135,000 Steel Workers Are Idle

Kiev And Zhitomir Road Cut By Reds, Nazis Are Trapped

Bombed Japan



CONTRARY to popular opinion, Jimmy Declittle and his airnien were not the first to drop bombs on Japanese territory. Six years ago, this Chinese flier, Maj. S. T. Wang, participated in the bombing of Formosa, the first air raid against Japan. He is here with a group of Chinese flow property. Chinese fliers and cadets, U. S. Signal Corps photo. (International)

Nine Killed In Traffic Accidents

Charlotte, Dec. 27.—(AP)—Nine ersons died in traffic accidents in both Carolina during the Christ-ias week-end, and one froze to

General Vatutin's Forces Are Within 20 Miles of Zhitomir

Moscow, Dec. 27 - (AP) -Red army's new winter offensive across the Ukraine was retoday to have cut the Kiev-Zhitemir highway crap-ping a large German tank and

irfantry force.
General Nikolai Vatutin's
first Ukrainian army pushed
west along both sides of this road, advancing within 20 miles of Zhitemir, biggest prize of the Germans' disastrous autumn attack.

tumn attack.

The Russians continued to edge ferward through the Vitelsk fortified zone further north, working around the city from the northwest, east and southeast and coming within eight miles of this big German base. (The Vichy radio acknowledged "the initiative in the Kiev solient has passed over to Vatutin who is making predigious effects to cularge breaches in the German lines." The German communique said the Russians threw heavy tank and infantry forces into attacks on the Zhitomir area and that "battles of varying fortunes are in progress."

(The communique said Soviet penetrations on the Vitebsk from had been scaled off

ing fortunes are in progress."

(The communique said Soviet penetrations on the Vitelsk from had been sealed off and that attacking Red army spearheads had been thrown back in counterattacks. A Berlin military spokesman was quoted by the Paris radio as saying picked Soviet units have broken the German lines in the Zhlobin area between Vitebsk and Zhitomir.)

The two Red army thrusts gained momentum, bitterly assuming the proportions of a major push. A clean breakthrough in these sectors would open the way for swift advances to the Seviet barder, the western Ukrain and the Baltic regions in the northwest.

European Victory To Be In '44, Says Eisenhower

Senior Chaplain



CAPTAIN Frank H. Lash, a Navy CAPTAIN Frank H. Lash, a Navy chaplain for 27 years, has left the Great Lakes, Ill., training school to become senior chaplain with the U. S. naval forces in Europe. He iz the 97th chaplain from that station to enter foreign service in the last 32 months. (International).

Ration Effect Upon Motors Is Surprising

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

Raicigh, Dec. 27.-When the General Assembly last winter had under consideration appropriations to agencies, the colous sought to anticipate needs as they might be enlarged or decreased due to the war. Some departments were known to some departments were known to need far larger sunts, which were provided. Others were thought to re-quire less because of restricted ac-aivity.

One department that everybody

agreed would need less money was the highway commission. Another that almost everybody agreed would have less to do was the motor ve-

the nighway patrol, a division in the molor vehicles department, is credited with its busiest year since it was first established. Notwith-standing much lighter traffic on the nighways, the patrol reports that it investigated L931 accidents during the for months from January 1 to October 31.

October 31.

Further surprise is noted in the number of drivers' hecuses usued by the safety division. During the first eleven months of the year three were irsued 193,928 driver's licenses, an increase of 15.7 percent over the total for 1942. The report indicates that more cars are being given application for driving negative size of the division of the same of t cation for driving permits, since it is stated that 16 out of every hundred

Allied Headquarters, Aigiers, Dec. 27—(AP)—General Dwight D. Eisenhower, new commander of the main European invasion force, declared flatly and without qualification today that "we will win the European war in 1944."

Eisenhower made the statement at a farewell press conference before leaving for Britain to take command of the invasion of Hitler's European fortress from the west er borth.

Asked whether French forces to would be used to attack Europe, Eisenhower with the Germans and certainly would be included in any such plans.

His main task, he said, would be to weld Allied forces into one team without friction and he said he developed a sense of partnership which climinated traditional causes north. of Inction among Aliles, and as school bus devers.

BeachheadsEstablishedAfter FDR Awaits Landings On Cape Gloucester Reply From

Marines Prepare for 2nd Invasion Front On Jap Strenghold

Advanced Allied Headquar-ters, New Guinea, Dec. 27— (AP)—United States Marines swarmed ashore in two simultaneous landings at Cape Gloucester on the western tip of New Britain yesterday to es-

New Britain yesterday to establish a second invasion front on Japan's island stronghold in the southwest Pacific.

Within two, hears of both landings by veterans of the Guadaleanal campaign, General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced today both beachheads were firmly established without the less of a man.

A heavy aerial and mayal boms. A heavy aerial and naval bons-ardment accompanied the land-

ngs. One ship was lost and three damaged in the operations in addition to seven planes destroyed. The Japanese, however, lost 36 bambers and 25 fighters in despende at-tempt to stem the invasion fide. The landings, carried out in

The landings, carried out in the early morning hours yesterday, not only give the Allies the first facthold on the north coast of New Britain, but also secure complete domination, of the Vitiaz straits between New Britain and New Guinea.

U. S. Sixth Army troops severed the western roate of the enemy supply lines from Rabaud, Japan's chief base on New Britain, when they landed at Arawe on the southwest coast of the island, dbout 50 miles from Cape Gloucester.

The main landing of the strategic cape was made approximately six

The main landing of the strategic cape was made approximately six miles cast of Cape Gloucester and its airdrome. At the same time, a second Marine terre went ashore a few miles southwest of Gloucester.

General, Douglas MacArthur, in a special communique, said the Cape Gloucester campaign presages the Allies' growing command of the outer Bismarck sea and the sea lanes to Truk, the Philippines and the Netherlands East Indies. By advancing our air bases, it increases the air threat to Rabaul's supply lanes and will shortly bring the Kavieng and Admiralty islands area within the decisive reach of our land-based air attacks. The Admiralties are west of New Britain.

Railroads To Petition For Rate Increase

mile.

The North Carolina Utilities Commission, which in effect is a defendistion, which in effect is a defendent to the action, declined some time ago to allow the rate incresse. It held that the roads did not contend they needed the extra revenue but wanted the change to equalize rates and to make for more conformity.

The roads took the matter before the Interstate Commerce Commission.

contending the rate differentials created a barden which the I. C. C.

Cotton Values AreUnchanged

New York Dec. 27.—(AP)—Cel-fon futures opened ten to 15 cents a bade higher. Noon values were ma-changed to ten cents a bade lower, March 19.53. May 19.29 and July 19.09.

19.96.			
100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Prev.	Close:	Open
Moreh		19.55	19.58
May		19.30	19.32
July		19.07	10.09
October the	(0)	10.63	10.80
December (r			

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA.
Fair tonight, slightly cooler in interior. Tuesday, increasing cloudiness, occasional light rains and cooler extreme west portions in afternoon. Continued mild east and central portions.

INSPECTS NAZI DEFENSE WALL



FIELD MARSHAL Von Runstedt, commanding German forces in the west, is pictured as he recently inspected Nazi fortifications against the im-pending Allied invasion of Europe- perhaps in the area where Allied

Fifth Army Takes Two High Points Near Mt. Samucro

Troops Are Nearing San Vittore Village On Road to Cassino

Rateigh, Dec. 27.—(AP)— Interstate Commission examinates will hear a petition tomorrow of railroads open ting in North Carolina that they be allowed to raise their intrastate rates from 1.63 cents a mile to the interstate rate of 2.2 a mile.

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Dec. 27—(AP)—American troops of the Fifth Army, attacking in driving rain captured two important high points in the Mt. Samuero mass along the stoutly defended road.

Rocky Moust, Dec. 25.—(AP)
Three interstate Commerce Comm

tured two important high points in the Mt. Samuero mass along the stoutly defended road to Casino and wedged in closer to the village of San Vittore, Allied headquarters announced today.

Gritish Lighth Army forces brought an tanks to support their bloods house to house struggle for possession of Gritish high high post for the pressed German lines in Halv, and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying two more blocks in the morthwest earner of that battery and succeeded in occupying the first for first first for first first for first for first for first for first for first for first first for first for first for first for first first for first first for first for first for first first for first for first first for first for first first first for first first for first fir

I. C. C. Opens

A.C.L. Wreck

Rail Unions

President to Meet With Officials of Unions During Day

Pittsburgh, Dec. 27—(AP)
—The number of idle steel
workers passed the 135,000
mark this afternoon as headquarters of the CIO United
Steel Workers and the War Labor Board maintained silence
about President Powership. about President Roosevelt's urgent plea for a speedy settle-ment of a contract controversy which led to the walkouts.

Seeres of war Lasy plants in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Vir-ginia, Indiana, Hilmois, Mirbigan and New York, Iaffel to open after the Christmas holidays, during which contrarts between the union and 211 companies currlaying about 550,000 lapsed.

It was understood from good sources that union officials felt they had asked no more than the President outlined yesterday in bis telegram to the War Laber Beard. Murray and the steel company, but that they felt the board should first go on record officially before an appeal could be made by Marray to the men now idle.

ROOSEVELT RETURNS TO CAPITAL FOR MEETINGS

Washington, Dec. 27—(AP)—Cut-ling short the Christmas week-end spent at his home at Hyde Park, New York, President Roosevelt re-turned to the White House today to try to from out labor disputes threatening paralysis of two key war industries—steel and rail trans-

a reply to his ofter to arbitrate a wage dispute with the carriers and stop a controversy which may result in a nationwide strike next Thursday. White House officials said Mr. Roosevelt expected to see anion leaders some time today. From steel workers and three companies already affected by a work stoppage when serves blacks.