

Nazis Repulse Soviet Troops At Stalingrad

Russians Declare Germans Lose 1,000 Men In Lunge On City

RED DRIVE CONTINUES

Defenders Offensive On Central Front Still Moving Forward

MOSCOW, Tuesday, Dec. 15.—(AP)—German troops smashing forward southwest of Stalingrad forced back Soviet defenders of the besieged city and renewed counter assaults on the central front which were beaten back, the Russian midnight communique reported early today.

The Soviets said the Germans lost 1,000 men in the lunge southwest of Stalingrad and 600 more in an attack near Voronezh, and reported gains by their own assault troops in the factory area of Stalingrad and in general on the other fronts.

Transporters Downed Forty-two German planes, 33 of them transport ships, were downed Sunday, the communique added, as the Germans continued to bring up reinforcements by air to troops fighting in the bitter cold of Soviet winter.

At the cost of heavy losses, the Germans were acknowledged to have "succeeded in pressing back our detachments somewhat" in the counter-blows southwest of Stalingrad against an arm of the Soviet pincers reaching out to entrap 300,000 Germans pounding at the Volga city.

"In this engagement the Red army men wiped out about 1,000 enemy officers and men, destroyed 11 tanks, and seven self-propelled guns," the communique declared.

On the central front, the Russians reported continued offensives, and said on some sectors they beat off enemy counter-attacks.

West of Rzhev, the Russians claimed 200 Germans were killed and 11 tanks destroyed in one attack, and destruction of 15 more tanks and several hundred Germans when the assault was renewed. The Germans lost half their tank forces in this later engagement when Russian artillery

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GOVERNOR OKEHS NEW HOMES PLAN

Broughton Endorses Conversion Of Buildings For Workers Here

Governor J. Melville Broughton has endorsed Wilmington's home conversion program, according to Henry R. Emory, executive director of the Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington.

Governor Broughton wrote Mr. Emory as follows: "I acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 9th and deeply appreciate your writing me so fully concerning the plans of the Housing Authority of the City of Wilmington.

"Mr. Clarence Walker of the National Housing Agency, whom I have known personally for a number of years, discussed briefly with

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WEATHER

FORECAST: NORTH CAROLINA: Slowly rising temperature today.

Eastern Standard Time (By U. S. Weather Bureau) meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., yesterday.

Temperature: 1:30 a. m., 29; 7:30 a. m., 24; 1:30 p. m., 36; 7:30 p. m., 33. Maximum, 42; minimum, 22; mean, 32; normal, 49.

Humidity: 1:30 a. m., 85; 7:30 a. m., 47; 1:30 p. m., 31; 7:30 p. m., 53.

Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches.

Tides For Today: Wilmington High Low 2:42a 10:55a

Masonboro Inlet 4:10p 11:20p

Moore's Inlet 2:14p 8:26p

New Topsail Inlet 1:55a 8:05a

(All Times Eastern Standard)

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Santa A War Worker



Priorities have knocked the day-lights out of Santa Claus' toy factories, so this year he's giving out new gifts — and aiding the war effort at the same time. He's shown getting in some practice, attaching war bonds to a yule tree.

DESTITUTE FAMILY HERE WANTS CHEER

Ailing Father and Brood Look Hungrily for Christmas

Another one of the homes looking forward to the tangible Christmas expressions that the Empty Stocking fund promises one hundred needy families in Wilmington is that of a man chronically afflicted with heart trouble. His wife and one of his children are orthopedic cases, and the income of that group is confined to a small check coming monthly from the Aid to Dependent Children bureau.

Those who have so much in this year, 1942, cannot afford to overlook those who have so little, Captain Neighbors commented. Neglect of the needy this Christmas will stand out in tragic relief, for there is money to spend in most pockets. Give your share. Your pennies or your dollars will be converted into food, clothing, fuel, medicine, and Christmas cheer for sick men, burdened women, and hungry, ragged children.

Five dollars per family is not enough; yet that is all that the Empty Stocking fund will allow unless you make your contribution now.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Amount. Includes 'Previously Acknowledged \$365.15', 'Carol Lynn 4.00', 'Woman's Auxiliary of St. Johns' church 3.00', etc.

Total 434.51

CAFE INSPECTIONS CONTINUING HERE

Ratings Still Being Given Restaurants In County, Says Elliot

Dr. A. H. Elliot announced Monday that restaurant inspections were continuing in the county, and ratings were still being given. The county board of health has been given a state health inspector to Dr. Elliot said that this would, so far as he knew, be a permanent organizational set-up.

He also announced Monday afternoon that he had been advised that the Federal Works Agency's regional office in Richmond, had asked for two additional copies of a resolution sent that body by the County Board of Commissioners last week, in regard to the build-

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County Receives Pennant For Work In Scrap Drive

At a meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, Monday afternoon, a pennant was awarded the county by the War Production Board, for its outstanding contribution during the nation-wide newspaper-sponsored scrap drive last fall.

Alex Sprunt, chairman of the New Hanover County, Salvage Committee, presented the pennant to John E. Hope, editor of the Star-News, who in turn presented it to Addison Hewlett, chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Hewlett accepted the pen-

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AXIS NOW ON DEFENSIVE IN AFRICA; ALLIES TAKE JAPANESE BASE AT BUNA

SWEEP OVER JAPS

Infantrymen Push Aside Opposition From Enemy To Capture Village

LANDING UNIT FOILED

Convoy Of Cruisers And Destroyers Intercepted By American Planes

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, Dec. 14.—(AP)— Allied infantrymen swept over Japanese troops at Buna village on the eastern New Guinea coast yesterday to capture one of the major strongpoints of the enemy, and "largely parried" a heavy reinforcement attempt in the immediate area.

An official communique telling of the wresting of this important Japanese foothold did not mention the fate of nearby Buna mission which also has been held stubbornly by the enemy.

Heavy Mortar Barrage The communique said: "Buna village has been taken. It was occupied by our troops at 10 o'clock this morning, December 14. The attack was preceded by a heavy mortar barrage which was followed in by the infantry."

Then, telling of the new Japanese reinforcement threat, the bulletin said: "In another attempt by the enemy's naval forces to reinforce (Continued on Page Three; Col. 5)

COMMITTEE NAMED IN BOND CAMPAIGN

Seven Local Men Appointed To Serve On Victory Security Program

Richard S. Rogers, chairman of region 6 of Victory Fund Committee of North Carolina, announced Monday that seven men had been appointed as members of a volunteer committee to serve with the original committee for the purpose of promoting sales of government securities, other than series E.

Mr. Rogers said the following people had accepted their appointment: (Continued on Page Five; Col. 4)

Swansboro USO Club Destroyed By Blaze

A \$22,000 USO club at Swansboro was destroyed by fire early Monday morning but 15 servicemen asleep there at the time escaped without injury.

Fire broke out between 1 and 1:30 a. m., apparently over the furnace room between the ceiling and the roof. The building which was opened about a year ago, was razed in 30 minutes.

W. E. Baggs, night operator, discovered the blaze and quickly announced the alarm so that all sleepers were evacuated without injury.

E. B. Eddy is in charge of the USO club, which serves men of the armed forces at Morehead City, Cherry Point and the New River Marine Base.

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Allied Bombers Blasted This Axis Ammunition Train



Scattered bits of track, train and unexploded projectile mark the spot along the desert railway at Simla, near Mersa Mtruh, where Allied bombers caught up with an ammunition train bound for Rommel's hard-pressed Afrika Korps.

BERLIN WAITING FOR LAVAL MOVE

French Premier's Meeting With Hitler May Give Vichy To Axis

BERN, Switzerland, Dec. 14.—(AP) Berlin's hopes of drawing Vichy France into unqualified support of the Axis rested once more tonight on Premier Pierre Laval and his expected interview soon with Adolf Hitler.

Laval probably will go to Berlin this week, informed Vichy sources said, now that Marshal Petain's reserved attitude toward military cooperation with France's conquerors has become known.

In reaffirming his pro-Axis aims at a Vichy press conference yesterday, Laval was seen by foreign political observers as seeking another chance to try to meet German wishes with a detailed program covering military, political and economic questions.

Laval's declarations that Communism was menacing Europe and that it was "time the uncertainty (over France's position) was ended." Contrasted with the formal letter which Petain sent Hitler concerning the complete occupation of French continental territory last month.

Petaim's note, dated December 5 but not published by the Germans until yesterday, asserted he had no other choice than to accept Hitler's decision and reminded the Fuehrer of the pledge he had given to allow the French government freedom of action.

In recent days, the German press for the first time has been criticizing Petain by name for his "static" attitude. The German consul general at Vichy, Krug Nidda, visited Petain last Friday and attempted to bind the marshal to an agreement for raising a Fascistic new French army in which demobilized French officers would not be reinstated, it was reported.

Vichy was informed today that the Axis armistice commissions, which had been functioning at Wiesbaden and Turin, had been disbanded because the terms of the 1940 armistice were no longer applicable under the changed circumstances in France. Von Nidda and Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt will carry on any future negotiations.

Foreign observers said Berlin probably would suggest again to Laval that he form a new regime with Jacques Doriot, French blue shirt leader, and Marcel Deat, another pro-Axis politician.

NOTICE

The Star-News Circulation Department is open Sundays from 7 to 10 a. m. If you fail to receive your paper, phone 3311 before 10 and one will be sent to you by special messenger. After 10 o'clock, the department is closed.

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U. S. Looses Destruction On Japs At New Georgia

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP)— American bombers in the South Pacific loosed new tons of destruction on the Japanese air field at Munda, New Georgia island, on Sunday, the Navy reported today.

Apparently waging a campaign to wipe out this latest threat to the American position on Guadalcanal island, our planes carried out bombing attacks for the third straight day. A communique announcing the action again made no mention

of Japanese fighter opposition.

The first reported attack on Munda was made last Thursday (Guadalcanal time). Then on Friday and Saturday, Flying Fortresses dumped 27,500 pounds of bombs upon the Munda base. Today's communique gave no information about the Sunday action except to say "the attacks continued."

The absence of mention of Japanese fighter planes suggested (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

HEAVY COLD WAVE HITS WILMINGTON

Mercury Drops To 22 Degrees In Short Time; Hard Freeze

Wilmingtonians experienced their first real cold wave of the year, as the Christmas season was ushered in with a 22-degree drop in temperatures here Sunday and Monday.

The highest temperature recorded by Weatherman Paul Hess for Monday was 42 degrees, and Monday night at 9:30 the temperature scaled downward to rest at 32 degrees.

Many home owners, who had not been able to secure fuel oil rationing coupons, and those car owners who were unable to obtain anti-freeze fluid, were caught unprepared, as the mercury shot downward beginning at 8 o'clock Sunday morning.

The mercury dropped from 46 degrees at 8 o'clock Sunday morning to 24 degrees at the same time Monday morning.

The lowest point was 23 degrees at 7 a. m. Monday. However, Weatherman Paul Hess said that reports from the county contended it reached a low of 22 and 20 degrees.

There was a gradual eight-degree drop from 37 degrees at 8 o'clock Sunday night to 29 degrees at 2 o'clock Monday morning.

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M'NUTT PROPOSES BIG NYA CHANGES

Manpower Head Wants Transfer Youth Agency To His WMC

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP)— Paul V. McNutt proposed today to salvage the industrial training functions of the National Youth Administration by transferring that depression-borne agency from his Federal Security Administration to his War Manpower Commission.

Considerable sentiment for the liquidation of the NYA, on the ground that it is no longer necessary, has arisen in Congress with many senators and representatives expressing determination not to vote it any funds next session.

McNutt's plan, outlined to a press conference, would absorb the NYA's training program in the Manpower Commission's general training program. It would eliminate restrictions which now limit NYA teaching to persons 17 to 24, inclusive, and make the NYA facilities available to prospective war workers of all ages.

The NYA's other major activity, a student work program to enable needy persons 16 to 24, inclusive, to stay in school, presumably would be allowed to lapse.

The NYA, in which Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has been greatly interested, was established in 1935 within the WPA, which is now being (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

Star-News Carrier Struck By Hit And Run Motorist Here

James Smith, carrier boy for the Star-News was run over Monday night while riding his bicycle one mile south of Wilmington, near Blue Top Lodge on highway 17. The driver of the car did not stop.

The boy's father reported that James had been taken to a local hospital, and while the extent of his injuries is not known, they are not believed to be serious.

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Many Homes In City Lack Heat While Waiting For Fuel Coupons

With the temperature down below the freezing point, people in Wilmington who are dependent upon oil as their only fuel, were suffering intensely Monday because oil ration coupons had not reached them. From all over the city came reports of sickness, bad colds, and general discomfort from lack of heat.

Aided by approximately 100 civilian workers, busy until 11 o'clock at night, and stimulated by the acute needs for fuel in the severe weather, the War Price and Rationing board was rapidly putting fuel oil coupons in the mails, O. H. Shoemaker, chairman of the local board, said Monday night.

Mr. Shoemaker declared that oil for heating purposes is being taken care of first. In answer to numerous questions, propounded by citizens and local dealers, Mr. Shoemaker explained that Class One fuel coupons, for heating, will be issued in five thermal periods. The first two of these coupons, for the periods November 1 to December 5

and December 2 through January 2, are good at the present time. The first coupon is still usable because of the delay experienced in forwarding fuel rations in this area. Each unit represents a ration of 10 gallons at the present time, the allotment being subject to change by the government.

Class Three fuel coupons, for cooking and lighting, are not limited to use in any particular period. Each unit in this rationing (Continued on Page Three; Col. 6)

ROMMEL RETREATS

British Eighth Army In Libya Continues Pursuit Of Africa Corps

HAS CONTROL OF AIR

London Daily Mail Reporter Says Allies Miss Seeing Any Nazi Planes

LONDON, Dec. 14.—(AP)— Allied forces especially strong in the air smashed at the Axis in North Africa from both east and west today in a crunching pincer move that hurled the Germans and Italians sharply back onto the defensive.

On the east in Libya the British Eighth Army under General Montgomery was again chasing Marshal Rommel's Africa corps across Libya toward Tripoli, this time apparently in complete control of the air. Three hundred Allied fighter-bombers — 100 of them American — smashed the retreating German columns, and not a single Axis plane was in sight.

Abandoning El Aghelia, the London Daily Mail's military correspondent estimated that advance British units already had passed the Marble Arch air field, 40 miles west of El Aghelia, strong point from which the Axis was routed in the beginning of the current push over the week-end. The Axis abandoned El Aghelia without a fight, it was disclosed today.

On the west the U. S. Army Air Forces delivered their second

SMILES EXECUTED LONDON, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The Morocco radio broadcast a report tonight that six German spies had been executed at Algiers this morning. There were no details.

smashing raid in two days on the Axis-held ports of Tunis, Bizerte and Souss. Yesterday's raids by Flying Fortresses on these three strong points were rivaled by today's attacks.

Bad weather continued to hamper ground operations in Tunisia, (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

FRENCH AT DAKAR WILL FIGHT AXIS

Will Not Only Open Port To Allies But Decide To Enter Battle

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(AP)— The French in West Africa have decided not only to open Dakar to the ships and planes of the Allies, out to fight beside them for the common victory, it was learned authoritatively today.

Word of this clear-cut stand by French authorities in regions embracing strategic Dakar and the vast expanse of the Sahara, came through the Dakar radio coincidentally with the news that all British internees in West Africa have been released.

Announcing West Africa's adherence to the Allied cause, the Dakar radio said: "On all our frontiers the situation is completely clarified and no dispute separates us any longer from the British. Our task is defined. There is, henceforth, only one duty for all — to work, to prepare, and when the time comes, to fight. There is, henceforth, but one aim—the common victory."

Particular significance was attached here to the words "and no dispute separates us any longer (Continued on Page Five; Col. 4)

Shopping Days fill Christmas



Shopping Days fill Christmas