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LUZON RAIL AND HIGHWAY ROUTES TAKEN

Bill Would Prohibit Alcohol Traffic In Counties Now Dry



SHORTLY before leaving Leyte Island for his return to Luzon Gen. Douglas MacArthur assures President Sergio Osmeña that it will not be long before the old government again functions in Manila. U. S. Signal Corps photo. (International)

I'LL RETURN'

Raleigh, Jan. 12—(AP)—A bill to prohibit the sale or transportation of all wine or spirituous juices in counties which have not held a referendum or have voted to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors was introduced in the legislature today by Senator Daniel of Beaufort.

The measure would affect all wins over one per cent alcohol content, but would not prohibit the sale of beer.

Another measure, by Senator Hindey of Davidson, would require railroad companies to guard trains standing across highways for the protection of the public. The trains would be lighted or guard arms provided.

Senator Steele of Rockingham introduced a resolution petitioning the State's congressmen to support the continuation of the tobacco control program.

Circulans signed "State Employees" and asking salary increases were placed on legislators desks before the session began.

The great State of North Carolina has grown rich out of this war," the petition read. "Its employees have grown steadily poorer as a result of the higher cost of living. Basic living costs have gone up 30 to 35 percent since 1939. State employees have had their meager salaries supplemented by a wage bonus which averages only ten percent or less. This means that the State's employees have taken a cut of 20 to 25 percent. There is no assurance that basic living costs will not continue to rise. It is respectfully requested that the General Assembly take immediate action to remedy this glaring disparity. Meanwhile, the State grows richer, its employees poorer, as a result of the war."

Senator Pendleton, of Clay, was named chairman of a committee on the State Commission for the Blind. Other members are Senators Culpepper of Pasquotank, Barker of Robeson, O'Berry of Wayne, Blodget of Mecklenburg, Clarke of Edenton, Whitaker of Lenoir, McBryde of Hoke, Horton of Burke, Gray of Northampton, Vann of Sampson and Thomas of Ashe.

Washington, Jan. 12—(AP)—The War Production Board has ordered drastic new restrictions forcing cutbacks in civilian goods production.

The additional tightening, a government source said today, will force the effect of "wiping off the books" a large percentage of the several projects already authorized under the spot reconversion program.

This will result from a sharp cut in the allocation of metals for the program due to greatly expanded military requirements.

Moreover, WPB field offices have been instructed to be "very careful" in the approval of new applications. This means that the pot plan, already suspended in about 125 industrial centers, is for all practical purposes now on the shelf in all parts of the country.

Dollar volume of projects authorized was more than \$600 million dollars as of late December.

The new measure not only set a sharp brake on authorization of new applications for other areas, but means, an official said, that a good deal of consumer goods approved probably will not be made.

Because of the metals shortage, the allocation of carbon steel for the spot program the first three months of this year has been cut from 250,000 tons to 130,000 tons. The alloy steel quota has been trimmed to 16,000 tons, down from 25,000 tons.

U. S. Resumes Relationship With Finland

Washington, Jan. 12—(AP)—The United States is resuming relations with Finland on an informal basis. The State Department announced today that President Roosevelt has approved the assignment of a foreign service officer with the personal rank of minister to Helsinki. Pending his arrival, an officer has been dispatched from Stockholm, Sweden, to handle American affairs at the Finnish capital. Acting Secretary of State Grew issued this statement at his press conference today:

"The President has approved the assignment of Mr. Maxwell W. Hamilton, foreign service officer of Class I as United States representative in Finland with personal rank of minister. Pending Mr. Hamilton's arrival, Dr. Randolph Higgs, a foreign service officer, will be in charge of the United States mission in Finland."

Mr. Hamilton's assignment does not constitute a resumption of formal diplomatic relations between the United States and Finland. The Soviet and British governments have been kept fully informed.

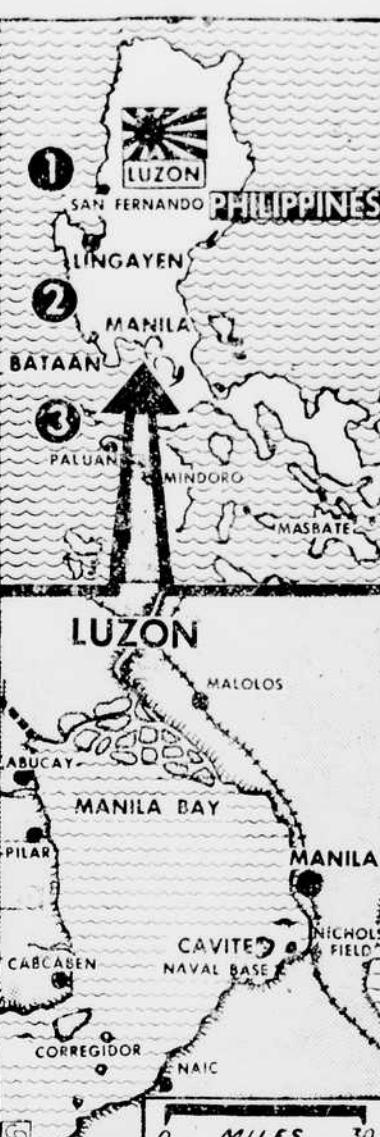
Some Stocks Rise Slightly

New York, Jan. 12—(AP)—A few stock market favorites made a little further headway in today's proceedings, although most leaders slipped into the losing column.

Backward were Southern Railway, Chrysler and General Motors. Ahead at intervals were Westinghouse and Consolidated Edison.

Without counting the new acceleration, Krug said fifty percent of 1945 schedules calls for increases, 13 percent are stable, and 35 percent taper off.

Fleet at Manila?



Nazi Rear Guards Fall Back In Belgium; Battle In Alsace

Drive Increases In Strasbourg Region; U. S. Gains Reported

Paris, Jan. 11—(AP)—German rear guards were falling back through fog and snow and near zero cold toward the Ourthe river line along roads that might have led to Antwerp and the sea, but to the south another force was shifting with increasing armor near Strasbourg.

Hammer, Gestapo chief and German home army commander, perhaps was directing the attack on both sides of the Alsatian capital. French troops, apparently surrounded because they were supplied by air, lost Oberhoffen, 15 miles south of Strasbourg.

The Allies left Herrlisheim, 12 miles northwest of the city of 100,000, northeast of the city of 100,000 on the Rhine.

A staff officer said the Germans had pulled all but forces from the 10-mile stretch east of the Laerchette-St. Hubert road, a difficult stretch of nearly 100 square miles. The Nazis, however, still had remnants in some divisions behind the Ourthe west of Houffalize.

St. Hubert, southwest anchor of the constricting Belgian bulge in the Ardennes, finally was entered. The Germans unopposed its evacuation two nights ago. Southeast of Battice, a townline, German pocketed was all but erased in a welter of German dead.

The Germans, admitted flying up the western half of the Ardennes salient, still fought hard, delivering a signal American and British troops west of the steep banks of the river which flows through fallen Larochette.

General Patton's Third Army advanced two miles northwest to enter St. Hubert, last important road center in the salient between the rated and lost armies. British second army troops reached the outskirts of Hamfontaine, 15 miles west of Houffalize. They also linked up with those who had come from St. Hubert.

Along the north bank of the salient, violent fighting in which tanks were involved continued in the Vicq-sous-Bar, nine miles west of St. Vith. American first army troops of the third armored division and 22d infantry ran into the most severe resistance yet encountered in their offensive.

Germans Say New Soviet Drive Begun

London, Jan. 12—(AP)—The German radio said today that the Russians have opened an offensive on a broad scale in southern Poland, striking from the Vistula bridgehead west of Bialystok.

The Russians established the Baranow bridgehead 125 air miles south of ruined Warsaw, during the summer. In places across the rolling Polish plain they struck within 35 miles of Krakow, ancient capital of the Polish kingdom and city of 234,000.

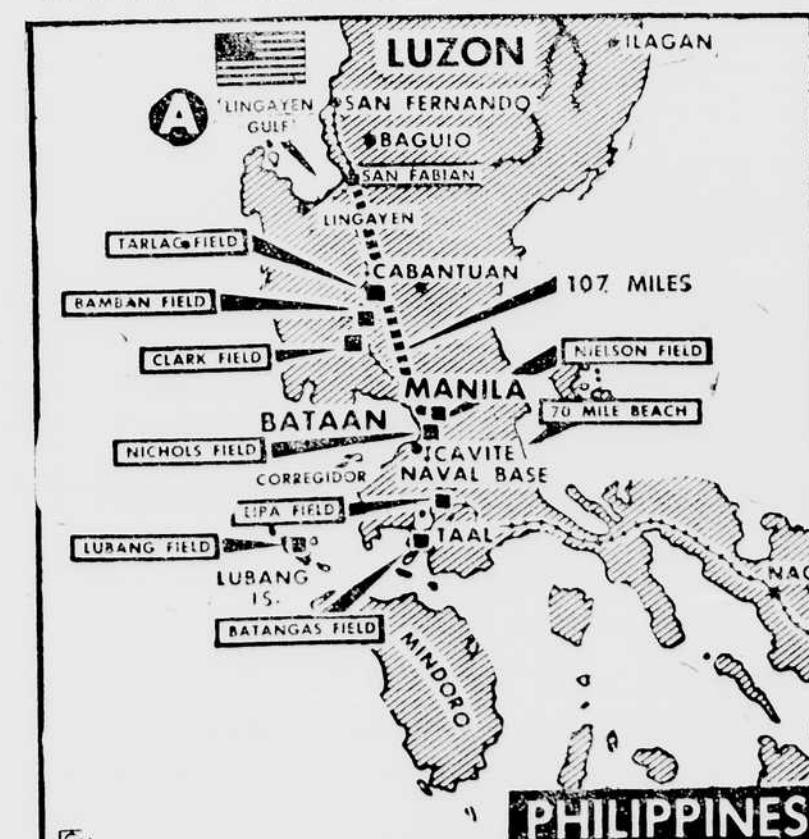
"The first attacking waves were completely wiped out by fire from our guns, mortars and infantry weapons," the Germans asserted.

Succeeding columns which the main battery were forced back in extremely bitter fighting, it was said. Russian losses in the first hour of the battle were extremely heavy, it was claimed.

Cotton Mixed Near Finish

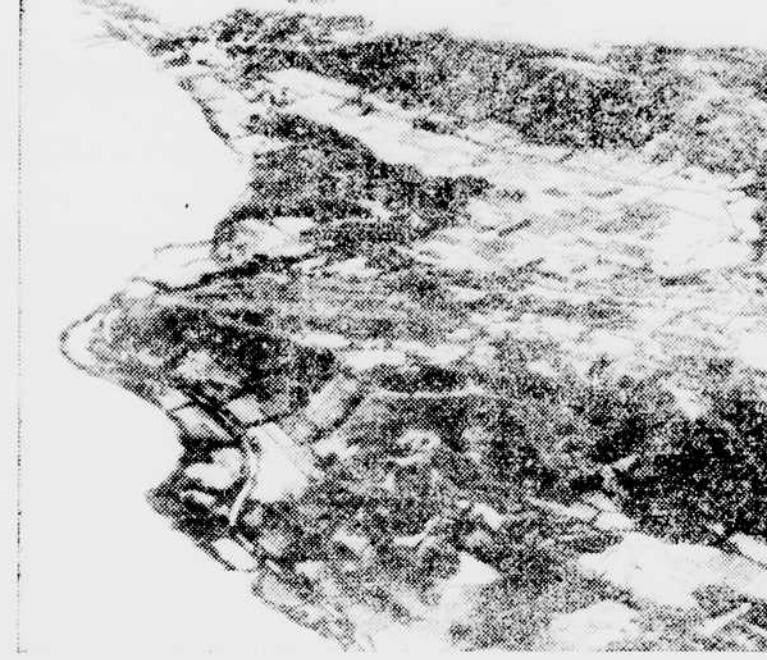
New York, Jan. 12—(AP)—Cotton futures opened five to 15 cents a bale higher. Nonn prices were 15 cents a bale higher to 20 cents lower. March 22-23; May 22-23; July 21-20; September 21-20; November 21-20; December 21-23; 21-24.

YANKS START ON ROAD TO MANILA



HAVING IMMEDIATELY seized the town of San Fabian (A), some 107 miles from Manila on Lingayen Gulf, Gen. MacArthur's invasion forces are preparing to push southward on the "revenge road" which leads to Manila, Bataan and Corregidor. This map shows key Jap airfields and points where the enemy may put up strong defenses. (International)

YANKS WENT ASHORE IN THIS AREA



THIS AERIAL reconnaissance photo shows a section of the shoreline of Lingayen Gulf near the area in which American troops are reported to have made their first landings on Luzon. The picture gives an excellent idea of the nature of the coast on which the Yanks are establishing their beachheads. This is an official U. S. Navy photo. (International)

Sharp Gains Are Made By Americans

Beachhead on Gulf Now 25 Miles Wide; Planes Bomb Enemy

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Luzon, Jan. 11—(AP)—Rapidly advancing sixth army invaders at Lingayen Gulf have seized more than ten miles of the San Fabian-Manila railroad, overrun 50 miles of road network commanding the north end of four main highways to Manila, and turned what could have been the flank of a good defense line behind the Agno river.

These are the developments for the first 48 hours since Tuesday's invasion. Much more remains to be disclosed.

Today's campaign, covering action up to Thursday morning, reported advances in strength during the previous 24 hours of seven to nine miles—gains easily in the direction of Manila, a little over 100 miles south.

The advances, which added five miles to the total since 100 miles, were limited entirely by roads and supply lines then the adversary.

The width of the beachhead along the Gulf, originally 15 miles, now is 25, with the first real contact with the enemy reported on the left bank nine miles southeast of San Fabian.

From Lingayen to Manila, American planes ranged over the central Luzon plain, where great tank battles soon may be fought. They cratered airfields in and around Manila, blew up bridges over which enemy reinforcements are trying to move, wrecked trains and shattered columns of artillery and supply.

Here at a glance is the official picture of the military situation along the 25 miles from the left to right flank:

On the extreme left Yanks have penetrated nine miles from the coast to seize the road junction of Manaoag, southeast of hidden San Fabian. They turned up a road forked northeast toward Pozorrubio and there can into Japanese forces. That road leads north to Bacolor, summer capital of the Philippines and possible seat of Japanese leaders. There are other road connections at Manaoag, leading toward Manila.

The Japanese Domel news agency says Tokyo's "approximately 80 carrier-based planes" raided Chongming, China, while centering around Saigon for nine and a half hours today.

Fleet Admiral Nimitz, in a terse communiqué last night, said the carrier planes are now threatening the enemy on the coast of Indo-China, between Saigon and Camarau bay.

All the circumstances of location and responsibilities of MacArthur's powerful fleet—he has been handed the job of keeping the Japanese away from MacArthur's men—a convoy escorted by warships was interdicted enroute to Luzon 1,000 miles from Lingayen.

Pacific Fleet carrier forces engaged only a week ago in attacking Formosa and reconnoitering 500 miles off the China coast dashed boldly across the great sea communications to strike the daring blow which undoubtedly started the enemy. The carrier fleet, named Task Force 58, from there it must have steamed west straight into the China Sea.

One convoy of about 150 ships, the radio said, had been sighted off Panay Island, and another between 100 and 150 vessels off Negros Island.

Another U. S. Landing Near, Japs Assert

Last Record In Siege Of Budapest Being Written

London, Jan. 12—(AP)—A Japanese radio commentator heard in Australia said today another American landing in the Manila bay area to follow that at Lingayen cannot yet be completely written off, and reported two more American convoys in Philippine waters.

One convoy of about 150 ships, the radio said, had been sighted off Panay Island, and another between 100 and 150 vessels off Negros Island.

Russian assault guns have penetrated the last quarter of the city, some 3,400 blocks of which have been cleared by Soviet shock troops. Most of north and east Pest have been completely mopped up.

Brave German attacks on the Soviet are west of the Danube to relieve the desperately struggling Nazi garrison failed again. The Red army was reported to have strengthened its position, and these appeared little likelihood of any German breakthrough.

In ten days of fighting to relieve the garrison, the Germans have sacrificed 16,000 men killed and approximately 650 tanks, on the basis

All U. S. War Production To Be Speeded Up

Washington, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Fifty percent of all war production programs will "rise at a tremendous rate" under a new speed-up which includes a threefold increase in critical aircraft in six months, J. A. Krug revealed today.

Partly to equip new French army divisions for the fight against Germany, about \$2,500,000,000 worth of new arms output is being added to the 1945 schedule, the WPB chairman said.

The expansion brings 1945 total output to some \$61,500,000,000, slightly higher than 1944, and is "a more difficult program to meet," Krug told a news conference.

The volume of munitions scheduled for shipment to the French army was not divulged, and other sources have given the impression that it is a substantial portion of the \$2,500,000,000 increase.

Without counting the new acceleration, Krug said fifty percent of 1945 schedules calls for increases, 13 percent are stable, and 35 percent taper off.

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