

### EUROPEANS LONG FOR PEACE AGAIN

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to eat turkey, chicken or goose. Most could get only a piece of beef or pork.

Though winter holiday travel is not at a record level, travellers flocked to most London railroad stations early today in order to make the most of a vacation lasting until Wednesday. In England the day following Christmas—boxing day—is a holiday.

Only in neutral lands were there any real outward Christmas signs. The sixth war Christmas finds Switzerland something like a magic island in a thrashing sea. Refugees of half a dozen battle-ridden neighbors gaze into well-filled shop windows. Things long vanished in other countries are displayed in Switzerland, but their prices are staggering.

In Dublin citizens of Eire fare well enough for food, provided they have money, and in Stockholm the folk are even better off.

The grimmest of all will be the German Christmas. From Bern, Switzerland, comes an Associated Press dispatch quoting the German newspaper Appenzeller Zeitung:

"In place of bells are raid sirens. The Christmas cake, goose and carp are only memories, no longer a part of the vocabulary of the German Christmas.

"Last year Germans were exhorted to make practical gifts. Not even Christmas cards are permitted this year."

In Nazi-occupied Italy bitterness is increasing with the cold weather. Communists and Socialists of industrial Milan, Turin and Genoa were reported to have adopted a Christmas motto: "Christmas liberation or Christmas blood."

Skirmishes of partisans with Fascist and German troops continues. Germans are moving cattle to the fatherland by the thousands.

A year ago Budapest, the Hungarian capital, was still one of the elegant continental cities, but today it belongs to the front line. Reports reaching Bern said that 80 per cent of its stores were closed, its hotels empty and thousands of its population of two million heading westward.

Once gay Vienna is apathetic, said a dispatch to the National Zeitung of Basel, Switzerland. Suburban plants still are making armaments for the Nazis with the help of 700,000 foreign workers whom the Germans fear, the paper said.

### Yanks Slash Into Foe Under Big Air Cover

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ed between Hottot and Soy, three miles to the northeast.

Headquarters said there was considerable enemy pressure south of Marche on the highway to Laroche but there was no indication of a continued retreat of American troops.

The extent of the American counter-attacks north of Arlon and Mersch was not given, but it appeared to be in the nature of a large-scale operation, and front dispatches said that vapor trails of supporting aircraft ranging the frosty skies were as thick as plough furrows.

At the southeastern end of the enemy's offensive bulge there was no change in the situation. The Americans still hold a stable line in the Echternach sector although the Germans have widened the base of their salient to Diekirch, five miles southwest of Echternach.

A dispatch from this area said that the American relief drive from the south, if it makes any major advance, will menace the entire southern German flank. It said that although the war was a swift and fluid one, an early end of the war is possible if Gen. Omar Bradley's men can meet and checkmate the daring German thrusts.

### 700,000 SLAIN IN NAZI CAMPS

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—Yanov, Sitadel and Lisenitz—the Gestapo devised the "human icicle" treatment, which consisted of putting bound prisoners into barrels of water and then placing the barrels outside in below-zero temperatures, with guards standing over them until they became frozen in ice.

Nazi Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler was said to have participated directly in the crimes, visiting the camps several times for personal inspection.

"As a result of this," the report said, "the Lwow atrocities of the German monsters were distinguished by particular refinements." They bear the mark of the personality of Himmler himself.

The German government, said the report, systematically sent to the Lwow camps prisoners of war and civilians of foreign states from concentration camps in Germany, and then tortured and killed them.

The victims were said to have included Ukrainians, Poles, Czechoslovaks, Yugoslavs, Americans, Britons, Netherlands, Italians and citizens of other states, including many Jews. The reports were confirmed, the commission said, by numerous statements of Soviet citizens and also by French prisoners of war who had been confined in the camps and were liberated by the Red Army.

The commission reported that "children were selected and given to detachments of the Hitler youth as targets for shooting practice."

One French witness was quoted: "In the camp where I arrived September 3, 1942, Englishmen were killed by slow degrees. There was only one water tap in this camp for 12,000 people. Prisoners were only allowed to use it for four or five hours a day.

"German guards terrorized us. For the smallest fault we were threatened with death. We were not allowed to drink water. In the morning we could hardly stand on our legs. We got 200 grams (7 ounces) of bread a day. The soup was just water. We slept on the ground. There were fleas and bugs everywhere."

In one camp for war prisoners, the report said, nearly 3,000 prisoners died of dysentery in the four months from August through November, 1941, and nearly 5,000 prisoners died through a typhoid epidemic.

"In one execution ground in a forest more than 200,000 people were killed," the report said.

The commission reported that 136,000 Jews were confined to one ghetto camp, and that 130,000 were killed in this camp from September 7, 1941 to June 6, 1943.

### POINT-FREE MEATS AND CANNED GOODS SET FOR RATIONING

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tion Director Fred M. Vinson, asking that he act as arbitrator.

His decision, it was said, supports the OPA virtually 100 per cent.

WFA's arguments were that while some commodities are in short supply, there are substitutes in each case. In view of this, the agency said, there should be as little rationing as possible in order to avert large food surpluses at the end of the war in Europe.

OPA's position was that, to provide for equitable distribution, products should go back on the ration list as soon as they become unavailable in parts of the country. It argued that supplies of most point-free meat, particularly pork, have been extremely short since mid-summer.

OPA acknowledged that canned vegetables were in good supply, but said that stocks were moving too rapidly, indicating a shortage before the start of the new pack year next summer.

One consideration which apparently tipped the scale in OPA's favor is the prospect that the war in Europe may be drawn out as a result of the German counter-offensive. This would make it necessary to ship more food to the armed forces than first calculated, and at the same time reduce the likelihood of an early homefront surplus feared by WFA.

### Salvage Crews Locate Wreckage Of Airplane

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 23. —(P)—Salvage crews from the Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point, N. C., have located the wreckage of a Navy plane in swamp land a few miles west of the air station, but the search continues for its pilot, Lt. Robin C. Pennington, USMCR, the Fifth Naval District here was advised today.

The crash occurred Wednesday, Lt. Pennington's wife, residing at Havelock, N. C., rear Cherry Point, has been notified and notification was dispatched this morning to his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Pennington, Townsend, Montana.

### ODD ASSIGNMENT Motor Policeman Shoots AWOL Turkey

GREENSBORO, Dec. 23. —(P)—Policemen get the oddest assignments.

For instance, motorcycle Officer R. L. (Dick) Paschal of the Greensboro police department, was summoned yesterday to help a citizen whose Christmas turkey had "flown the coop" and taken up residence in the top of a tall tree near Memorial Stadium.

Officer Paschal whipped out his trusty service pistol and, with one shot, landed the bird—earning for himself the sobriquet "Dead-Eye-Dick", the inspiration of his fellow officers.

### CHRISTMAS MENU Army Says Plan May Vary Slightly In Front Line

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23. —(P)—The Army's Christmas menu: Roast turkey and dressing, giblet gravy, cranberry sauce, snowflake and sweet potatoes, green beans, asparagus, fresh fruit salad, mayonnaise, celery, pickles, olives, hot rolls, butter, hot mince meat pie, candy, assorted fruit, nuts, and coffee.

The Army expressed hope today that everyone will get his share but acknowledged that the menu "may vary" in combat areas.

A human adult has half an ounce of sugar in his blood.

### YANK LIBERATORS HIT CLARK FIELD

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bolts. The dispersal and taxi areas between two of the airstrips were left enveloped in fire and smoke. Liberator crews reported one tremendous explosion from which a smoke column rose 5,000 feet.

Yanks cleaning up Leyte's Ormoc corridor and pocketed Japanese to the east counted another 3,788 enemy dead in one day, bringing the eighth-day total to 16,661.

The U. S. 77th Division, the communique said, is continuing to work its way westward from the corridor to the port of Palompon, last base of the remnants of enemy forces in that area.

Participation of the 11th Airborne Division in the west Leyte fighting was disclosed for the first time. It is commanded by Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Swing. It did much of the heavy fighting in the rugged mountainous terrain southeast of Ormoc and east of the battlefront where the 77th and the Seventh Divisions closed a trap on the enemy's Yamashita Line and

### NEWS 'BLACKOUT' PROBE TO START

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that the troops "crave" news from the United States and failure to provide it is "unfair" and injurious to morale.

The Stars and Stripes does "a fairly good job" in Italy, Brooks said.

The British Union Jack, counterpart of the Stars and Stripes, was commended by Brooks for printing "considerable news from the united kingdom."

Whether the blame for the "news blackout" belongs in this country or abroad, Brooks said he was unable to say, but the Military Committee intends to find out as soon as the new Congress convenes next month.

turned the Leyte campaign toward a victorious end.

A single C-47 transport dropped all the 11th Division paratroopers and equipment for the operation. Special parachute racks were built under the plane's body to carry the weight of mountain guns.

It took a neat bit of flying to do the job. The transport had to poke its way through cloud-shrouded valleys and dip down to 600 feet to drop its loads, then pull up sharply to clear a hill ahead.

### NAZI SAY U. S. FORCED TO PULL MEN FROM FRONT

LONDON, Dec. 23. —(P)—German broadcasts trumpeted claims today that Gen. Eisenhower had been forced to drain manpower from his entire Western Front in an effort to halt Field Marshal von Rundstedt's offensive in the north.

While asserting that weakened American forces were retreating to the south, the tone of the Berlin broadcasts indicated Nazi propagandists might be getting ready to disclose the offensive had been slowed or even halted.

One commentator after another spoke of "fierce battles" and of "throwing back repeated counter-attacks." The High Command's communique was headed by a paragraph saying "our troops ward off strong enemy relief attacks up to 14 times" in the tavelot area.

"The American Third Army continued to evacuate its Saar bridgeheads because General Patton had to move his forces to threatened areas on the northern sector of the vast front," said Transocean. "German troops are hotly pursuing the retreating Americans."

A later Transocean broadcast claimed that Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Seventh Army "started to evacuate a number of pillboxes on the Alsace-Palatinate border" yesterday morning.

Berlin claimed that "the Americans have withdrawn large numbers of troops from the Aachen sector."

### TWP Refinance Plan Approved By Board

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are largely in the hands of local investors. The remaining 3,461 shares were to be held in escrow, according to Mr. Bell, pending SEC approval of their possible exchange for existing common stock. (An Associated Press report last night from Philadelphia reported that they had already been approved for transfer to the General Gas and Electric Corporation, holder of the old stock.)

In his statement subsequent to the Tide Water board of directors' meeting which had followed the stockholders' vote, Mr. Bell said that the consummation of the reorganization plan would free Tide Water from holding company control and render it completely independent. The plan had been submitted originally to the SEC early in November.

### HOME FOR HOLIDAY

Floyd H. Watson, A. M. M. first class, U. S. Navy, has arrived from Pensacola, Fla., to spend Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Watson, of Wrightsville Beach.

AT FIRST SIGN OF A

# COLD

USE 666

Cold Preparations As Directed

# Christmas message

Silent night... holy night... when the Babe of Bethlehem was born. Many were the gifts brought to Him; but so great was the gift He gave to mankind, that now we gleefully observe the anniversary of His birth. Through the centuries Christmas celebration has taken many forms—as in different lands it has been enjoyed in a variety of ways. However you spend this Christmas Day may it be one of jubilation around the clock!

## ODORLESS DRY CLEANERS

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# SEASON'S GREETINGS

On land, on sea, and in the air, men from this community are offered our sincerest sentiments on this day. We look to the hour when we may welcome them all home—and again think of sharing Christmas and New Year gaiety together.

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# WHITE ICE CREAM & MILK CO.

# THIS IS OUR WISH FOR YOU

Every business, regardless of size or type; every individual, is dependent upon someone else for support and existence. Our business is dependent upon our many loyal friends who have favored us in scores of ways during the past year.

It may have been through your patronage... it may have been a kind word of cheer... or it may have been an expression in our behalf to some friend of yours... but, in whatever way you may have favored us, we are thankful.

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