

EARLY CHRISTMAS FOR DYING BOY



LITTLE FOREST "NUBBINS" HOFFMAN of Cheyenne, Wyo., sits surrounded by some of his toys in his home as his parents prepare to celebrate Christmas for him on this coming Sunday. The three-year-old youngster, according to doctors, is suffering from an incurable ailment and may not live until December 25, so his dad and mother are giving him his last Christmas in November. (International Associated Press)

Americans In Metz

Nazis Give More Ground At Budapest

Flank Move By Russians Is Pressed

Three Vital Rail Towns in Hungary Are Now Menaced

Moscow, Nov. 18—(AP)—Nazi defenders on a battle line stretching northeast from besieged Budapest, gave ground again today in the face of a sustained Russian flanking maneuver that pressed the enemy deeper into the Matra and Bukk mountains on the Slovakian frontier.

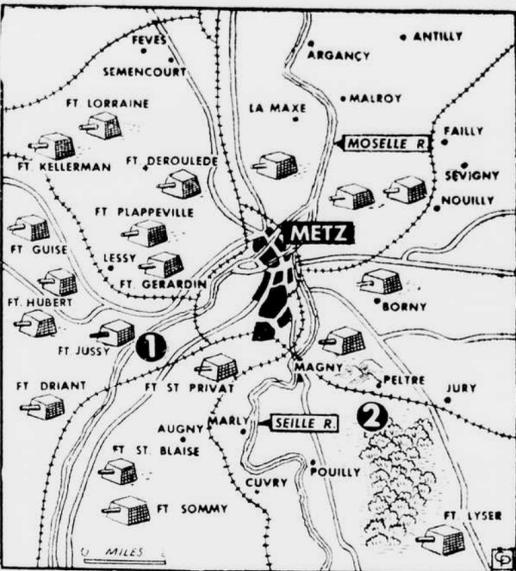
The Russian drive impeded three important Hungarian rail towns of Eger, Miskolc and Hatvan.

The valley town of Eger, a communications route barely ten miles from a Russian column that stormed through Maklar on the Budapest railway. This advance gave the Red army control of a 27-mile section of that vital line.

A Soviet salient near Miskolc was widened with the capture of a village 12 miles to the southeast.

The Soviets claimed no decision yet in the fierce tank battle being waged for Hatvan, 26 miles north-east of the Hungarian capital. Hatvan, terminal of a main line running north to Slovakia, was reported under attack from three sides. The Russians reported to change in the battle along the trimmers of heavily defended Budapest, and likewise maintained silence about the Danube bridgehead south of the capital, in the vicinity of Buda, where Russian and Yugoslav partisan forces have pressing north from a Budapest springboard.

NAZIS IN LAST-STAND METZ BATTLE



AFTER GENERAL PATTON'S 3rd Army forces had broken through to Ft. Jussy (1), within a mile of Metz, and had come up from the south to Peltre (2) and were driving on Magny, the Germans began a terrific counter-offensive to drive American units from the very outskirts of their fortress city. And just how thoroughly fortified this area can be seen by a glance at the above map showing the array of forts which have faced the Yank troops. Loss of Metz would be a terrific blow to Nazi prestige and a "last ditch" battle is being waged. (International)

U. S. Armies Storm Into Fortress City From North, South

Reich Is Invaded Further to South; New Push in North

London, Nov. 18—(AP)—Americans of the third army unmasked a new attack and drove toward Germany's northern Saar on a 15-mile front today, invaded the Reich at a new point farther north, and stormed into Metz from two sides.

These triple developments on Lt. Gen. Patton's front were part of a series of sensational advances by six Allied armies hitting with 1,250,000 men toward the Rhine along a 400-mile front.

West of Aachen the U. S. first and ninth armies deepened a wedge reaching within 25 miles of the Rhine. The French first army at the lower end of the land front had thrust within five miles of Belfort, deep in the historic gap. Above it the United States seventh army picked up two to three miles along a 20-mile front in an offensive pointed at Strasbourg.

The British in southwestern Holland pressed forward near Roermond. Patton's rampant third army sent mechanized cavalry patrols over the German border near Perl, inside the German border near the junction of Luxembourg and French frontier and about five miles northeast of the Saar itself.

Infantry crossed the Moselle bridge into Metz from the north during the night, while other patrols from the south also penetrated the city, where the Germans have been preparing a stiff defense in the streets and thick stone walls of the houses.

At the same time General Patton's new push developed a thrust fifteen miles to the southeast toward the Saar border, and armor newly thrown into the offensive rolled forward four miles to a town 20 miles northwest of Saarbrücken, chief industrial center of the German valley.

New Ambassador



It has just been announced that Henri Bonnet, Secretary-General of Information in the French exile government, has been appointed ambassador to the United States. Bonnet was engaged in business in Canada before the start of the present war. (International)

U. S. Loss In Air Attacks Rather Heavy

London, Nov. 18—(AP)—Allied bombers attacked western Germany today.

Bad weather grounded British-based heavy bombers again yesterday and last night, but United States 9th air force medium and fighter bombers based in France flew more than 500 sorties against fortified German cities and ground defenses along American sectors of the western front.

Mustangs destroyed 18 Nazi planes on the ground. Two Stuka dive bombers were shot down near Worms.

Ninth losses for all operations were eleven planes. More than 700 bombers and 350 fighters of the U. S. 15th air force in Italy attacked targets in Germany, Austria and Yugoslavia for the third straight day. Fifteen heavy bombers and ten fighters were lost.

delving into various problems, and I don't believe the feeling on our problems are not insurmountable," he said.

General Wedemeyer said he had entered several times with Chiang and was in close contact with him. He said he hoped the recent reference by Premier Stalin to Japan as an aggressive nation could be interpreted in a way "favorable to our situation here."

Wedemeyer said the prospective opening of the Ledo road and the reopening of the Burma road would enable the Chinese to receive heavy guns and other equipment which could not be brought in by air.

"The Japanese situation in northern Burma is deteriorating," he said, "and when Bhamo falls it will be definitely precarious. I am optimistic about operations in Burma."

Congress Battle Bitter Over Military Training

Score Hurt In Wreck Of A. C. L. Flier

Wavercross, Ga., Nov. 18—(AP)—A score of persons were injured, none fatally, this morning when 15 cars of the Atlantic Coast Line passenger train No. 91, en route from New York to Miami, were derailed near Hortense, Ga. Fourteen of the cars overturned.

The train, known as the Tallulah Champion, was derailed about 8:30 a. m. The injured were removed to hospitals at Wavercross. Uninjured passengers continued their journey some hours later on a substitute train.

None of the injured were critically hurt, physicians who attended them at Jessup, Ga., reported, and only a small number are expected to require much hospitalization.

Passengers said the derailment occurred in an isolated spot and there was considerable difficulty in getting the injured out. Diesel units pulling the train plowed up crossings for nearly a mile but remained upright.

Passenger coaches were stevedored off the track and down embankments. The accident occurred along a section of track running through a swamp, with water on both sides of the railroad. Uninjured passengers said the engineer of the train had more than two miles to a telephone to report the wreck.

Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 18—(AP)—An official of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad announced here that its passenger train No. 91, bound from New York to Miami, was derailed at about 8:30 a. m. EWT, today between Hortense and O'Neal, Ga. about 79 miles north of this city.

Chief Clerk W. S. Bailey said he had been informed that all but the three last cars of the 15-car train had left the track, but there was no information as to whether any deaths resulted, or the number of injured.

All communication lines were knocked down and put out of commission by the wreck, Bailey explained. He added that a flagman from the train apparently walked to a nearby point where it was possible for him to use a portable telephone to give word of the accident.

Working crews were dispatched to the scene from Wavercross, Ga., and ambulances and other medical assistance were reported sent. J. P. Walker, general superintendent of the railway, left his headquarters here to rush to the scene immediately after receiving notice of the accident, cause of which had not been determined, Bailey said meagre early reports indicated the engine also had left the track.

Roosevelt's Views Basis for Debates Already Under Way

Washington, Nov. 18—(AP)—Congress provided a preview of heavy battling over compulsory military training today, with Senator Gurney promising "a whole lot of a fight if they try to dilute it."

The real scrap won't come off until after the first of the year. Then, when the new Congress meets, legislative committees will tackle the issue of whether to raise a year's military training in peacetime for every physically fit American youth.

A new suggestion from President Roosevelt for universal training touched off the argument in advance. "He's figuring an optional training," remarked Gurney, author of a bill for a year's compulsory military service. "I'm going to have a lot to say on this subject. We've got to have the proper kind of training to keep the country strong. That's the purpose of my bill, and the only thing that would prevent passage of legislation of that kind."

The chief executive indicated at a news conference yesterday that he had in mind something broader than mere military instruction; that he might like to see it linked with physical and vocational education.

One of those applauding Mr. Roosevelt's ideas was Senator Johnson, like Gurney, a member of the Senate Military Committee. Johnson said:

"I'd fix it, if I had the say-so, so that we might give youth a year's training in high school and college, so that military training would be coordinated with education, a reserve enlisted corps could be formed along lines of the reserve officers training corps. I'd open up the age limit down to 17 to get them in the reserve earlier, when they are more flexible."

NAZI BUILDING V-2 RAMP IN NORWAY

London, Nov. 17—(AP)—Mysterious constructions, believed to be starting bases for a new German secret weapon, are being erected in the mountains of central Norway, it was reported today.

No details were disclosed, but allied informants said the whole area had been restricted and that hundreds of foreign laborers were employed.

Norwegian sources reported that the heavy water plant at Bjelkum, where scientists before the war were carrying on experiments with new, powerful explosives, is again being operated by the Germans. It was sabotaged by patriots last year.

These scientists, a Norwegian informant said, had made considerable progress before the war in an attempt to split atoms from heavy water. (Heavy water is a form of deuterium, an isotope of hydrogen.) Most of them escaped when the Germans occupied the country.

Phone Strike Spreading In Central Ohio

Japs Are Dug In And Well Armed in Their Resistance

U. S. Leading In Effort To Free News

Cotton Makes Slight Gains

Few Stocks Turn Higher

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

40,000 German Saboteurs Operating In Paris Area

U. S. Troops Forced To Retire Slightly In Leyte Positions

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Nov. 18—(AP)—Japanese tanks, large and small, broke through an American road block to reinforce troops stubbornly resisting the advance of the U. S. 24th division against the important Ormoc road village of Limon, it was revealed today.

American patrols, penetrating the outskirts of Limon, near the northern terminus of the Ormoc highway, believed the Japanese had withdrawn from the village after a terrific artillery barrage. When the main body of troops crashed against the city they met strong Japanese opposition.

An Associated Press war correspondent with the 24th division said Limon is held by hundreds of well dug-in Japanese soldiers, with all types of weapons except heavy artillery. Yesterday afternoon, he reported a Japanese light tank ran a gauntlet of American fire to get through a road block two and one-half miles south of Limon, and hit the village. Later six large tanks tried the same trick, but three were turned back. The dispatch did not indicate what happened to the other three and it can be assumed they, too, got through.

He added that the Japanese evidently intend to hold the valley below Broadneck ridge overlooking Limon as long as possible and at all cost until the greater portion of their Ormoc forces can consolidate their positions for a major stand, possibly in a hilly region where the road branches from the Ormoc highway and runs to the west coast of Leyte peninsula.

On the north, east and south, American troops broke up the enemy's desperate moves without losing a foot of ground. In some cases they even advanced slowly.

New York, Nov. 18—(AP)—Cotton futures opened here at 20 cents a bale higher, and closed ten cents a bale lower to ten cents higher.

December 21.65 21.61
March 21.76 21.73
May 21.77 21.76
July 21.58 21.56
October 20.38 20.37

Midling spot, 22.09, off two.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Partly cloudy and continued cool tonight and Sunday.

London, Nov. 18—(AP)—A Nazi resistance movement inside France, spearheaded by 40,000 Germans hiding out in Paris, was reported today by a reliable French source.

Thousands of French collaborators, still at large despite round-ups by the French forces of the interior, were declared to be actively aiding the Germans in espionage and sabotage. The French source said the Germans had parachuted small arms and food in recent days to bands of German saboteurs based in forests.

AFL Endorses Wage Floor Of 65 Cents

Washington, Nov. 18—(AP)—An American Federation of Labor spokesman today endorsed the Pepper 65-cent wage floor resolution, but advocated a more "realistic" removal of controls from monthly incomes of \$200 or less for family heads.

Lewis G. Hines, legislative representative of the AFL, told a Senate subcommittee, studying the resolution that he was expressing the views of AFL President William Green. Under his suggestion, employees would be permitted to range salaries or wages to the \$200 (\$150 for unmarried persons) level without approval of the War Labor Board. The general forty cents an hour minimum of the wage-hour act would be retained.

The pending resolution, introduced by Senator Pepper, would inform the WLB that Congress considers straight-time hourly wages of less than 65 cents an hour to be substandard. "The adoption of this measure will tend to mitigate the gross inequalities, together with their resultant hardships, that the rigid application of the little steel formula has brought about," Hines said.

New York, Nov. 18—(AP)—Associated rails and industrials continued to reach for recovery in today's stock market, although, as in previous sessions, numerous leaders were indifferent.

Minor advances were posted for Chrysler, United Aircraft and DuPont. Laggards included U. S. Steel, General Motors and Westinghouse.

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Although the sabotage in the Paris area has been on a small scale, the thousands of Germans who have evaded capture and discarded their uniforms for civilian clothes offer a real threat to the Allies, he said. Most of the sabotage, he related, has been confined to electric cables and pipe lines. One band of Germans armed only with small arms attempted a raid recently on a factory outside of Paris, but was driven off.