

## Berlin Is Blasted Second Night

### Operators' Contract Is Refused

#### Miners Not Interested In Agreement With Half the Industry

Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Operators producing about 50 percent of the nation's soft coal have offered the United Mine Workers a contract that is substantially acceptable, but Union Chief John L. Lewis declared today the miners are "not interested" in an agreement with half the industry.

Refusal of the Southern Coal Producers Association to sign on a portal-to-portal basis and the absence of the captive (steel company) mine operators from the wage conference appeared to be the principal obstacles to a contract that would be virtually national in scope.

Conferees agreed to resume their discussions forthwith. The contract offered to Lewis is substantially the Ickes-Lewis agreement under which the miners are now operating, plus the \$40 retroactive payment for underground tunnel time.

Edward R. Burke, president of the southern producers, said his group would sign a contract that would assure equivalent earnings but he declines to pay the money on a portal-to-portal basis and wants eight hours of productive work assured instead of the "assumed" as provided in the Ickes-Lewis agreement.

### Allies Take Offensive In All Theatres

London, Nov. 24—(AP)—King George VI opening a new session of Parliament, confidently told the House of Commons today that "in the fourth year of the war the forces of the United Nations assumed the offensive in all theatres and in the coming year we shall, with God's help, be able to hear upon the enemy a still greater weight of attack."

### Total Of Casualties Announced

Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Announced casualties in all armed services of the United States since Pearl Harbor total 121,319, with 62,000 killed and 59,319 wounded, according to a report today.

### Senate Committee To Ask Report On Patton Affair

Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—The Senate Military Affairs Committee voted unanimously today to request Secretary of War Stimson to report to it officially on the incident in which Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., commander of the Seventh Army, struck an army private in a hospital in Sicily.

### Led Army Invaders



THE AMERICAN ARMY units fighting in the Central Pacific Gilbert Islands are under the command of Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson, Jr., (above). With the support of Marines, they stormed ashore under protection of naval bombardment of shore positions. (International)

### Approval Of Revenue Bill Nears

#### Doughton Leads in Arguments Against Large Tax Increase

Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—Washington, Nov. 24—(AP)—

Representative Robert Lee Doughton, 80-year-old chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, led off a bi-partisan chorus against large tax increases, declaring they would be "more crushing" than inflation.

"Too heavy a tax burden is as great a danger to the nation's economy as is too large a public debt," he said.

Doughton joined Representative Knutson of Minnesota, Ways and Means Republican leader, in attacking the administration's claim that a \$10,500,000,000 tax program is essential not only for war financing but also to drain off inflationary purchasing power.

The second wartime tax bill, supported by both parties, makes but little revision in the burdens on individual incomes or on corporation and surtaxes.

## Nimitz Says Gilberts Secure

### Dominating Position Of Yanks

#### Makin Captured and Tarawa Weakening, Abemama Mopped Up

Pearl Harbor, Nov. 24—(AP)—American forces, overpowering savage Japanese resistance with record speed, were so firmly implanted today in the heart of the Gilberts on the fifth day of the invasion that Admiral Chester W. Nimitz spoke confidently of "preparing to make further attacks."

"The Gilberts now are securely in our hands," said the commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet after only one of the more than 15 atolls had been completely conquered and while two others tottered toward a fall.

Makin has been captured. Lt. Col. James Roosevelt, eldest son of the President, was on hand for its fall. Tarawa, with a fine bomber base whose importance was emphasized by the fierce defense of an estimated 4,000 Japanese, is about to fall.

Admiral Nimitz expressed belief that the Japanese fleet was dispersed from the Kuriles, to the north of Japan, all the way down to the Dutch East Indies far to the south; that recent air blows struck at Rabaul, New Britain, against enemy cruisers and destroyers, seriously had impaired enemy naval ability to retaliate in the area; and, even if Japanese units were in striking distance, the Japanese admirals had held back in fear that the Gilbert invasion might be a diversionary feint.

### Chetniks Have Control Of Montenegro

London, Nov. 24—(AP)—General Draja Mihailovic said today that his Yugoslav Chetniks "have now gained control of the entire country of Montenegro."

This mountainous little province has been the center of intense guerrilla activity for months—with the Chetniks and the Partisans of General Josip Broz (Tito) fighting each other as well as the Germans.

## Germany Claims Capture Of Two Towns In Ukraine

#### Nazis Nearing Kiev As Reds Withdraw Under Heavy Assault

London, Nov. 24—(AP)—The German radio asserted tonight that Brusilov, 45 miles west of Kiev, and Chernyakhov, 20 miles north of Zhitomir, had been recaptured in the violent Nazi counterattack against the Ukrainian bulge.

Moscow, Nov. 24—(AP)—The German army's ten-day old counter offensive in the Ukraine moved closer to Kiev today after Russian forces had made their third withdrawal in three days under pressure of heavy tank and infantry assaults.

Spearheads of Field Marshal Fritz von Manstein's troops have reached Brusilov, 45 miles west of Kiev and are almost halfway to the Ukrainian capital of Zhitomir, the first city to fall before the German drive.

Von Manstein sent in another strong force against Russian positions in the Chernyakhov area, 40 miles northwest of Brusilov, in his all-out effort to turn the southern flank of General Nikolai Vatutin's first Ukrainian army.

Although the Germans succeeded in gaining ground on a straight west to east line through the Zhitomir-Korostyshev-Brusilov sector, the Red Army appeared to be holding strong positions in front of Kiev, and apparently was falling back under orders of the Russian high command mainly to avoid encirclement of its advance units.

The Germans paid heavily for their successes in the Kiev bulge, a Russian communique said. Fierce hand to hand fighting and savage gun duels cost them more than 100 tanks and 2,000 dead, the bulletin declared, and 19 Nazi planes were shot down as Red army advances struck massed blows at the advancing foe. Von Manstein was reported throwing large reserve forces into the battle.

While front dispatches indicated that the decisive stage of the battle for the Ukraine had not yet been reached, the Red Army continued to surge ahead on other sections of the front north and south of Kiev, particularly along the lower reaches of the Dnieper.

## Whisky Ruling Delivered By Supreme Court

#### State Supreme Court Held Today That Possession of a Gallon or Less of Tax-Paid Whisky in a Dry County Is Not Prima Facie Evidence of Illegal Possession of Whisky for Sale

Raleigh, Nov. 24—(AP)—The State Supreme Court held today that possession of a gallon or less of tax-paid whisky in a dry county is not prima facie evidence of illegal possession of whisky for sale.

The decision was in an opinion written by Justice J. Wallace Wimborne, who said it was the first ruling of its kind by the court.

It was handed down in the case of State versus Jack Saddreth, who was convicted in Caldwell county at the February 1943 term of Superior court of illegal possession of whisky for sale. Saddreth appealed a fine of \$100 and costs and a suspended sentence of 12 months. His appeal was granted and the decision of the lower court reversed.

In reviewing the evidence at the trial, Justice Wimborne said that five parts of tax-paid whisky had been found at Saddreth's home.

Under the State's liquor laws, he said, legally bought tax-paid whisky of not more than one gallon may be kept in one's home for one's own consumption. To rule otherwise, he said, the court would be "legislating."

"It is not the duty of the court to legislate," he said, "its duty is to interpret legislation."

**WEATHER**  
FOR NORTH CAROLINA  
Fair and continued cool tonight with temperatures two to four degrees lower in east and central portions.

**26 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT**

Squalling for chipmunkies

Buy Christmas Seals

## Devastating Bombing Of German City

#### Capital Is Isolated With Communications Systems Paralyzed

London, Nov. 24—(AP)—The RAF hurled tons of destruction down on Berlin again last night, seeking for the second night in succession to knock out the German capital, much of it already devastated.

The force and weight of bombs dropped last night probably approached but did not exceed the record of Monday when over 2,300 long tons were delivered by approximately 1,000 bombers, nearly all of them four-engined giants.

"Concentrated and effective" was the air ministry's description of the second great attack on the world's most bombed city.

Despite more favorable weather for the defense, the RAF lost only 20 planes in the second Berlin attack and simultaneous Mosquito attacks on western Germany, compared to 26 lost in comparable operations the night before.

Berlin already was chaotic from history's greatest aerial attack delivered only 24 hours before when the new deluge of Allied bombs struck last night.

Berlin correspondents of Swedish newspapers said new fires and "wall of flames" more than half a mile long swept Berlin after the second attack.

Stockholm's Allehanda estimated 25,000 persons were killed in the first attack. It added the center of Berlin again was the main target last night and railway stations, gas and water mains suffered heavily.

## Eighth Army In Village On Sangro

#### Enemy Artillery Heavy On Fifth Army Front; Weather Still Bad

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Nov. 24—(AP)—The British Eighth Army of General Bernard L. Montgomery has pushed forward to the banks of the Sangro river in the central sector of the Italian front to occupy the important village of Alfedena, allied headquarters announced today.

The high command communique said the village had been destroyed by the retreating Germans. (The Cairo radio said Eighth Army units crossed the Sangro the Germans announced in a message yesterday.)

"Enemy artillery was active on the Fifth Army front," the bulletin said. "There was little improvement in the weather which continues to hamper operations."

The communique also referred to heavy rain on the remainder of the British front toward the Adriatic and said, "There was little change."

SMALL FARMERS DIVERSIFYING  
College Station, Raleigh, Nov. 24—Small farmers are diversifying their activities and they are adding large amounts of food to the stockpiles being built up in the "Food For Freedom" fight, says County Agent E. H. Garrison, Jr. in a report to the State College Extension Service here.

Southwest Pacific Allied Headquarters, Nov. 24—(AP)—Allied bombers and fighters making their latest visit to the Gasmata area on New Britain have blasted Japanese air and supply bases with 142 tons of bombs, the heaviest load yet.

The Monday raid, announced by General Douglas MacArthur today, brought to 329 tons the total amount of bombs dropped there in three consecutive days.

It was the outstanding pinch delivered during the day by Allied airmen who visited 11 enemy positions in all, leaving a total of 210 tons of explosive calling cards.

The latest attack on the Gasmata sector made by more than 100 bombers and fighters, were directed at the airbase on Agat Island and installations at Lindenhafen. The three sped it with a machine gun strafing using 35 rounds of ammunition. They left numerous fires and heavy damage.

No mention was made of fighting in the Sattelberg area on northeastern New Guinea, where Australian troops and tanks have been advancing slowly against Japanese entrenched positions.