

Fair and continued cold in North Carolina Wednesday. Yesterday's temperature: High, 46—Low, 31.

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FINAL EDITION

Senate Approves \$1,571,000 Fund For Local Harbor

PORT CAN HANDLE LARGER VESSELS

Bill Must Be Passed In House This Week Before Recess

By ALLEN J. GREEN (Star-News Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—The Senate today unanimously approved and sent to the House for joint conference, the \$1,571,000 Rivers and Harbors bill — with \$1,571,000 allotted for improving harbor facilities in and around Wilmington—as sponsors of the measure predicted final action by Congress within the week.

The chief benefit to this area contained in the omnibus bill, is \$1,455,000 for widening, deepening and improving the ship channel from Southport to Wilmington, and the turning basin so that the Port of Wilmington will become accessible to larger merchant vessels.

The Senate today stripped away a legislative stumbling block in the form of the highly controversial St. Lawrence seaway project by a 56-25 vote after a number of amendments, including Sen. Josiah T. Bailey (D., N. C.) had spoken in opposition to the seaway.

Approximately one week remains before senators and representatives will go home for Christmas. Unless the rivers and harbors bill can secure approval before then, it automatically dies with the 78th Congress.

On the Wilmington projects, the Senate Commerce Committee report declares that "the modifications recommended are justified in the interests of safety in handling fully loaded vessels and to make facilities at this locality nearly comparable with those similar ports on the South Atlantic coast."

The annual benefits are clearly in excess of the annual carrying charges on the improvement, it concludes. "Increase in channel depth to 32 feet will result in savings in transportation costs on cargo carried in larger vessels, avoid delays now experienced by larger vessels awaiting favorable tides, eliminate losses due to groundings and reduce maintenance costs."

Other amendments included for the Wilmington area are \$73,000 for improving the Northeast river, \$9,000 for an 8-foot deep, 600-foot wide channel from the Inland Waterway at Wrightsboro to Masonboro pier, and \$24,000 for six mooring basins along the Inland Waterway.

TIDE WATER POWER FINANCE HEARING CONCLUDED BY SEC

In a telephone conversation with Warren W. Bell, president of the Tide Water Power Co., from Philadelphia yesterday, it was learned that the Securities and Exchange Commission had concluded hearings on the recapitalization plan of the company. Mr. Bell announced he expected the SEC to announce its orders within a few days.

The plan will be submitted to stockholders at a special meeting on December 23, he said.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The Tide Water Power Co.'s proposal to issue \$1,000,000 of \$5 preferred stock in its recapitalization plan was explained today by Warren W. Bell, Wilmington, N. C., president of the company, during a hearing before the Securities and Exchange Commission. Bell said Tide Water also would modify certain accounting adjustments in its plan. Property accounts would be restated at the lower of estimated original cost and present amortized value, and present unamortized value and expense and all unamortized goodwill properties would be written off, Bell said.

STEP ON THE GAS NOW. BROTHER Shopping DAYS LEE BUY Christmas Seals

YANKS ADVANCE IN NAZI WOODS

The scene below vividly portrays the type of terrain through which the Yanks on the Western Front must move. These doughboys advance cautiously through the battered woods as German shells scream overhead.



Seventh Breaches Old Maginot Line As Third Crosses Blies; Yanks Sink Seven Jap Vessels

SUPPLY EFFORT AGAIN THWARTED

Three Destroyers And Four Transports In Latest Bag

GENERAL M'ARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Wednesday, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Three Japanese destroyers and four transports of an 11-ship convoy attempting to run reinforcements to beleaguered Nipponese troops on Leyte island, were sunk by American planes and PT boats Monday and Tuesday, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said today.

RUSSIANS ENTER BUDAPEST GATES

Moscow Reports Troops Pouring Into Eastern Suburb

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The Red Army today captured Godollo, last major rail fortress 10 1/2 miles northeast of Budapest, the Russian communiqué announced tonight.

English Troops Drive Toward Shwegin With East African Support

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Dec. 12.—(AP)—British troops driving south along the Kalewa-Yeu road in western Burma have advanced toward Shwegin with East African units battering their way within 500 yards of that Japanese stronghold.

ONE DELUDED JAP Soldier On Pacific Island Thought It Was Florida

WITH THE U. S. 41st INFANTRY DIVISION, Southwest Pacific (Delayed)—A security patrol of the 41st Infantry Division, combing a Pacific island for Japanese remnants, recently captured a soldier of Nippon who thought he was in Florida.

CHINESE WREST RAILWAY CENTER FROM JAP ARMY

CHUNGKING, Dec. 12.—(AP)—Chinese troops, advancing a dozen miles into Kwansai province down the Kweichow-Kwansai railway, captured the railway town of Nantian and the nearby town of Manchang today, the Chinese high command announced.

AMERICA REPORTED FAVORING PLAN TO ABOLISH NAZI WAR INDUSTRY

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—American proposals for "complete and ruthless" abolition of German war industries and strict control of the country's future economy were reportedly reported tonight to be under discussion by the European Advisory Commission as a part of a tough Allied plan to suppress Germany's aggressive powers forever.

PARACHUTING PADRE Minister Jumps Behind Enemy With Hymnals

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—A knapsack full of hymn books slung over his shoulder, the Rev. J. Fraser McLuskey parachuted into France deep behind the enemy lines soon after D-Day, it was revealed here today.

LIBERAL FOREIGN POLICY OUTLINED BY STETTINIUS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The much-advertised fireworks failed to go off today as Secretary of State Stettinius led six chosen aides before inquiring senators and declared his aim is a "liberal foreign policy."

WILMINGTON MAN, SUB COMMANDER, WINS NAVY HONOR

The submarine Rahser, commanded by Lieutenant-Commander Benjamin E. Adams, Jr., 30, of Wilmington, has been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for sinking or damaging "thousands of tons" of shipping in Japanese controlled waters, according to word received here yesterday from the Navy Department.

COUNTY REJECTS FT. FISHER UNIT AS TB HOSPITAL

The New Hanover County Board of Commissioners visited Fort Fisher yesterday for an inspection of the Army hospital at the former military post, in an effort to determine if the installation could be converted by the county to a tuberculosis hospital.



SHIPYARD LEADS FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS

The Nation's medical forces today are marshaling new strength for their greatest battle against an old enemy—tuberculosis.

The fight against the disease is being waged on many fronts. One of these battle-lines is in Wilmington.

Taking the lead among North Carolina industries, the North Carolina Shipbuilding Co. is conducting an active fight against tuberculosis as an important part of its medical examination and health program for its thousands of employees.

It went into action with installation of modern chest X-ray examination in its clinical laboratory in 1943. Designed about four years ago, this apparatus takes a 5 inch picture of the chest in four-fifths of a second. The procedure requires a total time of about one minute per person and as many as 400 pictures have been made in one day. The daily average is about 71.

To date, 24,000 chest examinations have been made without any cost to the applicant or employee. Within an hour after the picture is made it is ready for examination by Dr. C. B. Davis, Jr., medical examiner.

Taking advantage of their three-dimensional effect, he studies each carefully. If there is the faintest hint of tuberculosis, the film is sent to Dr. P. P. McCain at the State Sanatorium for opinion and advice.

No attempt is made at final diagnosis at the shipyard as the main function of this phase of the clinic's work is to discover the disease. It is part of the general program described by Dr. Davis as "seeing that the applicants are in good health when they begin work, to find any defects that they may have, to advise them of these defects, and to place applicant in the job for which they are best physically suited."

In addition, thousands of employees have received extra examinations since they have been with the yard.

Thus, the shipyard's clinic maintains a front-line watch.

"Our experience has been very much in line with findings of the United States Public Health Service in that we find about 1 to 2 per cent of adults have active tuberculosis," Dr. Davis said.

"We find a much higher percentage of inactive cases and, in such cases, Dr. McCain has advised the employee to continue working but to have repeated chest examinations at three to six month intervals. In this way we are able to allow some people to work in the yard."

Recent reports indicated that the former Army post would probably be declared surplus by the War Department. The Board of Commissioners visited the hospital upon learning of this, and were conducted through the building with the hope that some agreement between the Federal and county governments might be reached.

The hospital is entirely too large to lend itself economically for a public institution of the type needed by this county," said Mr. Hewlett.

It was understood that the hospital was constructed for 300 beds. Previous plans for a county tuberculosis hospital called for the construction of a hospital to house 75 bed patients.

TOKYO IS SHOWERED WITH INCENDIARIES, JAP RADIO DECLARES

By The Associated Press

Another incendiary bomb attack on Tokyo Tuesday night (Japanese time) by American Superfortresses was reported by the Nippon radio. The Tokyo broadcast, picked up by the Federal Communications Commission and lacking American confirmation, said "one or two" B-29s from the Marianas islands (Spain) roared over the city at 7:00 p.m. (5 a.m., Tuesday, EWT) unloaded incendiaries "in two or three places" and then "fled toward the southeastern sea."

Prior to the actual bombing, the Japanese said other B-29's were over Japan three times between midnight Monday and 5 a.m., Tuesday (Japanese time). Tokyo claimed all these planes "fled southward apparently without dropping any bombs." These flights, it added, were over the Tokaido district and Shizuoka prefecture. The latter region was hit by earthquake and tidal wave last week.

JAPS REPORTED FLEEING TOKYO

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—The Japanese have started a mass evacuation of non-essential civilians from bombed and blacked-out Tokyo, the Berlin radio reported in one day.

There was no confirmation directly from Tokyo, but a broadcast from the Japanese capital declared American Superfortresses dropped incendiary bombs tonight (Japanese time) in the fourth appearance of the sky giants over Tokyo in one day.

A German Transocean dispatch from Japan said 20,000 persons had been ordered to leave the capital today.

The dispatch added that measures were "progressing according to plan" for evacuation of Tokyo, which is being rocked by Saipan-based superfortresses.

First to go were the aged and non-infirm, children, and expectant mothers, Berlin said. There was indication whether Emperor Hirohito and his household would flee to safer quarters, or whether plans were contemplated in change for a meeting of the Japanese diet in Tokyo December 24.

RAF JOINS YANKS IN AIR BLOWS AT NAZI RAIL LINES

LONDON, Wednesday, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The Allied air assault on Germany continued round-the-clock yesterday and last night, with the RAF joining American bombers from both Britain and Italy in a series of powerful blows at communications and industrial targets.

More than 3,000 tons of explosives were dumped by the U. S. Eighth Air Force alone on battlement rail facilities in the Frankfurt area during the day in a massive operation from which nine bombers and nine fighters were reported missing.

Most of the fighters were believed to have landed in friendly territory, and the day's loss was described as the smallest of the war for an attack in such strength—more than 2,100 bombers and fighters.

Last night, a strong force of RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes blasted the great armament center of Essen and squadrons of Mosquitos bombed Osnabruck, another steel center of the Ruhr.

Italy-based bombers and fighters of the U. S. 15th Air Force flew through bad weather and attacked the huge synthetic oil refinery at Blechhammer in southern Silesia.

PARACHUTING PADRE

LONDON, Dec. 12.—(AP)—A knapsack full of hymn books slung over his shoulder, the Rev. J. Fraser McLuskey parachuted into France deep behind the enemy lines soon after D-Day, it was revealed here today.

The 6-foot, 2-inch British pastor went among groups of special air service troops who also were operating behind the enemy lines and conducted services with men singing loudly in safe areas and in whispers elsewhere. The favorite was "Stand Up For Jesus."

Except to say that the parachuting padre was specially trained for his mission, the Royal Air Force released no other details.

HODGES' TROOPS CLOSE ON DUREN

Air Force Strongly Supports Ground Army In Action

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, PARIS, Dec. 12.—(AP)—

Fighting through the old Maginot defenses, the U. S. Seventh Army stormed more than eight miles northward from liberated Haguenau today while the first American Army drove within half a mile of Duren and virtually eliminated the Germans' Roer river salient blocking the route to Cologne.

At the same time the Third Army crossed the Blies river northeast of Sarreguemines, forcing a new edge across the German border, and the French First Army rolled up new gains in the Vosges foothills at the southern end of the long Western Front.

The steady advances of the ground forces were strongly supported by Allied planes, which hammered Nazi targets in and behind the battle zone relentlessly throughout the day.

More than 30 towns and villages—at least seven of them inside Germany—fell during the day as Gen. Eisenhower's armies pounded at the last barriers guarding the Reich's three main industrial areas. At some vital points enemy resistance appeared to be slackening. Although this might be explained as German withdrawals to previously prepared positions.

Battlefront dispatches said Lt. Gen. Patch's Seventh Army was forging ahead at the rate of a mile an hour. These American troops surged through Langensulzbach and struck farther northward toward Mattstall, 11 miles north of Haguenau. They also thrust within eight miles of the important frontier highway junction of Wissembourg by capturing Merkwiler.

Yanks of both the Seventh and Third Armies spread out to the west and continued to close up to the German border in a great wheeling movement pivoting on Sarreguemines. At one point, Patch's troops

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