

WEATHER

North Carolina—Fair and colder today and tonight with temperatures tonight 22-26, and 26-32. Saturday partly cloudy and slightly warmer.

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TELEMAT PICTURES

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STATE THEATRE TODAY
JON HALL in
"THE INVISIBLE MAN'S
REVENGE"
Also News, 3 Stooges Comedy

Allies Continue Gains In North

RUSSIANS HOLD GRIMLY ABOVE BUDAPEST

German Drive Seeks To Liberate Nazis Trapped Within City

STREET-BY-STREET

By DANIEL DE LUCE
MOSCOW, Jan. 5.—(P)—Russian forces were reported grimly holding off German attacks supported by hundreds of planes today in the Soviet-held corridor, once 30 miles deep, northwest of beleaguered Budapest.

The German panzer thrust down from the Danube west of the big Danube bend, entered its third day. It appeared daringly designed to liberate remnants of nine Nazi divisions trapped in the Hungarian capital.

Inside Budapest Russian storm forces for the eighth day gained more ground and now have occupied 1,400 city blocks since the initial attack last Friday, a Soviet communique said.

The German counter-offensive northwest of the city was fed by panzer and air force reserves brought directly from the Reich, the Russians said, and they were flung into battle in a desperate bid to break the Soviet siege line clamped around the capital.

The Russians asserted they had knocked out more than 100 tanks in two days in the corridor about 20 miles southeast of Komarom.

WAVES OF TANKS
A Red Star frontline dispatch said waves of German tanks beat against Russian defenses in the Vertes hills and along the right bank of the Danube. Nazi formations were reported to have been repulsed.

60 JAP SHIPS SUNK IN RAIDS

Luzon Attacks In First Three Days Of 1945 Took Heavy Toll

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, PHILIPPINES, Jan. 5.—(P)—Heightened American air assaults on Luzon, main island of the Philippines, sank or badly damaged 60 ships the first three days of 1945 and raised havoc with Japanese planes at Clark Field, 75 miles northwest of Manila, headquarters reported today.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the sinking or damaging of 35 ships at Manila Bay and in Lingayen Gulf, 150 miles to the north, on Tuesday and Wednesday. On New Year's day 25 ships were sunk or damaged in the same areas.

Besides the 25 freighters and transports, aggregating 57,000 tons, listed in MacArthur's latest bar, American aircraft also accounted for a seaplane carrier, three naval escorts, a coastal vessel and five lighters sunk or severely damaged. Liberators returned to Clark Field to wipe out 20 planes caught in dispersal areas. No interceptors were encountered on this latest expedition.

JAP ATTACKS
Fresh Japanese air attacks hit Mindoro island, where American port landings this week have been effected. The enemy planes struck airfield and shipping installations.

4-F's And Non-Essential Workers Flock To War Jobs

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—(P)—4-F's and non-essential workers, spurred by talk of stringent manpower controls, were reported today applying for war work by the thousands.

Employment agencies clocked the heaviest stream of job applicants in months as labor and farm spokesmen continued to blast War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes' latest manpower recommendations. "Serious" and "acute" manpower shortages nevertheless still were reported in some states by war manpower commission officials. Counter proposals to Byrnes' threat to draft 4-Fs for war jobs and his order to screen young farm workers for possible military service came from senate and house members and others.



SENATOR HOEY BREAKS TRADITION—North Carolina's new Democratic senator, Clyde R. Hoey, who was sworn in at the opening of the 79th Congress, broke tradition by disregarding a senate rule which does not permit flowers to be brought into the senate chamber. Hoey displays the flower in his coat lapel.

Legislature Votes To Continue Bonus

Both Branches Get Bills For Amendment To Grant Women Equal Rights

RALEIGH, Jan. 5.—(P)—The legislature voted today to continue the war bonus for teachers and state employees for another six months and both branches received bills providing for a vote on a proposed constitutional amendment to allow women equal rights, including jury service.

Thus, the assembly carried out one of Governor Cherry's recommendations which he made yesterday in his inaugural address. The bonus expired January 1 and today's action would continue it through this fiscal year. Reps. Pearsall of Nash, Stone of Rockingham and Hatch of Wake introduced the measure. Pearsall said R. G. Peyton, assistant director of the budget, told him the cost would be approximately \$2,496,773. The measure was introduced in the Senate by Price of Rockingham.

Senator Price and Reps. Loftin of Buncombe, Harris of Northampton and Mrs. Cover of Cherokee introduced the measure providing for a constitutional amendment. The wording of the document would be changed from "men" and "male" to "persons." The measure went to the committees on constitutional amendments.

It followed wide public discussion of a recent Supreme court decision.

Paul Webb, Sr., In Critical Condition

Paul Webb, sr., a leading citizen and pioneer druggist here who has been extremely ill for several weeks, was transferred from his N. Morgan street home to Shelby hospital this morning where his condition is regarded critical.

Some examples: Senator Kilgore (D-WVA)—That 4-Fs be put in uniform to replace thousands of civilian army and navy employees to halt what he called "a wasting of manpower." Rep. Arnold (R-Mo)—That Selective Service comb "offices and desk jobs" rather than look to threat to draft 4-Fs for war jobs and his order to screen young farm workers for possible military service came from senate and house members and others.

AKYAB FALLS TO ALLIES

Important Japanese Supply Base Captured By Seaborne Forces

SOUTHEAST ASIA COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Kandy, Ceylon, Jan. 5.—(P)—The city of Akayab, third largest port of Burma and for two years an important Japanese supply base, has fallen to British and Indian seaborne forces, Allied headquarters announced today.

A communique said the attackers had swarmed ashore on Akayab Island—on which the city is situated—early Wednesday morning without encountering any opposition. "The island is firmly in our hands," the bulletin declared.

PRIME OBJECTIVE
Akayab, which has a normal population of about 40,000 and is situated at the mouth of the Kaladan river on the Burmese west coast, has been a prime objective of the Allied drive in southwest Burma. The Japanese were reported to have had about 1,000 troops on the island.

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V-2 Rocket Fire On London Stepped Up

LONDON, Jan. 5.—(P)—V-2 rocket fire on London has stepped up during the last 24 hours, the German high command announced today.

The German broadcast gave no indication of the number of projectiles launched against Britain, and a British communique said only that "there has been enemy air activity directed against southern England x x x damage and casualties were reported."

Recently when a V-2 rocket struck a block of apartments in southern England searchlights, cranes, dogs and sound detectors were used by rescuers. At least three persons were killed and a number were injured, but two infants were taken from the debris apparently unharmed.

Reds Recognize Polish Government At Lublin

LONDON, Jan. 5.—(P)—Russia today announced recognition of the Polish Provisional government of Lublin, making a clean break with the Polish Government-in-Exile in London, which still is recognized by the United States and Britain.

Bringing to a head one of the thorniest questions facing the impending big three parley, the broadcast announcement came within four days of the joint announcement by the United States and Britain that they stood by the London Polish government.

Leaders of the Polish peasant party in London had sensed a possibility that Moscow would announce recognition of the Lublin government before the Roosevelt - Churchill - Stalin meeting. They charged that if Russia acted before that meeting it would be an attempt to present the other two powers with a "fait accompli."

Russia broke relations with the London Polish government April 26, 1943, in a dispute over the reported discovery of graves of thousands of Polish officers in the Smolensk forests. Russia accused the Germans of executing the Poles, but the London Polish government requested that the International Red Cross make an investigation.

Moscow's recognition of the Lublin group made no reference to the rival London government. The announcement said:

"On Jan. 4 the Soviet government was officially informed by the Provisional National government according to a decision of the Polish National council, the Polish committee of National Liberation has been reorganized into the Provisional National Government of Poland."

"The Provisional Government of Poland proposed to the Soviet government the establishment of diplomatic relations with Democratic Poland, decided to recognize the Provisional National government of the Polish Republic and to exchange ambassadors."

"The presidium of the Supreme"

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PARTISANS CROSS AUSTRIAN BORDER

LONDON, Jan. 5.—(P)—Yugoslav partisan forces have crossed the Austrian border and are menacing a German arc between Klagenfurt and Graz, Marshal Tito announced today.

In a broadcast communique heard in London, Tito said the partisans had cut the Maribor-Graz railway line "in many places," apparently in the areas of Wildon, Leibnitz and Ehrenhausen.

In addition, the announcement said, the rail line from Maribor to Dravograd, paralleling the border just inside Yugoslavia, was destroyed "over a long stretch." This line crosses the border less than 10 miles west of Dravograd and leads thence to Klagenfurt.

Graz lies 26 miles inside Austria opposite the junction of the Yugoslav, Hungarian and Austrian borders. Klagenfurt, 63 miles to the southwest, is 13 miles from the frontier.

FRENCH, ITALIAN SITUATIONS:

Message To Congress Will Deal With Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—(P)—President Roosevelt said today his message to congress tomorrow would deal among other things with foreign policy and manpower.

The chief executive indicated at his news conference that he might touch upon the subject of more materials for the French in his state of the union message to the new congress.

He said he would go on the air tomorrow night for a half-hour broadcast summary of the 8,000-word document.

The hour has not yet been set, but a White House secretary said sometime between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., EWT, would be preferred.

U. S. STANDS BY POLISH EXILE GOVERNMENT

Had Received Advance Notice Of Soviet Action Toward Lublin

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—(P)—The United States today reiterated its recognition of the Polish exile government despite Russian recognition of the new Polish regime at Lublin as a "provisional government."

The state department announced in reply to inquiries that it had received advance notice from the Russian government of the Soviet action.

Asked for additional comment, a department spokesman referred to a statement issued by Secretary of State Stettinius last Monday and said there was nothing to add to it.

In that statement Stettinius asserted: "This government continues to maintain formal diplomatic relations with the Polish government in exile in London."

Soviet Ambassador Gromyko called at the state department at 4 p.m., yesterday but officials declined to say whether he then brought the advance notice of today's action in Moscow.

ITALIAN FRONT IS STILL FLUID

ROME, Jan. 5.—(P)—Canadian troops have advanced against strong enemy counterattacks along the road east of Alfonsine to within a mile and one-half of San Alberto, eight miles south of Ravenna in the Adriatic coastal sector of the Italian front, Allied headquarters announced today.

The Germans threw in veteran troops and brought up Tiger and Panther tanks in a series of fierce counterattacks all of which were repulsed as the Canadians drove forward. Heavy losses were inflicted on the Nazis, the communique said.

Further west good progress was reported north of the captured Bologna-Rimini highway town of Faenza, where other Eighth army troops have greatly reduced a German pocket east of the Senio river.



HITLER SURVEYS WAR DAMAGE—Sad-faced Adolf Hitler surveys war damage in an undisclosed town in company with a group of Nazi officers. The men with him were not identified. It was not known when the picture was made. It is a scene from a German film captured by the U. S. Army Signal Corps on the western front.

Gen. Montgomery In Charge U. S. Armies

Heads All Forces On North Flank Since Start Of Allied Counterdrive

PARIS, Jan. 5.—(P)—Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery has been in charge of all forces on the north flank of the German bulge since the start of the winter counteroffensive, supreme headquarters announced today.

These forces include the U. S. First and Ninth Armies. Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, commander of the 12th Army group, has been in charge of the southern flank where the U. S. Third army is operating. Bradley's group formerly included the First and Ninth



GENERAL MONTGOMERY

armies. (In Washington President Roosevelt said not all but a major portion of the First army had been turned over to Montgomery.)

The official announcement from supreme headquarters said:

"When the German penetration through the Ardennes created two fronts, one substantially facing north and the other south, by instant agreement of all concerned that portion of the front facing south was placed under the command of Field Marshal Montgomery and that facing north under the command of General Bradley."

WHAT'S DOING

TODAY
7:30 p. m.—Call communication of Cleveland lodge 202 A. F. & A. M. for installation of officers, blue lodge room in Masonic Temple.
7:30 p. m.—Young Adult fellowship supper at Central Methodist church.
7:30 p. m.—Double header basketball game at Shelby high school gym between Shelby and Cliffside.

NAZI ATTACK ON SOUTH SIDE GROWS IN FURY

Germans 15 Miles Inside France In Drive On U. S. Seventh

BRADLEY MOVED

PARIS, Jan. 5.—(P)—Veteran British infantry and armor thrown into the Belgian bulge counterattack by Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, commanding all Allied forces on the north side of the salient, has gained up to 2,000 yards all along its front.

This was disclosed at supreme headquarters today along with the fact that the U. S. First and Ninth Armies have been under Montgomery's command since Dec. 20, when the Germans were threatening to break the Allies' western front forces in half.

While the British gained on the north today, the German attack into northeastern France against the U. S. Seventh army developed into a full offensive with a drive forward for two more miles south-east of Bitch—close to 15 miles inside France and within 12 miles of the Saverne gap, the key to Strasbourg.

Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley, American commander of the 12th army group, was disclosed in charge of all Allied forces on

SECRECY HIDES FORMOSA RAIDS

Radio Blackout Suggests Action May Be Continuing Third Day

By The Associated Press
U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEADQUARTERS, PEARL HARBOR, Jan. 5.—The crushing might of U. S. Third Fleet aircraft carriers, whose deep penetration of enemy waters has Japan warning of major war developments, may have fallen for the third straight day on Formosa and the Ryukyus.

An ominous radio blackout today by the fleet strongly suggested that possibility.

Hitting two strongholds at once, indicating even greater striking power than that loosed on separate days against the same targets last October, the carrier planes struck Tuesday and Wednesday U. S. date for sure.

That much, but little more, was confirmed yesterday by Adm. Chester W. Nimitz in a communique which said the details "are not yet available."

CONTINUING
That phraseology often covers a continuing operation. (The circumstances surrounding the present attacks are such that the most concentrated aircraft carrier blows of the Pacific war may well be in progress.)

(Last October, when the way was cleared for reinvasion of the Philippines, the carriers had the added responsibility of knocking out the enemy airforce in the

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WARD HANDLED WITHIN THE LAW

Gen. Byron Answers Company's Accusation Of "Traspassing"

CHICAGO, Jan. 5.—(P)—The war department is operating the seized Montgomery Ward and company properties in seven cities in "strict conformity with the law," says Maj. Gen. Joseph W. Byron, military manager.

In a statement answering a company accusation yesterday that the army was "trespassing" and exceeding President Roosevelt's "illegal order of seizure," Byron said: "The integrity of the United States is pledged to the protection of the legal rights of all parties in this matter."

Byron's statement followed the company's disclosure of a letter sent by H. L. Pearson, vice president and treasurer, to Byron which charged the army personnel with "trespassing" against Ward's properties and "interference with

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FULL-SCALE RAID:

Northern Flank Of Bulge Battered By Allied Bombs

LONDON, Jan. 5.—(P)—Allied bombers blasted a communications center on the northern flank of the German bulge in Belgium and raked Nazi positions behind the front in a full-scale assault today.

Holland-based Mitchells and Bostons of Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's air force—the RAF Second tactical—raided a concentration of German material near St. Vith before noon. Huge formations of U. S. Eighth air force Flying Fortresses and Liberators jabbed

at rail and road centers despite thick clouds which obscured targets. Shortly after noon a new wave of heavies, probably British Lancasters or Halifaxes, was reported heading toward the Reich before the American raiders returned from their mission.

DAY AND NIGHT
The tremendous daylight activity by bomber fleets followed two night raids on Berlin and a surprise blow on Nazi troops en-

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