

Nazis Report Russians 45 Miles From Berlin

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The German reports from any source in Moscow.

Marshal Stalin issued two orders of the day Wednesday, the first announcing the fall of Landsberg and the second proclaiming the capture of Friedland and Heilsberg, south and southwest of Königsberg in East Prussia.

In addition to Landsberg, a strategic communications center 27 miles northeast of the confluence of the Oder and Warthe rivers at Kustrin, Stalin announced the capture of Meseritz, 24 miles south of Landsberg; Schwiebus, 13 miles east of Meseritz; and Zullichau, 11 miles southeast of Schwiebus. All are powerful defensive points covering the approaches to Frankfurt-on-the-Oder.

The First White Russian Army now has advanced more than 250 miles from its bridgeheads south of Warsaw in less than three weeks. Moscow dispatches said that improving weather had permitted Soviet aircraft to give the ground forces increased support.

Breslau, the Silesian capital still is under heavy siege, as was Poznan, Poland, far in the wake of Zhukov's steamroller.

In East Prussia, Soviet troops

had penetrated deep inside the honeycomb of fortifications protecting the capital, Königsberg.

The twentieth day of the Soviet's big winter offensive found the Red Army still slugging along nearly the whole Eastern Front, apparently fed by an unceasing flow of reinforcements and supplies despite the great distances it had traveled in an amazingly short period.

"There is no doubt that final victory is being approached in these days with seven-league strides," a Moscow radio commentator and "analyzer" said. "There are a number of events to show that the present Red Army offensive is causing the German war machine to topple over and at a very dangerous spot, too—right on the brink of a precipice."

ALLIES LAUNCH ALSATIAN PUSH

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detailed front reports indicated that stiff enemy resistance was being met at all points in the bridgehead.

The First Army's new drive into Germany was made by the veteran First Division, spearheading the assault, and by the 82nd Airborne Infantry on its right, which was revealed today for the first time to be among the six First Army divisions taking part in the offensive.

The First Division jumped off from high hills 1,000 yards east of Murrage early in the day and drove ahead four miles to cross the German border and place advance forces within one-half mile of the Germans' main Siegfried fortifications among the 2,000-foot mountain slopes east of Krinkelt.

First Army artillery, opening up for the first time in the four-day-old attack, thundered out in what the German DNB agency described as "drumfire of unprecedented intensity." Front dispatches said the fire was directed at Siegfried forts in the path of First Division Doughboys.

Keeping pace with the First was Maj. Gen. James M. Gavin's 82nd Airborne Division, which captured Lanzerath Tuesday. Fighting as foot soldiers, the paratroopers smashed ahead through thick forests east of Lanzerath against German tank, artillery and infantry fire.

In the Monschau forest, north of the new penetration, four other First Army divisions made an early start in the second day of their drive between Krinkelt and Kesternich, fighting through a drizzling rain which created heavy slush and slowed down all vehicles movements.

Mount Santo Tomasa, on the eastern side of Lingayen Gulf, is 7,400 feet high.

WALLACE BACKERS SEEK COMPROMISE

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in a hospital suffering from an eye disorder.

The effort to keep some semblance of unity within the majority group was complicated by the fact that the Commerce Committee, in addition to voting 14 to 5 against Wallace's nomination, approved 15 to 4 a bill which would strip from the Secretary of Commerce the control over RFC and other big loan agencies held by Jesse Jones before his dismissal by President Roosevelt.

Barkley's most likely strategy would be to try to send the nomination back to the Commerce Committee pending final action by Congress and the President on the bill of divorce. Even Wallace's most militant supporters concede that the Senate in its present temper will decline to confirm him on an RFC-and-commerce-to basis.

BERLIN LISTENS TO SOVIET GUNS

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many in which the Nazis were arrested or killing men who might try to succeed them after a German collapse.)

Moscow radio asserted that the Germans were rounding up all men by house to house searches for Volkssturm recruits of all ages. At Chemnitz, Moscow said, townspeople rescued a group of 16-year-old boys and men of more than 60 years who had been impressed into service. Several SS men were wounded in the clash, Moscow reported.

The Moscow newspaper Pravda, in a front dispatch, said that thousands of German refugees were falling into the hands of the Red Army as they crowded round railroad stations fighting for space in freight trains. Others were overtaken on the roads, dragging their possessions on sledges, Pravda said.

YANKS TO LEAVE ARMS IN EUROPE

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costs incurred in producing new equipment would be far outweighed by the resultant quicker ending of the war and the saving in lives which this would represent.

Presumably the property abandoned in Europe would be forwarded ultimately to the new theater, returned to the country, or sold as surplus on the spot. Disposal plans from the outset have envisaged the sale of the bulk of war surpluses in the country where peace overtakes them. Since salvage value would hardly cover the cost of handling and shipment home.

Nursery Fire Takes Lives Of 16 Babies

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toe of a baby's bootie protruded from a pile of infant's clothing and tiny sweaters and jackets littered the rooms.

Only infants saved were Joanne Foisy, the year-old daughter of mill working parents and Cecilia Fournier, 17-month old daughter of an attendant, Mrs. Lorretta Fournier.

In her dash for freedom, Mrs. La Coste had snatched up the haspinaets in which these babies lay. She stumbled, was seized by the flames and dropped her precious load.

But Mrs. Fournier, running at her heels, grabbed up the babies, leaving Mrs. La Coste to escape alone.

Mrs. La Coste's three sons, Laurent, 14, Guy, 9, and Norman, 6, managed to escape unaided from their room over the garage that was attached to the house.

These with Mrs. Tanguay, who aroused the neighbors with her screams for help, were the sole survivors.

Later they said Mrs. Rosa Cote, another attendant, might have escaped. But after running from her room she turned back for her clothes. Firemen found her body and the body of her 5-year-old son Robert clasped in each other's arms when the flames had subsided.

Utilizing emergency apparatus, firemen carried the charred infants to Dillingham's funeral parlor where throughout the day parents and relatives journeyed on reluctant feet to attempt identification.

They filled three rooms in the small brick structure—these tiny bodies each shrouded in a veil of muslin.

Some held their wee fists clenched over their faces. Some had their knees drawn up as if to fight their way free of the searing flames. Though almost all were burned or charred, some of the tiny faces still wore a smile as if they had gone to sleep with a mother's soft kiss.

Among the first to visit the morgue was Mrs. Jane Wideman, 23-year-old wife of a sailor stationed in Chicago. She learned of the tragedy when she reached the shoe factory where she works.

With a white scarf over her head she came wordlessly into the room where the tiny bodies lay. Seemingly in a stupor, she walked to the long table, paused briefly and pointed at one little figure, Arnold Wideman, Jr., then, with sobs shaking her but bringing no tears, she turned away and left.

Pvt. Roland Sirois and his wife came and found their tiny daughter Carmen, born just 30 days before he was called into the service five months ago.

Other parents and relatives came later. Some asked that their little ones be taken to other funeral parlors where burial arrangements could be made. Some left to tell parents too fearful to come themselves that their child was dead.

Perhaps no one dreaded the ordeal of facing the parents more than did widowed Mrs. La Coste.

For three years, officials said, she had run the boarding home, taking in children of parents who because they worked could not make a home.

Some were children of servicemen whose wives needed money to eke out their service pay. Others were babies of parents where both father and mother were employed in the mills and factories of the twin cities—Lewiston and Auburn.

A mother who loved children, Mrs. La Coste had crossed the Andros-Coggin river to open the home in the new Auburn section—a district of mill workers homes where in 1933 a fire destroyed 250 houses.

Miss Shirley Davis, the city health officer, said that Mrs. La Coste's was a "good home." Parents paid from \$6 to \$7 weekly for the care. The babies were well-fed clean and healthy, two day nursemaids and one night nursemaid were employed. Dr. Victor Caren supervised the house.

Police who were investigating all angles of the fire could find nothing amiss—no indication of carelessness or laxity.

Legion Offers Program On 'GI Bill Of Rights'

A motion picture depicting American Legion activities, and short talks on the "GI Bill of Rights" section pertaining to employment and unemployment compensation benefits will be the topics tonight at 8 p. m. at the meeting of the Wilmington Post No. 45 of the American Legion. The meeting will be held at the Legion Home.

Present at the meeting will be T. W. Keith, local representative of the Selective Service job placing and counseling service; J. W. Hale, local veterans representative of the U. S. Employment Service; and E. H. Kendrick, local representative of the Unemployment Compensation Commission.

All honorably discharged soldiers of World War II are invited to attend.

Jose Iturbi, Famous Pianist, Will Offer Concerts At Lejeune

CAMP LEJEUNE, Jan. 31.—Jose Iturbi, famed concert pianist and conductor of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, is including this Marine camp in his current tour of the Carolinas.

In addition to his two appearances in the camp theatre, Iturbi will give two concerts in the auditorium of the United States Naval hospital here today.

The Spanish-born musician recently has played at Spartanburg, S. C., and Charlotte, Greensboro, Raleigh and Fort Bragg, in North Carolina.

Home Nursing Class Slates Meet Today

The second meeting of the Red Cross Home Nursing class, being conducted at the Pearsall Memorial church, East Wilmington, will be held this morning at 9:30 a. m., it was announced by Mrs. E. L. Mathews, chairman of the Red Cross Home Nursing committee.

There are still a few vacancies in the class, Mrs. Mathews stated and anyone wishing to join should report to the rear entrance of the church at the time of the meeting. The class is conducted by Miss Mary McDuffy.

Did John L. Sullivan Fight With Stomach Ulcer Pains?

The famous heavyweight champion was noted as a voracious eater. Could he have eaten and fought as he did if he suffered after-eating pains? Don't neglect stomach or ulcer pains, indigestion, gas pains, heartburn, burning sensation, bloating and other conditions caused by excess acid. Get a 25c box of Vigor Tablets from your druggist. First dose must convince or return box to us and get DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK. Saunders Drug Store and drug stores everywhere.

Motorcyclist Injured On Fair Bluff Highway

Joseph Wright Backus, veteran Marine, whose address has not been learned, was critically injured Tuesday when his motorcycle collided with an animal on the Fair Bluff highway, and was taken to the Columbus County hospital in Whiteville.

Hospital authorities said he received head injuries and a possible fractured skull.

The timber line is the altitudinal boundary of natural tree growth.

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KIWANIANS SEE TRAVEL MOVIE

Ancient Buddhas in the tropic jungles of Ceylon, the beautiful temples of the Hindus, holy men, fakirs, snake charmers, odd religious customs, and other interesting sights paraded before members of the Kiwanis club yesterday, during the showing of the film, "Strange Gods of India," at their regular meeting.

The films were taken on the famous Thaw Asiatic Expedition, and were presented by G. F. Ball, of the Standard Oil Co., of New Jersey in North Carolina. The pictures covered a 22,000 mile trip made by the expedition from Paris, to Bombay.

As a representative of the oil company, Ball also outlined the tremendous demand for oil by the military services, and urged conservation on the part of all consumers of fuel oil. He said that what the fuel oil consumer does not realize is that all types of oil products come out of the same barrel, and when a greater percentage of crude from each barrel is used for military purposes, a smaller percentage is left for civilian products.

Local Dignitaries Laud Col. Potts At Banquet

Col. Adam E. Potts, who formally relinquishes command of Camp Davis today after two years in charge of its recently terminated functioning as an Anti-Aircraft Firing Center, was honored last night at a banquet held by the Rotary Club of Holly Ridge in the Community House.

The representatives of the Army Air Forces Redistribution Command and Convalescent Hospital program who were scheduled to attend as fellow guests-of-honor failed to appear. It was reported that unforeseen circumstances had interfered with their trip by air from Atlantic City. Their organization will occupy the post formally today.

Among the Holly Ridge Rotarians and dignitaries from Wilmington, Jacksonville and Whiteville who assembled to pay tribute to the colonel, detailed to remain at the post temporarily on detached duty, were Haywood Campbell, president of the Holly Ridge Rotary Club, J. J. Hudiburg, secretary, Wilbur R. Doshier, F. B. O'Crowley, and Aaron Goldberg, all of whom spoke briefly, and W. W. Bell, Sheriff C. David Jones, City Manager A. C. Nichols, Harry R. Gardner, Edgar L. Yow, Walter J. Cartier, J. G. Thornton and N. H. Modinos.

Wilbur R. Doshier, toastmaster in place of Father William O'Byrne, absent because of illness, said on behalf of the residents of the area affected by the closing and reopening of the camp, "We will try to do a job, as we believe we have done one."

F. P. O'Crowley, chosen chairman, extended best wishes to Col. Potts and his staff of the past two years and added a tribute to the

Local Dignitaries Laud Col. Potts At Banquet

Military Affairs committee of Local civilians, who had met in August to consider the problem of securing reactivation of the post. He singled out the chairman of the committee, R. B. Page, for special commendation, saying that "the man's heart, mind and physical being" were concentrated on the effort, now crowned with success.

Mr. Page is convalescing from an illness in James Walker Memorial Hospital.

Adding to Mr. O'Crowley's tribute, to Col. Potts, "one of the good things to come out of this war is the chance to know such men as you," Mr. Hudiburg reviewed the colonel's military career and called him a "one man Rotary club," with reference to his services to the community.

Col. Potts, accepting the honor accorded him on behalf of the "many" Camp Davis servicemen who have taken away pleasant memories of the community's "fine people," said he saw reason for happiness in the closing of Davis as an anti-aircraft center and its re-opening in its new function in that it indicated that our war effort was finishing with its defensive phase and moving toward victory. He voiced the hope that the post might become a permanent installation.

A gift of a pen-and-pencil set was presented to the colonel on behalf of the Rotarians by Mr. Campbell, after which Aaron Goldberg, Wilmington attorney, proposed a toast (in water) to the colonel and his staff and to the hope for a speedy victory and a happy return of servicemen fighting abroad.

Grandma Switches Millions of Mothers To Her Idea of Mutton Suet and Medication

"Old Reliable" For Relieving Chest Colds' Muscle Tightness—Coughing, Neuralgic and Rheumatic Pain, Chapped Lips and Nostrils, Simple Bruises and Sprains and Many Other Home Uses.

Grandma was a great one for "rubbing" the miseries of chest colds and many other simple pains and aches of her family. The rub she used was medicated in her own way but she insisted that it contain mutton suet. She liked the way mutton suet disappeared as it helped carry medication to nerve ends in the skin to relieve pain.

Today science has modernized Grandma's old-time pain relief principle to bring you Penetro, the salve with a base that contains old-fashioned mutton suet plus 5 active ingredients. Now mothers everywhere are praising Penetro and druggists everywhere are recommending it. So clean, so white, so easy-to-use and such a comfort-bringer for so many simple every day home needs. Do as millions are doing—today get your jar of economical Penetro.

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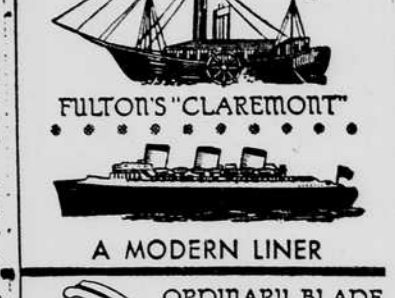
Wahl's

214 NORTH FRONT STREET

WINS WINGS

ATKINSON, Jan. 31.—Cpl. Mar ion J. Corbett, son of N. C. Corbett, Box 202, has won his wing in the United States Army Paratroops, it was announced. Stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., Corbett has completed four weeks of jump training during which time he made five jumps, the last a tactical jump at night involving a combat problem on landing, it was stated.

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WEATHER

(Eastern Standard Time)

(By U. S. Weather Bureau)

Meteorological data for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m. yesterday:

TEMPERATURES

1:30 a. m., 41.0; 7:30 a. m., 32.6; 1:30 p. m., 40.8; 7:30 p. m., 38.0

Maximum 42.1; Minimum 31.8; Mean 37; Normal 47.

HUMIDITY

1:30 a. m., 75; 7:30 a. m., 73; 1:30 p. m., 70; 7:30 p. m., 70

PRECIPITATION

Total for the 24 hours ending 7:30 p. m., 0.00 inches.

Total since the first of the month, 2.07 inches.

TIDES FOR TODAY

From the Tide Tables published by U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey)

High Low

Wilmington 12:30 a. m., 7:55 a. m., 12:47 p. m., 8:06 p. m.

Masonboro Inlet 10:21 a. m., 4:10 a. m., 10:49 p. m., 4:34 p. m.

Sunrise, 7:00 a. m.; Sunset, 5:42 p. m.; Moonrise, 9:32 p. m.; Moonset, 9:48 a. m.

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