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Japan's Reply Handed To Hull Russians Re-Capture 4,000 Square Miles In Ukraine

Nazis Open New Drive On Moscow

German Push Breaks Through Red Army Defenses Northwest of Capital; Germans Try to Form New Front in South.

By The Associated Press. Russia's Ukraine armies were reported today to have re-captured 4,000 square miles of territory on the Rostov-Donets basin front, wresting "hundreds" of villages from the fleeing Germans, while in the north, Soviet dispatches admitted that the nazis had opened a violent new onslaught north of Moscow.

The German push, it was reported, broke through Red army defenses just below Klin, 50 miles northwest of Moscow, and continued on toward Dmitriev, 40 miles due north of the USSR capital.

On the southern front, the Soviet radio said Marshal Semyon Timoshenko's armies, driving west through the Donets river basin and along the Sea of Azov, had reached the Mius river "where the Germans are trying to form a new front."

Two Red army spearheads were reported racing ahead in an attempt to hem up the Germans retreating toward Mariupol, 100 miles west of Rostov-on-Don.

Soviet dispatches also admitted that German rear guard detachments were still holding out in parts of Tsaritsyn, 40 miles west of Rostov.

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Italians Shell Tobruk

Rome, Dec. 5.—(AP)—With Italian infantry men reported heavily shelling the British fortifications at Tobruk, an authoritative source today described the situation in north Africa as "favorably static" for axis forces.

He said the British corridor to the besieged port, opened during the early phase of the British-Libyan campaign and later closed by an axis assault was "recently definitely eliminated."

The high command announced that the Italians increased their artillery fire against the Tobruk stronghold, and that there had been artillery duels on the Salum front.

DUNN TOBACCONIST DIES IN KNOXVILLE

Knoxville, Dec. 5.—(AP)—O. G. Richter, tobacconist and auctioneer from Dunn, N. C., died today of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 51.

Richter, who operated an auctioneer's summer school at Kinross, N. C., came here to conduct sales on the local barley market. He was stricken in his hotel room and died several hours after being taken to a hospital.

Nazi Attacks Near Tobruk Repulsed

Cairo, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Two heavy axis attacks on Ed Duda in the battle area south of Tobruk were completely repulsed yesterday with severe losses, an official announcement said today.

The communique reported that a third attack gained a little ground but most of that was subsequently re-captured by a counter attack with axis troops again suffering heavy casualties.

Along the Libya-Egypt front a New Zealanders routed the remnants of a German and Italian column which fled westward, the communique said.

Indian troops destroyed 14 Italian tanks near El Gobi and the bulk of the rest there were reported "seen to be retreating."

Mighty Mite of British Navy



Admiral Sir Tom Phillips, affectionately known as the "Tom Thumb" of the British Navy, is shown leaving Air Marshal Richard Peirse, chief of the RAF Bomber Command. The five-foot four-inch admiral is the new commander of the Royal Navy in the Far East. (Central Press)

Stimson Denounces 'Secret Plan' Story

Nazis Study Reports

Berlin, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Reports of a secret war plan for an American expeditionary force of 5,000,000 men for an offensive against Germany by July 1, 1943, is "being studied," an official spokesman said today.

Washington, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Chairman Snyder, Democrat, Pennsylvania, of the House military appropriations subcommittee, just back from England, declared today none of Britain's highest ranking officials with whom he talked, including Prime Minister Churchill, "even hinted that they expected an expeditionary force from the United States."

NAZI ARMY MAJOR WOUNDED IN PARIS

Vichy, Dec. 5.—(AP)—A German major was wounded seriously today by two pistol shots fired by a cyclist in the Latin quarter of Paris, where anti-nazi attacks flared anew.

The major fell, shot in the hip, as the cyclist pedaled swiftly away, escaping capture.

Extended weather forecast for the period from 7:30 p. m. Dec. 5 to 7:30 p. m. Dec. 10.—South Atlantic states, late with cooling tendencies through Sunday. Increasing cloudiness Monday with showers by Wednesday, and warmer. Temperatures normal or above.

FDR Keeps Hands Off Strike Laws

Three Groups in Senate Demand Priorities for Measures When Upper Chamber Begins Consideration of Question Monday.

Washington, Dec. 5.—(AP)—President Roosevelt was reported today to have adopted a hands-off policy toward defense labor legislation, leaving Senate leaders the task of unravelling a confused tangle of anti-strike bills drafted by the House-approved Smith message.

Three groups demand priority for their respective measures when the Senate begins considering the defense strike question Monday.

One group, including Senators Connally, Democrat, Texas; Van Noy, Democrat, Indiana; Hatch, Democrat, New Mexico; Norris, Independent, Nebraska; Austin, Republican, Vermont; and others, is backing a bill approved by the judiciary committee to permit the government to seize strike defense plants and freeze working conditions in those plants. Wages would be adjusted by a special board.

Another lineup—Senators Thomas, Democrat, Utah; Hill, Democrat, Alabama; Ellender, Democrat, Louisiana; Tatt, Republican, Ohio; Ball, Republican, Minnesota; and other members of the Senate labor committee—want action on a measure by Ball which would set up mediation machinery and outlaw strikes for a closed shop.

Less vocal than the others, a group headed by Senator Byrd, Democrat, Virginia, pluggs for consideration of the drastic Smith bill approved by the House Thursday. This measure would require the registration of unions, ban jurisdictional strikes.

(Continued on Page Seven)

CLEMENCY ASKED IN MURDER CASE

Raleigh, Dec. 5.—(AP)—The mother and sister of a 14-year-old convicted murderer in asking that mercy be extended to Richard P. Wescott, New Hanover county youth now under sentence of death.

Unless Governor Broughton intervenes, Wescott will be executed at Central Prison a week from today for first degree murder in connection with the shooting of his girl friend, Mildred Lee.

Hoover Cited As Expert On Prices

Washington, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Senator Tatt, Republican, Ohio, suggested today that the Senate call upon former President Herbert Hoover for advice when it tackles the controversial price control measure already passed by the House.

Tatt, who is sponsoring subcommittee legislation, said that Hoover acquired vast practical experience in price fixing while serving as federal food administrator during the World War.

"If the Senate wants to learn from someone who really knows how to fix prices, we should invite Mr. Hoover here," he said. "He did more than anyone else."

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Broughton Plans To Curb Appointments Of 'Jaypees'

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Six Walter Hotel, By BOB THOMPSON.

Raleigh, Dec. 5.—Governor Broughton is planning to do what neither the state bar nor certain conscientious members of the legislature have been able to do in the past. He plans to curb the reckless creation of justices of the peace which, insofar as the lowest courts are concerned, has

Home Damaged by Bomb



C. P. Phonephoto

Vincent Currier, son of the president of the Currier Lumber Co., points to door of their Detroit home, shattered by a black powder bomb. The Currier company, CIO-organized, was recently refused a government contract to build defense homes, though their bid was \$100,000 lower, because officials did not want to antagonize AFL building union.

Axis Shipping Sunk In Mediterranean

Australia Prepares

Melbourne, Australia, Dec. 5.—(AP)—Important defense decisions were taken at a war cabinet meeting today but officials did not reveal their nature.

It was emphasized that they do not mean a war is inevitable.

An Australian broadcast, quoting the Melbourne Herald, said that the cabinet planned to "complete the elaborate and complicated mechanism which will be set in motion if war should come to the Pacific. This mechanism not only affects the distribution of ships, planes and troops over a vast area, but would impose great changes on the home front."

The broadcast, held in New York by CBS, said a defense against a possible blockade of Australia was included in the plans.

Bund Leaders Win In Court

SIX PERSONS DIE IN TRAFFIC CRASH

Trenton, N. J., Dec. 5.—(AP)—Six New Jersey motorists died today in a crash of a bus and a school bus home from a basketball game crash-landed on a highway. Driver, 17-year-old Harry Peter, Sergeant J. P. Smith and two of the dead were taken to St. Peter's Hospital, Trenton, N. J. Their names, police, army organizations and home towns were not immediately available.

Character Of New Note Kept Secret

Message Delivered Today is in Answer to President Roosevelt's Question; No Reply Made to Hull's Recent Statement.

(By The Associated Press.) Japan's envoys delivered to Secretary Hull in Washington today their government's reply to President Roosevelt's question as to why Japanese troops are being massed in French Indo-China.

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