2,000 Tons

Bombs Hit

Frankfurt

U. S. and Britain Losc

90 Planes in 24 Hours

London, Dec. 21 — (AP) — Hundreds of RAF bombers gave Frankfurt its most crush-

ing blow of the war last night, raining 2,000 long tons of in-

cendiaries and explosives on the German chemical and arm-

ament center.

ament center.

In this and subsidiary attacks the RAF lost 42 hombers.

The great air offensive against Germany reached a new intensity with these additional attacks during the past 24 hours:

1. RAF subsidiary formations attacked Maunitein - Ludwigshafen, Mosquitos stabled at western Germany and Belgium and mines were laid in cremy waters.

2. Heavy formations of American dialectatics and Fortresses in daylight struck heavily at the German U-beat campaign by osmbing 3 remen.

3. American handows.

nin U-boat renegations based on the Mediterraneon for the lifth lions in recent weeks bloste her and yards of Sofia, capital of war weary Bulgaria and a large airfield near Athens.

fighters over northern France.
Last night's RAF attack probably with Berlin, Cologne, Hamburg and placed Frankfurt in the catergory Kassel as Germany's most bomoed cities. It was carried out in near top strength by a force which possibly number 300 or more heavy bombers.
Huge fires were left burning in the city for more than a half mile.

Of Attack on Reich

# Resumption Today Of Conferences In Railroad Dispute

FDR Says Assurance Of No Train Stoppage Good Christmas Gift

Washington, Dec. 21-(AP) White House conferences designed to settle the railroad wage dispute—and avert a scheduled strike-were resumed today, fast on the heels of a presidential statement that the best Christmas present the American people could get would be an assurance there would be no general transpor-

would be no general transportation stoppage.

The operating brotherboods have already set December 20 as the datter starting a progressive walkounant the 15 nen-operating unions planned to select their own strike date late today, probably to coincide with that of their tellow workers.

Workers of the five operating railroad brotherboods went back to the White House in the early afternoon to discuss with the President his proposal for settling their wage case by supplementing a previous four cents an hour award with an additional four cents in the form of overtime compensation.

ional four cents in the form of overtime compensation.

The brotherhood chiefs discussed the satisfion with their executive committees for several hours carbier in the day. It was understood that the the leaders were not prepared to pledge an outright acceptace of the preposal but would ask, or addition, an allowance for vacations.

The exact method the President had in mind for calculating a sunnlementary four cents an hour for overtime was not immediately clarified.

However, Mr. Rossevelt said he isoped that ridway executives and employe representatives could get but the country of the

### Senate Retains Nominations for-

### Navy-Made Jaw



The extent to which American surgical science can rebuild a body shattered by war is shown in Marine Pfc. John Reed of Indiana, Penn., who is now sporting a new jaw, thanks to the Navy's doctors. He received his injuries in the fight for Guadaleanal. (International)

### Wreck Probe Is Launched; Dead Are 72

Generals' Ranks Red Cross completed today its identification of civilian dead and put the final death toll in last Thursday's

# N. C. Laws Adequate For Soldier Absentee Voting

Raleign. Dec. 21.—(AP)—North Cardina Laws, as amended by the 1943 legislature, are "tulty adequate" to afford soldiers an opportunity to vote in primaries and general escendence to the analysis of the assembly could not improve them, Governor Broughton said to day.

He made the statement after a conference with Col. William T. Joyner of Relieigh, chairman of the state board of elections. Raymond Maxwell, secretary of the board, and secretary of t



Lumberton, Dec. 21.-(AP) - The

# Americans

# U. S. Army In Italy Gains Two Miles RAIL UNION LEADERS CONFER WITH F. D. R.

# Nazis Fight To Bolster Satellites

Bulgarian Bombings Severe With Growing Losses for Germans

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Dec. 21 — (AP) — American Fifth Army forces have lunged forward 212 miles in a snowstorm to capture 2.600 foot Mount Spinuccio, while U. S. 15th Air Force heavy bombers escorted by long range fighters attacked Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria, and an Athens air-field, it was announced today. In a companion drive, General Mertgemeny's Eighth Army forces insided ahead in "stiff tighting" to-ward Todo in the central sector of the Advante front, improving their positions near Ortona, the Allied headquarters communique added. German resistance was said to be increasing.

German resistance was said to be increasing.

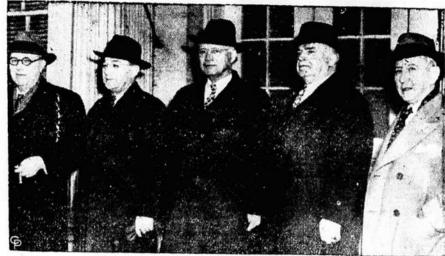
Allied planes shot down 28 enems planes in the twin attacks on Solia railroad yards and the Elevis airfield in Greece and in other operations which included fighter-bomber raids on rain and motor targets in the Rome area. Eleven allied planes failed to return. This brought the German are force bases in two days of sky battles to 71 planes plus three more shed down by American anti-arreaft fire during two German attacks on newly captured San Pietro.

Another announcement said that American motor torpedo boats, which gained fame in the Pacific, teamed up with British craft to fight a vigorous night action December 18 off the island of Elha with two Nazi deestroyers on which torpedo hits were secred.

Apparently trying hard to keep their Balkan satelities from being bombed out of the war, the Germans threw large numbers of fighters into the air. Fighting American infantrymen, who have been ceaselessly attacking for several days, swarmed up the slopes of Mount Spinnuccio, to 2½ miles west of recently taken Lagone, under severe conditions. All Generals' Ranks

Washington, Dec. 21.—(AP)—Majority Leader Barkley, Kentucky Denostrat, intervesced tody to keep dive presidential noninations to invice the permanent rank of 14 generals, among them L2. Generals, among the permanent rank of 14 generals, among them L2. General General

London, Dec. 21,—(AP)—The German DNB agency said today that Vice Admiral Ludwig Von Reuter, 75, who ordered the scuttling of the German fleet in Scapa Flow in 1919, died today of heart disease. The Berlin broadcast was recorded by the Associated Press.



Acting to avert or postpone the threatened "progressive" national railroad strike scheduled to start Dec. 30. President Roosevelt summoned to Washington on Sunday the five leaders of the operating brotherhoods (above) and representatives of the roads. The union ment shown catside of the White House, are (f. to r.) T. C. Cashen, president of the A. F. L.'s switchmen's union; H. M. Fraser, president of the order of railway conductors; A. F. Whitney, president of the brotherhood of railroad trainmen: Alvanley Johnson, head of the brotherhood of locomotive enginees, and D. B. Robertson, president of the brotherhood of locomotive firemen and enginemen. (International Soundphoto.)

# Russian Army Advances New Chinese To Point Near Vitebsk

Breakthrough Perils Whole German Sector South of Leningrad

London, Dec. 21 — (AP) — The Russian Baltic army, steadily expanding its breach in the heavily-fortified German line, has plunged down the east side of the Nevel-Vitebsk rail-way to within 20 miles of Vitebsk. Reuters reported today from Moscow.

from Moscow.

This represented an advance of some 15 miles for the Russian forces from their last reported position. The Reds stand barely 50 miles from the old Polish and Latvian frontiers.

The Red army's success in northern Russia, threatening to disrupt the entire Nazi defense system south of Leningrad, had immediate repercussions on other sectors of the long eastern front. Dispatches indicated that new remioresements the Gernew reinforcements the Germans are throwing into the Nevel battle were possibly being drawn from the front west of Kiev, if not further south.

Troops of the first Ukraine ar no successfully balked Nazi N drive in the Kiev bulge last week, were back in the Korosten sector yesterday, front dispatches said, and had repulsed a series of sharp en-

Dispatches said that the Rus-Dispatches said that the Ris-sians were now exerting strong pressure from the southwest of Kriwvegrad, Duieper bend en-emy base, in an apparent drive to isolate that industrial cenier. The Russian communique said the Germans lost 1200 men kill-ed and 59 tanks destroyed in futile counterattacks there yes-

terday. A German was quibed by man military spokesman ed by a Stockholm news-saying that the Germans fragers from the Kieve bulge southward toward Ki-

(Continued on Page Two.)

### CHURCHILL IS STILL SLOWLY IMPROVING

London, Dec. 21 — (AP) — Prime Minister Churchill "con-tinues to improve" in his recov-ery from pneumonia, No. 10 Downing street announced to-

### MacArthur Silent About Nomination To the Presidency

Advanced Allied Headquarters, New Guinea, Dec. 21—(AF)—No comment was available from General Douglas MacArthur or his staff today on the latest Washington pressories suggesting that he would accept the Republican presidential nomination.

The Southwest Pacific commander and his senior officers were described as too occupied with the curent New Britain campaign to have time or opportunity for comment on political issues.

litical issues.

### Yugoslav Army In Great Advance In For Major Battle

London, Dec. 21.—(AP)—The 250.00-man Yugoslav partisan army of Marshal Tito announced today it had advanced into the vicinity of the Croatian capital of Zagreb, in a campaign which London termed a major battle. Tito's resilient forces were declared in London to be engaging nine German and three puppet divisions in the main fighting areas in addition to containing three to four Nazi divisions in sporadic combats in the Istrian peninsula bordering Italy. The Germans and their mercenaries were said to have six divisions in Croatia, two on the Dalmatian coast and four in the Moster region, including the Prince Ugene SS Elite outfit. London, Dec. 21—(AP)—The 250,00-man Yugoslav partisan army of Marshal Tito announced today it had advanced into the vicinity of the Croatian capital of Zagreb, in a campaign which London termed a major battle.

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Polish Air

Force Ready

To Go Alone

Lendon, Dec. 21—(AP)—The Polish air force, third largest based in Britan, was declared alonged transported in the expected integer and proper from the west. The rehith of Polard's air arm as an antengenous group will occur not repeat to the end the expected integer and proper from the west. The rehith of Polard's air arm as an antengenous group will occur not get been disclosed by the British and whom the force has been operating to their years.

But it is known that the Polish air iorre is far stronger than when its fliers book to the air in 1939 to hurt themselves fathely against the then all-noverful German air force is vailing the Polish homeland. The Polish force now embraces 14 well-equipped and highly trained squadrons

## Broughton Seeks Relaxing of Bans

# Victory In "Rice Bowl"

Four Jap Bases Are Taken and Enemy's Position Is Menaced

Bulgaria and a large airfield near Athens.

4. American and British medium bombers spread destruction on largets in northern France.

The Allies lost more than 90 planes in the 24-hour operations. This includes 33 (counting 25 heavy bombers) over Bremen, 42 in the RAF sweeps including an unspecified number of heavy bombers, 11 in the Italian-Balkan area and six fighters over northern France.

Last night's RAF attack probably

# Huge fires were left burning in the city for more than a half uitlion which already had been so badly devastated in 41 raids that a large proportion of the population had been forced to leave. Continuing the air offensive, a steady stream-or medium and light bombers winged across the southeast coast toward France in daylight today, backing up heavy assaults begon yesterday on what may well be German rocket gun emplacements. Shipment Relieves Kerosene Shortage

Kinston, Dec. 21 — (AP) — An acute shortage of kerosene here was relieved with the arrival today of several loads of an allotment of 26,1000 barrels of the fuel from the Greenshoro pineline terminal for eastern North Carolina users.

This was said to be the first adjument made at the terminal for the costern area of the state.

Mayor John R. Sams said the at-

Felt at Kinston

peals from several mayors, civie or-gamzations and Governor Brough-

### WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

# Bolivia Tin Mines Are On Hog Rationing Guarded By New Regime

Raleigh. Dec. 21—(AP)—Governor Broughton has asked Chester Bowles, administrator of the Office of Price Administrator, to eliminate rationing of log meats for 90 days to ease what the governor termed a "grave" hog-marketing satisation. In a telegram to Bowles, Broughton said North Carolina farmers were unable to market hogs because packing companies were operating on limited schedules due to the labor she strage and were unable to take the farmers' offerings.

A copy of the telegram was sent to Marvin Jenss, War Ford administrator and were unable to take the farmers' offerings.

A copy of the telegram was sent to Marvin Jenss, War Ford administrator and the first acts of the new government which pledged, however, to lave up to Bolivia's commitments to the United Nations.