

ROOSEVELT MEETS CHURCHILL IN CASABLANCA; PLAN 'UNCONVENTIONAL SURRENDER' OF ENEMY

BRITISH 8TH ARMY SWEEPS CLOSER TO MARETH LINE AREA

ROMMEL BRACING Axis Declares Impending Multi-Bladed Assault Sighted ALLIES CAPTURE ZAUIA

Fighting French Take Over Mopping Up Job In Tripoli

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The British Eighth Army swept closer today to Tunisia's Mareth line, where Field Marshal Erwin Rommel's retreating weary forces were reported bracing for what the Axis itself said was an impending multi-bladed Allied assault.

The capture of Zauia by Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's men brought them half way from Tripoli to Zauia, a port on the coastal road leading to the Axis fortifications in Tunisia. Zauia is about 30 miles west of Tripoli.

French Enter Tripoli Behind in Tripoli Brig. - Gen. leClerc's Fighting French troops entered the city after a 1,500-mile trek from the Lake Chad region and will aid in mopping-up operations there, true-seasoned empire troops to continue the westward drive.

From Axis radios came nervous reports that the Allies were planning to fall upon Rommel and Col. Gen. Jurgen von Arnim, commander of the Axis Tunisian forces, from different directions.

The Berlin radio said the Americans were organizing a thrust toward the coast, probably in the area between Sfax and Gabes.

A Vichy broadcast told of other Allied preparations for an offensive move to the coast further above Bou Arada, about 65 miles west of the coastal town of Hammamet.

Day and night Allied air attacks on the enemy base of Medenine indicated that this strong covering point for the Mareth line had become one of the centers of Axis resistance.

Dispatches from the Tunisian front said Allied patrols in the central area made substantial advances over the valley areas from which von Arnim now has apparently withdrawn most of his forces.

Activity still centered in a triangle formed by Pont du Fahs, Bou Arada, and Ousseltia. Meanwhile, an Allied communiqué declared "our forces continue to operate toward the north in the Ousseltia valley," but a spokesman said heavy rains had limited all activity in Tunisia, by both the Allies and Germans, to patrol operations in the battle area, 14 miles northeast of Ousseltia.

American and French forces contacted enemy patrols on the south side of the road running (Continued on Page Five; Col. 2)

WEATHER FORECAST Much colder 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., 59; 7:30 a. m., 57.9; 1:30 p. m., 76.4; 7:30 p. m., 63.5; maximum, 78; minimum, 57.6; mean, 67.6; normal, 46. Humidity 1:30 a. m., 73; 7:30 a. m., 99; 1:30 p. m., 66; 7:30 p. m., 92. Precipitation Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.09 inches. Total since the first of the month, 2.37 inches. Tides For Today Wilmington 1:28a 8.46a 1:53p 9:19p Masonboro Inlet 11:17a 8:26a 11:47a 8:47p Plover's Inlet 11:22a 8:31p 11:52a 8:52p New Topsail Inlet 11:27a 8:36a 11:57a 8:57p (AP Times Eastern Standard) Sunrise, 7:13 a. m.; sunset, 5:37 p. m.; moonrise, 11:33; moonset, 10:47 (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

12,000 Nazi Troops Left At Stalingrad

Practically All Of Hitler's Crack Forces Now Annihilated 2 SMALL UNITS REMAIN

Russians Say Both Groups Doomed; Question Of Few Days

LONDON, Jan. 26.—Russian troops have killed or captured all but 12,000 German troops of the huge forces trapped at Stalingrad and freed the three main railways radiating westward for the continuing offensive that has carried the Red army forward 245 miles, Moscow announced tonight in a special communiqué recorded by the Soviet monitor here.

"The history of wars has never known the encirclement and annihilation of such large numbers of regular troops saturated to the limit with modern equipment," the communiqué said.

40,000 Germans Killed Since last November, the Russians said, they had killed more than 40,000 Germans and captured 28,000, leaving 12,000 split there in two pockets yet to be liquidated.

"We have not yet liquidated two small enemy groups, separated and isolated from each other, totalling in all no more than 12,000 men, one other nearer to the central part of the town," the communiqué continued.

Both these groups are doomed and their liquidation is only a question of two to three days. Twenty-two Nazi divisions of some 220,000 men had been reported encircled in the Don-Volga (Continued on Page Five; Col. 1)

BETTY'S WORD IS DISPUTED

Errol Flynn's Friend, Fred McEvoy, Says Actor With Him

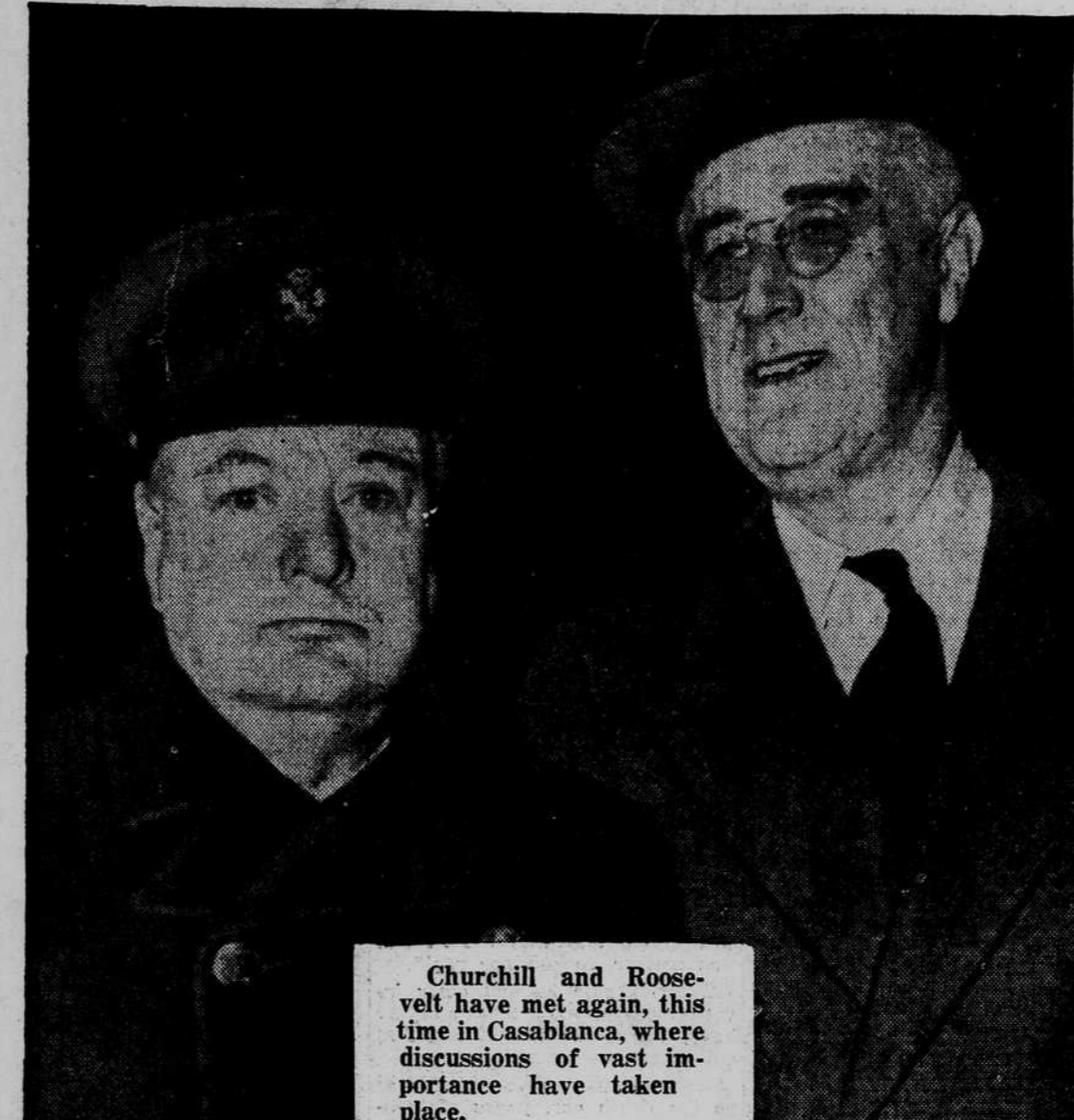
LOS ANGELES, Jan. 26.—Fred McEvoy, host at the dinner party in the fashionable Bel Air home where blond Betty Hansen charges Errol Flynn raped her, testified today the actor was almost constantly in his company that evening.

McEvoy said that at no time did Flynn go to the upstairs bedroom where Betty says the alleged offense occurred.

Flynn is on trial charged with the statutory rape of Miss Hansen, 17, and another teen age girl. The bedroom — the so-called "blue room" — is his own sleeping quarters, McEvoy testified. And when McEvoy retired for the night, he declared, there was no disarrangement of the bed on (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Congressional Investigation Is Ordered On Military Relations To War Production

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—A Congressional investigation of Army and Navy relations to War Production was ordered today as a result of the charges by Rubber Administrator William M. Jeffers that "loafers" they sent to plants retained out.



Churchill and Roosevelt have met again, this time in Casablanca, where discussions of vast importance have taken place.

CITY EXPANSION DISCUSSION HELD Suburban Representatives Meet With Council On Question

Meeting in the city manager's office with representative citizens living outside the city limits, city officials Tuesday night answered questions regarding every angle of the proposed city extension program—from the cost of the project to the ability of the city to secure necessary materials to provide the facilities promised.

In opening the meeting, Mayor Edgar L. Yow pointed out that the problem was not one of personalities, and that the situation was not one arising since establishment of the shipyard near Wilmington; but that the matter had been under consideration for two years.

"The present council," the mayor explained, "has reached the conclusion that extension must take place in order that the city might normally expand. We are interested in getting information that will assist us in finding a proper solution to this whole problem."

City Attorney William E. Campbell declared that the council had taken into consideration, as it studied the extension proposition, what could reasonably be considered a feasible task, and what actual cost of installation and operation of the new facilities in the added district would involve.

Mr. Campbell told the group that the extension program would cost the city \$24,025 and that the city already has on hand, for possible use in the program, \$146,499.00.

The officials pointed out that bonds floated for the needed amount to cover the expenses would find a ready sale—that the credit of the City of Wilmington, and the fact that the city population will have increased appreciably will be (Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

Crises Mark Meetings Of Roosevelt - Churchill

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—Crises mark the meetings of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. Such momentous developments as the Atlantic Charter and the North African follow them.

But the "offensive campaigns of 1943" to be launched as a result of their conference at Casablanca promise to be even more sensational and far-reaching than the developments which ensued from their three official meetings previously.

Both men are confirmed breakers of precedent, and both departed from tradition when they met first as national leaders on the decks of the cruiser Augusta off the fog-shrouded Newfoundland coast August 9, 1941, to map the strategy of the United Nations to be.

The stage was the whole world, set by the terrifying events of that summer as Germany assaulted Russia after devouring western Europe and Japan moved into French Indochina to gain bases and materials for still further conquest.

We were not yet in the war, but Mr. Roosevelt and countless others had repeatedly made plain their attitude toward the Axis. Against the promised "new orders" of Hitler and the Japanese Mr. Roosevelt had proposed four freedoms for the human race — freedom of speech and religion, freedom from want and fear.

So it was that when Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill met in the Atlantic they believed the time was ripe for a plan, and for a declaration. The plan was increased aid to Russia in her fight against the Nazis (with whom there was to be no compromise) and concerted vigilance against the Japanese in east Asia.

The declaration was the Atlantic Charter. It was signed in the Atlantic and was thus named, but in repeated statements later Mr. Roosevelt applied its outlines to the whole world.

The prime minister, who had arrived on the new battleship Prince of Wales, returned to England (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5)

ALLIED CHIEFS SET PRECEDENT IN MOST MOMENTOUS MEETING

MET JANUARY 14 COMPLETE ACCORD

Combined Staffs In Constant Session For 10 Days Leaders Map Strategy For Prosecution Of War Over Globe

STALIN WAS INVITED HIGH OFFICIALS THERE

Russian Premier Fully Informed Of All Transactions De Gaulle And Giraud Meet; Military Heads Discuss Plans

CASABLANCA, French Morocco, January 26.—Here is the text of the official communiqué on the conference of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill and Prime Minister Churchill.

The President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Great Britain have been in conference near Casablanca since January 14. Many Dignitaries Present They were accompanied by the combined chiefs-of-staff of the two countries; namely, for the United States:

Gen. George C. Marshall, chief-of-staff of the U. S. Army, Admiral Ernest J. King, commander-in-chief of the U. S. Navy; Lieut. Gen. H. H. Arnold, commanding the U. S. Army Air Forces. And for Great Britain: Admiral of the Fleet Sir Dudley Pound, first sea lord; General Sir Alan Brooke, chief of the Imperial General Staff, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal, chief of the Air Staff.

They were assisted by: Lieut. General B. B. Somervell, commanding general of the Services of Supply, U. S. Army; Field Marshal Sir John Dill, head of the British joint staff mission in Washington; Vice-Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, chief of combined operations; Lieut. Gen. Sir Hastings Ismay, chief-of-staff to the Office of Minister of Defense, together with a number of staff officers of both countries.

They have received visits from Mr. Murphy (Robert Murphy, U. S. minister to French North Africa) and Mr. MacMillan (Harold MacMillan, British resident minister for Allied Headquarters in North Africa); from Lieut. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander-in-chief of the Allied Expeditionary Force in North Africa; from Admiral of the Fleet Sir Andrew Cunningham, naval commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in North Africa; from Maj. Gen. Carl Spaatz, air commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force in North Africa; from Lieut. Gen. Mark W. Clark, U. S. Army (commander of the U. S. Fifth Army in Tunisia) and from Middle East headquarters from Gen. Sir Harold Alexander, Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Tedder and Lieut. Gen. F. M. Andrews, U. H. Army.

The President was accompanied by Harry Hopkins (chairman of the British-American Munitions Association Board) and was joined by (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

250 MARSEILLE RESIDENTS SHOT 80 Women Reported In Latest Mass Murder By Germans

LONDON, Jan. 26.—Two hundred and fifty French inhabitants of Marseille — including 80 women — were reported tonight to have been shot during the state of siege ordered by the Nazis to clear 40,000 persons from the labyrinth of the city's historic port district.

A dispatch to the Swiss Journal de Geneve, quoted by Reuters, implied Nazi guns were turned on violators of an order making the port a forbidden area.

The Nazi-controlled Vichy radio claimed that 40,000 were moved out of the port last night and said that under martial law the death penalty would be imposed on any attempting to return to their slum homes.

Clearing of Frenchmen from France's largest Mediterranean port was interpreted in London circles as a sign of Nazi jitters heightened by reports that announcements soon would come of "momentous decisions" of grand Allied war strategy. A Fighting French spokesman (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4)

Axis Broadcasters Wrong Again After Fishing For News

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP) The Axis radio was wrong again. Only three hours before tonight's announcement of the Roosevelt-Churchill conference, the radio station at Calais said:

"Churchill, who as is well known at present is staying in Washington, has been confronted by the Americans with new territorial demands in Trinidad and Jamaica — as a result of which Halifax has tendered his resignation as British ambassador. After the conclusion of his visit to Washington Churchill will proceed to Moscow."

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