

Cloudy today with occasional light rain; gentle to moderate winds. Little change in temperature. Yesterday's temperatures: High, 53—Low, 52.

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR AND BATAAN

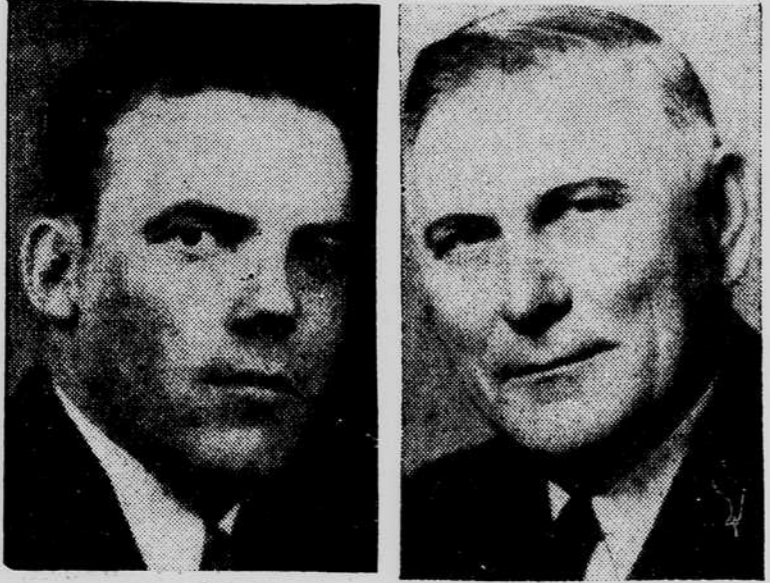
First Army Opens Long-Awaited Counterblow; Land, Sea Planes Hit Formosa, Ryukyus, Luzon; 79th Congress Convened In Sombre Atmosphere

Rayburn Asks For Unity In Finishing War

Members Urged To Work For Lasting Peace In World

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—The 79th Congress, fated to deal with vast problems of war and peace, convened today in a somber mood...

Cherry, Ballentine To Take Oath Today



L. Y. Ballentine R. Gregg Cherry State To Present First War-Time Inauguration Since 1862; Military Parade, Other Colorful Ceremonies Scheduled

RALEIGH, Jan. 3.—(AP)—R. Gregg Cherry of Gaston will take the oath of office as Governor of North Carolina tomorrow in the State's first wartime inaugural since 1862.

ASSEMBLY AWAIT'S INAUGURAL RITES

Bill Increasing Salary Of Lieutenant Governor Passed

RALEIGH, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Bills increasing the pay of the Lieutenant Governor by \$2,100 a year and appropriating \$3,000 for inaugural expenses quickly passed the 170 members of the State at large...

City Employs Expert For Postwar Planning

Employment by the City Planning Board of George W. Simons, Jr., of Jacksonville, Fla., to make a complete industrial survey of Wilmington and vicinity was approved last night by the City Council.

Bowles Assures Nation That Valid Shoe Stamps Will Not Be Cancelled

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—Price Administrator Chester Bowles tonight assured the Nation that there is "not a chance in a million" that any outstanding shoe stamps will be cancelled.

FDR Approves New Landings Are Made On Mindoro Isle

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—United States carrier borne and land based planes struck in concert yesterday along a 1,000-mile Pacific front, attacking Formosa, the Ryukyu islands and Luzon in raids which bracketed the most vital area of the Philippines between Adm. Chester W. Nimitz's fleet and Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Far Eastern air force.

Cherry, Ballentine To Take Oath Today

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—President Roosevelt, responding to urgent military pleas for young fighting men that may reflect American losses in the German counter-offensive, today authorized the reclassification and induction of as many farm workers 18 through 25 as the law permits.

Byrnes Notifies Hershey To Begin Reclassifying Young Men

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes notified Maj. Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, Selective Service director, to take whatever action necessary to carry out the request.

REDS ADMIT NAZI OFFENSIVE GAINS

Several Towns Taken In Relief Drive On Budapest

LONDON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—Moscow admitted tonight that a strong German counter-offensive from western Hungary to break through to the relief of encircled Budapest had made headway, while Soviet shock troops broke through to the Danube river and captured another 167 city blocks.

GERMANY POUNDED BY 1,700 PLANES

Vital Transport Targets Hit As Luftwaffe Refuses Fight

LONDON, Jan. 3.—(UP)—An official winter record for continuous air operations was chalked up today when more than 1,700 U. S. heavy bombers and fighters attacked 12 German transport targets in or near the Rhine valley for the twelfth straight day of heavy bomber raids on the Reich.

Turkey Will Sever Japanese Relations Soon, Ankara Says

By United Press The Turkish Grand National Assembly voted unanimously Wednesday to break diplomatic and economic relations with Japan effective midnight January 6.

Local Yard Leads Nation In 'C' Ship Production

By ALLEN J. GREEN Wilmington Star-News Wilmington Bureau WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The North Carolina Shipbuilding Co. of Wilmington, led all other shipyards of the nation in production of "C" type merchant vessels last year by delivering 90 C-2's during the 12-month period, the U. S. Maritime Commission revealed today.

Late Bulletins

Soldier Killed in Motorcycle Wreck

A soldier identified as Pvt. Charles S. McGee, 19, was killed at 12:15 a. m. today when his motorcycle struck the curbing of a plaza at Third and Harnett streets, police reported.

Chaplin Verdict Delayed

HOLLYWOOD, Jan. 3.—(UP)—After deliberating for 4 hours and 40 minutes, jurors hearing Joan Barry's charges that Charlie Chaplin fathered her baby girl tonight told Superior Judge Henry M. Willis that they had not yet been able to reach a verdict and were excused for the night.

Paraguay Suspends AP Activity

ASUNCION, Paraguay, Jan. 3.—(UP)—The National Department of Press and Propaganda today suspended activities of the Associated Press in Paraguay on grounds that the news agency altered "fundamental words" in President Morinigo's Christmas Day message.

French Publisher Executed

MARSEILLE, Jan. 3.—(AP)—Albert le Jeune, former director of "Le Petit Nicois" of Nice and several other provincial newspapers, was executed by a firing squad today for collusion with the enemy.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

PARIS, Thursday, Jan. 3.—(UP)—The U. S. First Army opened its long-awaited counter-offensive on the northern flank of the Ardennes bulge Wednesday, teaming with the Third Army on the south in a great squeeze drive against 200,000 German defenders of the salient.

Hodges' Men Go Back On Offensive After German Break

Intensified German attacks to the south, however, had forced the Americans to relinquish their footholds in the Reich between Sarreguemines and the Rhine, a front of 55 miles. Withdrawal from these positions in the first belt of the Siegfried Line was dictated by exigencies "elsewhere," front dispatches said in an obvious reference to the battle of the bulge.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

The two American armies stood less than 16 miles apart when the First Army went back over to the offensive for the first time since it was jolted loose from its Belgium-Luxembourg line by the German winter onrush starting December 16.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

Allied headquarters announced just before midnight that the First Army attack had been launched Wednesday, thus bringing its reports fairly up to date in contrast with the 48-hour news blackout, later modified to 36 hours, imposed on the first phases of the battle.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

Fighting through a tide of counter-attacks, tanks of the Third Army were lashing out in four columns from Bastogne and had driven up to five miles northeast of that road junction, reaching within five miles of Houffalize, hub of the German bulge.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

The First Army presumably was attacking from the Malmédy-Stavelot-Grandmeil sector where it had managed to stabilize its line after the first fury of the German drive—an offensive that, now in its third week, had cost the enemy an estimated 60,000 casualties.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

The German losses included 20,000 prisoners and the severe mauling of 11 divisions, including the destruction of the equivalent of five Panzer divisions by the Third Army alone. Part of this armor belonged to the German Sixth Panzer Army commanded by the notorious Gen. Sepp Dietrich, newly revealed as the third of the three armies with which Field Marshal von Rundstedt mounted his drive. About 400 German tanks were estimated knocked out.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

Dipping ever deeper into his reserves, von Rundstedt had managed to cram into the gap about 20 full-strength divisions of some 200,000 men, including four armored and four infantry divisions into the Bastogne sector alone.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

One heavy counter-attack was delivered against the 101st Airborne Division north of Bastogne with the support of 14 tanks and large forces of artillery. It was held.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

A German DNB broadcast asserted that an American tank division was "annihilated" in the Michamps area four miles northeast of Bastogne where the Yanks were said to have launched "heavy armored attacks." The Germans claimed recapture of several towns including Remoncourt, 12 miles southwest of Bastogne and four miles from Libramont high-water mark of the original enemy breakthrough toward Sedan.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

Allied reports said that the Germans had been sending streams of troops and tanks around Bastogne in an effort to outflank the vital city from the southwest, but so far had been firmly held.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

The greatest setback on the southern sector came on the Seventh Army's right flank where a 20-mile frontage in the Wissembourg gap, extending to a depth of five miles, had to be abandoned.

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

Before withdrawing to a new line behind the Lauter river, just south of the frontier of Rhenish Bavaria, Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's Engineers systematically destroyed Siegfried pillboxes which had been captured late in

Yanks Driven From Hold In Saar Basin

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