

REDS ACROSS ODER RIVER, BERLIN ADMITS

78th Division Cuts Clear Through Siegfried Line

STETTINIUS, HOPKINS IN ITALY



SPECIAL ADVISOR to President Roosevelt Harry Hopkins (second from left), and Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius (right), are met on arrival at an Italian airport by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker (left), commander of the Mediterranean Air Forces; and Lt. Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, Deputy Supreme Allied Commander in the Mediterranean theatre. Official U. S. Army Signals Corps Radiophoto. (International Soundphoto)

Third Army Seven Miles In Germany

First and Third In Bradley's Command As Bulge Disappears

Paris, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Infantry of the American first army slashed into the second concrete belt of German fortifications today to within 1,500 yards of Gemund and 1,000 yards of Schiedon, last bastion towns of the Siegfried line.

Paris, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The 78th division of the first army drove through the Siegfried line today to within 1,500 yards of Schmidt, which lies north of the network of dams controlling headwaters of the Roer river.

On the third army front to the south, however, 200 resolute Germans must take into the fortified village of Breidenbach, where Lt. Gen. George Patton's troops had broken clear through the Siegfried line late yesterday. Heavy fighting ensued and the issue was still in doubt.

Elsewhere, foot troops of the third army advanced a mile and a quarter along an eight-mile front, capturing Babscheid, seven miles southwest of Prum, and Schlarbach, six miles north-west.

At other points, the third army was seven miles inside Germany and just over three from Prum, where a spate of raids and roads were the German front.

Supreme headquarters disclosed that both the first and third armies were once more operating under the command of Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley as units in his twelfth army group. The United States ninth army remained under Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, who took over the first and ninth when the Ardennes breakthrough split Bradley's forces. This arrangement indicated that joint British and American operations were possibly imminent against an enemy which SHAEF declared had suffered 1,260,000 western front casualties since D-Day.

George Bill Unanimously Okayed By House Group

Wallace Battle Is Thus Sent to Fight Of House for Fight

Washington, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The House Banking Committee approved unanimously today the Senate-passed George bill divorcing the R. F. C. from the Commerce Department.

The vote came after Democrats had made 15 to 11 a Republican attempt to repeal some of President Roosevelt's war powers, to name the President would assign no duties to Wallace except those of a trimmed down Commerce Department.

The Senate is withholding a vote on confirmation of Wallace's appointment to the commerce post pending completion of legislation taking the R. F. C. and subsidiary lending agencies away from the Commerce Department.

Some House anti-Wallace leaders hoped that a coalition of Republicans and some southern Democrats could amend the George bill that the President would not sign it and the Senate would be forced to vote on Wallace as secretary of a department retaining the money agencies.

Wife Backs Army Private Ordered To Die At Camp

Vancouver, Wash., Feb. 6.—(AP)—The 23-year-old wife of an army private sentenced to be hanged for refusal to bear arms stood staunchly by him today as she sought desperately some way to save him from the gallows.

"I can't say he doesn't want to serve his country," said Mrs. Grace Weber. "It's just that he has a deep-seated view against killing his fellow man. The army has known that all along."

She expressed amazement that the army had not notified her of the death sentence against her husband, Private Henry Weber, 27, at Camp Roberts, Cal.

"I don't know what way to turn," she said, "but I have great faith in Senator Wheeler, of Montana. Surely he will succeed in his Senate investigation when all the facts are known."

Colored Margarine Sale Approved By Committee

Raleigh, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The House Agriculture Committee voted overwhelmingly today in favor of the bill to allow sale of colored oleomargarine.

Opponents of the bill, if enacted, would injure the dairy industry, which is growing in the State. They said wherever there is a shortage of butter now, there would be plenty after the war.

Speaking for the bill were two of its sponsors, Representatives Volger of Mecklenburg, and Allen of Wake. They said the present laws against the sale of colored oleomargarine were punitive, that they occasioned additional and unnecessary work for housewives, and that the sale of colored margarine would be a boon to the cotton, peanut and soybean farmers.

The House Judiciary I Committee, after a lengthy hearing, deferred today until Thursday its action on bills to allow divorce on the grounds of one year's separation, and to allow a service man who has been in camp in this State for six months to sue for divorce.

Opposing the measure were Senator Charles Ross, of Cumberland; Montsignor Freeman of Raleigh; Dr.

M. T. Plyler, editor of the North Carolina Christian Advocate; Dr. J. A. McMillan, editor of Charity and Children; Rev. J. McDowell Dick, of Raleigh; Mrs. Charles Dook, of Raleigh, representative of several women's organizations; and Editor Joseph Daniels of the Raleigh News and Observer.

The opponents said the measures, if enacted, would tend to stoke at the sanctity of marriage, would promote more divorces, and adversely affect many children.

Charges that the Department of Conservation and Development and the Division of Game and Inland Fisheries had neglected to propagate and conserve game and fish were voiced today by proponents of a move to create a separate division to be controlled entirely by sportsmen.

They said the move was nothing new, but that there had been a feeling among sportsmen for the past ten years that the game and inland fisheries division should be divorced from the State Department of Conservation.

Opponents of the separation will present their side Thursday.

Dr. Meadows' Audit Barred As One Unit

Greenville, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The defense today prevented introduction into evidence of an entire audit made by the State auditor's office in connection with the handling by Dr. Leon Meadows of special and student funds at East Carolina Teachers College. He is charged with embezzlement and false pretense.

The State tried to prove that the audit was part of the permanent records of the college, but the defense objected and Judge Clawson Williams sustained it. The State then began presenting the audit piecemeal.

F. D. Duncan, college treasurer, said he did not know the college was paying part of the cost of a refrigerator which was placed in Meadows' home but that Meadows had approved the invoice.

A. C. Forbes, superintendent of buildings and grounds, testified that on at least two occasions cement had been taken from the college on college trucks, but he could not say for what purpose.

H. E. West, former engineer at the college, testified that he did some personal work for Meadows, and that Meadows paid him with personal check. The State indicated that it would try to show that some of the cost later was paid from college funds.

ANOTHER AIR BASE IN CHINA GIVEN UP

Kangming, China, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Kangming Field, southwest of Kanchow (Hanchow) has been abandoned as an air base along with Suchow, the United States 14th air force disclosed today.

The 14th had maintained at Kangyung field a compact striking force not merely behind enemy lines but enclosed by the Japanese. Its hit and run attacks snared a bag of Japanese planes and shipping still being tabulated by headquarters.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER



GENERAL OF THE ARMY Douglas MacArthur congratulates Maj. Gen. Verne Mudge, commander of the U. S. First Cavalry in this photo, made in the Philippines recently. The swift moving motorized cavalrymen under Mudge performed the feat of driving 65 miles toward Manila in 24 hours. The First Cavalry has vowed to liberate Manila in memory of their former commander, Lt. Gen. Wainwright. (International)

Entire Destruction Of Japs In Manila Is MacArthur's Aim

Full Liberation of City Proclaimed; Knockout Is Delivered by Paratroopers

Manila, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Liberation of Manila and more than 6,000 prisoners from three years of Japanese stagnation was proclaimed today by General Douglas MacArthur, who immediately took up the new war cry, "On to Tokyo!"

The knockout blow was delivered by paratroopers of the eleventh airborne division, who drove into Manila from the south in a 35-mile overnight dash, as first cavalry and 37th division units smashed across the Pasig river barrier in the city's heart.

Complete destruction of the Japanese defenders "is imminent", MacArthur announced. Caught in a three-way trap, the enemy can go only toward Manila bay, which is constantly under American bomb sights.

Corridor fortress, at the harbor entrance, and the nearby Bataan peninsula could serve as temporary refuge. Bataan now is under American control, all its roads sealed off at the north.

MacArthur proclaimed "the fall of Manila was the end of one great phase of the Pacific struggle, and set the stage for another." He added: "We shall not rest until the enemy is completely overthrown. We are well on the way, but Japan itself is our final goal. Our motto becomes, 'On to Tokyo!'"

The wording could be interpreted as a bid for continuing command in the campaign against Japan proper and a move to get down rumors that the Philippines would be the end of the road for the five-star general.

Eight hundred prisoners of war and 300 civilian internees were freed Sunday from the ancient vermin-infested, justice-chambered Bilibid penitentiary in the center of the city, such a filthy hole it had been considered as a penal institution by the Philippine government.

The prisoners were liberated by the 37th division under Major General Robert E. Kohler, of Columbus, Ohio, only hours after the veteran first cavalry division, led by Major General Verne D. Mudge, freed 3,700 persons, mostly American women and children, from the Santo Tomas internment camp.

It was the first public pronouncement here indicating that the "big three" meeting was under way, although there has been much speculation.

Cerime secretary of the congress, said Churchill was to have spoken at the trades union meeting, but was unable to do so because he was attending the conference.

Russians Get Set For The Knockout

Soviet Armies in 32 Miles of Berlin; Two Important Defense Cities Captured

London, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Berlin announced officially today that the Russians have captured Stinaw, on the west bank of the Oder, 32 miles northwest of Breslau.

"Set Up For the Kill"

London, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Russian siege guns pounded heavily today at the Germans across the Oder river on a 73-mile sector before Berlin in apparent preliminaries to force the great water barrier, and Nazi broadcasts said one bridgehead had already been torped northwest of Kustrin.

The Soviets captured Zelin, 32 miles from Berlin on the Oder, northwest of Kustrin, and seized Dembert, a suburb of Frankfurt, farther south. A tremendous gun ducted across Soviet artillery in Danzest, on the east bank, laid curtains of shells on Frankfurt.

Marsal Gregory Zhukov's artillerymen were firing over open sights, a Moscow dispatch said, and there was extremely heavy fighting along approaches to Oder bridges north and south of Frankfurt, 35 miles from Berlin.

The night glow of battle was plainly visible in the Reich capital, prisoners told their Russian captors. Smoke overhung the Oder like a protective screen, Moscow reports said.

Hand to hand battles raged in the suburbs of Kustrin, and the Soviets were but two miles from the heart of that important rail and fortress city, it was announced.

A Moscow dispatch declared the Germans had lost 20,000 killed in the last four days in the Frankfurt-Kustrin sector. The Germans' 25th motorized division—said to have been rushed from the western front and sent across the Oder to delay Zhukov—reported nearly wiped out yesterday.

Against this background of continuing victories the Moscow radio declared in effect this morning that Nazi Germany is being set up for the kill.

The Red army is stepping up its blows, this broadcast said. "Decisive blows are awaiting Hitler's Germany from the west as well."

Internees Get Best Of Care After Rescue

Santo Tomas Internment Camp, Manila, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Speedy repatriation for all of the thousands of civilian internees who wish it is being arranged by American officers within this jubilant camp, while gunfire is still ringing in Manila and artillery bursts sail over the campus.

Army rations are being distributed in this camp and to other freed civilians. Medical supplies are available for the first attempt to build up the run-down health of the 3,700 Santo Tomas internees.

Colonel Howard Smith, of the army medical corps, has taken over hospitalization. Col. T. W. Graham, an old-time Manila and new camp commandant, is assisted by Lt. Col. Charles Smith, another longtime Philippine resident, who escaped capture.

Food is being given sparingly at first as a health precaution for people whose stomachs shrank on protracted handout allotments of Japanese rations. Menus will be built up gradually until perhaps who almost lost their taste for American food are receiving regular army fare.

Beginning of rehabilitation for Santo Tomas internees was not hampered by the continuing sporadic battle in Manila, where scattered fires and numerous demolitions erupted during the night.

Santo Tomas internees included approximately 2,700 Americans, 745 British, 100 Australians, 60 Canadians, and 50 Hollanders. The remainder were an assortment of other nationalities.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA Mostly cloudy and cool to night. Wednesday partly cloudy and warmer.

40 Dead From Oil Blaze In N. Y. Harbor

New York, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Navy men and police, predicting a probable death toll of 40, today were grimly surveying the charred hulks of two ships and the flotam of New York bay for additional victims of the inferno of high octane gasoline and oil which killed 13 by present count, and injured 121.

The disaster occurred yesterday when an incoming vessel rammed the 18,000 ton tanker Springhill, loaded with 120,000 barrels of high octane gasoline. An explosion and flame enveloped the tanker, spreading to a nearby Norwegian vessel, the Vivi, loaded with diesel oil.

Twenty-two men still are missing. Of the injured, at least six are in a grave condition. Four of the victims were from North Carolina.

Stocks Resume Their Advance

New York, Feb. 6.—(AP)—The stock market resumed its selective advance today, under leadership of the rails, after absorbing considerable early profit-cashing on the five session upswing.

Ahead were Santa Fe, New York Central, Atlantic Coast Line, Northern Pacific, American Telephone, Consolidated Edison, Eastman Kodak and United Aircraft.

Sharp Drop Hits Cotton

New York, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Cotton futures opened 10 cents, a pale lower to five cents higher, Noon prices were 20 to 35 cents a bale lower, March 21.33, May 21.73, July 21.39.

Table with columns: Month, Close, Open. Rows: March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.