

PRESENT BATTLE MIGHT BE DECISIVE TEST

YANK COAST GUARDSMEN BAG NAZIS IN GREENLAND



AGAINST THE GLOOM of winter's night in the Arctic, armed members of the U. S. Coast Guard are pictured in the dramatic moment when twelve German—the staff of what was believed to be the last Nazi radio-weather station in Greenland—passed among them with hands raised in surrender. A Nazi weather ship, the Ekström, also was captured off the coast of Greenland and was brought into Britain by the prize crew of Coast Guardsmen. U. S. Coast Guard photo. (International Soundphoto)

Americans Push Far Inland From Beachhead On Mindoro

Hold in South Now Secure to Yankees, MacArthur Asserts

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP)—Air fields were being whipped into shape today on the southern end of Mindoro island, now securely in American hands.

Yank infantrymen were eleven miles from the beachhead they established at dawn Friday.

Only scant resistance was encountered, a spokesman reported.

The Americans had command of the island from the beachhead on the southern part of the island is now secure.

General MacArthur said in his Monday communique, "Our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte island to the southeast, troops of the 77th American division advanced today's prize Yamaguchi and the southern portion of the island.

Japanese and Australian construction engineers in Mindoro were busy today capturing air strips for day and night fighter planes. These air fields are only 150 miles from Manila.

General MacArthur's headquarters in the Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Japanese "Yank" still control the southern part of the island is now secure.

General MacArthur said in his Monday communique, "Our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte island to the southeast, troops of the 77th American division advanced today's prize Yamaguchi and the southern portion of the island.

Japanese and Australian construction engineers in Mindoro were busy today capturing air strips for day and night fighter planes. These air fields are only 150 miles from Manila.

General MacArthur's headquarters in the Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Japanese "Yank" still control the southern part of the island is now secure.

General MacArthur said in his Monday communique, "Our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte island to the southeast, troops of the 77th American division advanced today's prize Yamaguchi and the southern portion of the island.

Japanese and Australian construction engineers in Mindoro were busy today capturing air strips for day and night fighter planes. These air fields are only 150 miles from Manila.

General MacArthur's headquarters in the Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Japanese "Yank" still control the southern part of the island is now secure.

General MacArthur said in his Monday communique, "Our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte island to the southeast, troops of the 77th American division advanced today's prize Yamaguchi and the southern portion of the island.

Japanese and Australian construction engineers in Mindoro were busy today capturing air strips for day and night fighter planes. These air fields are only 150 miles from Manila.

General MacArthur's headquarters in the Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Japanese "Yank" still control the southern part of the island is now secure.

General MacArthur said in his Monday communique, "Our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte island to the southeast, troops of the 77th American division advanced today's prize Yamaguchi and the southern portion of the island.

Japanese and Australian construction engineers in Mindoro were busy today capturing air strips for day and night fighter planes. These air fields are only 150 miles from Manila.

General MacArthur's headquarters in the Philippines, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Japanese "Yank" still control the southern part of the island is now secure.

General MacArthur said in his Monday communique, "Our hold on the southern part of the island is now secure."

On Leyte island to the southeast, troops of the 77th American division advanced today's prize Yamaguchi and the southern portion of the island.

Japanese and Australian construction engineers in Mindoro were busy today capturing air strips for day and night fighter planes. These air fields are only 150 miles from Manila.

Americans Strike Back At Germans

78th Division Is Involved in Move To Halt the Nazis

Paris, Dec. 18—(AP)—General Hodges' U. S. first army struck back at advancing German columns of infantry and armor in Belgium and Luxembourg today in a fierce battle which may prove to be one of the most decisive of the war.

The Allied command accepted the challenge of Field Marshal Von Rundstedt, who was attempting his greatest counter offensive against American troops at the front. But the situation at the front was decidedly extremely fluid.

Front line dispatches said Hodges had thrown armor against the German thrusts, and that British Spitfires and Tempests came down from Holland to lend a hand to Allied air forces.

The German air force continued to support the German winter attack on the biggest scale since the Allied landing in Normandy.

A new type of V-weapon was used by the Germans along the front army front both by night and by day.

At a Nazi press conference, General Hodges' U. S. first army commander declared that "despite the great number of planes used by the Germans they are not able to sustain a great deal."

A Blue network correspondent at the front said that an American division from Texas and the 78th American division were among American forces opposing the new push.

Throwing hundreds of carefully observed planes, hundreds of tanks, many divisions and even paratroopers into a surprising winter counter offensive, Field Marshal Von Rundstedt had achieved a penetration of several miles in the American line, recaptured Belgium in the Mouscron area, 16 miles south of Aachen, and recaptured Luxembourg at two other points.

Today the Germans were pushing their advances along an 80-mile front from the Mouscron area to the southern tip of the Luxembourg border with France and into the Ardennes.

Allied military authorities decided not to make public specific information now as to the exact places where the German columns were smashing through and how far had advanced.

But first army headquarters dispatches said the Germans had gained several miles and American troops were locked in battle. The penetration apparently had been at least four miles in one area, ten miles east of Malmédy, a Belgian town just north of the Luxembourg border.

This was a push by a strong German armored column supported overnight by artillery and bombing and strafing war planes on a seven-mile front.

Several German armored divisions and infantry divisions were striking savagely and bending back the lines of the fierce struggling doughboys.

Elsewhere along the 80-mile front the Germans were delivering stiff punches aimed at seeking soft spots, and there were indications the supreme German effort would mount in intensity before it subsided.

On many other army fronts there were signs of impending German advances.

Results of the latest strike still are to be assayed here.

AS U. S. PLANES HIT MANILA HARBOR



FURIOUSLY-BURNING, smoking, and sinking Japanese ships dot Manila Harbor in this photo just released by the Navy, following a raid by U. S. Pacific Fleet carrier-based planes. Docks and other shore installations were also hit while government buildings in the foreground were left untouched by the attackers. Navy photo. (International Soundphoto)

Demand Vote In Senate On Nominations

Connally Ready To Fight for Action In Spite of Time

Washington, Dec. 18—(AP)—Senator Connally, Texas Democrat, his dander up, asserted today he will fight for a Senate vote on six State Department appointees "if it takes all winter."

The chairman of the foreign relations committee and he thought a vote could be obtained this week on the nominations, headed by Joseph C. Grew to be under secretary of state.

Despite reports that opponents will oppose in a filibuster in efforts to force President Roosevelt to name press nominees, Connally said he is determined to hold the Senate in session until its vote on the appointments.

Senator Gutty, Pennsylvania Democrat, already had introduced the Senate that he wants to speak for four hours on the nomination of Grew. That apparently is part of an opposition move to delay action on the appointment until a quorum of members leaves for the holidays.

"If it is necessary," Connally said, "we may have to ask the sergeant-at-arms to bring in the assembly."

Opposition centered in an effort to bring up a resolution by Senator Pepper, Florida Democrat, which would send all the nominations back to the White House for reconsideration. Introduced by Pepper Saturday, it was officially laid on the table.

Connally said that if Pepper or three other members of the opposition—Gutty, Pennsylvania Democrat; Murray, Montana Democrat; and LaFollette, Wisconsin Progressive, attempt to call this resolution up, he will make a point of order.

Under Senate rules a two-thirds vote is necessary to overturn the chair's decision on a point of order. There seemed little doubt that the opponents of the nomination would fail to achieve a two-thirds vote if Vice-President Wallace or some other administrative supporter in the chair files against the resolution.

Relocation Of Japs Is To Be Expanded Rapidly

Washington, Dec. 18—(AP)—Secretary Ickes said today the Interior Department will expand its relocation program to send re-settled persons of Japanese ancestry back to their west coast homes.

At the same time, he expressed belief that a large proportion of the more than 35,000 Japanese-Americans relocated in other parts of the country may choose to remain.

Ickes emphasized that there will be no hasty "mass movement" of evacuees.

The statement followed the War Department's revocation of the west coast exclusion order, effective January 2, said it "is the responsibility of every American worthy of citizenship to do everything he can to

At Conference



COMMANDER of the British forces in Greece, Major General Ronald M. Scobie is shown in Athens today, and it appeared likely to be only a matter of hours before the siege of the capital is lifted.

New British Drive Upon Greeks Begun

Athens, Dec. 18—(AP)—British forces launched a hillside drive against left wing forces in Athens today, and it appeared likely to be only a matter of hours before the siege of the capital is lifted.

Within a short time, after jumping off at dawn, the British had captured an ELAS stronghold on the highway leading from Athens to the Kalamaki airport. The ELAS forces, estimated at about 200, had barricaded themselves in a brewery and were equipped with heavy machine guns.

The Kalamaki airport already had been cleared to a depth of 200 yards, and British armored vehicles were using the road.

U. S. Stand On Poland Set Forth

Will Accept Any Solution Approved By Group Concerned

Washington, Dec. 18—(AP)—Secretary of State Stettinius announced today the United States would have no objection to an agreement on the future frontiers of Poland, if the United Nations concerned agree upon them.

Stettinius read a three-point statement on the Polish question to a news conference. It followed Prime Minister Churchill's statement in the House of Commons today that Britain agreed that the eastern part of Poland should be turned over to Russia.

Stettinius said it had been the United States' intention to remain entirely neutral in the Polish question, but he said it would be helpful in any way to the termination of hostilities.

He recalled, however, a earlier statement by former Secretary of State Hull that some questions might be settled in the meantime by strictly conference agreements.

Stettinius' statement implied that the United States would approve the changed Polish boundaries provided the Polish government accepted the current line in its eastern border. Internationally, it put the next step up to the Polish government to settle in London.

Stettinius said it had been the United States' intention to remain entirely neutral in the Polish question, but he said it would be helpful in any way to the termination of hostilities.

He recalled, however, a earlier statement by former Secretary of State Hull that some questions might be settled in the meantime by strictly conference agreements.

Stettinius' statement implied that the United States would approve the changed Polish boundaries provided the Polish government accepted the current line in its eastern border. Internationally, it put the next step up to the Polish government to settle in London.

Stettinius said it had been the United States' intention to remain entirely neutral in the Polish question, but he said it would be helpful in any way to the termination of hostilities.

He recalled, however, a earlier statement by former Secretary of State Hull that some questions might be settled in the meantime by strictly conference agreements.

Stettinius' statement implied that the United States would approve the changed Polish boundaries provided the Polish government accepted the current line in its eastern border. Internationally, it put the next step up to the Polish government to settle in London.

Stettinius said it had been the United States' intention to remain entirely neutral in the Polish question, but he said it would be helpful in any way to the termination of hostilities.

He recalled, however, a earlier statement by former Secretary of State Hull that some questions might be settled in the meantime by strictly conference agreements.

Stettinius' statement implied that the United States would approve the changed Polish boundaries provided the Polish government accepted the current line in its eastern border. Internationally, it put the next step up to the Polish government to settle in London.

Tokyo Makes Great Claims Of Sinkings

(By The Associated Press.)

Tokyo, in an unbroken broadcast, claimed to the United States, today claimed "the waters near the enemy landing point at San Jose, on Mindoro island, are now covered with the wreckage of sunken American warships and transports."

Monitors of the Federal Communications Commission recorded the broadcast, which said: "Numerous vessels are still burning in a sinking condition. It has been shown that two medium transports and five small transports and many landing barges are still in flames. In the meantime, death dashed delaying allies of the Japanese attack corps are being continued with unabated intensity upon the remnants of enemy vessels."

In his communique today, General MacArthur said "enemy air activity was negligible, with two enemy planes shot down over our shipping."

Big Bombers Speed Over Battle Area

London, Dec. 18—(AP)—Seven hundred heavy bombers and fighters raced from Britain to the floating American first army battle front today and smashed three German rail heads applying the German counter offensive. Five hundred American heavy bombers dived 2,000 tons of bombs on Cologne, Coblenz and Mainz, despite solid clouds which blanketed them from view.

The clouds blotted the fighter escort of 600 Mustangs of a chance to mix in with German fighters.

The daylight blows followed a night pounding of Munich, Ulm and Duisburg by 1,300 British heavy bombers, 47 of which were lost.

The big RAF planes dropped an estimated 7,000 tons of bombs on the three German cities, all key points in the Nazi railway network.

Soviets Quicken Attack On Budapest From East

Landing Chief



Rear Admiral Arthur D. Spahr was in command of the amphibious forces that successfully landed on Mindoro Island, in the Philippines, after a 600 mile trip through the Sulu Sea from Leyte. (International)

Compulsory Duty Hearing Is Planned

Washington, Dec. 18—(AP)—Chairman May, Kentucky Democrat, of the House Military Committee, announced today hearings will be called by his group next month on peacetime compulsory military training.

Date of the hearings, the Kentucky Democrat said, will be determined when committee members return from an inspection of European battle fronts.

The decision to tackle the controversial subject, he said in an interview, was made "because it is something we must face sooner or later and we might as well face it immediately."

FRENCH-RUSSIAN ACCORD PLEASING

London, Dec. 18—(AP)—The new French-Russian alliance, pledging mutual economic and military assistance for at least twenty years, terms of which were announced in Paris yesterday, was warmly praised today by the British press.

"Such agreements should produce others that will bind the foundations of security," the Daily Mail said.

Moscow Newspaper Resents Hint Here Of Slacked Drive

Moscow, Dec. 18—(AP)—Soviet newspaper today resented a newly won position near Budapest, crashed an avalanche of steel against the enemy defense of the Hungarian capital today, while Red army units reached the Slovak border at a new point southwest of the city.

The scope of the Red army's offensive was emphasized by the official Communist party newspaper, Pravda, which said that as many German divisions were engaged on the southern sector of the eastern front as against all the Allied forces in the west. Pravda reported figures pertaining to the last 220 enemy divisions, 120 of them Germans, were taken up to the east on December 1.

The article was directed against the U. S. Army and Navy journal for questioning whether Russia had fulfilled the military decisions of Tehran.

Hundreds of Germans were slain in the bloody fighting that resulted yesterday in the capture of Sop, five and one-half miles northeast of Budapest and 100 miles east of the capital, the Russians announced.

The Germans came back with furious counter blows by the Luftwaffe, self-propelled guns and waves of infantry.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA

Cloudy tonight, with occasional rain and not quite so cool. Tuesday clearing and colder.

(Continued on Page Three.)

Superforts Strike Japan And Jap-Occupied China

Washington, Dec. 18—(AP)—The Japanese war machine left the ledge today, today of an B-29 Superfortresses, unleashed from separate bases. The giant craft struck a second time at Nagoya, on the Japanese mainland and at Hankow in Japanese-occupied China. The raiders hit both areas today, Japanese time, Sunday by United States time.

Dispatches from Saipan, meanwhile, said photographic reconnaissance of the December 13 blow at Nagoya disclosed damage to the

Raiders' aircraft factory was greater than last reports indicated. Four large assembling buildings and 22 smaller structures were destroyed or damaged badly.

Enemy broadcasts, placing the size of the Nagoya raiding force at about seventy, claimed damage was slight and added that other B-29's flew over the Kinki area in south central Honshu without dropping bombs. There were no claims of losses to the aerial giants.

Results of the latest strike still are to be assayed here.