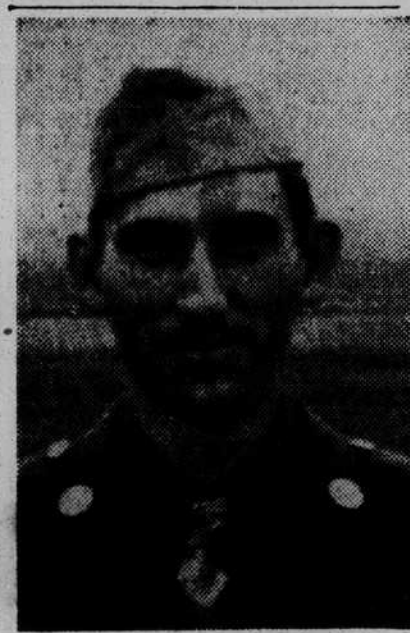


- State Theatre Today - "And Now Tomorrow" Starring Alan LADD - Loretta YOUNG NEWS - MUSICAL

GREAT EXODUS OF NAZI FORCES MOVING EASTWARD STREET FIGHTING RAGES IN OPPELN AND GLEIWITZ

Russians Massing Along 50 Miles Of Oder River, Crossing Is Unconfirmed

By The Associated Press LONDON, Jan. 24.—Russian troops battled today through the streets of the prize Silesian cities of Oppeln and Gleiwitz and hacked out advances near Brieg and Cosel, Oder river towns above and below Oppeln, a late Moscow dispatch declared. This direct Associated Press dispatch written at 5 P. M. (10 A. M., EWT) said "there were no indications yet that Marshal Ivan Konev's men has crossed the frozen Oder." An earlier Reuters dispatch from Moscow, however, said Konev's men had "established at least one bridgehead across the Oder," last great natural barrier protecting the heart of Germany, presumably near Brieg. Brieg lies on the west bank of the Oder midway between Oppeln and Breslau on the river to the northwest, and Cosel is 27 miles below Oppeln. The Germans threw People's army troops into battles to stop the Soviet push on Breslau but the Russians were massing along 50 miles of the Oder and heavily shelling a wide area on the west bank of that last natural defense of the heart of Germany. In East Prussia, Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's army battered in the outer perimeter of the defense zone guarding Elbing on the Baltic coast, whose fall would slice the Junkers prov-



PFC. WILLIE D. GRIFFIN

2 CASUALTIES ARE REPORTED

Sgt. Bonnie Wright Dies Of Wounds; Pfc. Griffin Missing

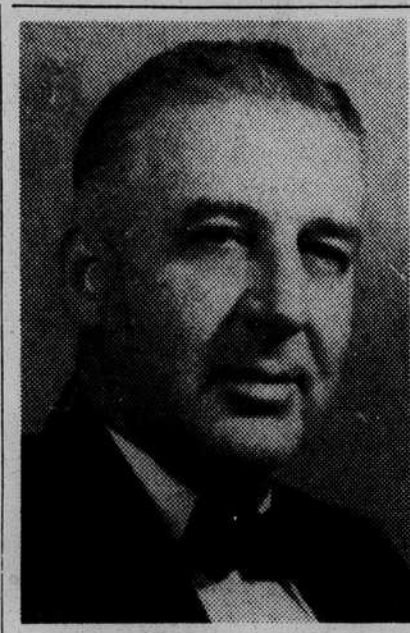
Casualty messages received today reveal that one Cleveland county boy is reported missing and one previously reported seriously wounded has died of his wounds. Both casualty reports come from the battlefields in Belgium. Pfc. Willie G. Griffin, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Griffin of route 2, Shelby, has been reported missing in action since January 6, in Belgium, according to word received from the War Department by his parents today. Pfc. Griffin entered the Army in November, 1942, and received his infantry training at Camp Adair, Oregon, before going overseas. Staff Sgt. Bonnie G. Wright, who was reported seriously wounded, in a telegram received from the War Department only yesterday, has died from the wounds received in action in Belgium, Jan. 3, according to the message received today by his parents. Sgt. Wright is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Wright of route 5, Shelby, and the husband of Mrs. Thelma Glover Wright. He had been serving in the Armed forces since February, 1942.

NEW SENATORS BACK PEACE ORGANIZATION

16 "Freshmen" Pledge Support To Movement For World Peace

HOEY AMONG GROUP

By The Associated Press WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Sixteen new members of the United States Senate advised President Roosevelt today that they will back formation of a United Nations organization to preserve world peace. The 10 new Democratic and six new Republican members got together on their own initiative and sent their assurance in a letter to the White House. Wishing Mr. Roosevelt success in conferences with Marshal Stalin and Prime Minister Churchill, the freshmen senators said: "We believe this government should use all reasonable means to assure our Allies and the other nations of the world that we intend to share in the direction of and the responsibility for the settlement of this war and the maintenance of peace." They suggested further that "an agreement among the major Allies be concluded as soon as possible, to demilitarize Germany and to keep it demilitarized." FARTICIPATE "We believe," they said, "that the government should, as soon as possible, arrange to participate affirmatively in all decisions affecting the establishment of law and order in the liberated or enemy countries." It was learned that Senators Fulbright (D-Ark) and Smith (R-NJ) were leaders in formulating the letter to the White House. In the last congress Fulbright, then a member of the House, sponsored a resolution favoring creation of international machinery with the power to maintain "lasting peace."



WILLIS McMURRY



HORACE EASON



J. W. GARDNER

DRIVE LEADERS — Three co-chairmen named today by Mal A. Spangler, sr., general chairman, to direct separate phases of the Red Cross War Fund drive opening March 1 are Willis McMurry, co-chairman for the city of Shelby; Horace Eason, co-chairman for rural areas; J. W. Gardner, co-chairman for the industrial division.

NAME LEADERS WAR FUND DRIVE

Eason Directs Rural, Willis McMurry City, J. W. Gardner Industrial

Three co-chairmen for the annual Red Cross War Fund drive were announced today by Mal A. Spangler, sr., general chairman of the campaign which will be conducted in March. The trio named today are: Willis McMurry who will direct solicitation in the city. Horace Eason who has agreed to direct the campaign in rural Cleveland, excepting Number Four township, which conducts its campaign through its own separate Red Cross unit. J. W. "Decker" Gardner who will direct the industrial phase of the campaign. Additional chairmen to handle the business district and the ladies division will be announced in the next few days as the organization is completed. Chairman Spangler said. He added that no one asked to serve had refused and he said he feels the enthusiastic support already evident assures success of the drive despite the enlarged quota certain to be asked to meet expanding needs and services of the Red Cross here and abroad.

Allied Airmen Blast Packed Troop Trains

By The Associated Press PARIS, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Allied warplanes blasted anew today at a great exodus of German troops and tanks moving northeast by rail and road from the flattened Ardennes salient of the western front toward the convulsed Russian battlefields. The mystery move still lacked official clarification, AP Correspondent Roger D. Green reported from the northern part of the western front. The American First and Third armies hammered through thick snowfields against the slender strip of Belgium and Luxembourg still in German hands. Weather prevented all but scattered flights in the center, but in the north, RAF Spitfires and Tempests bombed and shot up scores of packed troop trains with rockets, cannons and machineguns. The Britons, too, flew in wretched weather. The trains presumably were loaded with a large part of the panzer forces which bore the brunt of Field Marshal von Rundstedt's broken pre-Christmas offensive in the Ardennes. The enemy continued to move in broad daylight despite the wholesale carnage and wreckage inflicted by Allied planes. Up and down the three main railroads from Dusseldorf to Hannover, the RAF spread its fresh destruction and beat off feeble German aerial attempts to protect the trains. Hannover is about 335 miles from the nearest Russian charging across Western Poland. Roads and rails were clogged; the Germans moved by day as well as night despite Allied air blows which in 48 hours up to today cost them 4,706 trucks, 207 tanks and hundreds of railcars and locomotives. British pilots alone attacked 165 packed eastbound troop trains on three lines between Dusseldorf and Hannover. Pilots said trains moving toward the western front were empty. Indications were that the Germans were withdrawing large armored forces from the west, a front dispatch from the general area of Field Marshal Montgomery's headquarters said. The Germans held a scant 200 square miles in the Ardennes, half

Yanks Only 10 Miles From Clark Field

Front Line Nearing Prized Airstrips; Griswold's Men Nearing Bamban

By RICHARD BERGHOLZ GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Luzon, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Yank patrols operated today near Clark Field whose 13 highly-prized airstrips are less than 10 miles beyond the front lines of the Manila-bound 14th army corps. Maj. Gen. Oscar W. Griswold's columns took cover at times while enemy artillery positions were silenced on the approaches to Bamban town, already smoking from American air and field gun attacks. Six miles beyond Bamban is the maze of runways, hangar shops and barracks which constitute one of Luzon's biggest military prizes. Spencer Davis, Associated Press war correspondent with the 40th division, said in a field dispatch that "waves of American infantrymen were moving cautiously across vegetable fields toward Bamban. He said the Yanks crossed "the small stream south of Capas" and then "sped" south. Inasmuch as the stream is less than four miles from Bamban, the suggested columns may be at the town's outskirts. The Japanese may make their first stand along the natural defense line of the Bamban river, last barrier to Clark Field. That is at a point 58 miles south of the Jan. 9 landing by five Yank divisions and other elements along Lingayen Gulf, and well over half way to Manila. Tuesday Griswold's men slowed their big southward push while they fanned out around burned and captured Capas. One force swung nine miles west through hill country and occupied deserted Camp O'Donnell to which the Japanese had put the torch. The doughboys came upon plots overrun with waist-high wild grass, except where flames had swept, containing the graves of at least 4,000 Filipinos and scores of Americans. These soldiers, whose heroic

Fifth Army Meets Strong Nazi Defenses

ROME, Jan. 24.—(AP)—American Fifth army patrols, increasing their activity as snow ceased falling on the Italian front, have bumped up against strong German defenses, particularly south of Bologna, Allied headquarters announced today. The German air force, which appeared again on the Italian front yesterday, hit at supply arteries for the Fifth army lines in front of Bologna. No damage or casualties were reported. Farther east on the Eighth army sector enemy patrols continued active on the Senio river. One enemy raiding party hit twice at Eighth army outposts on the south bank of the Verto canal, southeast of Alfonsine, but was beaten back each time by tanks, artillery and mortar fire. The Fifth army patrols thrust to within eight and a half miles of Bologna on highway 65 at Barchetta, where they met heavy enemy fire. Similar resistance was encountered at Casa Nuova, nine miles south of the gateway city to the Po valley. The Germans were reported carrying out wholesale demolition in the entire area of their stronghold of Alfonsine.

IWO JIMA HIT BY SUPERFORTS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Superfortresses attacked military installations on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima today. An island in the Volcano group, Iwo Jima is about midway between the Marianas bases of the 21st bomber command and Japan. From its air strips the Japanese frequently sent fighters to intercept Japan-bound B-29s. On a recent broadcast the Japanese openly speculated that Iwo Jima may be invaded. The War department bulletin announcing the strike by Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Le May's bombers did not provide additional details; a communique on the mission will be issued when details are available. Today's raid reflected the stepped-up tempo of 21st bomber command operations, following on the heels of yesterday's attack on factories at Nagoya. Some PP X-29s in four formations encountered fierce Japanese air resistance. In hitting the Japanese home island of Honshu one Superfort was lost.

LEAR DEPUTY COMMANDER

PARIS, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Ben Lear has been appointed deputy commander in the European theater charged with administrative matters of United States troops, supreme headquarters announced today. Lear's new assignment pertains purely to American administration and is not connected with the direction of the campaign, which is on an Allied basis. He had been in command of U. S. Army ground forces. He was appointed to that post in July, 1944, succeeding Lt. Gen. Lesley McNair, who was killed in action. In Washington Lear's new assignment revived speculation that Gen. Joseph W. (Vinegar) Joe Stilwell may be named ground forces chief, at least temporarily. Stilwell, currently the only four-star general without a specific assignment, was recalled last October as commander of U. S. forces in Asia. The War Department said then he would get an important job but subsequently has declined comment. While Stilwell has won most attention in the field, he also has held army teaching assignments that would qualify him as ground force commander—a post largely devoted to troop training. He has served as an instructor at West Point, as an instructor and assistant executive of the infantry school at Fort Benning, Ga., and with the organized reserves.

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New Assignment Is Administrative, Unconnected With Campaign

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LABOR SECRETARY: Frances Perkins Resigns, Re-accepts

FDR Refuses To Accept Resignation, Reappoints Her To Fourth Term Cabinet

By HAROLD W. WARD WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has redesignated Frances Perkins as Secretary of Labor in his fourth term cabinet, after declining to accept her resignation. It was learned authoritatively today Miss Perkins had intended her resignation—submitted as a formality—to "stick" and that she had been preparing to leave Washington after the inauguration. Mr. Roosevelt rejected the resignation orally last Saturday—inauguration day—and followed through with a letter. Miss Perkins, who served as New York State labor commissioner for 13 years before her appointment to the cabinet in 1933, has been under fire throughout much of her stay in Washington. Difficulty of selecting a candidate from the ranks of labor who would be acceptable to both the AFL and CIO has been generally given as the reason for her long tenure in the face of an often-expressed desire to quit. Further groundwork for one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by the local Lions club, sponsorship of a fresh air camp for a selected group of Shelby boys, was laid at last night's meeting of the club when additional committees were assigned to work on the project. Worth Morris was in charge of last night's program which was featured by a review of Lions' accomplishments as well as by consideration of plans for the new undertaking. President R. J. Rucker presided. Rev. W. P. Biggerstaff, who heads the committee which is directing plans for the fresh air camp said that the camp site had already been engaged at Camp York near the Kings Mountain battleground and that the camp would be held the first two weeks in July. He declared that this effort by

Retreating Germans May Be Set For Stand Inside Reich

By JUDSON O'QUINN LONDON, Jan. 24.—(AP)—While the Red army's swift advances have resulted in a great upswing of optimism here, the possibility is not being overlooked that the retreating Germans may be extricating large numbers of troops for a desperate stand inside the reich in the hope of prolonging the war. Speculation along these lines is heightened by the absence of official Russian reports of overwhelming enemy casualties—a fact suggesting that the Germans may be withdrawing under Soviet pres-

Armed Forces War Reports Boost Service Legislation

By WILLIAM F. ARBOGAST WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Heads of the armed forces made a direct war report to congress today, and backers promptly claimed a big boost for national service legislation. The meeting, an annual event started last year, was attended by most members who heard talks by Gen. George C. Marshall, Admiral Ernest J. King, War Secretary Stimson and Navy Secretary Forrestal. Speaker Rayburn told reporters after the three-hour session in the congressional library auditorium the meeting was bound to have a "considerable psychological effect" on the current drive for "work-fight-or-jail" legislation. NOT MENTIONED According to those attending none of the speakers mentioned the legislation. But Representative Wadsworth (R-NY), one of the leading advocates of national service proposals, said "it didn't hurt." Wadsworth and others said the talks dealt primarily with the pro-

WHAT'S DOING

TODAY 7:00 p. m.—Crusade for Christ meeting at Central Methodist church. 7:00 p. m.—Officers and teachers of First Baptist Sunday school meet at church. 7:30 p. m.—Presbyterians hold prayer service at church. 7:45 p. m.—Mid-week prayers and praise service at First Baptist church. THURSDAY 7:00 p. m.—Kiwanis club holds regular meeting at Charles hotel. 7:30 p. m.—C. A. P. members meet at armory.

Another School Bill Hits Legislative Hopper Today

RALEIGH, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Another school bill hit the legislative hopper today, this one to provide for the employment of principals for 10 months instead of the present nine. It was introduced by Senator Matheny of Rutherford, who already has sent up several dealing with teachers and principals. Under the measure today, the State Board of Education would determine how much of the extra month would be spent by the principals before and after the opening of school terms. A similar measure was introduced in the house by McDonald of Folk and Powers of Rutherford. Senator Gay of Northampton introduced a bill increasing the pay of the governor's pri-

vate secretary from \$4,800 to \$5,000 a year. Reports that such a measure would be introduced have been current since John Harden left his post as news editor of the Greensboro Daily News to become private secretary to Governor Cherry. A measure by Senator Little of Anson would presume persons missing in war action to be dead after two years instead of seven. The armed services pay insurance. to