

Soviets Speed German Flight

Americans Dash Toward Rome After Taking Of San Pietro

WELCOME FOR GRANDDAD



President Roosevelt steps from his car at the White House to be welcomed home by one of his little grandsons, John Boettiger, Jr., who probably has his mind on Christmas and he thinks not at all of world conferences.

Enemy Gives Ground Before U. S. Forces And British Armies

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Dec. 20 — (AP) — Lt. Gen. Gen. Mark W. Clark's Fifth Army, which captured the heavily fortified village of San Pietro after three days of furious fighting, has hammered out new gains toward San Vittore, next strong defense on the road to Cassino, and in the mountains to the northeast has registered gains up to two miles.

General Bernard Montgomery's Eighth Army, supported by tanks, overran an enemy position in the sector along the Adriatic coast, inflicting severe losses, while advancing about a mile further inland and capturing the village of Consaia, six miles from Orsogna.

Fifth Army troops north of Venafro, ending the Italian peninsula hilly backbone, were blasting their way through the difficult terrain and forcing enemy forces to give ground in what a military commentator characterized as a "hurried departure."

French troops in the central sector were said to be putting up a spirited fight for one mountain pass.

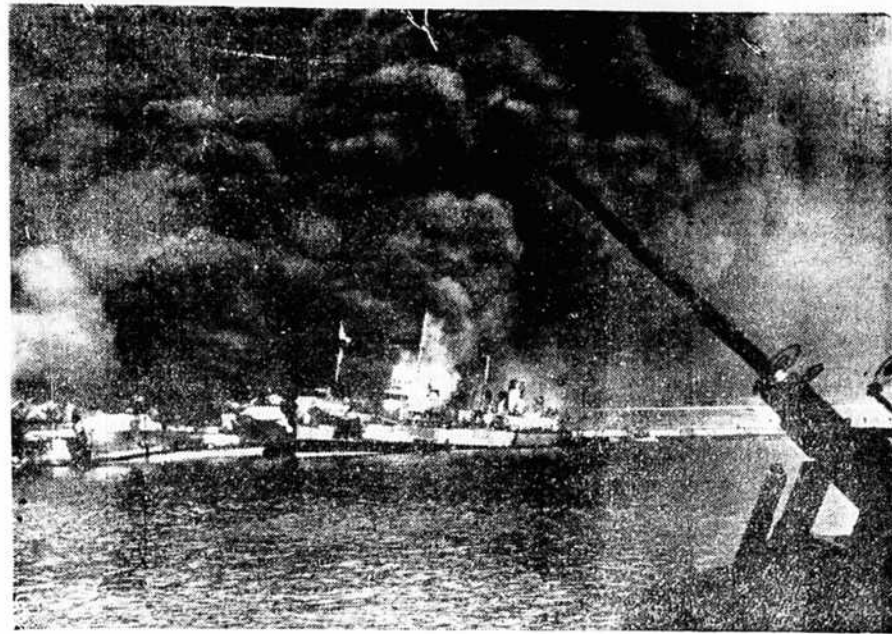
Heavy losses suffered by the Germans' 90th light armored division for the second time threatened that unit with extinction. A spokesman said reports from the Eighth Army front showed this division had lost about half its strength.

Two battalions of the division's 261st regiment had been consolidated, it said, and 2,400 infantrymen from the division's two infantry regiments had been killed, wounded or taken prisoner.

This division was a part of Marshal Rommel's Afrika Korps until it was wiped out by the Eighth Army. It was reconstituted in Corsica and transferred to the mainland.

San Pietro marked an important victory in the march up the road to Rome.

BLAZING ALLIED SHIPS AFTER NAZI RAID AT BARI



THICK BLACK SMOKE billows from a number of the 17 to 25 Allied ships that were set afire by attacking Nazi planes in the harbor of Bari, Italy, on December 2. Secretary of War Stimson disclosed that more than 1,000 casualties were caused by the raid. Five of the ships destroyed in the low-level attack were American. In the right foreground is an anti-aircraft gun. Official U. S. Signal Corps photo. (International Soundphoto)

U.S. Bombers Jap Air Attacks Balked Hit Hard At At New Guinea Air Field Nazi Coast

Northwestern U-Boat Eases Are Hammered; Attacks From South

London, Dec. 20 — (AP) — American heavy bombers struck from the west at much battered Germany in daylight today in a quick follow-up to yesterday's Mediterranean-based Allied heavy bomber assault on Innsbruck and Augsburg, 20 miles northwest of Munich, on the Brenner Pass route.

The big American planes were escorted by fleet fighters again in their renewed onslaught on their favorite recent targets, Hitler's U-boat pens and the shipbuilding ports of the North Sea.

Yesterday's first blow in the one-two punch at German industry from the west and south was made through fierce fighter opposition. The Germans threw up more than 100 planes in a futile attempt to halt the Liberators and Flying Fortress formations winging in from the south.

Thirty-seven of the attacks were shot down in flames and 22 others probably were destroyed, to a loss of 16 Mediterranean-based Allied planes, during the day's operations. Some of the missing Allied planes were believed to have landed in friendly territory.

The Los Angeles railway yards were subjected to a great and accurate bombardment, said the Allied communications from Algiers. In addition to the plants at Innsbruck, which lies just north of Rome, and at Augsburg, Mediterranean-based planes pounded rail communications in central Italy, a railway junction and harbor shipping in the Adriatic and on Italy's west coast.

Not only was the raid on Augsburg the deepest southern penetration of Germany from the Mediterranean theater to date, it also was the longest penetration from that theater, and demonstrated that heavy attacks on Germany may expect heavy attacks on her homeland from the south as well as the west.

It proved that Allied southern and western air power is now in position to concentrate on Germany targets simultaneously to deliver a maximum weight of explosives.

American Invaders Continue Advances On Big Plane Base

Allied Headquarters, New Guinea, Dec. 20 — (AP) — American invasion forces on New Britain island are approaching the Arave air strip six miles east of the tip of the Arave peninsula, a headquarters spokesman announced today.

Japanese air attacks against positions of the United States Sixth Army on the southwest coast of the big Japanese-held island, are diminishing in the face of strong Allied air support for the ground forces.

Possibility that the presently unserviceable Arave air strip may be in American hands by this time was suggested by the headquarters spokesman's statement that the Americans are approaching the field. He said the bulletin was based on reports as of late Saturday.

Capture of the air strip would give the Allies another hopping-off point for aerial attacks against Rabaul, the main Japanese base on New Britain, which is 280 miles from Arave. But Allied planes already have struck at Rabaul from newly won bases in the Solomons.

The first all-fighter sweep over Rabaul in the war was staged Friday by the South Pacific Force under Admiral William Halsey and consisted of the crossing web of air bases the Allies are opening around the already battered stronghold.

Halsey's spokesman said the 30 planes came from "various South Pacific bases," but reports from General Douglas MacArthur's advanced headquarters indicated at least part of this fighter force came from the new air strike carried out by the Douglas's fighters at Espiritu Santo, a 250-airline-mile-long island.

Halsey's spokesman said the raid served to harass and to strafe the enemy positions but to stop up the Japanese fighter planes.

Japanese planes still sought to

Wreck Fatalities Now Placed at 72, With More Likely

London, Dec. 20 — (AP) — The number of lives dead from the double wreck last Thursday of two Atlantic Coast Line passenger trains was 72 today, although railroad officials said there still might be one or two bodies under one section of a coach.

The engineer of the derailed south bound train, into which another train plowed, said yesterday "we did everything we could, and that about sums up the whole matter."

The engineer, William Meyer, said in a statement at Rocky Mount that the headlights of his engine were on and that there was no reason why they should have blinded Frank Belknap, engineer of the northbound train.

Pro-Allied Regime Out In Bolivia

La Paz, Bolivia, Dec. 20 — (AP) — The pro-Allied Bolivian government of President Penaranda was overthrown today in a coup d'etat, as leaders of the national revolutionary movement, an organization described as strongly opposed to the policies of the United States.

President Penaranda was reported to have been placed under arrest by the revolutionary movement, made up of both soldiers and youth organizations.

Victor Paz Estensabor, revolution-

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break through the door to seek an umbrella protecting the newly-born New Britain stronghold.

Byrd Demands Guffey Quit; Guffey Refuses To Get Out

Washington, Dec. 20 — (AP) — The feud between the Senate's northern and southern Democrats got its second wind today, Senator Guffey, Democrat, Pennsylvania, asserting he would not be "forced out" as chairman of the party's senatorial campaign committee, and Senator Byrd, Virginia Democrat, demanding that Guffey be replaced immediately.

Guffey, who had offered his resignation, told a reporter that he was not going to be placed in a position of being ousted because of attacks that had been made on him for his charge that southern Democrats had joined in an "unholy alliance" with Republicans against the administration's service vote bill.

Other southerners would take the initiative in bringing this issue before the Senate Democratic conference if Majority Leader Barkley, Kentucky, does not act soon to replace the Pennsylvania.

The soldier vote bill, which provided the spark for the row, would have set up a Federal commission to collect and count the ballots of the armed forces in 1944. The condition which Guffey attacked required the measure with a proposal to increase the election cutoff in the hands of the states.

Nazi Anchor In South Is Wiped Out

Hitler May Retreat To Bug River Line; Near Riga in North

London, Dec. 20 — (AP) — The Red army has smashed the southern anchor of Hitler's Russian front, forcing the Germans to retreat from their Kherson bridgehead at the lower extremity of the Dnieper river, the Berlin radio acknowledged today, while to the north powerful Soviet units pouring through Nazi defenses in the Nevel sector in a new winter offensive, stretched to within 57 miles of the Latvian border.

The loss of the Kherson bridgehead left the Germans without a vital defensive anchor west of the Bug river, 200 miles to the rear on the way to Odessa.

The big Russian drive in the north, now in its sixth day, has already overrun 500 villages and cavalry and white-robed ski hordes, and Russian tank troops today were surging toward Polotsk, key rail junction near the old Polish and Latvian borders.

A Moscow official said today that the most important locations of the Red army in the north are now 200 miles from Riga. Between the advanced positions and Riga run two main trunk railroads through the German zone for supplying the whole Leningrad and northwest fronts. These now are within striking distance.

The new Russian offensive also diverted the Germans from their push west of Kiev and should halt the huge reinforcements which they have been pouring to that front.

Military men in London backed the new drive because it is the most direct toward Germany proper, East Prussia being a little less than 500 miles west of the Nevel sector.

Funeral On Tuesday For Mrs. Daniels

Raleigh, Dec. 20 — (AP) — Mrs. Adine Bagley Daniels, 74, wife of Joseph Daniels, died last night at her home here after a long illness. She was the wife of the publisher of The News and Observer, who was secretary of the navy during World War I and recently served as ambassador to Mexico.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 2 p. m. in the First Presbyterian church here.

Mrs. Daniels, a native of Raleigh, was the daughter of Major Will H. Bagley and Adelaide Worth, the latter a daughter of Governor Jonathan Worth. After completing her education at Peace Institute, she became active in women's affairs.

She was the first woman trustee of the first woman's office established at the time of her death, and she was a leader of the women's workers' establishment of the Y. M. C. A. here. She was a former president of the Raleigh chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and was the author of the resolution requesting that figures of Confederate leaders be carved on Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Mrs. Daniels was the first woman trustee of Rex hospital here, and she served as chairman of the board from 1924 to until her husband became ambassador to Mexico in 1932. The hospital built a nursing home last year and named it in her honor.

During the World War, Mrs. Daniels was president of the Navy Red Cross, and in 1920 she represented the United States at the World Women's Suffrage Conference in Geneva.

Mrs. Daniels held the honorary degree of doctor of laws from the University of North Carolina Woman's College. At the time it was awarded, Judge Florence Allen, of the United States Circuit Court bench, was the only other woman to have been given an honorary degree by this institution.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniels celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last May.

Survivors include her husband; four sons, Frank Arthur Daniels, Jonathan Daniels, Captain Joseph Daniels, Jr., and Lt. Col. Worth Bagley Daniels, and a brother, Admiral David Worth Bagley, of San Diego, California.

Concessions Other Than Wage Boosts Considered

Paid Vacations and More Overtime Are Among Plans Talked

Washington, Dec. 20 — (AP) — Concessions to railroad workers in some form other than additional flat increases in basic wages are under consideration as possible measures to avert a threatened nationwide rail strike beginning December 30.

A mediation conference which began around President Roosevelt's desk yesterday, then moved to the White House cabinet room, adjourned nearly five hours later without a "final agreement," but the conferees planned further discussions beginning tomorrow morning.

A variety of concessions for the operating brotherhoods were suggested but apparently none of these has crystallized to the point where any agreement may be expected immediately.

Concessions to the rail workers might take the form of paid vacations, more liberal overtime, or lay-over expenses for such periods as the men who ride the trains incur when they lay over for a day at a terminal away from home.

Such expenses are reckoned at more than \$500 a year per man.

There is ample precedent under the stabilization program for concessions other than basic wage increases, which are the only kind of increases calculated under the "little steel" formula.

News Is All Good From Sick Bed Of Winston Churchill

London, Dec. 20 — (AP) — The news from Prime Minister Winston Churchill's sick bed was all good today.

A bulletin issued yesterday afternoon said temperature was normal and that the pneumonia which sent him to bed somewhere in the Middle East was disappearing.

The latest bulletin made no reference to an irregularity of pulse mentioned Saturday. This had given some uneasiness, since the 69-year-old prime minister is being attended by a heart specialist.

Norwegian Capital Rocked from Blast Of German Vessel

Stockholm, Dec. 20 — (AP) — Oslo was shaken today by exploding ammunition thrown into the city by the blowing up of a German munitions ship in the harbor 24 hours earlier.

The German-controlled Scandinavian telegraph bureau called the blast the worst catastrophe the Norwegian capital ever experienced.

The hotel Bristol was requisitioned as a hospital for great numbers of wounded. There was still no official list of casualties, but first reports said only four were killed.

The explosion occurred at 2.30 p. m. yesterday while the Germans were unloading the munitions ship, although there were widespread speculations as to whether sabotage was responsible. German authorities were meted as saying the explosion was pure accident.

Federal Tax To Be Hiked In New Bill

Washington, Dec. 20 — (AP) — The 1944 Federal income tax picture may change again before Congress finally agrees on a bill, but the latest plan calls for a moderate boost in taxpayers' assessments.

That's the Senate Finance Committee's revision of the measure passed by the House. To become law, it would have to win Senate approval and agreement by the House to the changes.

The boost would come through curbing the earned income credit now granted in figuring the normal income tax. The tax rate would be unchanged under the committee's plan.

This proposed change would not affect salaries, as the earned income credit does not apply on them, and it would have to be approved by the Senate Finance Committee also would make the victory tax a flat three percent on all income, whether married or single, over \$224 a year.

However, no matter what from the revenue bill finally takes, it will not affect 1943 taxes.

Six Persons Die Violently in N. C. During Week-End

Charlotte, Dec. 20 — (AP) — At least six persons died by violence in North Carolina during the week-end.

Dexter S. Orr, 47, his wife, Mrs. Mary Agnes Orr, 40, and their six months old daughter, Dexter Devonne, burned to death in a fire that destroyed their home five miles east of Charlotte on the Albemarle highway.

Mrs. Donna Condes, 63, of Mt. Airy died in a hospital of burns she received at her home when her night clothing ignited as she stood before a fireplace.

Willie Jones, a Negro, was found dead on a street here and police expressed the belief he was the victim of a hit and run motorist.

William Everett Dean, 32, was killed when his car turned over and rolled down an embankment near his home in East Bend, in Yadkin county.

4 SHOPPING DAYS LEFT Buy Christmas Seals