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ISERNIA IS SEIZED IN SURPRISE ALLIED ATTACK ON NAZIS

FOE REELING BACK Beaten Nazi Troops Fleeing Across Gargliano Valley

U. S. IS IN PURSUIT Improved Weather Enables Clark To Use Armored Forces

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Nov. 4.—(AP)—Striking boldly in pre-dawn darkness, British and Canadian Troops of Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's Eighth Army captured the vital road junction of Isernia at the central hinge of the German line early today as the enemy reeled back in almost every sector of the Italian front.

On the Fifth Army front near the Mediterranean coast beaten Nazi troops streamed across the 14-mile-wide Gargliano valley toward their next refuge in the Aurunci mountain range, closely pursued under clearing skies by British and American forces that knocked them from their elaborate positions on Massico ridge and San Croce mountain in bitter fighting yesterday.

Only 85 Miles From Rome The improved weather enabled Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark to rush quantities of tanks and heavy artillery into the pounding pursuit of the Germans along the two main highways to Rome, less than 85 miles away.

With the capture of Isernia the whole German defense system in the mountainous center of the fighting front was threatened. The fall of the big road junction to Montgomery's troops at 3 a. m. after a swift seven-mile advance and smashing night attack brought the Eighth Army to within 90 miles of the Italian capital. Loss of the city deprived the Germans of the only good lateral road between the two wings of their line.

The enemy's flight across the Gargliano valley was being carried out under the protection of the most extensive demolitions and mine fields yet left in the path of the Allies' inexorable advance. At the end of yesterday's fighting, Clark's troops had clawed their way beyond the town of Sessa Aurunca, which is on the main coastal road (the Appian Way) only about four miles from the Gargliano river. In reaching Sessa Aurunca, British troops fought through a narrow, heavily-defended corridor on the inland side of Massico mountain.

Scores of towns and villages were swept up by the Fifth Army dug out gains of from five to eight miles along a 40-mile front. In addition to Sessa Aurunca, Clark's forces took Roccamandoli, at the foot of San Croce mountain, and Presenzano, only seven miles south of Venafro, one of the enemy's main central bastions. An Allied communique described these as "satisfactory advances."

A savage battle was reported raging around the railway station of San Salvo at the Adriatic end of the front, where the Eighth Army gained its original bridgehead across the Trigno river. The Germans lost 20 tanks into furious counterattacks, but at the end of the day of bloody fighting Montgomery's men were reported to have driven them back, gained some new ground and taken prisoners. Inland the Eighth Army pressed through 11 more towns and villages, including Roccamandoli, 6

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FIVE JAPANESE WARSHIPS SUNK IN SEA BATTLE

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Friday, Nov. 5

A Japanese cruiser and four destroyers were sunk in the Navy battle of American and Japanese warships near the Allies' Bougainville beachhead, it was announced officially today.

Radio Tokyo previously had conceded the loss of a cruiser and two destroyers in the battle fought Tuesday morning. The battle, which lasted more than two hours, occurred when enemy units were intercepted heading toward the Empress Augusta bay sector on Bougainville's west coast where American marines landed the day before.

Two other Japanese cruisers and destroyers were hit. No Allied vessels were lost in the naval fight. The Japanese force, believed to consist of four cruisers and eight destroyers, was met 40 miles from Empress Augusta. The intense phase of the action lasted 90 minutes, but South Pacific headquarters said the time of the fight and the subsequent pursuit of the fleeing enemy amounted to more than two hours.

Later, the Japanese sent over 67 planes to attack the fleet units and 17 were downed. Thirty miles south of Bougainville, where the first phase of the northern Solomons invasion opened October 27 with invasion of tiny Treasury island by American and New Zealand forces, all organized enemy resistance has ceased.

The fight against an estimated 200 Japanese troops terminated on Wednesday, exactly a week after the invasion opened. Adding to the Japanese losses later on the same day of the naval fight were three destroyers sunk and two heavy cruisers damaged by MacArthur's bombers during a heavy raid on shipping at Rabaul.

The Navy battle was fought in darkness and during rain squalls. After the Japanese task force broke off the fight, scattering in three groups toward Rabaul, the Allied units regrouped for the expected enemy air attacks which came after dawn.

Although no Allied ship losses occurred, "damage and casualties were sustained," headquarters said. The Americans in the naval battle maneuvered brilliantly, dividing

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CHURCHILL SEES A FREE ALBANIA

Prime Minister Pledges That Nation To Be Given Liberty

LONDON, Nov. 4.—(AP)—An Albania "freed from her five to eight years of Nazi rule" was pledged by Prime Minister Churchill in reply to a question in Commons today.

At the same time he disclosed that British liaison officers are operating with Albanian guerrillas who, he said, are counted upon to play their part "in future military developments in the Mediterranean area."

This hint, the broadest yet from any high Allied authority that the United Nations army may make a thrust into the Balkans, coincided with the summoning by Adolf Hitler of the Bulgarian premier and foreign minister to the German Fuehrer's headquarters, apparently for the purpose of demanding more Bulgarian divisions to police the turbulent southeastern front.

Nazis Lose 2,700,000 Casualties

Nearly 1,000,000 Civilians Are Killed or Wounded in Russia

STALIN IS PRAISED Report Followed By Special Song To Russian Chief

LONDON, Friday, Nov. 5.—(AP)—Germany has suffered 2,700,000 casualties, nearly 1,000,000 of them killed and captured, during four months of a still-rolling Red army offensive which threatens to hurl the Nazi army out of Russia this winter, a special Moscow announcement disclosed last night.

Since July 5 when the Germans "failed disgracefully" in their own brief offensive in the Orel-Kursk-Belgorod salient, the Russians have killed 900,000 Germans and captured 98,000, half of them wounded, said the special war review.

Review Is Repealed The review, broadcast by Moscow and recorded by the Soviet monitor, was repeated three times by the radio and followed by an "Ode to Stalin," the premier-marshal of the Soviet Union, sung by the Red army choir.

On the basis of previous official Moscow reviews, the Germans have suffered 9,100,000 casualties since they began the most sanguinary war in history with the invasion of Russia June 22, 1941.

Just before this triumphant announcement the regular daily communique announced that Red armies had swept up to the lower Dnieper river opposite Kherson, the Black Sea port on the west bank near the river's mouth, had captured the west bank highway town of Dimer, only 20 miles north of the Ukraine capital at Kiev, and reached a point only 54 miles from the Latvian border in a renewed drive from the Nevel sector on the north central front.

Berlin broadcasts recorded by the Associated Press also disclosed that fresh Russian shock troops had landed on three-day-old bridgeheads near Kerch, at the eastern tip of the Crimea, which already

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Ex-Governor Hoy To Address Lions Club On Thursday

Former Governor Clyde Hoy of Shelby will be guest speaker at a meeting of the Wilmington Lions Club next Tuesday night it was announced at the regular weekly luncheon of the club Thursday.

The Tuesday meeting has been designated Ladies Night and will be held at 8 p. m. at the Blue Top Lodge on Market street road. An orchestra will play for the occasion.

New song books were issued at the Thursday luncheon and a song feast was the feature of the program. Henri Emurian was at the piano and Gene Bullard led the singing. A sextette composed of Lions Bullard, K. E. H. Twining, Marshburn, Lawson and Emurian presented selections.

Lion president James presided at the meeting; Joe Hood read the minutes and Paul Marshburn gave the invocation.

WPB REJECTS CITY PLEA FOR WATER PIPELINE TO KING'S BLUFF SOURCE; MINE WAGE PACT MAY GET APPROVAL

DECISION SLATED

Majority Of Board Reported Ready To Approve New Plan

STUDY IS NECESSARY Hearing Adjourned Overnight To Permit Further Probes

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—(AP)—The War Labor Board was reported tonight to be ready to approve the agreement worked out by John L. Lewis and Secretary of Interior Ickes to end the general coal strike.

A decision is scheduled for 11 a. m. tomorrow. A majority of the board was ready to vote approval late today but a question arose about the detailed application of the new wage scale to those who are paid by the ton rather than by the hour. The problem may call for some refinement in application of the agreement to that group of employes. Overnight adjournment was taken to permit further study of the mathematics of the question.

Public Members Reluctant In a full discussion of the agreement today, only the labor members strongly supported it with enough of the public members reluctant to express disapproval, and one excellent source said a decision tonight would have resulted in an 11 to 1 vote. However, the lone dissenter, a public member, may have company by voting time.

And of course, informed sources also recognized the bare possibility that a change in sentiment might conceivably lead to an adverse vote on the agreement, although this was considered unlikely.

Most of the 460,000 hard and soft coal miners, on strike since Monday, remained idle during the day. They had been instructed by officials.

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MARIGNY PLEADS FOR HIS LIBERTY

Defendant Firmly Denies That He Killed Sir Harry Oakes

NASSAU, Bahamas, Nov. 4.—(AP)—Grim-faced and earnest, Alfred de Marigny pleaded for life and liberty today with a firm-voiced denial that he slugged his aged father-in-law, Sir Harry Oakes, and left him to die in a flaming bedroom.

There was ill-feeling, he admitted, but de Marigny said he was five miles away, in his own home and bed, about the time the millionaire gold miner was attacked last July in his ocean-front estate, Westbourne.

For 15 days of his trial for murder in the Bahamas supreme court, the handsome husband of Sir Harry's daughter Nancy had flirted with the United Mine Workers.

Republicans Triumph In Key Eastern State Elections



These three Republican candidates, triumphant in key eastern state elections, enable the G. O. P. to view the off-year contest results as a signpost on the road which they hope will lead back to the White House in 1944. Walter E. Edge, (left) elected governor of New Jersey; State Senator Joe R. Hanley, (center) chosen lieutenant governor of New York, and Acting-Mayor Bernard Samuel, (right) who won a full term as Philadelphia's mayor, defeating William C. Bullitt, ex-ambassador to Russia and France, who was endorsed by President Roosevelt. (AP Wirephoto).



GOP Sweeps Kentucky Election; Vinson Assails Tax Reductions

Practically All State Offices Claimed By Republicans

IS POLITICAL UPSET First Governor From Party Elected Since 1927 Races

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 4.—(AP)—Virtually complete but unofficial reports on Tuesday's general election showed tonight that Republicans were elected governor, lieutenant governor and to most of the other state offices in a sweeping upset.

Simeon S. Willis of Ashland defeated J. Lyter Donaldson of Carrollton, Democrat, to become Kentucky's sixth Republican governor next month and the first of his party to win the office since Flem D. Sampson was elected in 1927.

Reports from all but nine of the state's voting precincts gave Willis, former appellate court judge, a margin of 8,067 over Donaldson, lawyer-banker and former state highway commissioner.

The vote was Willis 278,219 and Donaldson 270,152. These reports gave Kenneth H. Tuggle, Republican, a close margin of 804 votes over William H. May, present Democratic commissioner of agriculture, for lieutenant governor.

Republicans seemed assured of victory in six out of nine statewide contests but in most of them the margin of success was narrow. Republicans continued to gain strength in the Kentucky Legislature but the General Assembly again will be predominantly Democratic.

The Republicans had 36 seats in the house, 11 more than they had last year. The Democrats had 49 seats and 15 contests were not completed. The Republicans had 11 Senate seats, two more than they had last year. The Democrats had 21 Senate places and six races were in doubt.

Wheeler Renews Plea For Ending Induction Of Nation's Fathers

WASHINGTON, Nov. 4.—(AP)—Asserting that the Moscow agreement "eliminates the need for further expansion of our armed forces," Senator Wheeler (D-Mont) renewed tonight his demand for halting the drafting of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

Wheeler said he had urged Chairman Reynolds (D-NC) of the Senate Military committee to seek a quick settlement of differences in Senate and House bill aimed at delaying the induction of fathers. Conferees of the two houses meet Monday.

"Some people have urged as a reason for mobilizing a tremendous army a fear that Russia and Germany might make a separate peace," Wheeler told reporters. "In view of the fact that Russia has agreed with Great Britain and the United States to carry on until victory over Germany is assured, there seems to be no reason for building up the force now contemplated."

"My own view is that under the circumstances the defeat of Germany can be accomplished without the necessity for a western front, saving possibly a million American lives."

HEAD REELECTED FOR FARM GROUP

Peter Braak To Serve Sixth Term As Club President

Peter Braak was elected president of the Farmers' club for the sixth consecutive year when that club met with the Federation of Home Demonstration clubs at Wrightsboro in their annual meeting Thursday evening. Mrs. M. S. Emmart of Myrtle Grove was elected

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ALTERNATE NOTED

Hood's Creek Supply Said To Be Adequate For Needs

DECISION IS FINAL Spokesman Says Action Expected To Last Until War Ends

By HOWARD SETTLE Star-News Washington Correspondent

An unequivocal "NO" was the War Production Board's answer Thursday to Wilmington's latest plea in a three-year fight for extension of the city's pipeline to assure a fresh water supply.

Russell Hogan, a spokesman for the War Production Board in Washington, announced Thursday that the request by the city of Wilmington for the continuation of the new water pipeline extension to King's Bluff had definitely been rejected at a hearing in Washington Wednesday at which City Attorney W. B. Campbell, City Engineer J. A. Loughlin and consulting Engineer W. C. Olsen were present.

No Justification Seen Hogan declared that the WPB's attitude was based on the premise that the water at Hood's Creek was ample for the city's needs and the board could see no justification for further extension.

Hogan said that the decision was final and that there was no indication or possibility that the action would be reversed. If Wilmington is going to get a longer pipeline, it will have to wait until the war is over, Hogan declared.

The city attorney and engineers went to Washington early this week to lay before the board the urgency of the situation relating to the salt content of the local water supply and to urge that materials necessary for construction be granted.

City officials contacted reserved comment until the local representatives have returned with a detailed account of the board's action. They are expected to return early Friday.

A committee of the Junior Chamber of Commerce which was recently appointed to investigate the city's water supply said Friday night that the Hood's creek intake is not the permanent solution to Wilmington's water supply and that it would be unfair to the taxpayers to accept any compromise. The Jaycees also plan to appoint a committee to work with the City Council and any and all civic organizations and civic-minded citizens to fight to the end for the proposed extension to King's Bluff, it was learned.

The campaign for extension of the pipeline began on November 1, 1940 when the city commissioners made a trip up the river to inspect Toomer's creek and make a preliminary survey of the Cape Fear River for a long-range project. It was necessary at that time to pump fresh water into the mains from deep wells as a means of temporary relief from the saltiness.

The commission ordered W. C. Olsen, consultant engineer of Raleigh, to make a survey. He was later authorized to seek the aid of federal government geologists in finding a constant and reliable source of fresh water. It was ascertained from preliminary and subsequent surveys that the extension to King's Bluff would furnish the most permanent solution for the city's water supply problem and funds were provided on that basis including a \$900,000 bond issue.

Brackish water has been a problem here since the city first began using the Cape Fear river as a source of raw water. Prior to 1921 the city water intake was from the Northeast river at Hilton plant. From 1921 to 1922 the supply was rendered unsatisfactory as the result of sewage contamination, high salt content and unpleasant discoloration of the water. After an exhaustive study it was decided to extend the intake to Toomer's creek. Toomer's creek was selected rather than Hayne's because the water in the latter contained a high rate of organic coloration and there was no assurance that salt contamination would not recur.

WEATHER

FORECAST: (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., 42; 7:30 a. m., 43; 1:30 p. m., 61; 7:30 p. m., 57. Maximum 68, minimum 42. Mean 55. Normal 59. Humidity: 1:30 a. m., 91; 7:30 a. m., 75; 1:30 p. m., 46; 7:30 p. m., 62. Precipitation: Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches. Total since the first of the month, 0.00 inches. Tides For Today: High 3:14a, 10:38a; Low 9:59p, 11:16p. Wilmington Inlet: 1:11a, 7:24a; 1:52p, 8:15p. Moore's Inlet: 1:18a, 7:29p; 1:57p, 8:20p. New Topsail Inlet: 1:21a, 7:34a; 2:02p, 8:25p. (All Times Eastern Standard) Sunrise, 6:36 a. m.; Sunset, 5:15 p. m. Moonrise, 1:32 p. m.; Moonset, 12:47 a. m. Cape Fear River stage at Fayetteville on Thursday, at 8 a. m., 8.17 feet.