

U. S. BATTLESHIPS OFF LUZON



MOVING INTO FIRING POSITIONS in Lingayen Gulf, mighty battleships of the U. S. 7th Fleet prepare to blast Japanese installations on Luzon. This is the first photo made of such an imposing array of American battle-shipons since the start of the war. Among them are ships salvaged from Pearl Harbor. U. S. Navy photo. (International Soundphoto)

BERLIN SEES GLARE OF GUNS First Army Pushes To Siegfried Line

Americans Are Nearer To St. Vith

Allied Forces Are Now Lined Up From Holland Into Saar

Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, Paris, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Supreme headquarters, reporting gains in the new assault launched in Belgium by the United States first army, said today the doughboys had reached high ground two miles southeast of St. Vith.

Paris, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Veteran divisions of the first army pushed their snowplow attack northeast of St. Vith to within a mile of Germany and the beginning of the formidable Siegfried line defenses today.

North of the first army, the U. S. ninth was close to the Roer and to the Siegfried line in many places, potentially threatening the Ruhr and Rhineland and their great cities.

To the south the third army was either near or across the border all the way to Strasbourg.

Thus General Eisenhower's forces were deployed all the way from Holland to the southern part of the Saarland. The slow reversal of the Ardennes bulge had squeezed perhaps twenty American divisions from the straightened salient, allowing them rest for the next battle.

From dusk last night until dawn today, Allied planes swept over German areas behind the west wall, disrupting continued German movements from the Ardennes. Mosquitoes took up where 2,000 bombers left off at nightfall.

Opposition to the pre-dawn onslaught, which caught the Nazis by surprise yesterday and gained two miles, still was "light to moderate," General Eisenhower's communique said. On all sectors, 16 villages were taken.

The seventh army front in Alsace was quiet—snowbound.

The French first army, with its American troops, made limited gains at both ends of the Colmar pocket. Strasbourg, but operations there were handicapped by deep snow and poor visibility due to ground haze.

NAZIS SHIFTING TROOPS IN EFFORT TO HALT DRIVE



ALLIED FLIERS on the Western Front report that a large-scale movement of troops and equipment is taking place as the Nazis seek to rush reinforcements to their badly-battered eastern front armies. In the last few days Allied airmen, slashing at the wholesale withdrawals, destroyed more than 7,500 vehicles and tanks. Meanwhile the Russians have isolated East Prussia and close in on Breslau. (International)

Government And People Flee Berlin

Big Prussian City Surrounded by Reds In Westward Sweep

London, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The Russians have surrounded the Prussian rail center of Schneidemuhl, four miles inside the German border, a German spokesman announced today, and Swedish eyewitness reports said flashes from Marshal Stalin's guns already could be seen from Berlin in the night skies over the eastern battlefield.

German officials were moving their offices from the threatened capital and twenty trains evacuated part of the populace, said a Swedish national just come from Berlin. Foreign diplomats were making preparations to leave and foreign correspondents were ordered to depart, he said.

Evacuation of Schneidemuhl, a city of 41,000, on the main Berlin-Danzig railway at a point 135 miles northeast of the capital, but directly east of Berlin.

Latest official Russian announcements said the Russians were 100 miles to the east, but Moscow dispatches said it was believed Marshal Gregory Zhukov's tanks had started together ahead and had crossed the frontier of Brandenburg, the province of Berlin, at several points.

While Zhukov's front, by official Moscow reports, was spread on an 80-mile arc within 100 miles of Stettin on the Baltic and 77 miles from Frankfurt on the Oder, Russian forces at East Prussia virtually surrounded Konigsberg, real capital of the Prussian military east.

Russian siege artillery poured in a steady stream of fire into that stronghold, into besieged Breslau, Silesian industrial center, and into Poznan and Torun in Poland, where crowded Nazi garrisons were believed on their last legs.

Liquidation of the final fourth of East Prussia, still held by the Germans, was proceeding in close-in fighting, while the Dnieper coal fields and most of the industrial centers of Silesia had been overrun.

In Silesia, the enemy communique said, the Russians further enlarged their bridgehead over the Oder at Stettin, 20 miles northwest of Breslau. Defenses of Konigsberg had been penetrated, the Germans said.

Vinson Now Talked As Lending Chief If Wallace Misses It

Wallace Appears Out of Picture As To Confirmation

Washington, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The special board talk to ex-Legal Staff Director Fred Vinson may be President Roosevelt's choice for Federal loan chief if the Senate rejects Henry Wallace out of the job.

The Wallace nomination for secretary of commerce is expected to be reported officially to the Senate this week, along with the bill to take the government's biggest lending business from the department and set it up under a Federal loan administrator.

As the situation stands, Wallace apparently may have confirmation for the cabinet post if he wants to wait long enough to let the Roosevelt bill become law, and his supporters don't force a test vote on the nomination in the meantime.

The bill requires President Roosevelt cooperation in signing the legislation, letting it become law. It is a confirmation for the committee of commerce, and lending post would definitely be headed by the department. An administration survey indicated a minimum of 45 diverse votes likely to be a majority because of absence.

Japs On Iwo Jima Are Struck Again By Superfortress

Washington, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Superfortresses again attacked enemy installations today on the Japanese island of Iwo Jima in a daylight raid.

The raid carried out by the first bomber command based at Saipan under General Lemay.

Results of the attack were not immediately determined, but will be announced when operational reports are received.

The islands have been attacked frequently in order to keep Japanese air concentration there to a minimum.

Two Killed, Three Hurt In Collision

Rocky Mount, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Two persons were killed and three others critically hurt shortly after midnight last night when the car in which they were riding hit a truck backed on highway 64 about six miles west of Rocky Mount.

Investigating highway patrolman J. A. Lennon said the dead were Raleigh White, 24, of Raleigh, acting chief auditor of the State retirement fund, and Sam Vinson, 37, of Albion, student at State College. The other three occupants of the car, who are now in a local hospital, were Arthur Newsome, 20, of Albion, driver of the car; Miss Jacquelyn Lundon, 18, of Albion, a student at Peace College in Raleigh; and Mrs. Raleigh White, 25, of Raleigh.

Cotton Turns Some Higher

New York, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened ten cents a bale higher to ten cents lower. Noon values were 30 to 50 cents a bale higher. March 21.69, May 21.51, July 21.19.

Table with columns: Month, Pk. Close, Open. Rows: March, April, July, October, December.

Dr. Meadows On Trial In ECTC Cases

Greenville, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Dr. Leon Meadows, retired president of East Carolina Teachers College, the car who are now in a local hospital, were Arthur Newsome, 20, of Albion, driver of the car; Miss Jacquelyn Lundon, 18, of Albion, a student at Peace College in Raleigh; and Mrs. Raleigh White, 25, of Raleigh.

Judge Clawson Williams, of Sanford, excused the jury panel while Solicitor D. M. Clark read the bills of indictment. There was some question whether Meadows would be tried upon the 16 separate indictments, or upon one bill including them all.

Of the 200 members of the jury panel instructed to appear, only 155 responded. The others were either ill or out of the State.

There was little prospect that selection of a jury would start until tomorrow, or not Judge Williams indicate when he would rule on the motion to quash.

Trial of the educator was originally scheduled to begin last November. However, members of Dr. Meadows' staff of attorneys appeared before Judge Williams at Kingston and obtained a postponement. They said an audit of the college books by an auditor employed by Dr. Meadows had not been completed.

Crop Goals Higher. College Station, Raleigh, Jan. 29.—Military successes last fall and crop reports gave some people the idea that less food would be needed in 1945 than a year ago.

MacArthur Now 33 Miles Of Manila

General MacArthur's headquarters, Luzon, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Sixth army spearheads were on the approach to San Fernando, 33 miles from Manila, headquarters reported today, an embattled American unit captured Rosario in a major breakthrough on the bitterly defended left flank.

Angeles, five miles southeast of captured Clark Field, was taken Sunday by the 37th division, which bypassed stubborn Japanese resistance in the hills and sent patrols down the highway toward San Fernando. Angeles has four airbases.

Elements of the 8th division reached Angeles, 12 miles east of Angeles, and the road junction at Mexico, only three miles north of San Fernando.

At San Fernando, the gateway to Manila, the highway forked and went west into the Batang and southward down the home stretch to the commonwealth capital, through a narrow plain between two large swamp areas. The shores of Manila bay are only 18 miles beyond the road junction.

Rosario, contested almost from the start of the Luzon campaign, was captured by Yanks of the first army corps, who pressed on toward junction with another American force moving northward from Sison. The two columns are heading toward Baguio, summer capital of the Philippines.

General Douglas MacArthur reported that one Japanese division had been "practically destroyed" in the long fight and "the strong has been forced to cover his northern flank by the remnants of his forces guarding the approaches to the north."

Harry Hopkins Calls In London, Paris, Rome

London, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Harry Hopkins, after a week-long series of conferences in London, previously clouded by censorship, is in Paris to make further preparations for the making of the "big three," it was announced here today.

Official disclosure that the advisor to the President had attended the London conferences and had gone to Paris, came amidst reports in diplomatic quarters that there were growing reports that a joint wartime statement call to Germany might be issued from the big three meeting.

Pointing toward the Russian drive toward Berlin and the possibility that General Eisenhower may be preparing to launch a big offensive from the west, some diplomatic sources expressed the view that President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin would consider the feasibility of a "surrender now" declaration to the Germans.

GOES TO ROME. London, Jan. 29.—(AP)—Harry Hopkins has left Paris for Rome, the French Telegraph Agency said today. Its broadcast added that the presidential advisor was expected to be received by Pope Pius.

Appeal For Ward Case Is Started

Chicago, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The government today began legal preparations to appeal the Federal court ruling that President Roosevelt acted without authority in the seizure of Montgomery Ward & Company properties.

J. Albert Wolf, U. S. attorney, said yesterday he believed the case would be reported to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in a day or two. Court rules allow the applicant sixty days to take action.

Under a stay of proceedings granted by Judge Philip L. Sullivan on his ruling Saturday, the case continued its operation of the sixteen seized Ward properties in Chicago and seven other cities.

Sullivan ruled that Ward's is not a war production plant within the meaning of the war labor disputes act and, therefore, is not subject to the seizure powers of the act.

Some Stocks Showdown On Service Law Waits House

Washington, Jan. 29.—(AP)—In no mood to compromise, the House looked today for a showdown fight on limited national service legislation for men between 18 and 45.

A division is expected Thursday or Friday. First, however, will come debate and maneuvers on an "anti-closed shop" amendment, and a proposal for statutory backing for the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

A week-end of overtures and sounding out of sentiment failed to uncover a common ground for compromise on deep-seated differences between organized labor groups and a bloc seeking to impose stringent curbs on union activities.

First U. S. Officer Tried In Black Market Charge

Paris, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The first officer to face the United States courtmartial trying railway black market cases here went to trial today on charges of wrongfully receiving looted army supplies and money which he knew came from selling such loot.

The officer, Lt. John W. Springer, also was charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States and with neglect of his duty as an officer and failing to prevent looting of supply trains headed for the front lines, and diversion of their supplies into the black market.

Money Asked For War Crime Commission

Washington, Jan. 29.—(AP)—The State Department has renewed its request for a special appropriation to provide full American participation in the United Nations War Crime Commission.

Acting Secretary of State Greer, in announcing this today, added that the government has a "comprehensive and forthright" program for dealing with war criminals.

"It is the policy of this government," he said, "to see to it that the Axis leaders and their henchmen who have been guilty of war crimes and atrocities shall be brought to the bar of justice."

Congress late last year turned down a \$30,000 request for salary and expenses for Herbert C. Bell, American member of the commission and his staff over a six-month period.

A few days ago, Greer announced that Bell would not return to London, blaming the department's failure to get the appropriation.

Three Transports Sunk, Japs Say, Off U. S. Pacific Coast (By The Associated Press.) An unconfirmed Tokyo radio broadcast said today that Japanese submarines sank three transports and an oil tanker off the Pacific coast of the United States.