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RUSSIANS NOW IN SIGHT OF POLISH BORDER

Heavy Bombing Of Berlin Follows Assault On Sunday



SEEING RED this morning, Adolf? No wonder! So no human being could ever push you out of Stalingrad. Well, the Russians were a bit superhuman, at that. And how about the Dnieper River where you were going to stay put? This morning your army seems to have the "Dnieper bends." Those spots before your eyes are bombs bursting on the Berlin that couldn't be bombed. Your blathering is drowned in the roar of explosion. Adolf, your number is up: IT'S 1944! (International)

113 Men Injured Off New Jersey Coast In Destroyer Blast

Cause of Explosion At 6 This Morning Still Undetermined

Invasion In Yugoslavia Is Rumored

New York, Jan. 3—(AP)—A United States destroyer exploded and sank about six miles northeast of Sandy Hook, New Jersey, today, the Navy public relations office announced.

The cause of the explosion, which occurred about 6 a. m. eastern time, was undetermined, the Navy said.

A few minutes before the Navy's official announcement, an officer at Fort Hancock, New Jersey, told reporters at police headquarters by telephone that at least 113 men were injured.

The third naval district issued this statement:

"In excess of 100 survivors already have been landed."

"The sinking was outside the channel leading into the harbor and there are no obstructions to sea-going traffic. Rescue and salvage operations are proceeding."

At police headquarters it was learned that 51 survivors were in the Fort Hancock hospital. Ten ambulances carrying 39 others were on their way to the hospital from a pier at Fort Hancock.

The Marine hospital at Staten Island sent 200 blood plasma units to the pier at Fort Hancock.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Partly cloudy and slightly cooler tonight except little change in temperature in mountainous areas. Tuesday, fair and mild.

FDR Agrees On Harm Of Wage Dispute

Washington, Jan. 3—(AP)—Presidental Secretary Stephen Early said today President Roosevelt seemed "to have been thinking along the same lines" as the high official who asserted that the rail and steel controversies had strengthened German morale and will to resist.

Early cited remarks Mr. Roosevelt made to chiefs of the railroad bro-

RAF Airmen Deliver Tenth Great Blow On German Capital

London, Jan. 3—(AP)—Berlin, the RAF's first target for 1944, was given its second seething bath of fire and bombs of the new year today by British airmen who delivered their tenth great blow against the charred capital.

The newest attack came while fires were still burning from a 1,000-ton or bigger assault that was made early Sunday and while German rescue workers were still digging dead and injured from the ruins.

The air ministry, describing today's attack as "heavy," said 23 aircraft were lost in the Berlin raid, in Mosquito stubs in western Germany and northern France and mine-laying operating in enemy waters.

Two large concentrations of fire were left rolling in the city, the communiqué said, and Swedish dispatches declared the tortured German capital had had its worst night since the "destroy Berlin" campaign began November 18.

About 21 hours elapsed between the two attacks on Berlin, but Soviet correspondents said the menace of delayed action bombs had kept residents of the city in shelters until 3 p. m. and that less than eight hours after the raids were shaking again, the main blow fell several hours later, however.

Swedish reports said Hitler's luxurious new chancellery was one of the places hit in the aerial barrage which struck first at the outlying industrial areas and then worked to the official and residential areas in the heart of the capital.

It was regarded as extremely doubtful that Hitler was near to witness the damage, however, and the dispatches did not say how badly the building was affected.

While the big bombers were over Germany, RAF aircraft at home were chasing a handful of German planes which raided England. Some of the planes got through to the London area causing an alert but accomplishing little else.

First reports from the landing scene on the north coast of New Guinea, indicated the Japanese offered no opposition to the landing by Michigan and Wisconsin troops comprising elements of the 32nd division, and only slight opposition after the airstrip fell.

The new American beachhead lies 55 airline miles southeast of the big Japanese supply base at Madang. Said is more than 100 airline miles from Finsehafen, nearest Allied-held coastal base to the south on Huon peninsula.

Between Saidor and Finsehafen on the coast is a battered force of Japanese being steadily pushed northward by Australian fighters. Another force of Australians is moving toward Madang by pushing up the Ramu valley, across the towering Finisterre mountain range from Saidor.

The position of Marines at Cape Gloucester remained unchanged.

INVASION CHIEF TAKES LAST LOOK AT OLD COMMAND



STEPPING FROM A PLANE somewhere in Italy, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of the forces expected to invade Europe from the west, extends his hand in greeting to British Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery. He was making a last tour of the front he is turning over to Gen. H. M. Wilson. (International)

Saidor Harbor And Airfield Captured By Yank Soldiers

Japanese Offer No Opposition as Forces Land at New Guinea

Advanced Allied Headquarters, New Guinea, Jan. 3—(AP)—Americans landed at Saidor, New Guinea, captured the harbor and airfield and pinched off Japanese forces struggling in the jungle against advancing Australian troops, General Douglas MacArthur announced today.

The landing, third offensive strike by MacArthur's forces in 18 days, is a testimonial to the swelling striking power of Allied arms against the Japanese and to MacArthur's ability to catch the enemy by surprise.

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After Nazi sources reported British Commando raids on Sark, Nazi outpost in the Channel 15 miles from France, an English official admitted that "Commando raids may now be expected as zero hour approaches." Black arrows show possible invasion points, with islands in the black square. Below is a closeup of Sark and the coast of France. (International)

Turn Of Year Sees Politics Very Dull

Stacy Put On Investigating Committee

Washington, Jan. 3—(AP)—President Roosevelt named a three-man committee today to investigate a dispute involving the Fair Employment Practices Committee, railway labor organizations and 16 southern carriers over the question of racial discrimination.

The members are: Judge Walter P. Stacy, Raleigh, N. C., chairman; Judge William H. Holly of the United States District Court, Chicago; and Mayor J. Lausch of Cleveland.

The railroads involved had declined to abide by an order of the FEPC for greater employment of Negroes and the agency referred the dispute to the President. White House Secretary Stephen Early said the committee of three did not sit down to the chief executive.

We have now come to an action date," Early quoted the chief executive as saying. "We have been talking here since Sunday. If you can't take action by agreement, I will have to take action myself."

The committee will be asked to meet in Washington "in the very near future" with representatives of carriers and labor organizations.

Last Towns Near Border Are Captured

Novograd Volynski,
Last Major Obstacle,
Taken in Drive West

London, Jan. 3—(AP)—Driving to within 15 miles of the pre-war Polish border, advance Russian forces today captured Novograd Volynski, last major obstacle between the Russian armies and the old frontier in the Zhitomir region. Premier Josef Stalin announced tonight.

The Russians drive toward Poland thus became a race between two advancing columns of General Nikolai Vatutin's army. The second column farther north in the Korosten area was reported earlier to have crossed into Poland, only ten miles from old Poland.

Novograd Volynski, railway station 40 miles southwest of Korosten and the same distance northwest of Zhitomir, fell to "a decisive offensive and tank and infantry formations," Stalin said in the special order of the day, broadcast by Moscow.

Said to be the town in largest railway junction and important assembly of German defenses."

London, Jan. 3—(AP)—Russia's advancing first Ukraine army said on relay virtually in sight of old Poland, following the capture of Piviski, fast main railway steamer port on the Kiev-Warsaw railway ten miles from the border.

The latest communiqué, announcing the capture of Piviski, northwest of Korosten, placed the Red army only ten miles from the old frontier and disclosed that General Nikolai Vatutin's first Ukrainian army had made a gain of 15 miles in a day in some places—a pace which it continued in the Piviski sector would put it inside old Poland today.

Other units of the victorious first Ukraine moved southwestward toward Zhitomir, key rail junction on the Ossius-Warsaw rail line serving the lower Ukraine, less than 50 miles from the Romanian frontier.

The whole German line from Korosten south to Berdichev appears to be crumbling before the unflagging Red army onslaught and the exhausted remnants of Von Manstein's once imposing army of 22 divisions were being slashed to ribbons.

Soviet forces also were reported advancing far to the north in White Russia. Thus the first Baltic army was said to be less than 45 miles from Latvia after storming 40 villages and taking 3,000 Nazis north and northwest of Nevel in a drive to encircle the German-held bastion of Vitebsk.

Other fast striking spearheads swept through areas northwest of Berkinevo, former headquarters of Von Manstein, and half of that strategic center 25 miles below captured Zhitomir was expected hourly from dispatches indicated.

Below Berdichev, now outflanked, Soviet columns were racing down the Kiev-Zhitomir railway.

(Continued on Page Two)

Canadians Nine Miles Of Pescara

Hard Fighting Rages In Artillery Range Of Strategic Port

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Jan. 3—(AP)—Heavy fighting raged north of Ortona, where Canadian troops have fought their way to within nine miles and artillery range of the strategic Anzio port of Pescara. Allied Headquarters announced today.

Rain, snow and high winds limited ground operations elsewhere in Italy for patrolling, but strong forces of medium bombers attacked train communications at Tagna Ventimiglia and Arona River on the Italian Riviera yesterday. While other medium bombers attacked the yards at Termoli, 30 miles northeast of Rome, causing explosions and fires.

An air communiqué said lighter and fighter bombers caused "wide-spread damage" in sweeps against motor transports and rolling-stock roads in the battle area.

Hesitancy In Stock Market

New York, Jan. 3—(AP)—The stock market today greeted 1944 with a degree of hesitancy.

Mild irregularities cropped up after a fairly steady opening and trends remained a bit spotty near the fourth hour. Dealings were relatively sluggish throughout.

Bonds were narrow. Wheat futures eased.

Among supported stocks were Bethlehem, Goodyear, Sears, Roebuck and Douglas Aircraft. Leaders included Southern Pacific, Chrysler, Western Union "A" and DuPont.

Rail Leaders To Request Investigation

Washington, Jan. 3—(AP)—Railroad union leaders are planning to invite the Truman administration to investigate the so-called statement by a high government official to the effect that railroad labor only since delayed victory in Germany.

This government spokesman stipulated that his name was not to be used, described the false departure as a "great tragedy" which may eventually cost the lives of thousands of Allied soldiers. Government officials have held the secret decision to postpone entry into the United States and thus bolster Axis resistance.

This official insisted upon anonymity because generally he made public statements only in conjunction with associates. He said a formal statement probably would be made in a day or two.

Although most of the top leaders of the operating and negotiating unions were expected to return to the capital today, formal meetings were not scheduled until Thursday.

Three operating brotherhoods—conductors, foremen and switchmen have summoned their regional chairmen for strategy conferences on wage demands beginning Thursday.

Simplifying Tax Returns Is Suggested

Washington, Jan. 3—(AP)—A major legislative operation designed to make it unnecessary for millions of persons to file any income tax returns at all was proposed today by Representative Carlson, Kansas Republican. Most income taxes would be deducted automatically from wages and salaries under this plan.

Declaring simplification to be the "No. 1 tax job" for 1944, he inserted in the Congressional Record his own suggestion for remedy, as follows:

1. Simplify and improve current withholding provisions so as to eliminate the need for any returns to be filed by 30 million of the 40-million taxpayers.

2. Continue existing personal income tax laws into 1944 and rate.

3. Repeal earned income credits. Carlson conceded it is too late to do anything about the computations due this March 15, but he demanded action before another tax accounting date rolls around.