

Russians Drive Nearer Berlin

Allies Hold Initiative All Along The Western Front

Third Army In Gains Of Three Miles

U. S., British Armies Inside Germany And Push On Dusseldorf

Paris, Jan. 27.—(AP)—United States third army troops, striking on a 20-mile front in Luxembourg and Belgium, gained up to three miles today and reached the Our river barrier to Germany.

The attack's roll up to the river, pushing out the last vestiges of the Ardennes bulge, came as the American and British second armies on the north consolidated their hold along the west bank of the Roer river inside Germany within 25 miles of Dusseldorf.

Allied troops held the initiative all along the winding western front, and the Germans' offensive in Alsace has dwindled out.

American 90th division patrols reached the Our river at a point four and a half miles northeast of Cleves in northern Luxembourg, a point dispatches said. They met no resistance. Troops of the 17th airborne division punched forward three miles at a point seven miles below St. Vith.

The U. S. ninth and British second armies held the Roer river bank from Roermond to Mönchengladbach, 19 miles southeast of Aachen, and had widened the only breach in the Siegfried line to 25 miles.

Russia's great offensive, which has been increasing on the snow-bound western front, as witnessed by the Nazi withdrawal to the Roer river and the halt of German attacks in Alsace.

For the second straight day, pilots reported a steady flow of heavy rail trains eastward from the Ruhr region. This possibly was linked with the mounting pressure to Germany in the east. The train movement might reflect a last-minute shift of military reserves eastward.

Snowdrifts hampered all six Allied armies in the west, and fog overhung the Alsace plain, where the 79th division of the seventh army had trilled out the last German bridgehead over the Moder river west of Haguenau.

18,000 American Soldiers AWOL In European Region

Paris, Jan. 27.—(AP)—Official figures published in the army newspaper Stars and Stripes show that more than 18,000 American soldiers are currently absent without leave in the European theater.

Brigadier General P. B. Rogers, commanding general of the Seine section, indicated, however, that the majority probably are cases of brief absence, some soldiers using their own means to rejoin units after leave, instead of going back through regular army channels.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy and not quite so cold tonight; Sunday increasing cloudiness with little change in temperature.

FDR Asks Henry Kaiser To Head Clothing Drive

Washington, Jan. 27.—(AP)—President Roosevelt has asked Henry J. Kaiser, west coast shipbuilder, to head a gigantic campaign to collect "usable used clothing" in this country for relief of Europe's destitute millions.

The drive will be directed by the United Nations Clothing Relief Committee composed of UNRRA and almost sixty other relief agencies, all volunteers.

In a letter eloquently describing the suffering and need of the peoples of liberated Europe, Mr. Roosevelt asked Kaiser to take the chairmanship of the committee. It is understood that he has agreed to do so.

WALLACE APPEARING BEFORE COMMERCE COMMITTEE



APPEARING BEFORE the Senate Commerce Committee, former Vice-President Henry A. Wallace is shown as he declined himself competent to hold the post of Secretary of Commerce, to which he was recently appointed by President Roosevelt. At the same time he protested any splitting of the Commerce Department, as suggested by the George Bill. Former Commerce Secretary Jesse Jones had previously challenged Wallace's qualifications for the RFC part of the job. (International Soundphoto)

Ward Seizure Held Illegal In Decision By Chicago Jurist

Federal Judge Says Conclusion Reached With Much Regret

Chicago, Jan. 27.—(AP)—Army seizure of Montgomery Ward & Company properties on order of President Roosevelt was declared illegal today by Federal Judge Philip Sullivan, who said: "It is with considerable reluctance that I have arrived at the conclusion in this case."

Based on a case which the government said affected the nation's entire wartime labor dispute settlement machinery, Judge Sullivan asserted:

"Our nation is engaged in a global war, and it is imperative that we have to insure its speedy and successful conclusion."

"Our country is in a great crisis, and our liberty and very existence is at stake. So deeply do I feel on this subject that I believe it is not too much to expect that, for the duration, employers, employees and unions of the home front should make a determined effort to adjust their labor disagreements without resorting to strikes and lockouts."

\$1,000 GIVEN FIRST RUSSIAN IN BERLIN

New York, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The first Russian soldier to enter Berlin has been offered a \$1,000 prize by David Kay, New York business man.

Kay, a native of Lublin, Poland, made his offer yesterday in a letter to the Russian consul general's office, where a spokesman said it would be "accepted as a token of appreciation."

Cotton Feels Sharp Losses

New York, Jan. 27.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened five to ten cents a bale higher, and closed 40 to 45 cents a bale lower.

	Open	Close
March	21.74	21.64
May	21.54	21.44
July	21.20	21.07
October	20.51	20.36
December	20.49	20.30

Middling spot, 21.97, off 11.

MORE CIGARETTES.

London, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The cigarette ration for all American soldiers in the European theatre has been increased from five to seven packs a week, effective Monday, army headquarters in London announced.

Evacuation Of Berlin Has Begun

Travelers Reaching Stockholm Tell Of Transportation Lack

Stockholm, Jan. 27.—(AP)—Three travelers arriving independently from Berlin declared that slow, gradual evacuation of men and women from the German capital started this morning.

"One of rolling stock because of military needs and lack of housing elsewhere was expected to make evacuation difficult, but 25 trains were reported placed at the disposal of the refugees ten miles south of Berlin."

A Berlin newspaper correspondent reported that residents of the capital feel now "sincere" in the very front area. The atmosphere "has suddenly changed—Berlin is holding its breath watching the east."

The correspondent said that for the first time morning newspapers appeared in Berlin as a single sheet. He said that editorials continued "cautious and serene," stressing that personal care must be put aside in the face of the danger menacing Berlin, and that every one must fight to the bitter end."

Senate GOP Will Oppose Mr. Wallace

Washington, Jan. 27.—(AP)—Senator Taft predicted today that most Republicans will vote against Henry A. Wallace's cabinet nomination, regardless of whether the post is stripped of its lending authority.

Taft voiced the prediction after the Republican steering committee met to consider Wallace's nomination as commerce secretary, a nomination already disapproved by the Senate Commerce Committee.

The Republican members emerged from their meeting free to vote as they choose, however, and Senator Bridges expressed a belief that several of them might vote for Wallace if the commerce secretaryship is divested of its lending powers.

Germans Halt All Industry In The East

London, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The Germans said tonight that "the fate of the industrial fortress of Upper Silesia has now been handed over to the soldiers of the east front," and that the industries in the rich industrial area had shut down.

"But to the very last moment," said a broadcast of Transoceanic Nazi news agency, "the mines, blast furnaces and steel workers kept going. The workers stayed at their benches, but finally the terminal station of the railway line was moved back. New arrangements were made for the distribution of work and workers, and the population of the area was evacuated to the rear."

"In those areas of the industrial region of Upper Silesia, where German soldiers were unable to save from the grip of a superior enemy, installations were blown up. Volksturm battalions now are fighting at the side of the grenadiers in the midst of ruined factory buildings and coal dumps."

Evacuation of the industrial basin would mean that Hitler gave up the German army's second greatest prewar arsenal, which, since the bombing of the Ruhr, has been of increasing importance.

Jap Resistance Is Met For First Time In Push On Manila

Jap Guns Open Up From Hills After Rout By Americans

General MacArthur's Headquarters, Luzon, Jan. 27.—(AP)—America's sixth army spearhead down the central Luzon plain dug into its first appreciable resistance Friday. Japanese artillery opened up on Yank-captured Clark airfield, as American ground forces encountered resistance south of the Bamban river.

Clark field, largest airbase in the Philippines, and a major base of the war, was captured early Thursday by units of the 14th army corps which chased an enemy garrison of perhaps 5,000 into the nearby hills.

Hillside cave positions west and north of the huge airfield, excellent artillery sites, could delay American use of the airfield's 17 landing strips.

The sixth army, which had been opposed only on its west flank, as it drove cautiously down the broad plain toward Manila, came up against stiff resistance near the main Manila highway.

There the 14th corps, whose advanced units are at least five miles beyond Clark field at Angeles—about 40 miles north of Manila—found the first indication that Lt. Gen. Yamashita's Japanese defenders may make a stand before the Yanks reach the capital.

Coal Supply Fades; Cold To Continue

Washington, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The northeast looked into its collective coal bins today and the blacker the ton, the lighter the town.

Forecasters saw nothing immediately ahead but more cold weather as a coal shortage, brought on by a temporary embargo on non-war freight movements, closed schools in some sections and threatened to chill household and amusement places throughout the area east and south of the Great Lakes.

Local officials acted promptly as the Solid Fuels Administration ordered close control over home and deliveries and recent cancellations or postponement of the use of solid fuels in places of amusement.

In New York City, Mayor LaGuardia announced that fuel depots would be established.

District of Columbia officials beat the SFA to the punch by setting up a plan under which it will require a policeman's aid to get coal delivered to homes.

Schools, libraries, museums, night clubs, theaters, and bowling alleys were ordered closed Sunday in Albany, N. Y., until further notice.

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Rumors Relate Mounting Anxiety Inside Germany

London, Jan. 27.—(AP)—The German radio today called on the home front to show neither "illusions nor panic."

Rumors told of mounting anxiety, and even disturbances within Germany, but Allied officials were cautioned against being misled by wishful thinking or by Nazi propaganda reports.

A British Foreign Office spokesman labeled as "phony" rumors in Madrid, Lisbon and Barcelona that the Germans were fishing for peace. These reports, he said, were clearly German-inspired.

The Paris radio said civilians had staged a protest demonstration when several high ranking German officers arrived in Berlin on a crowded train from the eastern front. Paris called this the first such in-

In 91 Miles At One Line, Nazis Admit

200,000 Trapped In East Prussia, Now Completely Cut Off



HERE is a typical Hitler "panzer-grenadier" whose specialty in warfare is anti-tank fighting. These men are trying desperately, but unsuccessfully, to stop the drives of the Red Armies. (International)

Superforts Hit Japan, Indo-China

Daylight Mission Over Honshu; Aim at Shipping to Luzon

Washington, Jan. 27.—(AP)—American Superforts executed another one-two punch at Japan today, blasting at military installations in enemy-held Indo-China and raking industrial targets on the home island of Honshu with explosives.

Results of the twin attacks were not immediately made known, but will be disclosed when operational reports are received. General Arnold, commander of the 20th air force, announced in Washington that bombers of the 21st command had struck the Japanese home island on a daylight mission, hitting industrial areas.

The Japanese themselves said the target was Tokyo. Radio Tokyo said some 70 B-29s were over the capital for an hour in the early afternoon, and that fires started by the raiders were brought under control at dusk.

B-29s which attacked Indo-China targets possibly were gaining for new Japanese shipping concentrations intended to reinforce Luzon.

A brief war bulletin issued at the Washington headquarters did not specify objectives or the size of the air fleet.

Manpower Dispute In House Menaces Proposed Measure

Washington, Jan. 27.—(AP)—House leaders sought today to compromise deep-rooted differences threatening to doom manpower legislation.

Their efforts appeared to be getting nowhere, as the House prepared to begin Monday a week of what promises to be the bitterest debate in recent years.

Two major issues, each backed by a group refusing to give ground, were the obstacles menacing the limited national service proposal requested by President Roosevelt and opposed by organized labor and a large segment of industry.

Southerners and a sizable block of northern members are insisting that the legislation contain a provision men to join or to refuse to join unions on jobs to which they are assigned by draft boards. Known as the "anti-closed shop" amendment, this provision once was approved by the military committee and then was withdrawn in the interest of harmony. Labor leaders have assailed the proposal as an attempt to abrogate existing union contracts.

There was no indication that the German people generally had broken loose from Himmler's iron hand, even though the Nazis themselves reported some confusion as hundreds of thousands of civilians fled before the Red army.