

## Peace Talk Is Nazi Effort To Outweigh Big Three Meeting

### Germans Use Wiles Of Their Propaganda To Stave Off Defeat

Washington, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Talk of German peace overtures was viewed here today as indicating that Nazi leaders have launched a propaganda offensive to counter the expected big news from a conference of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin.

This meeting, which probably also involves discussions with Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, may be current now; at least Washington and London, after days of tentative guessing, now take it for granted that it has not already been held and must be at hand.

The agreement which may be announced by the Big Three of the European war must be of utmost concern to the Nazis because of their effect on the next crucial months of the conflict. During those months Germany, while devoid of all hope of victory, may still try for a peace short of unconditional surrender.

In the meantime, as some observers have seen the situation, the Nazis can be expected to use all the wiles of their propaganda machine to stave off utter defeat and to create as much confusion as possible in Allied ranks. Secretary of State Hull put the peace talk in this category yesterday by saying it is intended to cause overconfidence in the Allied camp and thus impair the war effort.

One of the most talked of subjects on which some announcement may be made is just what unconditional surrender would mean not only to the people of Germany but also to the populations of axis-dominated countries such as those in the Balkans. Some political experts feel that a timely appeal to the dominated peoples, now that Russian armies are approaching so close to their borders, might help bring about their surrender.

Similarly it has been suggested in dispatches from London that an Allied statement to the German people, backed by Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin, might hasten the internal collapse of the Reich, especially since it would implement the forestal argument now being carried to Berlin by Allied bombers.

## Gripsholm To Dock On Wednesday

New York, Nov. 30.—(AP)—The diplomatic exchange ship Gripsholm will steam into New York harbor tomorrow morning, bringing home from the Orient 1,236 United States nationals and 221 Canadians interned by the Japanese after Pearl Harbor.

Relatives and friends of the participants, many of whom have not been in the United States in many years, began arriving in New York today to welcome them.

However, few of them will see the 1,124-ton Swedish liner, making her second such mission, come up the bay to end her long voyage from Portuguese East India, where the exchange of Japanese nationals took place.

The State Department has announced that for security reasons relatives and friends will not be allowed on the pier in Jersey City where the ship will dock. They have been advised to remain in their hotels and give the Red Cross, which will have representatives at the pier, giving information of their whereabouts.

## Lower Quality Materiel Reflects Impact Of Raids

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, Nov. 30.—(AP)—The deteriorating quality of German materiel tells the story of the steadily increasing weight of Allied bombing raids on the Third Reich industrial centers, army ordnance officers said today.

Likewise, some deterioration in the quality of Japanese equipment—although in a much lesser degree, shows the effects of the navy knife being applied to Nippon's life lines, the cargo ships which carry vital materials to factories in the land of the rising sun.

These are just parts of the story which ordnance officers pieced to-

## Seeks Peace?



REPORTS reaching this country indicate that Franz von Papen (above), Nazi ambassador to Turkey, has conferred with Pope Pius XII at the Vatican within the last few days. It is rumored that the German trouble-shooter has requested his Holiness to mediate in the war between Germany and the United Nations. (International)

## Ickes-Lewis Agreement Quirk Seen

### WLB Approved Not Wage Increase But Increase in Earning

Washington, Nov. 30.—(AP)—A quirk in the agreement between Interior Secretary Ickes and John L. Lewis—regarded in some quarters as an underlying fiction—came to the fore today on the basis of data prepared by the Solids Fuels Administration.

It explains in part why coal prices are going up, even though the War Labor Board says it did not approve a wage increase. It indicates, too, why another coal crisis may be hatching.

What the War Labor Board approved was not a wage increase, but an increase in earnings. The WLB justified its approval on the basis of an increased production time of one hour a day. But the increase in working time is based in part on an assumption, and therein lies the asserted fiction.

Its extent is disclosed in a letter from Stabilization Director Fred Vinson to the OPA authorizing price increases average 17 cents a ton. Vinson said the solid fuels administrator (Ickes) told him the increased labor costs resulting from the new wage agreement should be computed on an estimated "production increase of approximately eight percent by reason of the additional work time provided for in the agreement."

This 8 percent increase in production is substantially short of the amount due from an addition normal hour of work. Mathematically, the increase would be more than 14 percent. In other words, Ickes now estimate he will get only 56 percent of normal production for the additional hour for which the WLB approved wage payments at time and a half rate. Operators doubt it will be that high.

## Lower Quality Materiel Reflects Impact Of Raids

At the nation's largest proving ground for military equipment. Generally speaking, the ordnance officers agreed that both German and Japanese equipment is either equalled or surpassed in every case by American materiel of war.

The officers who study captured guns, tanks, half-tracks and other vehicles are quick to say that the Germans are master craftsmen, and that their equipment shows it.

The Japs and Italians are called "third rate," and Colonel George G. Eddy, chief of the research center, asserted that not a single weapon can be said to be truly Japanese.

## Eighth Army Cracks Main Nazi Line

### Reds Now Driving West On Six Sectors

## Converge In Pincers On Zhlobin

### Take Stryeshin Near Zhlobin and Capture 40 Villages in Drive

Moscow, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Russian armies rolled steadily westward on six sectors of the long front today—three in White Russia and three in the Ukraine—doggedly battering their way through forests, swamps and plains densely spotted with heavily fortified German defense works.

Greatest progress was reported in the Zhlobin sector northwest of captured Gomel, where General Constantine Rokossovsky's troops were converging in a pincers movement on that rail hub and fortress guarding the Gomel escape gap.

A Russian communique said that Red army spearheads had captured Stryeshin, twelve miles south of Zhlobin, and had seized 40 villages in a smashing drive from the west toward that strategic enemy base.

Other advances were recorded in the Berezhina and Pripet river valleys west of the Dnieper. Eight hundred Germans were reported killed as the Russians surged forward in this area, stabbing closer to the enemy supply system while the Nazis steadily retreated toward the old Polish border.

More than 200 miles to the south in the great bend of the Dnieper, another Russian army launched a renewed drive on the west bank of the river between Kiev and Kremenchuk.

## Claim That Conference Completed

New York, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Reuters, the British news agency, today received a dispatch datelined Lisbon which said "it is known here definitely" that President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and President Chiang Kai-shek have completed a long conference in Cairo now on en route to Iran (Persia) to meet Premier Stalin.

An Associated Press dispatch from London said this Reuters dispatch was not distributed by Reuters in Britain.

However, it was transmitted through London and reached New York by normal radio transmission.

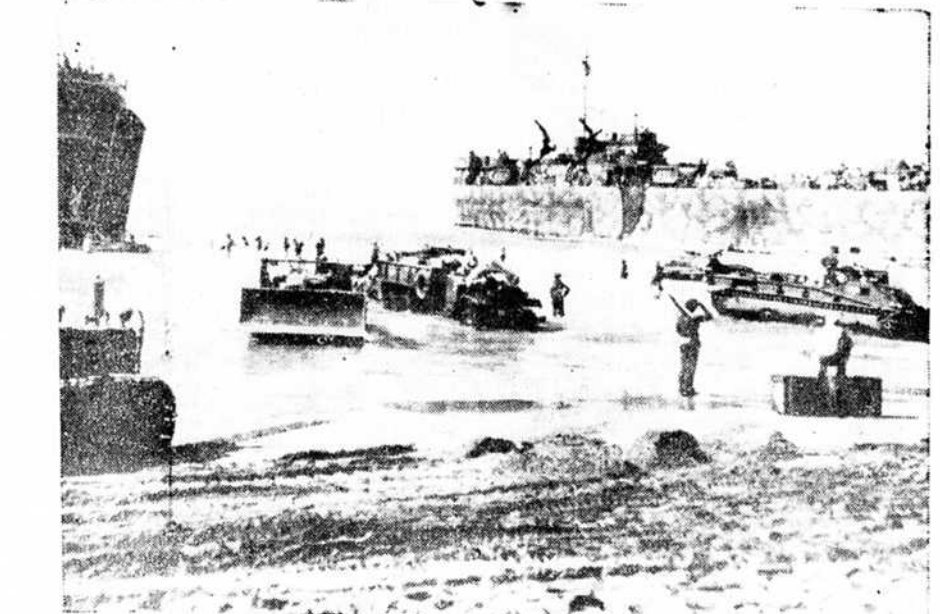
## German Drives On Yugoslavs Stopped Short

London, Nov. 30.—(AP)—German drives against partisan forces in Herzegovina and Bosnia have been stopped short with heavy Nazi losses, a communique from the Yugoslav national army of liberation announced today.

OPA described the provision, effective Saturday, as an emergency measure designed to conserve these foods which might be lost if not moved into consumption quickly.

Ration point values may be cut 25 per cent when there is a similar price reduction, and proportionately more when the price is cut further. If the reduction is at least 50 per cent, the items may be sold point free.

## LANDING SUPPLIES UNDER NOSES OF JAPS



UNMOLESTED BY NEARBY JAPS, two giant landing craft drop anchor a few feet from the shore of Bougainville Island in the Solomons to discharge supplies for the U. S. Marines and their Army reinforcements who, at latest reports, are steadily pushing ahead from the beachhead they established at Empress August Bay. Here tractors, bulldozers and trucks clear their way ashore. Marine Corps photo. (International)

## Australians Closing In On Jap Jungle Outpost

### Silenced Nazi Base



VETERAN of 34 years' service in the Coast Guard, Capt. Carl C. Von Panisen is back in the U. S. after leading the force which destroyed the Nazi radio station on Greenland. It took his two ships 29 days to plough through ice packs to reach the area. (International)

## May Reduce Point Value On Some Foods

Washington, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Canned, frozen and dried rationed foods may be sold at reduced point values if there is imminent danger of spoilage and prices are cut at least 25 per cent, the Office of Price Administration ruled today.

## 11TH ARTILLERY GETS NEW HEAD

Camp Butler, Nov. 30.—Announcement of the appointment of Col. Kenyon P. Flagg as commanding officer of the 11th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Group, stationed at Camp Butler, was announced by Col. H. M. Pool, post commander today. Col. Flagg, with a record of twenty-six years of military service behind him, reduces Col. A. M. Lawrence whose new duties have not yet been announced.

## Drive Began Sunday; Goal Within Sight At New Guinea Spot

Southwest Pacific Allied Headquarters, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Seasoned Australian troops, the conquest of Sattelberg behind them, are closing in on Bougainville, another Japanese outpost in the New Guinea jungle.

Tanks crunched through the tangled undergrowth in support of the troops as the attack started, while Billy Mitchell bombers slammed the treetops, slashing enemy positions with machine gun fire.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced the assault began last Saturday. By Sunday afternoon the Australians were within a mile of their objective. The distance gained was not given.

Bougainville, northeast of Sattelberg, which fell to the Allies November 26, a spokesman said its capture was necessary to iron out a bulge in Allied lines.

A strong force of Liberators dumped 94 tons of bombs on Wevaka, Japanese stronghold on the northeast coast of New Guinea. There was no interception. This puzzled air force officers because at last reports the enemy had more than 50 fighters in the Wevaka area.

In the Solomons, fighters and bombers of the 13th air force continued the heavy offensive against Bougainville. Here, too, the Japanese failed to offer any fighter resistance. One Allied fighter was forced down by anti-aircraft fire but the pilot was saved.

21 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT

DO MAIL EARLY

Buy Christmas Seals

## U. S. Bomber Raid Today Sets Record

London, Nov. 30.—(AP)—U. S. Eighth Air Force heavy bombers attacked targets in western Germany in daylight today setting a record of 11 major raids for one month's heavy operations from bases in Britain.

Following on the heels of last night's RAF Mosquito bomber raid on the same general area, the American heavies were supported by U. S. B-24, B-26 and Allied fighters during their mission.

The long-engaged American bombers exceeded by one the previous record of ten operations set in July and recalled in September.

The announcement of the widespread fighter support was a rare combination for the big bombers which are usually accompanied only by American fighters.

It was the second successful penetration of Germany by the American bombers which bombed Bremen yesterday for the second time in four days and followed two successful RAF Mosquito night raids into the same area.

## License Tags Go On Sale Tomorrow

Raleigh, Nov. 30.—(AP)—State motor vehicle license plates go on sale tomorrow, and Motor Vehicle Commissioner T. Goddard urged that motorists buy their tags as soon as possible to avoid a last minute rush.

Registration cards are being mailed out, he said.

One full size plate will be issued this year instead of the tab which was sold in 1942 and affixed to the 1942 plate. The new tag will be the regular size, made of metal, with yellow numerals on a black background. They will be fixed on the rear of vehicles.

## Go Forward Four Miles From Sangro

### Portions of Vital Sangro Ridge Taken Northwest of River

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Nov. 30.—(AP)—The British Eighth Army has cracked the main winter defense line of the Germans on the Adriatic end of the Italian front by driving four miles forward from the Sangro river. Allied headquarters announced today.

In 26 hours of continuous day and night fighting General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery's forces captured portions of the vital Sangro ridge northwest of the town of Messaggeria, from the town of Montebelluna.

Simultaneously, United States units of the Allied Fifth Army fought their way forward one mile through blistering enemy shell fire to occupy the town of Castelnuovo northwest of Montebelluna.

While driving up the Sangro ridge, which was 2,000 feet above sea level, the British, New Zealand and Indian troops under Montgomery's command captured portions of the ridge.

This frontal assault on the enemy's heavily fortified mountain positions was supported by deadly artillery and aerial bombardment, which in itself was almost sufficient to make the German defense system in this section crumble.

The advancing British captured numerous prisoners from the German 65th infantry division who were described as "bombed happy," indicating they were shocked and demoralized from the heavy bombing and shelling.

After taking Montebelluna the British Army hammered away in the direction of Roncole Verdi, at the extreme south end of the ridge and north toward Fossacesia, at the northeastern end of the ridge.

During this surge onto higher ground seven villages were overrun.

## Explosion at War Plant Kills Two

New York, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Two persons, including a 28-year-old guard who rescued two men, were injured fatally and 30 or more were hurt in the explosion of a leaking hydrogen tank in a lower West Side war plant.

The plant guard, Robert Heller of Brooklyn, on duty near a loading platform where the hydrogen was stored, died in Beckman hospital several hours after the blast. The second victim, Antonio Gangarolo of Brooklyn, died in the same hospital.

North Carolinians Receive Promotion

Washington, Nov. 30.—(AP)—The War Department announced today the following temporary promotions:

North Carolina

Captain to major Henry Harrison Bruce, route 1, Elm City.

First lieutenant to captain William Allen Exam, Snow Hill.

Commissions Revoked By Broughton

Raleigh, Nov. 30.—(AP)—Governor Broughton today revoked the commissions of Leo D. Lewis of Elizabeth City, Justice of the Peace, and C. D. Brantley, Jr., of Spring Hope, notary public.

The Governor said that Lewis' commission was revoked following conviction in Postmaster's superior court of embezzlement and making false and fraudulent reports in connection with criminal matters handled in his capacity as a justice of the peace.

Revocation of Brantley's notary commission was ordered following judgment recently entered by Judge Walter J. Bone in Nash superior court, in which it was found that Brantley had been extensively engaged in the unauthorized practice of law done under the cover of the position of notary public.

## Berlin Claims Three Powers Meet In Iran

London, Nov. 30.—(AP)—A Berlin broadcast said today that diplomatic circles in Ankara claim to know the planned meeting of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin is to take place at Teheran.

The broadcast was one of many guesses that the Berlin radio has made in the past few days about the time and place of a conference of the leaders of the United States, Great Britain, Russia and perhaps China.

Teheran is the capital of Iran (Persia).