

Wilmington and vicinity: Cloudy with moderate temperatures. Temperatures yesterday: High 70.8. Low 48.9.

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FINAL EDITION

Leyte Battle Declared In Final Stage

SHOWDOWN IN MAKING Japanese Manage To Land More Troops Despite Prowling Planes

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Wednesday, Nov. 1.—(P)—American 24th Division troops, aided by powerful mechanical units, rolled north west through Leyte valley today above Jaro within eight miles of Carigara bay positions the Japanese have been reinforcing for a week.

A final enemy suicidal counter-attack in that area any time within the next few days was expected by Maj. Gen. Franklin C. Sibert, former chief of staff to Gen. Joseph Stilwell and now commander of the 10th corps.

The Japanese, persistently sneaking in barges at Ormoc bay on the island's west coast despite the destruction wreaked by prowling night air patrols, were said by a headquarters spokesman either to be:

1. Planning to make a stand at Ormoc and more than 20 miles to the north around Carigara, or 2. Setting up a perimeter of defense with fresh troops in an attempt to evacuate remnants of the Japanese 16th division, the same Nipponese who organized Bataan's "march of death."

Headquarters announced this gathering fight in a communique which also reported the annihilation of a trapped Japanese force further south in the Leyte valley near Dagami.

American flamethrowers killed between 1,500 and 2,000 Japanese in the trap and wrecked a score of pillboxes.

Even as Japanese fell back north from Jaro before the men of the 24th First Cavalry division troops battled west toward the Carigara positions less than five miles away from captured Burigo on the coast. The Japanese reinforcements first started at the height of the naval battles of Leyte. Had the Japanese Navy won, the enemy might have endangered greatly the operations on Leyte island, a spokesman said.

There were increasing reports that Japanese wearing uniforms and helmets similar to American uniforms were infiltrating Yank lines.

Others were reported utilizing civilian dress. Spencer Davis, Associated Press war correspondent, said in a field dispatch that regardless of events impending in the northwest the Japanese already have lost their strategic hold on Leyte in 11 days of fighting.

One prisoner told Maj. Gen. John R. Hodge, whose 24th corps cleaned up in areas to the south (Continued on Page Five; Col. 1)

COLOGNE BOMBED AGAIN BY BRITISH

LONDON, Wednesday, Nov. 1.—Cologne was bombed twice before 9 o'clock last night by British swift Mosquito bombers, bringing to 18 the shattering aerial blows delivered during that crippled Nazi citadel during October.

The RAF pilots took advantage of a bright moon to raise across the channel and northern France to their twin strike against the Rhine river stronghold 20 miles behind the western front.

The raids culminated in the busiest bombing month in the history of both American and British air forces.

The Eighth Air Force raided Germany with more than 17,500 bombers and Liberators and with almost as many fighter planes during the month that ended today, losing about 200 bombers and 10 fighters.

The bombers were grounded only 11 days in the month, a compilation showed. In October, 1943, the heavies were idle 24 days. Instrument bombing stepped up this month's pace.

The RAF, whose bombers usually fly in all weather, were out all but two nights.

The Eighth Air Force losses were little over one per cent for heavies and about six-tenths of one per cent for the fighters.

Fifteen Air Force bomber crews operating from Italy struck German targets on five of the 11 days last week. The Eighth were based in England.

RAF Lancasters wound up the month with an attack on a synthetic oil plant at Bottrop, one of ten in the Ruhr smashed during October.

The German radio reported fast bombers over the Reich tonight in a bright moon. Mosquitoes went to Berlin last night.

STILWELL'S RECALL HAS BAD EFFECT

Chiang Accused Of Being Too Severe On Chinese Communists

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—(P)—President Roosevelt said today a difference in personalities between Generalissimo Chiang Kai shek and General Joseph Stilwell was responsible for Stilwell's recall from his China - Burma - India command.

Mr. Roosevelt told his news conference that the Generalissimo and Stilwell had a certain falling out quite a while ago, and subsequently Chiang asked that someone be sent to replace the American general as his chief - of - staff. And we did it, he added.

The withdrawal of the American veteran, the President said, had no connection with matters of strategy or policy in China. He told reporters they had better say it was a matter of personality.

At the same time, Mr. Roosevelt disclosed that the ambassador, Clarence E. Gauss had notified the State department he is going to resign his post in China. The President said that this had not even a remote connection with the Stilwell affair.

Mr. Roosevelt said he hasn't yet picked a successor to Gauss and emphasized that the latter most certainly will receive another appointment.

Mr. Roosevelt opened the Stilwell discussion by saying he did not think anybody could make politics out of the incident. He said Stilwell has done an extremely



GENERAL STILWELL

good job but for one thing — the differences with Chiang Kai shek.

The Generalissimo, the President said, is head of the Chinese government and commander in chief of the army.

If there were a British officer in this country whom he didn't like, Mr. Roosevelt said, and he told Churchill he wanted the man recalled, he was sure that it would be done.

Stilwell is coming home, he continued, to take another assignment (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

Hitler Defeat Seen In Spring By Churchill

JAPS, 18 MONTHS MORE

British Premier's Forecast Linked With New Parliament

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(P)—Prime Minister Winston Churchill, seeking to prolong the tenure of the present parliament and his coalition government, told the House of Commons today "it seems difficult to believe" the war against Germany "can be ended before Christmas or even Easter," and that he could not predict the end before early summer.

"It would not be prudent" to assume that it will take less than 18 months after Hitler's downfall to defeat Japan, he warned, but conceded that an election must be held after Germany is disposed of, without waiting for Japan's downfall.

There was no reference in Churchill's address to the presidential election campaign in the United States.

Churchill frankly admitted that "many high military authorities with every means to judge" were more hopeful than he on the end of the war with Germany, as for Japan, he said his "forecast must be revised every few months, by the combined chiefs of staffs."

His picture—in contrast with his declaration only four days ago that "we are in the last lap"—came as background for his demand for another 12 months reprieve for Parliament, already nine years old, and retention of the coalition cabinet until after Germany's defeat.

The House of Commons gave their leader amid cheers every indication that his wish would be granted, moving without dissent his bill to prolong Parliament on step nearer passage. Leaders of opposition groups chimed agreement that the time for a general election had not arrived.

Churchill conceded that "political convulsion in Germany may bring it (the war) to a speedy end at any time," but added that "against that must be set the iron control of German life in all its forms," which he said "exceeds anything previously known among men."

After citing the "utmost tenacity" of German troops and the vigor of their counterattacks, along with (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

JAPANESE CLOSE IN UPON SWELIN

CHUNGKING, Oct. 31.—(P)—Three Japanese columns were closing in tonight in Swelin, strategic Chinese defense center in southeast China.

The Chinese high command communique said Japanese forces had hammered their way to points six miles east, six miles northeast and nine and one-half miles southeast of the Kwangsi province capital, which the defenders have promised to make "China's Stalingrad" and defend to the last man.

The high command said Chinese troops, in an effort to disrupt enemy lines of supply and communication, had struck toward the Human - Kwangsi railway town of Tungan, 90 miles northeast of Kweilin and had captured Japanese strongpoints four miles northwest and 12 miles northeast of the city.

The communique also asserted that the Chinese in surprise attacks on Japanese shipping on the Siang river sank a total of 39 transport craft on Oct. 25.

The high command said Chinese troops on the West river front had again halted the Japanese drive on Liuchoo from Pingnam, a Japanese-held base 115 miles south of Kweilin. All enemy attempts to penetrate Chinese lines 25 miles west of Pingnam were repulsed, the communique said.

Fighters of the U. S. 14th Air Force, in support of Chinese ground troops resisting the Japanese push westward from the West river, trapped and strafed a two-mile column of Japanese troops and pack horses in a canyon.

Both ends of the canyon were blocked by bombs and the fighters bombed and strafed the trapped column. In the first sweep more than 100 enemy troops were killed, the U. S. Army communique said, and an unestimated number were slain in later sweeps over the canyon.

DENTZ FACES TRIAL LONDON, Oct. 31.—(P)—General Henri Dentz, Vichy commander who surrendered Paris to the Germans in 1940 and who later fought the British in Syria, will be tried by the Paris assize court for high treason, the De Gaulle-sponsored Brazzaville radio said tonight.

Residents of Colonial Village were roused early last night by the whine of the community's air raid siren, but sheriff's deputies determined the "alarm" was the act of pranksters. The air raid warden was not at home.

2,595 FOE PLANES DOWNED BY FLEET

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—(P)—Carrier aircraft of the U. S. Third and Seventh fleets destroyed 2,594 Japanese planes and probably destroyed or damaged 252 others between Aug. 30 and Oct. 31, the Navy announced tonight.

Our losses in the same period, the Pacific fleet headquarters communique said, were approximately 300. Many of the American pilots and crews were rescued.

The communique also reported that search planes sank one cargo ship, badly damaged another and set a third ablaze in strafing and bombing attacks on five small cargo ships at Kita, Iwo Jima in the Volcano islands.

The enemy suffered its greatest plane losses, the communique said, between Sept. 9 and 24 when 362 planes were shot down and 584 destroyed on the ground in the Philippines by Third fleet planes. Third fleet aircraft also shot down 528 planes and destroyed 304 on the ground from Oct. 10 to 16 in the Philippines and on Formosa.

In the battle of the Philippines Oct. 22-27, Third and Seventh fleet aircraft shot down 392, destroyed 31 on the ground and damaged 20. Earlier, Third fleet aircraft shot down 55, destroyed 31 on the ground and damaged 55 in the Philippines Oct. 17-18, the communique said.

HALLOWE'EN HERE PASSES QUIETLY

Hallowe'en pranksters were fewer last night and the season's top-notch pranks were minus, as city police and the sheriff's department reported one of the quietest observances in many years.

Police reported that the public as a whole was "most cooperative," and few calls were made to headquarters because of vandalism.

Residents of Colonial Village were roused early last night by the whine of the community's air raid siren, but sheriff's deputies determined the "alarm" was the act of pranksters. The air raid warden was not at home.

COTTON LEADER ASKS ARMY AID

MEMPHIS, Oct. 31.—(P)—National Cotton Council President Oscar Johnson urged War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes tonight to assign at least 5,000 members of Army labor battalions to Mississippi valley cotton warehouses and compresses for about 60 days to relieve what he termed a "serious emergency."

Johnson wired that a bottleneck had arisen in warehouses where an "acute labor shortage has resulted in almost complete breakdown of facilities for receiving farmers' cotton, compressing and assembling it in warehouses and handling shipments to mills."

He suggested an immediate conference with the War Production board, the Office of Defense Transportation, the War Food administration, the War Manpower commission and the Army.

The cotton official said he had completed a telephone survey of five states and had learned: "More than 90 percent of warehouses and compresses are embargoed. Almost 1,000,000 bales (Continued on Page Two; Col. 8)

ANTWERP PORT BATTLE DECLARED WON BY ALLIES

Plant Two Bombs On Jap Battleship



Two bombs explode near the forward turret of the Japanese battleship Yamato as she flees from the U. S. Third Fleet through Tablas straits in the Philippines on Oct. 25. The Yamato was under full steam when Navy flyers caught her. Lt. Comdr. Arthur L. Dowling (right), South Haven, Mich., and ARM 2-c John L. Carver of Hamilton, Mont., scored the hits.

18 ENEMY SHIPS HIT BY U. S. SUBS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—(P)—New heavy blows by American submarines which struck 18 vessels including a destroyer from the rapidly shrinking Japanese fleet were reported today by the Navy.

The latest bag of the submarines operating deep in Japanese territory was announced while the enemy navy still may be endeavoring to re-group remnants of its battle fleet after last week's disastrous defeat in the Philippines area.

Less spectacular than the sinking or damaging of 58 warships in the big battle of the Philippines, the submarine sinkings nevertheless are of material importance in the ultimate result of the Pacific war, for they reduce enemy ability to maintain island bases and supply the home front.

The new submarine toll raises to 978 the number of Nipponese ships of all types sunk or damaged by submarines patrolling regularly along the Japanese shipping lanes.

The Navy, pursuant to custom, in announcing the new submarine figures, gave no indication of where they operated on their latest patrols. However, they have been in action along the enemy coast line and it is reasonable to assume they were close to strong enemy positions while destroying the latest reported group of cargo and transport craft.

In addition to the destroyer sunk by American torpedoes, probably while endeavoring to protect convoys, the Japanese craft sunk were three medium cargo transports, two small cargo transports, five medium cargo vessels, four small cargo vessels, a large transport, which may have carried troops, a medium tanker and a small naval auxiliary.

Roosevelt Risks Two Bits On Election In One State

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—(P)—President Roosevelt has made one bet on the election—a 25-cent even money wager on how one state will go.

But he wouldn't tell reporters the details today.

One newsman asked him with whom he had bet. Mr. Roosevelt laughed and said that was a dangerous question. Capping his hands across his mouth, he said it was none of the reporter's damn business.

The President said he hasn't had time yet to make his customary guess on the outcome of the election nationally. He turned to his secretary, Stephen Early, and asked to be reminded to do that pretty soon. Mr. Roosevelt said he would put the guess in the top drawer of his desk as usual.

Dewey Calls Job Promise Worthless; Roosevelt Before Mike On Thursday

Associated Press Staff Writer Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, laying down a post-war economic program, asserted last night (Tuesday) that President Roosevelt's promise of jobs is "worthless" on "his own peacetime record."

"It will still be worthless, even though it is repeated again and again," Dewey declared in an address prepared for delivery at Buffalo.

As the Republican candidate set off on a final Atlantic seaboard pre-election tour, another major address and three lesser ones were added to Mr. Roosevelt's campaigning schedule.

The White House announced that the President would speak by radio from the White House Thursday night (9 p.m. EWT-NBC) and would talk informally at Bridgeport and Hartford, Conn., and Springfield, Mass., Saturday in connection with his visit to Boston for a Saturday night speech.

At a news conference, Mr. Roosevelt laughed when a reporter mentioned the "One Thousand Club" which Dewey asserted was organized to "sell special privilege" to contributors of \$1,000 to the fourth term campaign.

The President said that way back in the summer he suggested a \$100,000 club, or a \$10,000 club or a \$1,000 club but thought no

JAPS LOSE 35,000 IN PHILIPPINES

U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, Oct. 31.—(P)—Japanese fleet personnel losses in the Philippines approached 35,000 men, including a few admirals and 200 pilots, it was unofficially estimated here. The figure was based on the probable complement of crewmen aboard the 60 enemy warcraft sunk or damaged in the actions and caught in Manila bay.

Admiral Halsey, whose fleet drove back an enemy force off Luzon in the Oct. 23-25 battles, sinking Nippon's main carrier force of four flattops said Japan had been whittled down to a "naval runt."

But he said he doubted if the Japanese ever would admit their losses.

"All Japanese are congenital liars from top to bottom," said the forthright admiral, who often has declared his hatred of the enemy. "They will suppress all they can."

The Nipponese not only were suppressing figures of their losses, but were broadcasting additions to their previous extravagant claims of damage done United States ships.

Nineteen more American war vessels, including nine aircraft carriers, have been sunk by Japanese planes east of the Philippines since Oct. 25, the Tokyo radio said, broadcasting a communique.

The enemy previously had broadcast they sank or damaged 141 American warships and auxiliaries in the Philippines-Formosa area in the past two weeks, and made much of stories of a special unit of suicide airmen who drove their explosive-laden planes onto the decks of Yank ships.

German Broadcast Asks Revolt Against Hitler

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 31.—(P)—A mysterious German broadcast on an unusual wave length tonight urged the people of the Reich and the German army to revolt against Hitler.

The newspaper Dagens Nyheter, which monitored the broadcast, said the speaker called himself Col. Gen. Ludwig von Beck and ridiculed Nazi reports that he had committed suicide after the abortive attempt on Hitler's life July 20.

The trust into Keeskemmet, Hungary's third largest provincial city, 44 miles southeast of Budapest and 20 miles west of the Tisza, was announced in the Soviet daily communique broadcast from Moscow and recorded in London by the Soviet monitor.

Earlier the German radio had said a Russian mechanized column penetrated to the heart of the city of 80,000, but claimed a counterattack pushed the invaders back to the southeast fringes.

An even closer approach was made to Budapest with capture of Izsak, 17 miles southeast of Keeskemmet and 43 miles below the capital, the Russian communique disclosed, while more than 200 (Continued on Page Five; Col. 3)

ENEMY FLEEING SOUTH HOLLAND

British Reinforcements For First Army Break Up Counterthrust

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(P)—Allied armored forces, operating under extreme difficulties of weather and terrain, fought through to the Maas (Meuse) river north of Tilburg tonight and closed within a half-mile of the Geertruidenberg bridge, one of the main escape routes for German troops fleeing southwestern Holland.

"The battle for the port of Antwerp is over in our favor," declared a spokesman for Lt. Gen. Sir Miles C. Dempsey, commander of the British Second army. "It is a question how fast and how far back the Germans will go."

Canadian troops to the west, clearing the seaward approaches to Antwerp, charged across an 1,100-yard causeway from south Beveland island in a climactic assault on German forces still holding out on partly-flooded Walcheren island at the entrance to the Schelde estuary. Tonight they were within 25 yards of gaining a foothold on Walcheren, and a dispatch declared the position of the Nazi garrison was "hopeless."

Highways below the Maas were black with Nazi transport moving toward the four fixed and pontoon bridges left standing across the stream. A thick fog prevented the enemy's outright destruction by Allied planes, but a field dispatch declared the scenes on the roads were reminiscent of the German 7th army's flight to the Seine in France last August.

American, British, Canadian, Polish and Dutch troops pursuing the retreating Nazis across the flat and flooded Dutch countryside were forced to remain on roads and highways, as even infantrymen found themselves wallowing in knee-deep mud the instant they left hard surface. German rear-guards hidden in houses alongside the roads had literally to be blown out of action.

Canadian troops driving north-westward from Breda were within five miles of the Moerdijk bridge (Continued on Page Two; Col. 3)

RUSSIANS ADVANCE ON 60-MILE FRONT

LONDON, Oct. 31.—(P)—The Red Army, advancing toward doomed Budapest on a 60-mile-wide front between the Tisza and Danube rivers, reached points 43 miles south-east of the Hungarian capital today and fought the Germans in the streets of the large railway junction city of Keeskemmet.

The thrust into Keeskemmet, Hungary's third largest provincial city, 44 miles southeast of Budapest and 20 miles west of the Tisza, was announced in the Soviet daily communique broadcast from Moscow and recorded in London by the Soviet monitor.

Earlier the German radio had said a Russian mechanized column penetrated to the heart of the city of 80,000, but claimed a counterattack pushed the invaders back to the southeast fringes.

An even closer approach was made to Budapest with capture of Izsak, 17 miles southeast of Keeskemmet and 43 miles below the capital, the Russian communique disclosed, while more than 200 (Continued on Page Five; Col. 3)

Recreation Department Program Arranges For All Ages, Classes

Contrary to the general belief that the City Recreation department provides recreational interests for children alone, Jesse A. Reynolds, recreation superintendent, asserts that there are facilities and interests embracing age groups from seven to 70, and above if interest exists.

Supervised recreation in Wilmington has grown from a few extracurricular activities to what can be considered big business.

Wilmington is recognized as a national leader in municipal recreation, and Reynolds says the success of his department is due to cooperation and the realization of capable leaders that recreation is important. "It is important to ev-

eryday living of our children," he says, "and is becoming more important in the lives of those of us who have grown old enough not to be called children any longer."

To successfully conduct these activities, the city uses all available amusement centers. The Recreation department has the cooperation of all schools, YMCA, housing projects, and other groups. All have helped to carry on the program.

"Otherwise," said Reynolds, "our program would be limited to a few facilities which we would have to set up ourselves with limited funds, space, and under war-time conditions."

The program was set up in August of last year when surveys

showed a marked lack of adequate recreational facilities. Even such standard amusement centers as bowling alleys and movies were not numerous enough to serve the war-boostered population of Wilmington.

Reynolds, whose home was in Richmond, Va., was asked to take the job and was given a free hand with the recreational problems of the city. His department is under the direct supervision of City Manager A. C. Nichols. His first step was to size up the limited facilities, and his idea to make a little go a long way has succeeded.

The principles of the Recreation (Continued on Page Ten; Col. 2)

(Continued on Page Ten; Col. 5)