

For North Carolina: Cold today with some cloudiness. Gentle to moderate winds.

Wilmington Morning Star

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR AND BATAAN

American Attack Relieves Bastogne Garrison; Japanese Carrier Sunk By Yank Submarines; Greeks Agree to Regency Under King George

Governor Says Army To Sell Davis Shortly

Local Camp May Be Used For Other Purposes By U. S.

RALEIGH, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Camp Davis, the huge anti-aircraft artillery base near Wilmington, will be sold or salvaged as surplus property as soon as the evacuation of troops from it has been completed, Governor Broughton said he was advised today.

The Governor said he had contacted the various State agencies which "might be interested in the facilities there" and that such agencies would deal directly with the War Department "should they decide to attempt to procure it."

The complete evacuation of all ground forces and service units from Camp Davis is expected to be ended by December 31, it was announced recently.

COUNCIL DISCUSSES THREE-SHIFT PLAN FOR POLICE FORCE

Suggestions that the Wilmington police department be placed on three eight-hour shifts, that members be exchanged from day and night duty every 30 days, and that the "entire department be put on a seniority basis" were made yesterday by City Councilmen, but no action to create any changes was taken.

The Council appeared divided in its opinion on the operation of the police staff, after Council Robert F. Romeo brought up the subject with the assertion, "I'd like to see the men either swap around on night and day duty every 30 days or put the entire department on the seniority basis."

Athens Sniper Fires At Winston Churchill

Move Expected To Stop Bloodshed And Permit People To Select Government Of Own Choosing In Orderly Manner

ATHENS, Dec. 27.—(UP)—Greek representatives seeking to end the three-weeks' old civil strife in Greece voted unanimously tonight to form a regency under King George immediately in a move expected to bring the bloodshed to a halt and permit the Greek people to select their own government in an orderly way.

LOYD GEORGE, 81, PLANS TO RETIRE

Famous British Statesman Will Leave Seat In Commons

LONDON, Dec. 27.—(UP)—David Lloyd George, World War I Prime Minister and for 54 years a member of the House of Commons, disclosed today that he is retiring from Parliament on the advice of his physicians. He will be 82 January 17 and for several years his health has been somewhat impaired.

Announcement of his decision to retire was made by E. P. Evans, chairman of the Carnarvon Boroughs Liberal Association, who said the aged Liberal Party leader would not seek reelection in the coming general election. Lloyd George has represented the Carnarvon (Wales) district in Parliament without a break since he was elected in 1890 by a margin of 18 votes, at the age of 27.

Nazi Striking Power Believed Underrated

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, Paris, Dec. 27.—(AP)—An outright underestimation of German striking power, coupled with either a failure to learn of, or to appreciate, von Rundstedt's mobile reserve movements behind the lines, appeared more than ever today to be the major factors behind this first serious Allied setback since the successful invasion of Europe.

That would seem to place the responsibility for the Nazi breakthrough high up in the Allied staff and to suggest that any important shakeup in the command — none has materialized as yet — would amount to finding a scapegoat.

However, the forthright Allied battle boss, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, has shown no inclination to hunt for scapegoats, either here or previously during his command of the Mediterranean theater. In this respect it can be recalled that the Allied commander displayed square-fisted directness in supporting his generals right down the line from Field Marshal Montgomery on back in the days when slow progress around Caen brought some public criticism of his British colleague.

U. S. Raiders Add 26 Other Ships To Bag

Forrestal Announces Name Of American Destroyer Lost

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(UP)—American submarines scoring a jackpot hit against Japan's dwindling naval power, were revealed today to have sunk a large aircraft carrier and 26 other ships during recent strikes in "Far Eastern waters."

The latest bag included a converted light cruiser, a destroyer, two escort vessels, two destroyer transports, three transports, 13 cargo ships, two cargo transport and two tankers.

A few hours later, the Navy revealed that the U. S. destroyer recently announced lost off Ormoc, Leyte, was the modern 2,200-ton Cooper which was commissioned last March, and also announced the loss of the landing craft LSM-20 in same waters. They brought to 11 the number of U. S. vessels sunk or destroyed in the Philippines campaign to date and to 238 the total of American naval craft lost since Pearl Harbor.

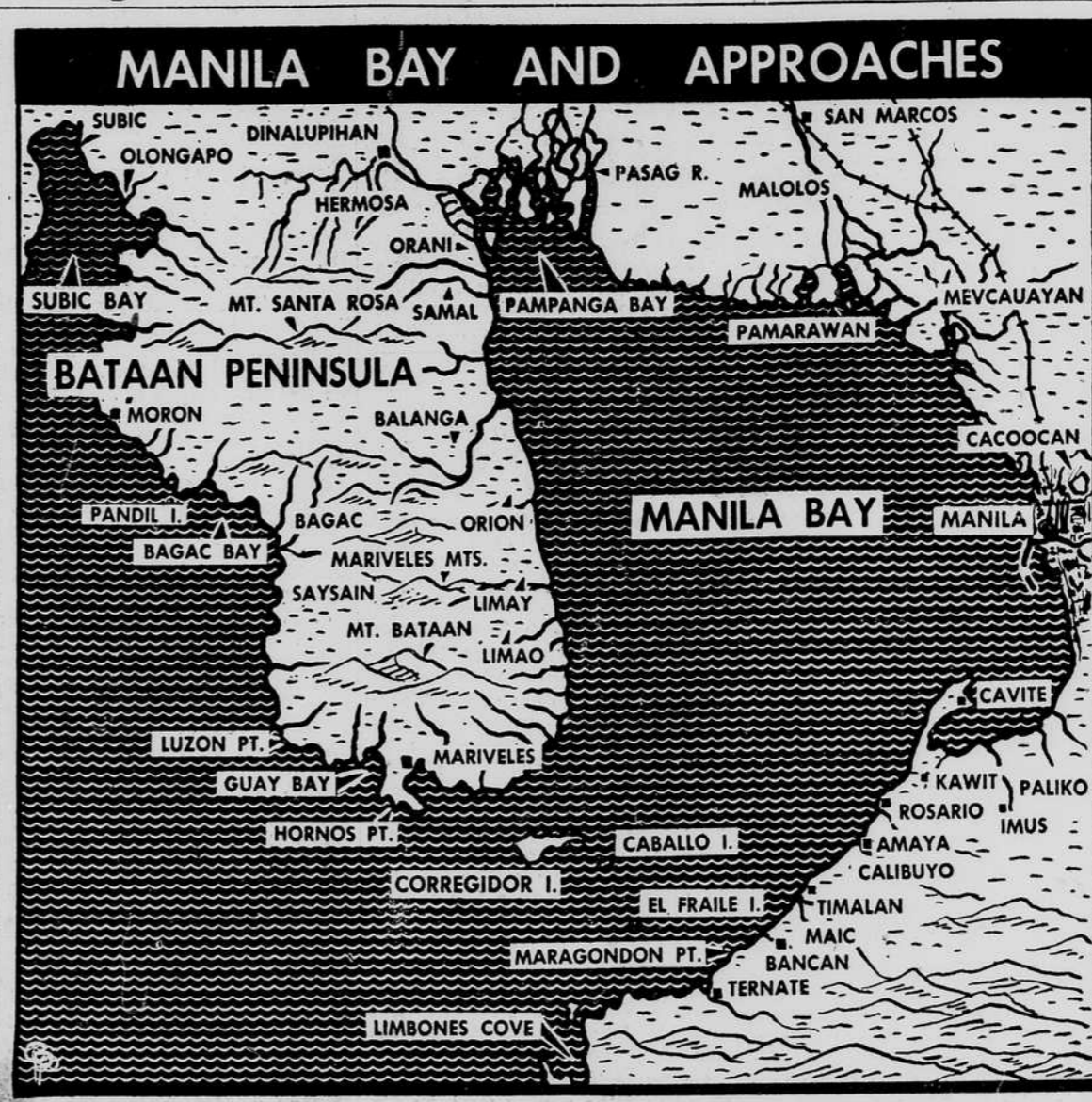
Bonomi Urges Use Of More Italians To Fight Germans

ROME, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Premier Ivanoe Bonomi, declaring the German Western Front offensive clearly shows increased effort is necessary for "common victory," proposed today that more than six Italian divisions be thrown against the Germans in Italy, and that they fight on one sector as a national unit.

National Income Sets Record Of 159 Billion

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—(AP)—The national income broke all records again in 1944, stepping up to approximately \$159,000,000,000, the Commerce Department announced today.

But it added that the Nation now has passed the peak of its wartime economic activity. Business hit the top early in the year and leveled off. Commerce Department experts don't think 1945 will be as active. Here are the official estimates for 1944—all new records:



As American forces consolidate their positions on Mindoro, the island just below Luzon on which Manila and its approaches are located, the area on the map takes on vital importance.

TOKYO IS ROCKED FOR 90 MINUTES UNDER B-29 RAID

21st BOMBER COMMAND, SAI-PAN, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Taking advantage of the first really clear weather they have found over Tokyo, a sizable force of Superfortresses bombed the teeming industrial sector of Japan's largest city for an hour and a half today.

One B-29 was lost over the target, but the Superfortresses in turn shot down perhaps the greatest number of enemy planes yet destroyed over Honshu.

Crewmen reported that large fires were started. First photos failed to disclose the extent of this damage.

The Japanese employed a new defense technique by setting off smudge pots for a smoke screen, but the fliers described the maneuver as unsuccessful.

The attacking force was similar in size to that making the first Tokyo raid November 24 when, Brig. Gen. Haywood Hansell, Jr., declared, some formations inflicted damage "which you can easily envisage if something like 150 tons of high explosives hit the waterfront areas of New York or San Francisco."

Until shortly before midnight, the crash of exploding American bombs and the rattle of small guns from the torpedo boats and low level strafers mingled with salvos from the Japanese warships.

The planes and PT boats pursued the enemy in moonlight and saw at least two of the Japanese

Yanks Sink Six Enemy Warships Off Mindoro

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines, Thursday, Dec. 28.—(AP)—The battle for the central Philippines flared into action the night of December 26 when a Japanese battle task force steamed in from the China Sea and subjected the 11-day-old American positions on Mindoro Island to what Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique described as "fruitless and inaccurate shelling."

American planes, Mitchells and Thunderbolts, and Navy P-T boats drove off the enemy ships.

The communique said three of the six enemy destroyers in the shelling force were sunk and a battleship and cruiser fled with the remaining three destroyers after being damaged.

This belated enemy reaction to the virtually unopposed American occupation of Mindoro December 15 was discovered at dusk December 26.

The American bombers and fighters took off from newly constructed air strips on Mindoro to launch their vicious attack on the enemy warships, steaming in from the direction of the setting sun.

Despite the air attacks, the Japanese force held to its course and early night brought the ships off southwest Mindoro. They then shelled the coast.

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Joe, A Talkative Fellow, Loses His Voice For Once

BY ROBERT VERMILLION WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY, Dec. 27.—(UP)—Sgt. Joe McAleer blinked his eyes, yawned and squinted into the beam of my flashlight. I was shaking his shoulder and yelling at him. "Huh?" he finally muttered. "Wake up, Joe, and congratulations. You're the father of a baby girl, born last Wednesday," I told him.

Yanks Seize Initiative In Furious Drive

Base Of German Corridor Narrowed To Under 20 Miles

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 28.—(AP)—American troops in a tremendous comeback offensive against both sides of the German salient in Belgium have narrowed the neck of the enemy position to less than 20 miles in width and relieved the gallant beleaguered garrison of Bastogne, it was disclosed late last night in a flurry of Allied and enemy announcements.

Apparently getting into high gear for the first time since the daring Nazi counteroffensive caught them by surprise December 16, the infuriated Americans had robbed the enemy of the initiative and gained as much as five miles in a day, these dispatches indicated.

These were the highspots: Supreme Headquarters in Paris confirmed Brussels and Luxembourg radio flashes that the American garrison of the Belgian town of Bastogne, which had been encircled and under attack since December 20, had been relieved and the siege raised.

American tanks, which were five miles south of Bastogne 24 hours previously, burst deep into the German bulge and linked up with the besieged force which had spurned German demands for surrender and had knocked out 27 enemy tanks in its week of isolated battle. A dispatch from Supreme Headquarters said the relieving forces were of considerable size.

The Allied-controlled Luxembourg radio said the base of the German corridor had been narrowed to less than 20 miles, and this was almost exactly the mileage from Bastogne northward to last reported Allied positions on the northern side near Liereux.

A late night field dispatch told of continued clear weather that gave American planes and artillery full scope against the German lines in both Belgium and Luxembourg, with the 19th Tactical Air Command alone reporting at least 24 enemy tanks and 116 motor vehicles destroyed.

American artillery, aided by excellent observation, was extremely active and completely outweighed the German gunfire, said this dispatch from Associated Press Correspondent Lewis Hawkins. He said the Germans who took St. Hubert, 15 miles due west of Bastogne, were seen mining roads, blowing bridges and setting up road blocks. This is a usual defensive action, not the tactics of an army that expects to continue advancing.

Another front dispatch during the night said the American Doughboys and tanks had given the Nazi

GERMAN RAILHEADS POUNDED BY 2,500 ALLIED WARPLANES

LONDON, Thursday, Dec. 28.—(UP)—Nearly 2,500 Allied warplanes, spearheaded by 600 U. S. heavy bombers, hit seven rail targets, shot down 68 German planes and knocked out 146 enemy tanks yesterday in the fifth straight day of attacks against the Nazi counter-offensive.

The unceasing assaults were directed mainly at Euskirchen, Kallerslautern, Aderach, Homburg and Gerolstein, all immediately behind the battle front, and at Kassel, which were blasted by the American heavy bomber force attacking rail bridges, freight yards and junctions. Escorted RAF Lancaster joined the daylight assault by blasting Rheidt, major German transport center in the Ruhr.

More than 400 American fighter planes escorting the bombers shot down 29 enemy fighters in a blazing battle with 300 German interceptors southwest of Bonn in the Eighth's only major aerial engagement. None of the bomber forces was molested by German planes and they encountered only meager to moderate anti-aircraft fire.