

Weather
Forecast: Rain in lowlands,
snow in hills Sunday.
Temp.
Highest yesterday 68
Lowest yesterday 44
Precipitation past 24 hrs. .18

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RUSSIANS GAIN VITAL VICTORIES

MELITOPOL, KEY TO CRIMEA LINE TAKEN BY REDS

Dnieper Bulge Encirclement Drive Gains — Stubborn Defense Ends.

London, Sunday, Oct. 24.—(U.P.) Soviet forces under Gen. Feodor I. Tolbukhin ended the bloody, 12-day street battle of Melitopol yesterday, capturing the Nazi stronghold that had barred the way of an assault across southern Russia's steppes to the Crimea or a thrust to the west. The victory implemented the Red army's encirclement campaign in the big bend of the Dnieper.

In the Dnieper bulge, Gen. Ivan S. Konev's Red forces, driving forward in a supreme effort to entrap an estimated 750,000 Nazis, seized the junction of Verkhovtsevo, straddling the rail lines from Dnepropetrovsk to Znamianka and Krivoriiv, and advanced to little more than 20 miles from Dneprodzerzhinsk, western guardian of Dnepropetrovsk.

Germany's stubborn defense of Melitopol, anchor point of her vaunted "Crimea line," cost her the lives of two full divisions—30,000 men—of whom more than 4000 were killed yesterday as the Red army routed the Nazis out of the northern section and gained possession of the whole city which before the war had a population of 70,000.

Melitopol's fall was announced by Premier Marshal Josef Stalin, whose order of the day was amplified by the regular operational and supplementary communiques broadcast by Moscow.

With Melitopol fallen, a grim race was expected between the Russians, heading for the new vulnerable Crimea, and the Germans attempting to evacuate an estimated 90,000 effectives from the peninsula by means of their recently-built railway to Kherson and Nikolaev. It was significant that the German radio reported Soviet landing craft massing in the Kuban and along the Sea of Azov coast preparatory for attacks along the Crimean coast.

Moscow's communiques reported that more than 8500 Germans were slain in yesterday's fighting, which was highlighted by Melitopol with additional focal points in the Dnieper bend, south and southwest of Kremenchuk; below Pereyaslav, and south of Rechitsa on the Gomel front.

MOLOTOV, HULL IN FRIENDLY CHATS

Moscow, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Foreign ministers of the United States, Great Britain and Russia held their fifth business session of the three-power conference today shortly after Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov concluded a private talk described as a friendly exchange of ideas.

The business meeting lasted two hours and 20 minutes breaking up at 6:20 p. m., and a sixth session was scheduled for tomorrow. The conference was reported to be proceeding in an atmosphere of complete frankness.

Correction
London, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—The Exchange Telegraph News wire today carried the following correction:
"Please correct the preceding article to read: 'President Roosevelt's cold has developed into a grippe repeat gripe (a feverish cold) not gripe as previously sent.'"

Soldier Finds Resting Place



Although the Italian soldier above is dead tired, he is still very much alive. In the shadow of a Nazi plane, which was wrecked only a short time before when Allied bombers strafed the railroad marshaling yards at Crotone, Italy, this weary warrior fell asleep.

VALIANT HELENA SURVIVORS SAVED BY BOLD RESCUE

Washington, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—About 160 survivors of the valiant cruiser Helena, which sank or helped sink or damage 16 Japanese warships before it finally was sent to the bottom, now are ready to fight again as a result of a daring rescue from enemy-held territory in the South Pacific, the navy revealed tonight.

The rest of the nearly 1,000 survivors were rescued from the oil-covered waters of Kula gulf after the Helena was sunk last July 7, when Japanese shells finally sent her to the bottom at the close of a brilliant American victory which saw nine enemy warships turned into flame-swept wrecks and five others badly battered.

The 160-odd men, however made their way to Vella Lavella island, then in Japanese hands, where they split up into two groups. When American commanders learned that they were on the island, a bold rescue operation was ordered executed.

Eight destroyers were assigned to cover two destroyer-transports—the Dent and Waters—whose job it was to get inshore as close as possible and take off the survivors in small boats.

A rendezvous was established shortly after midnight and the first group was removed safely. Marines, covering the operation, stood guard against possible Japanese patrols.

Then the Dent and Waters proceeded through moonlit waters to another point where the second group was rescued. A Japanese plane flew directly overhead, but the ships with held fire and were not detected. En route back to Guadalcanal, the convoy was spotted by enemy reconnaissance planes which dropped bombs but failed to cause any damage.

PORTLAND MAYOR JIBES SENATORS AND IS REBUKED

Washington, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Sen. Ralph O. Brewster, R., Me., tonight characterized as "a further illustration of American ineptitude" criticism of himself and four other globe-trotting senators voiced in London by Mayor Earl Riley of Portland.

Riley, in Britain for two months, charged in an interview that the senators had developed most of their impressions of Great Britain from their Dorchester hotel rooms.

Brewster said Riley's interview "confirms my impressions that the British are past masters in the art of dealing with foreign relations." He said that if U. S. Ambassador John Winant approved "any such irresponsible statements, he is far less wise than I believe him to be."

Referring to the fact that Riley "and his fellow travelers" are guests of the British ministry of information, Brewster said they were apparently paying dividends on the hospitality extended to them.

The senators, he said, had their expenses paid by the United States government.

He suggested that the divergence in viewpoint perhaps illustrates the old adage: "Whose bread I eat, his song I sing."

Of Riley's reference to the Dorchester hotel, Brewster said he was willing to agree that they did not "live the life of Riley."

LLOYD GEORGE, 80, WEDS SECRETARY
London, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—David Lloyd George, the 80-year-old Welsh radical who produced some of Britain's greatest political sensations 20 to 30 years ago, amazed his friends today by marrying his private secretary, Miss Frances Stevenson, a quarter of a century his junior.

NAZI INDUSTRIAL CITY OF KASSEL BLASTED BY RAF

Cologne and Frankfurt Also Hit in Raids That Cost 44 Planes.

London, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—British and Canadian bombers blasted and burned the western arms and engineering centers of Kassel with more than 3,300,000 pounds of bombs last night and hammered nearby Cologne and Frankfurt with a lesser weight of explosives in one of the RAF's most widespread operations of the war.

Forty-four bombers and one fighter were lost in the night operations, which also included the mining of German waters and intruder forays against western Europe by fighter command planes.

The raid was the most costly for the RAF since the night of Aug. 23 when 58 bombers—a record—were lost against Berlin. The price was considered well worthwhile, however, for it was believed that Kassel, a city of 217,000 packed with airplane factories and rail installations, thus joined 17 other heavily raided German cities listed as more of a liability than an asset to the German war production machine.

British Typhoon and Mustang fighter-bombers carried the offensive forward in daylight Saturday, damaging at least 15 locomotives and setting freight trains afire in "train busting" attacks over northern France. Two Focke Wulf 190 fighters were shot down by the British before they were able to get off any return fire, the air ministry announced.

Canadian Halifax and Lancaster four-engined bombers in the procession over Kassel loosed the heaviest weight of bombs ever dropped by the RCAF. The air ministry news service announced that "well over" 1,500 long tons of bombs were dropped on Kassel, leaving huge fires and a smoke pall 18,000 feet high hanging over the city.

Crew reports and photographs confirmed that the raid, fourteenth of the war on Kassel and the fifth heavy one of the past six months, was "highly effective." Pilots saw three tremendous explosions rip through the city as block-buster and incendiary bombs showered from the giant bombers.

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They slipped over to the Guildford registry office for the ceremony, attended only by the bride's sister and the former prime minister's parliamentary secretary.

Lloyd George's daughter, Megan, introduced Miss Stevenson to her father in 1913. The unusually attractive young woman was mistress of Miss Megan's school. She came for dinner and remained to become the rising parliamentarian's private secretary.

GERMANS UNABLE TO HALT ALLIED DRIVE UPON ROME

Use of Tanks and Massed Infantry Beaten Back—Lull in Campaign.

Allied Headquarters, Algiers, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—The Germans are using tanks in desperate counter-attacks to slow the steady Allied drive on Rome, but Fifth army gunners have knocked out a number and with their infantry have driven the enemy from commanding heights on the crucial front north of Alife, it was disclosed today.

On the Adriatic sector, the Eighth army captured Lupara, 14 miles northeast of Campobasso, and along the 91-mile mountain front Allied troops bit deeper into German defenses while British and American fliers ranged up the Apennine peninsula and cut three vital Nazi rail arteries.

The Eighth army also hurled back a weak German counter-attack in the area of Montecellone south of Ternoli but it was in the Alife area that the enemy made his most determined efforts, using massed artillery and infantry as well as tanks.

The artillery shelled the American positions in the town, then the infantry and tanks smashed forward only to run into the deadly horizontal fire of U. S. anti-tank guns which scattered the tanks and wrecked or set afire a number. The German infantry broke and retreated. There was no indication that American tanks had taken part in the battle except possibly as mobile artillery firing from back of the fighting-line.

The Americans then drove a mile north of Alife and occupied ridges lining either side of the upper Volturno, moving within 16 miles of the new inland anchor of the Nazi line at Venafro. Eighth army troops moving along the opposite side of the Matese mountains were also advancing on Venafro by way of the Nazis' Isernia stronghold but still had some 25 miles to go.

All along the front the Allies were consolidating their positions and searching out gullies and hills for pockets of Germans left behind in the Nazis' retreat from the Volturno earlier in the week.

In the air, Allied bombers continued the relentless pounding of German rail links which already was slowing up and reducing arrival of reinforcements on the enemy front, according to reconnaissance reports.

EISENHOWER SEES LONG, BITTER WAR

(By United Press)
Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander in North Africa, warned Saturday night in a radio broadcast from Algiers that victory is a "long, long way" ahead.

"This is a hard war, a bitter bloody war," Eisenhower said. "Make no mistake. It will be a long, long way to final victory, over a bitter rough road. Our men know it and are ready for it. But they want to be assured above all else that the home front is behind them."

Eisenhower made his statement on a program with Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., who reported on progress in war bond drives and on his tour of the fighting fronts. The addressers were carried by CBS and NEC networks in the United States.

TENOR OUT OF ARMY
San Diego, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Army Private Giovanni Zavatti, 30, who before joining the army in 1941 was listed as one of the nation's youngest leading operatic tenors, today was given a medical discharge at Ft. Rosecrans, where he has been stationed since completing recruit training.

Jap Freighter Sunk at Lae



Yanks rejoice after sinking of Jap freighter in waters off coast of Lae, New Guinea, but do not stray from ack-ack before gun in case of a Jap air attack. Inability to maintain supply lines was one of the chief reasons the Nipponese were forced to evacuate the strategic airbase at Lae.

"BIG FIVE" UNIONS THREATEN STRIKE EARLY DECEMBER

Chicago, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—The "Big Five" operating brotherhoods threatened tonight to tie up the nation's major railroads with a strike in early December unless President Roosevelt intervenes in the stalemate with a special fact finding board over wage demands.

The Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen joined the four other brotherhoods—Locomotive Engineers, Firemen and Enginemen, Order of Conductors, and the Switchmen's Union of North America—today in ordering a strike ballot among its members.

The brotherhoods said it would take 30 days to complete the strike vote by its 350,000 members and another week to set the date for the strike—but they made it very clear that there was time enough for presidential intervention, possibly through the appointment of another board to consider their demands.

Washington, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—The War Labor board threatened today to refer the strike of 22,000 Alabama coal miners to President Roosevelt unless the mines begin reopening Monday.

It appeared probable that such action would result in renewed government operation of the mines. Strikers then would be subject to criminal penalties under the Smith-Connally war labor disputes law if they attempted to block any resumption of operations.

EARLY SNOWFALL ON STATE ROADS

Portland, Ore., Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Oregon snow plows today had cleared the earliest snowfall in a decade from the state's high ways with the exception of the heavy fall still on McKenzie river pass.

The Portland weather bureau bureau also warned that further snows were coming late today and ordered up small craft warnings along the Oregon coast.

Rains were predicted for western Oregon below the usual winter snow line.

NEW GUADALCANAL BASE
Guadalcanal, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—A new airfield on Vella Lavella island, the northernmost Allied airfield in the Solomon Islands has been in operation for several weeks for both combat and transport planes, it was revealed today.

JAPANESE FORCE NEAR SATELBERG KEPT OFF COAST

Allied Headquarters, Southwest Pacific, Sunday, Oct. 24.—(U.P.)—The strong Japanese force around Sateberg, 10 miles north of Allied-held Finschhafen on the Huon peninsula of New Guinea, withdrew inland Friday after trying desperately to break through to the coast, leaving 510 dead troops, a communique announced today.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communique reported that the Japanese are now 1100 yards west of Katika, which is three miles north of Finschhafen airfield. The enemy was thrown back from Katika after occupying the village last week in heavy fighting.

Heavy Australian artillery and mortar fire pounded Japanese positions to pieces while powerful forces of Billy Mitchell medium bombers hammered them aerially Thursday and Friday afternoons.

In Thursday's raid the bombers poured 55,000 rounds of 50 caliber machinegun ammunition into the Japanese lines and rained 221 tons of bombs on the area.

The Japanese have now been driven back to the Sateberg area and possibly can withdraw by land trails northward, a headquarters spokesman said.

Liberator bombers swept over enemy bases in the Dutch East Indies Friday afternoon and other planes attacked positions on New Britain island Thursday and Friday.

WAR PRODUCTION LAST MONTH LAGS

Washington, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Overall munitions production in September was "disappointing" except for a six per cent rise in output of four-motored bombers. Acting Chairman Charles E. Wilson of the War Production Board reported tonight.

War production in general, he said, was about the same as in August and "cannot be regarded as anything but disappointing." He said industry's failure to show a percentage gain in September indicates the country is approaching its production ceiling.

"The diversity of the problems limiting over-all production indicates that production is pushing the ceiling," he said. "To some plants it is design changes, in others failure of parts or materials to arrive on time. Recently the most common complaint has been shortage of labor."

PROBLEM OF PEACE
Washington, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Acting Chairman Charles E. Wilson of the War Production Board said today that the future of America and democracy depends on the ability of law enforcement agencies to meet home front problems in the postwar era as effectively as they are meeting them during the war.

HORRORS IMPOSED UPON NAPLES BY BEATEN HUN TOLD

Atrocities Listed For F. R.—Criminals Freed, Brutality Unleashed.

Naples, Oct. 21.—(U.P.)—Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau is carrying home to President Roosevelt a list prepared by Allied military government officials of 13 categories of atrocities which the Germans inflicted upon Naples before they withdrew under Allied attack.

The amazing document was edited personally by Col. Edgar Erskine Hume from Virginia, who heads Allied military government in Italy.

One of the charges is that the Nazis, just before fleeing Naples, threw open the doors of 13 prisons for dangerous criminals. Men who had been sentenced to long terms for murder, rape, homosexuality, holdups and other crimes—born killers and other pathological criminals—were released upon a battle-shattered populace already suffering complete disruption of its civic existence.

Thousands of these criminals were roaming the streets of Naples when the Allies entered the city, but they are now being rounded up.

"The Germans collectively and individually robbed shops, homes and even people in the streets."

"There were many murders, including those of a sadistic nature wherein dead bodies were mutilated, especially those of women."

"German booby traps were placed where they might be set off not only by our troops but by civilians, including children, many of whom were killed."

"There was much wanton destruction of property, with physical harm to people."

"Food supplies were destroyed or fouled. Cruel measures were taken against Italians between 18 and 35 years of age who failed to respond to the German demands for forced labor. Many people, including women, were beaten to make them disclose the whereabouts of supposed valuables."

Destruction of the University of Naples, described as "one of the oldest and most famous in existence," was detailed.

"The library of the Royal Society of Naples, one of the great learned societies of the world, was housed in the university," the report said. "It was put to the torch on the twelfth of September, a little over a fortnight before we took the city. We are collecting affidavits of faculty members and students who agree that some 600 Germans entered the university, announcing that they were about to burn it in retaliation for fighting by Neapolitan students against their troops."

"Cans of gasoline were brought in and the walls, furniture and books covered with it and a fire started. Firemen arrived immediately but were refused admittance."

"Two carabinieri who tried to halt the destruction were taken to the front entrance and shot. Witnesses avow that the notorious Colonel Scholl, commander of the German troops at Naples, arrived when the work of destruction was under way and read a proclamation in German and Italian announcing that the university was being wrecked as a punishment to the city of Naples."

Red-Blue Forces Maneuver In Snow
Fourth Corps Headquarters, Oregon Maneuver Area, Oct. 23.—(U.P.)—Red and Blue forces of the central Oregon war games prepared for a battle in the snow today as reconnaissance forces of the two armies made contact for the first time in the seventh phase of the maneuvers.