Red Army Ultimatum

To Surrender

WIDEN BURMA HOLD

Effort To Halt Drive

On Austria

LONDON, Dec. 31.-(Sunday)-

(UP)-Red army tanks and in-

fantry smashed into the streets of

roops extended their hold on

reached the southernmost of six

or captured in the Budapest area

Emissaries Murdered

day, were murdered in German-

fire, immediately resumed their

grim battle to wipe out thousands

of beleaguered and fanatical Nazi

overrun six blocks of streets in Bu-

it was reached by the Soviets.

Czechoslovak rail city of Losonc

(Lucenec).

last night said that the Soviets had stage.'

Soviet lines, Moscow said.

since Dec. 21.

Simultaneously, Soviet assault press:

Enemy Enlarges Forces In Statement Covering Re-

industrial Pest, eastern suburb of Reports that a shakeup of the

Budapest, yesterday for the first Allied command on the west-

time, after the Nazis rejected a ern front was imminent were Red army ultimatum by killing displayed prominently today

two Soviet emissaries carrying sur- displayed prominently today

render terms under flags of truce. by the London afternoon

Buda, western part of the city, declared that an official state-

bridges across the Danube, seized ment covering some aspects

The Russiam emissaries, bearing the Western Front, were without

their ultimaturms. One was shot in in the organization of the Allied

the back as he was returning to supreme command on the Western

The two Russian armies besieg- present commanders without specu-

ing Budapest, who had held their lating what the changes might be

Budapest after presenting ed flatly that "important changes

to 35,408 the total of enemy killed expected shortly.

demands for a surrender yester- any official confirmation.

LONDON PAPERS

STRESS REPORTS

grouping Of Allied Ar-

mies Expected Soon

BY E. V. W. JONES LONDON, Dec. 30—(AP)-

One military commentator

provement of the Allied position on

The London Evening News declar

Front are imminent." It listed the

"Poker Stage"

The Evening Standard reported

"the big re-group is on," and quot

Shipyard Is Awarded 15-Vessel Contract; East Suburb Of Budapest Year's Work Assured German Garrison Rejects

Company Plans To Continue On Full-Time Basis Through 1945

NEED STILL GREAT

Maritime Commission Head Urges Workers To Stay On The Job

The North Carolina Shipbuilding company has been awarded contract for an additional 15 C-2 type ships by the United States Maritime commission, officials of the yard announced yesterday.

In making the announcement, they said that the additional work would assure operation of the yard on its present full-time basis through the coming year. North Carolina's greatest war-born industrial enterprise, the company is provideing employment for many thousands of men and women not only residing in Wilmington and its environs, but throughout Southeastern North Carolina.

Total of 186

The contract is one of several awarded shipyards throughout the country for a total of 186 ships, including 24 Liberty type, for delivery during the second half of 1945. According to advices from Washington, heavy American losses of material in the current German offensive in western Europe were seen as creating further demands OPA Says Raises Will Not for extra shipping.

The need for ships, according to maritime officials, is as great today as at any time in the past In a New Year's message to shipyard workers throughout the Vice Admiral Emory S. commission, said:

should today stand humble before timated to average 5 to 7 cents an the vastness of our responsibility hour. our armed forces and our Allies. products.

"Let us resolve today to stay (Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

SHOE STAMP SEEN

Not Be Validated Until **Next Summer**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30 .- (A) -The Office of Price Administration said tonight that present indica- may become effective." tions point to a delay in validating a new shoe ration stamp until sometime next summer.", rationing on the home front.

current ration stamp would have to earnings.) I two pairs a year.

When airplane stamp No. 3 was validated last Nov. 1, it was ex-

ing shoe steamps is not being considered. The WPB's office of civilian requirements said that while with an estimate that the boost

Government Seizes Montgomery Ward



Lt. Edward Ceaser of the Sixth Service Command tacks up a notice of government seizure of Montgomery Ward in Chicago, while striking employes laughingly look on. Under orders from President Roosevelt, similar action was taken in the company's stores in six other cities, but Sewell Avery, chairman of the firm's board, refused

Steel Workers Receive Approval Of Pay Boost

VINSON ACTS

Necessitate Increase In Products' Prices

By WILLIAM T. PEACOCK WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.-(A)-Land, chairman of the Maritime Steel workers received an okay from Stabilization Director Fred "Your accomplishments stand Vinson tonight for War Labor before the world. Yet all of us Board-approved wage increases es-

to the men overseas. Ships are their power and their salvation and said the Office of Price Adminso long as the war lasts there can- istration had advised that this not be too many. Here is our re- boost for the more than 400,000 sponsibility-that through our con-workers in the iron and steel intinual efforts there shall be no fail- dustry would not necessitate genure or delay for vessels to supply eral increases in prices of steel

OPA did advise, Vinson said, that an increase in price of some steel products was overdue and DELAY IN ANOTHER would have to be made. In a letter to WLB Chairman Willima H. Davis. Vinson said OPA's conclusion

"These increases will be made irrespective of the wage decision. New Ration Ticket May administrator that after these Blast Rail Yards, Bridges It is the judgment of the price price adjustments are made the proposed wage increases will not require any further net rise in the general level of iron and steel

> "Accordingly, the wage increases required by your directive order and fighters dropped thousands of

In talking of required prices inforecasting a further tightening of act that price increases be authorized in "hardship" cases determin-Such action would extend for at ed on the basis of present earnings least two months the period the recoreds compared with pre-war

last before another is declared valid, putting the ration on a basis of the pay changes it approved should three pairs per person every two not become effective unless OPA found they would not necessitate for presentation for the new 79th congress which converse well as an all Liberator for the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for presentation for the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for presentation for the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for high explosives on six bridges for the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for high explosives on six bridges for the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for high explosives on six bridges for the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for high explosives on six bridges for high explosives and the new 79th congress which found they would not necessitate for high explosives on six bridges for high explosives and high explosives on six bridges for high explosives and high explosives for high explosives and high explosives for high explosives are necessarily as a second for high explosive for high explosives and high explosive for hi

son ordered them into effect. Although 400,000 workers in 86 fected directly, the decision may fighters. In a joint announcement with the finally affect some 500,000 other War Production Board, the OPA workers in 600 companies where reported. All the bombing was his annual message on Thursday world." said that cancellation of outstand- the CIO United Steel Workers have collective bargaining agreements. OPA after cost studies wound up

tivilian defense organization.

director, explain that instructions tack."

Hanover citizens regarding their realize the danger and be con-

the purpose of alarming civilians

previously issued by OCD were In case attacks are made upon

little or no warning is possible, (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 3) (Continued on Page Two; Col. 4) or third position.

granted 7030 decrees. county clerk, today closed the divorce books for 1944 with the total which bettered by more than a thousand the previous 5.910 record of 1943.

military

POUND GERMANY

ly 2,000 American heavy bombers tons of high explosives on rail yards and bridges at Mannheim, creases (Vinson referred to the re- Kaiserslautern and Kassel today in thus quirement of the price stabilization the eighth straight day of attacks on communications of German armies in Belgium and Luxembourg. Murky weather hampered the activity of lighter Allied planes along the western front.

WEATHER

North Carolina: Cloudy with considerable fog and drizzle Sunday forenoon, becoming partly cloudy and warmer in afternoon, showers west portion Sunday night and east portions Monday morning, followed by clearing and cooler

Monday.

(Eastern Standard Time)
(By U. S. Weather Bureau)
Meteorological data for the 24 hours
ending 7:30 p.m., yesterday.

Temperature

1:30 am, 37; 7:30 am, 37; 1:30 pm, 41;
7:30 pm. 42.

7:30 pm, 42. Maximum 44; Minimum 35; Mean Normal 47.

Humidity
1:30 am, 100; 7:30 am, 96; 1:30 pm, 91;
30 pm, 100. Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 pm, 0.12 inches.
Total since the first of the month, 2.97 inches.

Reno Establishes New Record For Divorces

RENO, Nev., —(P)— Dec. 30. —(P)—Reno's second year of wartime divorces hung up a record breaking all-time high when its two district courts

Elwood H. Beemer, Washoe

Beemer said the year produced its share of the country's top flight divorce trade but ples seeking single status representedthe wartime industrial class, the professions and A new trend was seen in divorces granted forcouples representing about three per cent of the

At Mannheim And Two Other Cities

LONDON, Dec. 30 .- (UP)-Near

Striking through heavy clouds, wage case on Nov. 25, but said more than 1,300 U. S. 8th Air Force budget messages for presentation many betweer noon and 1 p. m. day, assuming that they return to normal habits. They were escorted by more than the capital in time. Definite dates

Wide Support Of Limits

legislation to extend the limits of talks on city planning made by J. the City of Wilmington may be ex- Fred Rippy, Jr., secretary to the ment. fidence in it, Ball said in a statepected, if the cross-section of pub- City Planning board, the questionlic opinion acquired by the ans- naires represent an effort on the wers of members of various civic part of the board to determine the clubs to the City Planning boards relative importance of planning questionnaires is to be considered problems in the eyes of the people mocracy is that its rules and laws

BY SPENCER DAVIS In a "historical resume" of GEN. MacARTHUR'S HEAD-QUARTERS, Philippines, Sun-

him on Leyte island.

Soviets Enter Germans Launch Offensive

cial forces. Total Japanese losses, includ-

10 industrial plants and killed more of the regrouping of the Althan 3,600 enemy troops to boost lied commands and armies was The reports, the publication of which coincided with a definite im-

Damaskinos Named Greek Regent In Peace Effort

FIGHT CONTINUES Scobie Charges ELAS With

Mistreatment Of Brit-

Prospects of halting the three-

ceipt of a moderately worded note

from the ELAS armed wing of the

EAM (national liberation front)

for delivery to Prime Minister

Churchill, who personally inter-

Note Published

Greece, published what it called

"There is nothing to justify

continuation of the fight inasmuch

as the left has accepted the basic

points of General Scobie's memo-

randum (calling for the ELAS and

other forces to disband and sur-

LABOR CODE ASKED

To Petrillo The Same

As Sewell Avery

The senator supported President

the firm's "consistent and willful

cisions had threatened employer-

worker confidence in the agency's machinery for settling labor disputes. Avery is board chairman

But James C .Petrillo and the American Federation of Musicians,

which he heads, also have defied

the board and jeopardized con-

Proposing establishment of

ion defiance," he added:

"legal basis for action against un-

"A fundamental principle of de-

moderate suggestions in the po- New Year's proclamations.

vened to settle the crisis.

the text of the note.

defenders and the struggle for the ed a Reuters military correspondish Prisoners Hungarian capital flared as violent ent as saying. "the second phase of as that experienced at Stalingrad. Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's of-A Moscow radio front report late fensive has reached the poker ATHENS, Dec. 30 .- (UP) -An end to the Greek civil war was The report of changes in the comhoped for tonight with appointment da in a few hours before midnight mand appeared on the front page and reported that the Germans of the Star under the caption, "Al- of Archbishop Damaskinos as re gent, but British and Greek

had blown up the Vasuti railroad lied Command: Statement Soon." bridge linking Buda and Pest after The London Press also carried troops continued their all-out of fensive to clear Athens of leftreports from Washington that an wing ELAS forces. While crack Nazi elite guard American major general had been The British commander of Al troops in Budapest faced almost recalled from France and demotcertain death at the hands of the ed, but not because of the German lied troops in Greece, Lt. Gen. Ronald M. Scobie, meanwhile, Russians, Berlin reported that far counteroffensive. to the north, the Red army's long- Despite the set-back suffered by charged the ELAS with maltreat-

inactive front in East Prussia had the Allies in Belgium, there ap- ing British prisoners in violation 'returned to life' and Moscow and peared to be no disposition here to of the Geneva convention nounced that Soviet troops were question the ability of General within seven miles of the big Eisenhower to control the situation. week-old war brightened with Damaskinos' appointment and re-

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

After one emissary was killed in Kispest, southeaster suburb of Budapest, despite the white flag he carried, Marshal Rodion Y. Malinovsky sent troops of his 2nd Ukrainian army crashing through an inner line of fortifications on the

outskirts of Pest. Moscow's midnight communique described the Says 'Evil Gang' That Has Dominated Europe Will Be Wiped Out

LONDON, Dec. 30.-(A)-At the end of a year which had brought the United Nations far along the road to their goal, Prime Minister litical field, help: to a great ex-Churchill expressed hope today that at least half their task would (Continued on Page Seven; Col. 3) Chief Expected To Confer be completed in the new yearthat victory in Europe would be achieved in 1945.

Observing that the Allies were entering upon a year "that should bring us victory in Europe," he said in a new year's message to the Primrose league, a conserva-

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1) (Continued on Page Three; Col. 3)

Japs' Losses On Leyte Boosted To 116,770 Men

Against Bastogne Corridor;

Command Shakeup Hinted

day, Dec. 31-(A)-Gen. Douglas MacArthur disclosed today, while a new Mindoro-bound convoy pressed on under Japanese attack to reinforce his conquering forces, that the enemy had drawn troops from Manchuria in an effort to stop

The American commander's communique said Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita had lost in the futile defense of Leyte four army divisions and the elements of two more, besides a naval brigade and other spe-

ing 601 killed in recent mepping up operations, reached 116,770, the communique said.

the Japanese forces of Yamashita's 35th army, destroyed on Levte, MacArthur said one division, the 16th, had participated in the battle of Bataan against him early in the war. The opposing forces on Leyte were declared about equal in number.

MacArthur declared the campaign ended Christmas day when his troops captured Palompon, the last enemy port of

Since then mopping up operations have continued against remnants of the Japanese force. The communique said Japanese planes attacked a Min-

doro bound American convoy (Continued on Page Two; Col. 1)

Many Enemy Agents

Captured In Paris

PARIS, Dec. 31.—(Sunday)—

(UP)-French police and Am-

erican military authorities

scouring Paris in a two-weeks'

hunt for German spies aiding

the enemy's counter offensive

in the west have rounded up

30 enemy agents in one band

and captured a "considerable

number" of others, many of

them in American uniforms, it

Each of the spies, whether in

international law for

information and carry

civilian clothes or Allied uni-

forms, faces the firing squad

their attempts to obtain mili-

out sabotage that would aid

Karl von Rundstedt's forces now fighting in Luxembourg

GERMANS PROMISE

Planted Rumors That

Hitler Was Ill

was disclosed today.

and Belgium.

my's country.'

FAIL TO CHECK PATTON'S PUSH

Americans Are Storming Rocheforte At Apex Of The Enemy's Bulge

BY JAMES F. McGLINCY United Press War Correspondent PARIS, Sunday, Dec. 31-(UP)—A critical new battle is raging around Bastogne where German forces have launched a two-way attack against the U.S. Third army's corridor through the city but thus far have failed to stem Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's troops in their drive to cut off the enemy salient into Belgium, dispatches said to-

(The Luxembourg radio, heard London, said that the U. S. First and Third armies had taken etween 16,000 and 20,000 German orisoners since the start of the

German offensive on Dec. 16.) Patton's men were reported in censored field dispatches to have smashed five miles northwest of Bastogne, narrowing to 12 miles the waist of the enemy salient, although a contradictory announcement from supreme headquarters said the width of the gap was

Storming Rochefort

American tanks and the doughpoys at the same time were reported storming the road center of Rochefort, at the apex of the bulge, street by street in an effort to throw the Germans into complete reverse after knocking back Panzer spearheads 11 miles from he high-water mark of their drive. The German attacks from east and west against the Bastogne salient were reported mounted in strong force but Patton's armor and infantry and previously widened the corridor to nearly eight

niles just south of Bastogne Late reports said that the Third army had entered La Vaselle and Chenogne, adjoining villages five miles west and slightly south of Bastogne. These gains not only bulwarked the corridor but drove a wedge across the communica-TRIUMPH IN 1945 tions of German troops still trying to hold their advance penetration to St. Hubert, 15 miles west of The EAM newspaper, Free Goebbels Declares He

Bastogne. The Germans still held a foothold on the Arlon-Bastogne highway leading into the city from the south but Patton from the inception of his drive had employed a parallel secondary road and at LONDON, Dec. 30. -(P) -Nazi last reports here, 36 hours old at big-wigs filled German air waves last midnight, the corridor was

render their arms) and, with its today with promises of victory in still firmly held. Whether measured from 12 or 16 miles across, the waist of the Rotund, long-silent Hermann Geering remained silent, but a pro- German salient could be interdictclamation purporting to come from ed by two-way artillery fire from his declared that "it is our duty Third army troops on the south and LAW TO BACK WAR and our task in the coming year to carry war again into the eneshelling of roads within the salient already has "most likely" been already has "most likely" been Rechsminister Paul Goebbels undertaken, it was said in author-

the No. 1 Nazi propagandist, had itative quarters. a brand new story to tell in ex-planation of why the equally gar-

heard from lately. that Hitler was ill as part of a center of its 40-mile front. deep and far-flung scheme to lull (German broadcasts asserted the Allies into complacency and that the Allies had thrown in 25 Senator Ball (R-Minn) declared to- set them up for Field Marshal Karl divisions, with the bulk of their

Capture Nothum 2 1-2 miles southwest of the Lux-Goebbels on the German radio embourg center of Wiltz, in line said he purposely planted rumors straightening operations on the

day that there should be a law yon Rundstedt's winter offensive. armor concentrated against the Goering's proclamation promised base of the salient where the First time labor policy and that it should the German people "that we will and Third army, in simultaneous The Nazi agency DNB carried a (Since mid-December, the enemy

Roosevelt's s'atement in seizing proclamation from Dr. Robert Ley, broadcasts asserted, the Americans the labor front leader, saying: have lost more than 100,000 men, day that what the President called "The party is the soul of German fifteen of their divisions, including

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Two, Col 3)

1944 Disappointing Year To Many U. S. Officials

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER | the Germans really mean to fight

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.— (AP) — all the way to Berlin. up 1944 acutely conscious that for tary thinking, Allied as well as the United States this has been in mate the enemy's determination. many respects the most disappoint- It was believed that when he was

tonight the war in Europe would but fell so short of breaking Gerbe won and the shift of forces to many that the enemy was able to the Pacific well started.

American officialdom is winding Perhaps the basic error in mili-

ing and disillusioning year of the surrounded and battered by land Unjustified optimism about mili-tremendous series of victories east. and air he would surrender. A tary progress led them to believe south and west, tightened the ring when this 12 months starts that by around Hitler's fortress Europe Now estimates of the date for victory in Europe run into the fall added months to the war.

(Continued on Page Seven; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Three; Col. 5) Instructions For Robot Bomb Raids Issued Here

conduct in the event of robot or rocket bomb attacks was released stantly on the alert, particularly Vesterday by Sheriff C. David along the coastal areas." Jones, commander of the county Sheriff Jones explained that the The protective measures, for the purpose of alarming civillans Warded here by R. L. McMillan, "but for their protection in the state Office of Civilian Defense event we should have a robot at

based on the assumption that the the United States and some bombs enemy might launch massed air should land in this community attacks, in which cas advance here is what you should do:

A set of instructions to New and "therefore the public should

WASHINGTON. Dec. 30.-(UP) -President Roosevelt today buckhis annual state of the union and grand master:

Aides Tuesday

No enemy fighter opposition was guesses are that he will send up lac ambition has loosed on the same as Sewell Avery.

De settled at that meeting but best phase the agony that megaloman apply to James C. Petrillo the achieve victory and with it peace under leadership of Adolf Hitler." slice off the German bulge. (Continued on Page Two; Col. 2) and his budget message either on

ROOSEVELT DRAFTS ANNUAL MESSAGES

With Congressional

electrically - charged line as the

(Continued on Page Three; Col. 1)

led down to the task of finishing up led down to "Before many months have passed the evil gang that has long dominated that unhappy continent will be wiped out. WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.- (P) -

an increase in steel prices or Vin- and six rail yards in western Ger- his congressional advisors on Tues- ed, there can be no return to our pected that a new stamp would be companies are the only ones af650 Must ang and Thunderbolt for the congressional program will long by any slackening in the last to back the government's warbe settled at that meeting but best phase the agony that megaloman-

Already that agony had been re-Friday or the following Monday. lieved to some extent. All over Congress will devote Saturday to Europe the lights were going on Car that what the President called counting electoral ballots and de- again. Paris, Rome, Brussels and defiance" of War Labor Board de-

Extension Bill Expected General support of the proposed| Distributed in connection with

of Wilmington for present and fu- apply equally to all. I do not be-In first place and far ahead of ture growth. tate Office of Civilian Defense irector, explain that instructions included in the case attacks are made upon the assumption that the instructions in the United States and some bombs in the United States and Survey).

In case attacks are made upon the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey).

In case attacks are made upon the United States and some bombs in the United States and Survey.

In case attacks are made upon the United States and Survey.

In case attacks are made upon the United States and Survey.

In case attacks are made upon the United States and Survey.

In case attacks are made upon the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

In the Other seven questionnaires gathered in by planning officials in the past few months were tabulated yesterday by Rippy.

Eight specific points were set of the Musicians defied WLB in a recording in the United States and Survey.

In case attacks are made upon that the United States and Survey.

In case attacks are made upon that the Other seven questionnaires gathered in by planning officials in the past few months were tabulated yesterday by Rippy.

Survey.

In the Other seven questionnaires in the Other seven questionnaires gathered in the Other seven questionnai

(Continued on Page Five; Col. 4) (Continued on Page Two; Col. 5) given way to the conviction that (Continued on Page Five; Col. 6)