

Board Is To Settle Rail Wage Claims

President Orders Board's Reconvening To Consider Claims

Washington, Jan. 5—(AP)—President Roosevelt has ordered the reconvening of an emergency board to consider the unsettled wage claims of the 1,100,000 non-operating railroad employees. These claims were not before the board when it recommended sliding scale increases of four to ten cents an hour.

The board, headed by Judge Elwyn R. Shaw, of Springfield, Ill., will consider the claims for additional pay, either for or in lieu of overtime.

A White House statement said: "The Shaw board has been reconvened to consider the unsettled claims for wage adjustments of the non-operating employees which were not presented to them when they made their last report."

"The board is requested to make its report as soon as practicable, but not later than 30 days from date. Their recommendations will become effective 15 days after their report is filed, unless and except to the extent that the economic stabilization director otherwise directs."

The executive order, dated January 4, was made public today.

CHAIRMAN MAY NOT TO QUESTION MARSHALL

Washington, Jan. 5—(AP)—Chairman May (D-Ky.) of the House Military Committee told reporters today that Gen. George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff, "will be delighted to furnish any labor leader... free transportation to the European battle fronts for... first hand information and verification of the results of strikes on our own fighting forces."

May announced that the committee did not propose to question General Marshall or anyone else concerning a recent statement by a high official, that threats of steel and railroad strikes had delayed victory over Germany.

Cannon Seeks Pay Increase For Employees

Raleigh, Jan. 5—(AP)—Cannon Mills of Kannapolis asked the War Labor Board today for permission to increase its hourly pay for 20,000 employees by seven and a half cents and to grant comparable increases for piecework.

C. A. Cannon, mills president, asked Mrs. Pauline W. Horton, Federal representative of the wage-hour and public contract division, in a letter for permission. Mrs. Horton advised Cannon, however, that the request must be filed in application form then forwarded by her to the regional WLB in Atlanta.

Cannon voluntarily sought to increase his employees' pay and told Mrs. Horton that raises already had been granted under the Little Steel formula.

The extra pay, he said, was sought to compensate employees for the increased cost of living and to aid in the war effort, since the mills have large government contracts.

If the increase is granted, the minimum pay will be 50 cents an hour. The employees have not received a pay boost since August, 1942.

Foes Of Renegotiation Oppose Tax Amendments

Washington, Jan. 5—(AP)—Opponents of the war contracts renegotiation law liberalization gathered their forces today in a drive to overturn new tax bill amendments and insisted that Congress must decide between renegotiation and war profiteering.

The fight is currently on the Senate side where Senators LaFollette, Wisconsin Progressive, Connally, Texas Democrat, Walsh, Massachusetts Democrat and Lucas, Illinois Democrat, have signed a minority report scoring five amendments in the \$2,275,000,000 added revenue bill which would revise the contract review statutes.

LaFollette was outspoken in his criticism, asserting that "powerful influences are endeavoring to scuttle" the law which he says has brought about refunds and price re-

Happy Survivor



Fireman First Class S. J. Mickiewicz of Springfield, Mass., smiles happily as he unpacks his Red Cross survivor's kit upon reaching the Tompkinsville, Staten Island, N. Y., "sick bay" after being rescued from a U. S. destroyer that exploded and sank in lower New York Bay. (International)

Stocks Have Brisk Rise

New York, Jan. 5—(AP)—Stocks had a brisk rise in today's early proceedings but best gains were restricted to a bit by profit selling.

Volume extended substantially on the uptick and tapered when the movement showed signs of losing steam.

Holding improved positions were Goodyear, U. S. Steel, Bethlehem, Westinghouse and Southern Railway.

Rail loans extended Tuesday's advance and commodities were steady.

Cotton Values Rise At Noon

New York, Jan. 5—(AP)—Cotton futures opened ten to 20 cents a bale lower. Noon values were ten to 30 cents a bale higher. March 1940, May 1934 and July 1938.

Month	Prev. Close	Open
March	19.56	19.55
May	19.30	19.27
July	19.02	19.00
October (new)	18.73	18.69
December (new)	18.61	18.59

N. C. Aviator Is Killed in Crash

New Castle, Del., Jan. 5—(AP)—Five men from the New Castle Army Air Base were killed over the weekend when their Flying Fortress crashed "in the far north outside of the United States," headquarters of the Second Ferrying Group announced today.

L. Stephen S. Wooten, Jr., of Macclesfield, N. C., was among the casualties.

DIES OF INJURIES

Kinston, Jan. 5—(AP)—Betty Ann Mills, eight, injured when struck by an automobile on U. S. Highway 70 near Dover Tuesday morning, died in the afternoon in a hospital of a skull fracture and other injuries.

Nazis Evacuate Berdichev In Ukraine Berlin And Northern France Bombed

Raid Follows Great 3,000 Plane Attack

Nazis Report Heavy Damage Done at Kiel, Site of Naval Base

London, Jan. 5—(AP)—RAF Mosquito bombers hit wrecked Berlin last night and other British planes pounded targets in northern France, following up one of the greatest daylight aerial assaults of the war by some 3,000 planes including United States smashers at Kiel and Muenster.

The stab against Berlin was the first since a great RAF attack early Monday morning.

Returning to the north France "invasion coast," RAF and Allied medium bombers, attacked military objectives there again this morning, it was announced. RAF and Allied fighters accompanied them.

The German-controlled Scandinavian telegraph bureau reported heavy damage at Kiel, with a great shroud of smoke over the German naval base after the Kiel and Muenster assaults.

A joint British-American communiqué said the attacks were pressed home effectively despite heavy clouds which obscured both targets and that fierce fires were left raging in Kiel, site of a great German naval base and submarine pens.

The raids were executed in conjunction with a daylight series of bombing attacks on targets in France by swarms of both American and British planes. Altogether approximately 3,000 Allied aircraft took the air—probably the greatest air armada ever thrown into action in a single day.

AVERAGE WAR LIFE OF FORTRESS IS 231 DAYS

Washington, Jan. 5—The average life span of the typical Flying Fortress in one of the American theatres of war is 231 days.

This was disclosed by Gen. H. H. Arnold, Army Air Forces chief, in a report to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson.

He said that during the average life period, a Fortress will engage in 21 combat missions and numerous practice, training, test, supply, administration and ferry flights before it either is lost in combat or damaged mechanically in routine flights.

"This is true of the Fortress' performance in one undisclosed theatre. "In some other theatres," Arnold said, "the typical B-17 functions several times as long as the average 231 days before it is replaced."

MAIL VALENTINES NOW, ARMY SAYS

Washington, Jan. 5—(AP)—Girls, if you want your Valentine greetings to reach the boys overseas by February 14, you'd better get them in the mails right away.

The War Department today urged wives, sweethearts and relatives of soldiers overseas to mail their greetings between now and Jan. 15, that will make possible their delivery by St. Valentine's Day to all but the most distant areas.

BURLINGTON BLAZE

Burlington, Jan. 5—Quick action on the part of a truck driver helped avert what could have easily been a damaging fire here Tuesday morning at 2 o'clock. A gasoline tanker, loaded with 4,200 gallons of gas, caught fire on Church Street but the blaze was extinguished by the driver and Burlington firemen before it reached the tank.

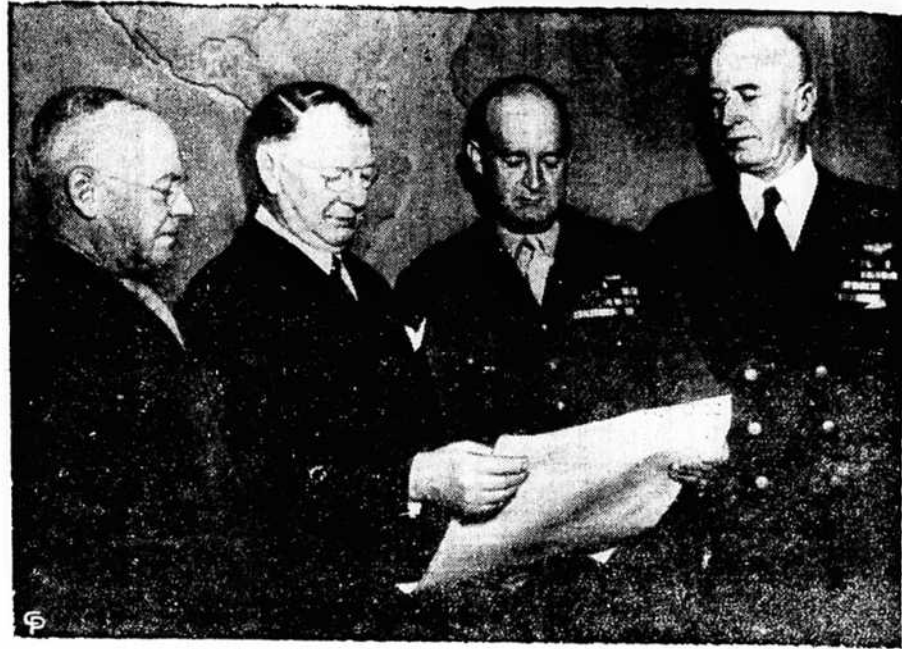
MUCH FLU REPORTED

Warrenton, Jan. 5—Dr. H. H. Foster, Warren County health officer, reports hundreds of families of the county are suffering with colds and a mild form of influenza. Probably one third of the people in the county have suffered with either one or the other trouble recently.

NAZIS CLAIM SINKINGS

LONDON, Jan. 5—The German high command issued today in a communique broadcast by the Berlin radio that U-boats had sunk six allied destroyers in the Atlantic, bringing to 21 the number of destroyers sunk in the past 10 days.

HOLCOMB FIRST FULL GENERAL IN MARINE HISTORY



As he turns over command of the U. S. Marine Corps to Lieut. Gen. Alexander Vandegrift, Gen. Thomas Holcomb becomes the first full general in Leatherneck history. He will remain on active duty for another assignment. Pictured, left to right, as Vandegrift received the command from Holcomb in Washington are General Holcomb, Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, General Vandegrift and Admiral Ernest J. King, commander-in-chief of the U. S. Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations. (International Soundphoto)

Allies Take Italian Commanding Heights, Hit Communications

General Leese 8th Army Head

Fierce Opposition of Germans Encountered In Allied Advances

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Jan. 5—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Sir Oliver Leese is the new commander of the British Eighth Army fighting in Italy, succeeding General Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, it was disclosed today.

Leese commanded a corps in the Eighth Army during the march from El Alamein in Egypt to Tunis that drove the Germans from North Africa.

Montgomery has gone to London as commander of British ground forces under General Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander for new invasion of Europe.

Actually, Leese has been in command of the Eighth Army for several days, but the announcement was withheld until today.

Allies Train In N. Africa For Invasion

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Jan. 5—(AP)—American, British and French troops are undergoing training throughout North Africa for coming assaults across the Mediterranean against the Germans, it was disclosed today.

North Africa was officially described as "one vast training center for troops destined for future operations," with camps scattered throughout Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco.

Realistic training in landing operations is being given at Mediterranean and Atlantic coast centers, while, inland, troops are being trained in battle conditions in the mountains, muddy plains, bogs, swamps and heavy woods.

The American and British are newly arrived troops while the French are those recently rearm.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

Mostly cloudy and mild tonight with slightly higher temperatures in east and central portions; Thursday cloudy, becoming cooler in east portions in the afternoon, occasional light rains east and central portions Thursday.

Reds Attempt Nazi Trap At Dnieper Bend

500,000 Nazis Face Entrapment Unless Can Retreat to Rumania

London, Jan. 5—(AP)—German troops have evacuated the eastern section of Berdichev, railway town 25 miles south of Zhitomir that once was German Ukrainian headquarters, the Nazi high command announced today.

Loss of at least part of Berdichev was acknowledged as Red army forces smashed down through the middle Ukraine, taking the fortress of Belaya Tserkov, 50 miles below Kiev, in a drive seeking to trap more than 500,000 Germans in the great Dnieper river bend.

German detachments of Berdichev beat back Soviet attacks against other sectors of the town, the German command declared today.

Berdichev also that "repeated and strong" Russian attacks had been thrown back south and west of Zhitomir, and that Soviet attempts to retake recent German gains northwest of Vinnitsa further north likewise had failed.

The Berlin radio spoke of fighting of "unabated ferocity," and Moscow dispatches declared the great battle to drive the nazis from the Dnieper bend had begun, with the enemy fighting desperately to hold his line of communications.

The Germans in the Dnieper bend were clearly in growing danger.

Advices from Moscow indicated that these German forces, already outflanked from Kiev as far south as Cherkasy by the capture of Belaya Tserkov and 40 other Ukrainian towns, faced the same fate as that met by the army which surrendered at Stalingrad unless Marshall von Manstein can extricate them by a mass retreat across the Bug river into Rumania.

At the northern end of the southern front, where other Soviet troops had crossed the prewar Polish frontier west of the customs station of Olevsk, fierce German counterattacks were smashed yesterday by units of General Nikolai Vatutin's first Ukrainian army. Here, said a broadcast, Russian communiques, 4,000 Nazis were killed and 65 tanks destroyed as Vatutin's veterans pushed forward into the western Ukraine.

Far to the north, General Ivan Bagramian kept up his incessant battering against the northern wing of the German armies driving the Baltic front.

The Germans launched their counterattacks along the Polish border in the vicinity of newly-captured Novograd-Volynski, 15 miles east of the border.

They threw in two battalions—perhaps 1,500 men—strongly supported by tanks and guns, and succeeded in breaking through to the positions of Soviet troops," the Russian communique said.

Soviet columns were said to have surrounded the attackers and wiped them out.

Dr. Saliba Dies In Savannah, Ga.

Wilson, Jan. 5—(AP)—Wood was received here today of the death at Savannah, Ga., of Dr. M. Saliba, 68, grand commander Knights Templar of North Carolina.

He died at the home of a brother there, where the funeral will be held Friday at 2 p. m.

Dr. Saliba was a native of Cairo, Egypt. He came to America 31 years ago and had practiced medicine at Wilson since.

U. S. Landings Show Japs On Defensive In Pacific

Somewhere in New Guinea, Jan. 5—(AP)—On the basis of eye witness observation on all three amphibious landings along the South Army forces have made at Arawa, New Britain, December 15, Cape Gloucester, New Britain, December 26, and Sidor, New Guinea, January 2, it is said to say the Japanese are on the defensive throughout the Southwest Pacific. In fact, they're almost on the run.

With the exception of one small diversionary raid at Arawa which suffered heavy losses, all three invasions were accomplished virtually without opposition.

Since those landings, only the opposition at Cape Gloucester has been worth mentioning. There, today's advices from headquarters of General MacArthur told of Marines attacking the Sixth Army, killing 200 enemy soldiers Monday in shattering a counterattack made in the Bonga Bay area. Approximately 1,500 Japanese have been slain at Cape Gloucester since the invasion.

The reports today from headquarters of General MacArthur were barren of developments concerning Arawa, which was intended from the beginning as a diversion. For the Cape Gloucester operations, the top set for Japanese forces caught between Huon peninsula and Sidor on New Guinea began to close.

The lower jaw of the peninsula has been moved 15 miles northward in three days by Australians who are now 80 airline miles from Sidor. The upper jaw of Sidor itself is a beachhead three miles deep and three miles along the shore, wedged into the enemy's coastal supply route.

Rabaul, the New Britain stronghold 265 miles northeast of Cape Gloucester, was kept on the defensive by two new Allied raids, one a 32 ton bombardment Sunday night and the other a midday strike Monday during which 11 of 20 enemy interceptors were shot down.

Spokesmen In Support Of Gen. Marshall

Washington, Jan. 5—(AP)—Upon the assumption that General George C. Marshall was the anonymous high official who declared that axis propaganda, based on American labor strikes has prolonged the war and cost allied lives, congressional and public spokesmen have come to the support of the chief of staff.

Chairman Andrew May, Kentucky Democrat of the House Military Committee, said his committee does not propose to question Marshall or anyone else concerning the statement, and referring to strike threats among rail and steel workers, he asserted:

"I do not know whether it was General Marshall or some one else who made the statement, but regardless of who it was I agree that such a (strike) move was calculated to give hope and encouragement to Hitler and his satellite nations and especially to provide a rich source of effective propaganda for Hitler."

Indian units of the Eighth army seized a spur on a mountain ridge in pushing forward several hundred yards against enemy machine gun fire southwest of Tomasso near the Adriatic.

U. S. 15th Air Force Flying Fortresses meanwhile smashed railway yards and a bridge at Dimitov, 50 miles south of Sofia, capital of Bulgaria.

American Mitchell's scored five hits on railway yards and the station at Dobol, 55 miles north of Sarajevo in Yugoslavia, and pounded barracks and troop concentrations at Travnik, 30 miles northwest of Sarajevo.

Other Allied formations shot up west coast shipping off Italy, and attacked supply concentrations and motor transports over the front line area. Bridges were bombed 15 miles northwest of Cassino.

The Germans, apparently intent in keeping the Allies from Rome as long as possible, are building up reserves of mobile motorized troops and are reinforcing their 13 or more divisions with mountain troops.

Prisoners said the Germans are working feverishly on new defenses several miles behind their lines, especially in the areas covering Cassino and Pescara on the east coast.

Charlotte, Jan. 5—(AP)—A fly-egg hero of the war in the South Pacific, veteran of 41 combat missions against the Japs and wearer of the Distinguished Flying Cross, today was bound over to Superior Court on charges of kidnaping and robbery.

The soldier was booked as Sgt. Raymond M. Irvin. He and Benjie Mann were accused of attacking and severely injuring Horace A. Johnson, a taxi driver, on the night of Jan. 2.

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