of 15,000,000 gallons per day, according to McKean Maffitt of the city's sewer department. The new plant is being constructed to replace the plant built in 1910, which the city bought from the Clarendon Water company. The old plant has become anti-

Wilmingtonians Observe Proper Conduct In Raid

Through a graphic demonstration of bomb-extinguishing, fire-fighting, and first aid, given by members of the Civilian Defense Corps, the Army Chemical Warfare Service, the city fire department, and the Red Cross motor corps, Wilmington citizens at Legion stadium last night were shown proper conduct in the face of an air raid. "Action Overhead," an exhibition, sponsored by the Chemical Warfare Service of the Army, which is traveling throughout the country, featured an explanation of devices employed by the enemy in destroying property and people, principally the deadly incendiary bombs. Citizens were shown various types of incendiary bombs in action—magnesium bombs, phosphorus bombs, and demolition bombs, and were taught how to treat each one of them. Major George W. Wilson, of the Chemical Warfare Service, in explaining the course of action to take if home or business establishment is penetrated by one of the deadly missiles dropped from an enemy plane, recommended that the bomb-fighter first take cover until the bomb explosion has occurred before seeking to put out the fire; after the immediate danger

NOTICE!

If your carrier fails to leave your copy of the Wilmington Morning Star, Phone 3311 before 9:00 a. m. and one will be sent to you by special messenger.

NOW UNNECESSARY

President Declares War Time Increase In Employment Is Reason

PROJECTS WILL CEASE

Building Programs Now Underway To Be Absorbed By Other Groups

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—(AP)—The Works Projects Administration which provided depression relief for millions and an ever bitter controversy for Congress, was ordered out of existence today by President Roosevelt. War-time increase in private employment make the agency unnecessary now, he said in a letter to Major General Philip B. Fleming, the federal works administrator. Some individuals remain on the rolls, he added, but they can be provided for by the states and localities. Uncompleted building projects are to be taken over by other federal agencies. Becomes Effective Soon. In "many states" the death sentence is to become effective by February 1; in other "as soon thereafter as feasible." The whole is to be liquidated by June 30 at the latest, for Mr. Roosevelt observed these would be no necessity for WPA appropriations for the next fiscal year, which begins on that date. During its career, WPA spent more than \$10,000,000,000, providing relief for some 38,000,000 people. To the end, the president stoutly defended the agency, its record, and the policy which guided it. It displayed "courage and determination in the face of unformed criticism," he said. It had "asked for and earned an honorable discharge." WPA began its existence seven years ago as the Works Progress Administration. It was a successor to the old Federal Emergency Re-

PETAIN REGIME FALLING APART

LONDON, Dec. 4.—(AP)—The Vichy regime as it existed under Marshal Petain is rapidly falling apart, with the aged chief-of-state kept in ignorance and deceived concerning much that goes on and with his chief-of-government, Pierre Laval, conniving at the formation of an all-out pro-Nazi government, reliable prices to the Associated Press said today. Both the Rome radio and dispatches from Switzerland said Edouard Herriot, 70-year-old former premier of the Republic of France, and Jean Borotra, an old friend of Davis Cup tennis star, had been arrested. The Rome radio added that Leon Jouhaux, former chief of the French General Federation of Labor, and Francois de Tesson, former undersecretary of foreign affairs, also had been arrested. Informants whose names cannot be divulged, but who recently have had access to authoritative French circles, including one who until re-

Recent Charges Sumner Welles Substantiated By Federal Judge

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 4.—(AP)—The Sumner Welles charges of Axis espionage in Argentina were substantiated today by an Argentine federal judge, who declared in the midst of an inquiry that spying here was direction from the German embassy and who made an initial move to punish the offending diplomats or expel them. Judge Miguel Jantus made the startling disclosure in ordering the testimony of six accused spies sent to the supreme court, to determine whether the Reich's diplomats may be brought to trial. The supreme court is the only tribunal authorized to try diplomats but in order to do it must obtain permission from the German government to have the representatives waive their diplomatic immunity from prosecution. A court source said that if Berlin refused, as expected, to permit the diplomats to stand trial as common spies, then Argentina would be forced to declare them persona non grata. However, if the supreme court decided likely that Germany would withdraw the accused representatives or possibly oust them from the German foreign service

AXIS ARGENTINE SPY RING FOUND

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12 Miles A Minute



Officials of the Republic Aviation Company at Farmingdale, N. Y., have announced that two U. S. Army fliers, Lieutenants Harold Comstock (top) and Roger Dyar (bottom), dived P-47 Thunderbolt fighter planes at a speed of 725 miles an hour in test flights. That is about 12 miles a minute. Comstock lives in Fresno, Calif., and Dyar's home is in Lowell, O. (Associated Press Photos from U. S. Army Air Forces).

AXIS ARGENTINE SPY RING FOUND

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PETAIN REGIME FALLING APART

Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

AXIS HITS HARD

Series Of Terrific Counterattacks Leaves Much Wreckage In View

STRIKE STONE WALL

Forces Of General Anderson In Tunisia Getting Ready For Next Move

LONDON, Dec. 4.—(AP)—A series of terrific Axis counterattacks through the mountains between Djedeida and Mateur which caught the British First Army with its American armored forces on the flank at Tebourba were reported tonight to have left the plains and hills of Tunisia strewn with the wreckage of tanks and the situation at Tebourba in doubt. "It is now clear that Axis troops have recaptured Tebourba," 20 miles west of Tunis and about 35 miles south of Bizerte said the military correspondent of Reuters, British news agency. The Germans also were reported holding to Mateur, 25 miles south of Bizerte. Consolidating Positions. An Allied headquarters communique, however, said "our troops in the neighborhood of Tebourba are consolidating their positions" without giving the situation at Tebourba itself and without mentioning the situation at the previous advanced positions of the Allies at Djedeida, 12 miles west of Tunis, or at Mateur, 25 miles south of Tunis. The implication was plain, however, that the Allies had come up against a stone wall of resistance in the admission that the forces of Lieut. Gen. K. A. N. Anderson were consolidating at the rearward position. The same implication was evident in the earlier statement of an Allied headquarters spokesman that the advantage in the forthcoming test would be the "one who regains his strength more quickly" following the hard battles in the Tebourba area. The Morocco radio said the Germans had thrown a fleet of about 50 tanks into their counterattack and that the "larger part" were destroyed or damaged. The enemy also was reported by the same source to have sent parachutists into the attack, but these were said to have been rounded up and made powerless in short order. Berlin claimed that the ruins of 40 Allied tanks dotted the battle-

MANY FAMILIES NEED HELP HERE

Salvation Army Reveals Case Of Injured Father And Five Children. Injured and forced to lie in bed a year and a half, able to work only in the last three months, there is a Wilmington man with five small children and a wife who needs financial help, Captain James Neighbours of the Salvation Army, said yesterday. According to Captain Neighbours this is only one of many cases that come to the Salvation Army daily. With the population of the city swelled considerably in the past months, by all rights the Empty Stomping fund should reach a higher figure than ever, Captain Neighbours, believes. Yesterday's contributions brought the fund over the hundred dollar mark, but the need is so great that the fund will be inadequate to purchase food, clothing.

Nation Facing Military Disaster Warns Jeffers On Rubber Outlook

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—(AP)—William M. Jeffers, rubber director, bluntly warned today that the nation is threatened with military "disaster" because materials needed for synthetic rubber factories are being devoted to other war uses. Unless vital equipment for the factories is forthcoming immediately the armed forces face a serious shortage of rubber in 1943, he said in a report which he laid before a joint committee of senators and House members. He added that he had little hope of solving the priorities problem in time to avoid a crisis. Instruments, forgings, valves, heat exchangers and other equipment are badly needed, Jeffers said. If they are not provided it will be impossible to get synthetic plants into quantity production soon enough to prevent such a drain on crude rubber stocks that there may be none left for heavy duty tires, self-sealing gasoline tanks and other military necessities. "The final solution is not yet developed," his report said. "The rubber program is receiving not-

Shopping Days fill Christmas