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Two Transportation Modes on Alcan Highway



This picture was taken on the newly-opened Alcan Highway which stretches between Alaska and Canada in the Northwest. These three Army trucks, pulling along with supplies for our armies to the north form a fine contrast with the sled being hauled by dogs—the old mode of transport in this area. Mercury drops to a cruel sixty below in these parts, and summer temperatures rise as high as ninety degrees. (Central Press)

Senate Group To Probe Divided Ration Control

Chairman Maloney Says Hearings to Be Resumed Monday in Effort to Assure Minimum Supply of Gas and Fuel Oil for Civilians

Washington, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Senatorial investigators said today they would seek further light on the divided federal control over gasoline and fuel oil rationing in an effort to assure the minimum supply needed by civilians.

Chairman Maloney, Democrat, Committee of a special Senate committee announced renewed public hearings will be resumed next Monday after those in charge of the rationing told the committee yesterday that no hope could be held out for an increase in rations for some months to come.

As it now stands, the head man with regard to oil supplies is Petroleum Administrator Harold I. Ickes. Most of the civilian rationing is under the office of price administration. Motor fuel for farm trucks and commercial vehicles, however, is allotted by the office of defense transportation.

Then there are the lead lease requirements of the other United Nations, which Price Administrator Leon Henderson indicated were negotiated by the State department.

The Army and Navy determine their own requirements.

Asked who was to blame between the military and civilian allotments, Ickes said there was none, but the Army and Navy had been "very helpful in the past critical days."

Rubber Administrator William M. Jeffers revealed that he had asked Henderson and Transportation Director Joseph B. Eastman to see that no tanker or stock tanker lacked the gasoline needed to maintain essential food production.

Beef Shortage Is Expected To Continue

(By The Associated Press.) Beef may soon be more plentiful in some sections of the country, but reports indicated today that there will be no general alleviation of the civilian undersupply.

A spokesman for the American Meat Institute in Chicago declared that the Army is taking very large quantities of beef and that "Army needs come first."

A cause of the civilian undersupply, some meat packers asserted, is that government has placed a ceiling on prices without a balancing ceiling on livestock.

Potato Trial Under Way

Wilson, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Harold L. Schitz, special assistant to the attorney general, read the bill of indictment to the jury today in Judge C. C. Wyche's U. S. district court in the trial of 13 corporations and 16 individuals of North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland on charges of violating the Sherman anti-trust act in connection with trading in potatoes.

It took Schitz an hour to read the indictment, a 24-page printed booklet, Judge Wyche told attorneys he had ruled "financial statements have nothing to do with the issue involved in this controversy." The length of the trial was believed cut by this ruling.

Axis Property Changes Held To Be Invalid

Washington, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Seven allied belligerent governments, and the French national committee served notice today that property rights in countries now occupied by them will be restored to their rightful owners when the axis is ejected.

In a declaration made public by the State department, the signatories emphasized they had referred to all property rights of interest which have changed hands through enemy actions "whether such transfers or dealings have taken the form of open listing or plunder or of transactions apparently legal in form."

In effect the declaration warns all persons in axis-occupied countries that any property rights they may acquire under the protection of axis occupation authorities or puppet governments will not be recognized when the axis is expelled.

NAZI SHIP SUNK

London, Jan. 5.—(AP)—A large German vessel filled with raw materials for Germany has been sunk in the Atlantic, it was announced officially today.

Price Opposes Any Change In Basic Policies Of State

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—(AP)—None of the State's basic policies should be changed at the biennial legislative session opening tomorrow, Senator J. Hampton Price of Rockingham county said today.

Price, who is expected to be selected for president pro tem of the Senate at a Democratic caucus tonight, said that such matters as the sales tax and a proposal to repeal the State income tax should be left to later sessions. Present times, he said, are not normal and therefore no material changes should be made in the governmental structure of the State.

A proposal to create a statewide

Russians Report Unbroken Series Of Triumphs In Five Key Sectors; Wavell's British Legions Near Akyab

Dispatches From Battlefield Declare It Is Uncertain Whether Japanese Will Defend Burmese Port; Other News of Pacific War Area

(By The Associated Press.) Events that Japan is massing the biggest armada yet sent into the southwest Pacific battle theatre today, suggesting new enemy operation was imminent in the zone northeast of Australia and other reports indicated a sickening tempo to the war in the Pacific theatre.

In Washington, the Navy announced that American troops on Guadalcanal island, in the Solomons, had won strategic high ground overlooking their airfield from the southwest and beaten off six Japanese counter attacks. The Navy also reported that American "Catapults" and "Flying Fortresses" carried out a series of attacks yesterday on the Japanese-occupied Munda air base at Guadalcanal.

Seizure of the new position overlooking Henderson airfield, in the vicinity of Mt. Austen, was achieved in what appeared to be the most important advance made by American troops there in weeks.

(By The Associated Press.) General Sir Archibald P. Wavell's British legions from India were reported moving nearer the big Japanese base at Akyab in Burma today and dispatches from the front declared it was uncertain whether the Japanese commander "intends to defend Akyab or withdraw without a fight."

British troops advancing along the Bay of Bengal coast were last reported within 25 miles of the port.

A Reuters (British news agency) correspondent said Japanese ships had been moving in and out of Akyab harbor during the last few days "but whether they were bringing up supplies or taking off troops is difficult to tell."

(Continued on Page two)

Bids Opened On Nine Roads

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—(AP)—The State Highway and Public Works Commission opened bids today on nine access roads in five counties, but each must await approval by both the commission and public roads administration, which will finance them.

Chief Highway Engineer W. Vance Davis said all the roads had been called essential to the war effort by either the Army or Navy. Projects and low bidders included:

Wayne county—2.69 miles of grading and resurfacing on NC 111, 200 feet northwest of Fellow's Branch and US 70; E. H. Hines Construction Co., Greenwood, S. C., \$49,955; Wayne county—1.62 miles on NC 111, northeast of Goldsboro; Goldsboro and Stony Creek, P. E. Cline, Raleigh, \$31,755.50; Wayne county—9.7 miles of grading and structure between a point approximately one mile southwest of NC 111 and Dudley, low bridge bid by Euro Brothers of Beaufort at \$14,137.50, and low road work bid by Lavender Brothers of Earl, \$29,790.70; Wayne county—1.32 miles of grading and asphalt surfacing between U. S. Army reservation and US 70, P. E. Cline, Raleigh, \$10,232.50.

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A proposal to create a statewide

Red Soldiers Drive Nazis from Velikiye Luki



This photo flashed by radio from Moscow to New York shows white-clad Russian soldiers advancing through the woods in a successful attack against the Nazis in the Velikiye Luki sector. These and other members of the Red Army drove the Germans beyond this key rail center on the central front and forced the Nazis back into Novo Sokolniki on the Leningrad-Kiev railway, sixty miles from the Latvian border. (Central Press)

Production Of Alcohol Sufficient

Washington, Jan. 5.—(AP)—A high ranking war production board official assured a Senate agriculture subcommittee today that alcohol production was in prospect to meet all domestic needs, including the synthetic rubber program.

At the same time, Dr. Walter G. Whitman, assistant director of WPI's chemical branch, testified that surveys to establish sites for additional grain alcohol plants, now under way throughout the midwestern grain belt, would be completed next month.

These sites will be held in reserve for construction if needed, he said, to supplement the production of 40,000,000 gallons of alcohol expected annually from the combined manufacturing of recently approved plants for Omaha, Neb., Muscatine, Iowa, and Kansas City, Mo.

8,470 Ford Men Strike

Detroit, Jan. 5.—(AP)—Officials of the Ford Motor Co. declared today that approximately 8,470 workers were idle at its unauthorized walkout started last night by maintenance workers.

Production of vital armor plate for tanks already has been affected, an Army spokesman disclosed.

A Ford official said that the dispute centered about a company plan placing maintenance workers of all categories under control of the superintendents of the separate buildings.

Heretofore he said, all electricians of the entire plant, for example, were under control of an electrician's boss—and all carpenters and other groups under a similar arrangement.

The objecting maintenance workers, the spokesman said, were said to have expressed fear that a shutdown of any building would mean a layoff of the group serving that division.

The Ford spokesman said the change had been made in conformity with the United Automobile Workers (CIO). Official union comment on the dispute was lacking.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Continued cold with slightly lower temperatures tonight.

Tenissen Sponsors Bill To Repeal Income Levies

Sub Rescues Civilians

With the South Pacific Fleet, Jan. 5.—(AP)—A daring submarine operation under cover of darkness has resulted in the rescue of 29 men, women and children from a Japanese-held island in the Solomons group, Admiral William F. Halsey disclosed today.

The commander of the south Pacific force said that 17 of those rescued were white women known to have been in imminent danger of all treatment and death. Three were children.

The daring coup was accomplished under the very nose of the Japs.

Land-Buying Under Study

Senator Byrd's Committee to Investigate Reported Plan to Buy 30,000,000 Acres

Washington, Jan. 5.—(AP)—An investigation of the government's wartime purchase of millions of acres of land will be made by the joint committee on non-essential federal expenditures, Chairman Byrd, Democrat, Virginia, said today.

Byrd told reporters the committee would call before it soon Norman M. Little, assistant attorney general in the lands division of the justice department, for questioning about his asserted statement that the government contemplated the eventual purchase of 30,000,000 acres, an area equal in size to all of New England.

Byrd said he was interested in (Continued on Page two)

Vanguard Of Legislators Set For Caucuses Tonight

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel, By LYNN NISBET.

Raleigh, Jan. 5.—Early arrivals among members of the General Assembly around hotel lobbies last night were interested principally in what committee assignments they were likely to draw. Unlike former sessions, there was no occasion for

Germans Are Imperiled on Five Fronts of 1,000-Mile Battle Line; Fresh Trap Set in Don Bend; Other European War News

(By The Associated Press.) With the entire front campaign in the Caucasus threatened with collapse, Adolf Hitler was reported today to have ordered the German armies on that front to hold at all costs, even if the tanks are cut off their northern escape corridor through Baku.

At the same time, London said the German high command was to supply the army with winter clothes by one of eight seasonal railroads left. The army was reported to be massing a fleet of available ships in the Black Sea to carry supplies to Sevastopol.

With the war in Russia entering more sharply toward a winter disaster for the Germans, dispatches from allied headquarters in north Africa reported that U. S. Army planes struck effective new lines of supply of French and American ground troops in southern Tunisia, loading railroad yards and other targets. Four German planes were shot down, among a loss of two American aircraft.

(By The Associated Press.) Heavy battles raged on the great fronts in the Russian campaign today, impeding the Germans on a 1,000-mile line with the Red armies of Colonel General Nikolai F. Vatutin threatening to spring a trap around major garrisons in the Don bend 100 miles west of Stalingrad.

Soviet dispatches said the Russian forces lacked only 15 miles of forcing the final line in a new ring around the Germans following the capture of Chernishkovsk and the Nazi air base at Chernishkovsk, 40 miles to the north.

Union of the two Red armies would encircle more axis divisions in a region 50 miles west of another lightly defended area engulfing the survivors of a German division being strangled.

Russian headquarters reported an advance of 400 yards in the Don bend, and a 100-yard advance in the Soviet southern theater.

1. Northern Caucasus. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.

2. Middle East. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.

3. Southern front. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.

4. Southeastern front. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.

5. Western front. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.

6. Eastern front. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.

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12. Eastern front. The German offensive there was reported to have been stopped by the Soviet southern theater.