

Weather
Forecast: Rain and slightly warmer Sunday.
Temp. 41
Highest yesterday 41
Lowest this morning 31
Past 24 hours Trace

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YANKS REACH COLOGNE PLAIN

SWISS SAY RHINE CROSSED AT KEHL; GERMANS RETREAT

Yanks Hack Way Out of Huertgen Forest—Third City of Reich Menaced.

Paris, Sunday, Nov. 26.—(U.P.)—Bayonet-wielding doughboys hacked their way out of the death-ridden Huertgen forest to the Cologne plain Saturday, breaking the enemy's fanatic grip on the approaches of the third city of the Reich while other Yanks streamed 11 miles through dismembered German defenses north of Strasbourg.

The Swiss radio reported that allied forces had crossed the Rhine river over undamaged bridges at Kehl, just east of Strasbourg on the right bank of the river.

The Germans were reported in general retreat into the Siegfried line from the mid-section of the front, faced with double envelopment by U. S. 7th army troops swinging down the Rhine from Strasbourg and the U. S. 3rd army's expanding front in the western Saar.

After 10 days of fighting through the gloomy Huertgen woods, often from tree to tree, the Yanks have "got the ball rolling now," reported Henry T. Gorrell of the United Press in a front dispatch. "The Germans are yielding ground and we aim to keep them on their heels," he added.

The U. S. 1st army also won half of Weisweiler, industrial center nine miles east of Aachen, and virtually surrounded its remaining garrison to take over the spotlight for the first time since the opening of the allied grand offensive on November 8.

Five other armies were still attacking relentlessly along the 400-mile front. About 40 towns were captured during the day, most of them by the U. S. 1st and 7th armies in the Strasbourg break-through area, which registered advances up to seven miles.

Mopping up inside Strasbourg was completed except for a few snipers, and 5,000 prisoners had been taken. Thousands of others were streaming into allied camps from the Vosges pocket to the south, where the French 1st army was working with the American 7th in cleaning up the 75-mile long mountain range.

In the most spectacular advance of the day, infantrymen of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch's 7th army drove 11 miles north of Strasbourg to capture Weyerheim, following the left bank of the Rhine.

Patton's troops broadened their front in the Saar to 20 miles, capturing three more reich towns, and to the south-east pounded to within five miles of Sarreguimines, central communications funnel for the German retreat, which now presumably was under our guns.

It appeared the immediate goal of the U. S. Command was development of both Juelich and Dueren and to prevent it the German Seventh army of Gen. Eric Brandenberger, resurrected from its virtual destruction in Normandy, was throwing in almost incessant counterattacks, none of them achieving more than temporary success.

(The London Times correspondent at supreme headquarters said that "the most decisive battle in history is being fought in the Aachen gap, along the direct approaches of Cologne.")

They Lead U. S. Aerial Blows at Japan



Studying maps and charting new strategies at the new Super-Fortress base on Saipan, from which the B-29s raided Tokyo, are (left to right): Brig. Gen. Emmett (Rosie) O'Donnell Jr., who was on leading B-29 in charge of actual flight operation in Tokyo smash; Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commanding general of the Army Air Forces in the Pacific and Gen. Arnold's deputy commander of the 20th Air Force; and Brig. Gen. Haywood S. Hansell, commander of the newly formed 21st Bomber Command. Air Force photo.

SOCIAL SECURITY TAX FREEZE SEEN, WITH FDR'S VETO

Washington, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Sen. Walter F. George, D., Ga., predicted tonight that congress will freeze the social security tax at one per cent for another year but said he doubted that proponents of the freeze could override a presidential veto.

The tax, assessed against both employers and employees and deducted from payrolls, will double automatically on January 1 under the social security law unless congress—as it has three times in the past—adopts legislation postponing the increase.

George, chairman of the senate finance committee, predicted that both houses would pass legislation to maintain the tax at one per cent for a fourth year as the house ways and means committee scheduled hearings on a freeze measure for Monday. There has been speculation, however, that President Roosevelt would veto such a measure, and George said he thought the president would be upheld.

CHINESE TROOPS CHASE FOE FROM CHEFANG PASSES

Chungking, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Chinese troops have cleared the mountain passes leading to the Chefang valley in western China, which is transversed by the Burma-Ledo road, and have taken four more strongpoints in Bhamo, north Burma, with the aid of American dive bombers which blasted Jap positions only 100 yards ahead of the advancing Chinese.

Communiqués announcing gains on the Burma-Ledo road mentioned only patrol activity in the Ishan area of Kwangsi province and said an enemy attack on Lungsheng, 50 miles north of Kweilin, was repulsed. (Tokyo broadcasts claimed advances over 50 miles west of Ishan and said Japanese troops were at Nantan, only 12 miles from Kweichow province.) A Chinese military spokesman said the Japanese drive would head towards Nanning to link up with forces in French Indo-China. He said the Japanese were showing no signs of further invasion of western China. (Tokyo broadcasts heard by United Press claimed the capture of Nanning.)

JUST WHAT DOES THIS PROVE, AND WHY MENTION IT

New York, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—So you're worried about the cigarette shortage. So you can't buy your favorite brand. So you can relax. The chances are only one in 25 that you can tell your favorite brand from any other.

Five average cigarette smokers tried to pick out their favorites from among the five best selling brands in a blindfold test.

Each thought his or her brand had a distinctive bouquet and taste. Each thought he or she could recognize the taste and bouquet at midnight in the bottom of a mine shaft.

But blindfolded, only one did. And he was uncertain enough to acknowledge his success may have had more luck in it than discrimination.

TOKYO TELLS OF AIR, SEA VICTORY

By United Press
Tokyo radio claimed today that the Japanese air attacks on Morotai island November 22 and 23 destroyed 89 United States planes and said that a special "suicide" squadron of Japanese planes attacked a United States task force east of Luzon in the Philippines, sinking a large aircraft carrier, a medium carrier and a heavy cruiser.

In a broadcast recorded in San Francisco by United Press, Tokyo said that another "enemy carrier and destroyer were sunk by Japanese submarines" in the same waters, while a Japanese air assault on Friday in Leyte gulf set afire five United States transports and damaged a large transport.

In a night attack off Leyte Tokyo said, three transports were set afire, and one "enemy transport was destroyed off Dulag."

YOUNG COMMANDER
Bandon, Ore., Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—At 29, Chief Boatswain Mate Arthur Dobney, new commander of the Coquille river lifeboat station of the U. S. coast guard, is the youngest station commander on the Pacific coast.

DR. CLARK RE-ELECTED
Portland, Ore., Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Dr. Edward L. Clark, president of Multnomah college of Portland, has been re-elected chairman of the Northwest Institute of International Relations.

EISENHOWER ASKS DOUBLED OUTPUT OF GUNS, BULLETS

Washington, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's unexpected call for twice the current production of machine gun and rifle bullets will force the war production board to reconsider immediately all authorizations for resumption of any kind of civilian production, it was understood tonight.

The WPB, it appears, will have to cancel civilian work permits whenever by so doing it can release employees to cartridge plants. WPB Chairman J. A. Krug said upwards of 77,000 additional workers must be found.

Heretofore, government production officials have felt that the civilian work must be increased as war output tapers off to keep the national economy intact and cushion the shock of reconversion.

Eisenhower's call, however, has upset all reconversion planning. The way the war in Europe is going, vastly greater supplies of all kinds apparently will be required than original estimates called for.

In small arms categories alone, Eisenhower found that his 1,000,000 men hammering at Germany on the western front need four times as many bullets as it had been calculated they would require.

FIRE TRAPS FIVE IN BARRED ROOMS

New Orleans, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Five persons were trapped and burned to death early today in a fire which, aided by winds, swept through a three-story rooming house in New Orleans' French quarter.

Four of the victims were believed to have been trapped in third floor rooms with barred windows, and the fifth, unidentified, was killed in a dash down a flaming stairway.

TENNESSEE WINS
Lexington, Ky., Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Tennessee's Volunteers displaying more all around class than at any time this season, had little difficulty today in maintaining its unbeaten record and hope for a Bowl bid by rolling over Kentucky 21-7.

NICE JUNKET
Paris, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Seven American businessmen arrived here today on an inspection tour of army facilities and installations in the European theater and in England.

2,000 U. S. PLANES POUR RUIN UPON NAZI OIL PLANT

Attack Upon Merseburg at Noon Finds Light Opposition.

London, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Two thousand U. S. bombers and fighters streaked across Europe on a 100-mile procession today and blasted for an hour at the great Luena synthetic oil plant at Merseburg, virtually unopposed by Nazi fighters over a target that had been the scene of the greatest air battle of the war on November 2.

Approximately 1000 big bombers and 1000 8th and 9th air force fighters were in the armada which heaved the first bombs into the oil plant through an overcast at one minute before noon. Salvos from Flying Fortresses rained down thereafter every three minutes with clock-like regularity throughout the workers' regular lunch hour, creating chaos at one of the Reich's top priority oil targets.

The Merseburg assault climaxed a 24-hour period that saw almost 4000 allied aircraft on the attack over Europe.

Nazi fighter interception over Merseburg was so slight that the accompanying U. S. fighters swept down to expend their ammunition on transportation targets and airdromes on their way home. A smaller group of Liberators struck railway yards and oil storage and synthetic oil plants at Lutzen and RAF Mosquitos hit Berlin last night and RAF heavies from Italy struck Munich, Innsbruck and Linz, Austria.

HILLMAN IS SET TO CLEAR EVERYTHING WITH THE PEOPLE

Chicago, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Sidney Hillman, chairman of the national citizens' political action committee, said today his organization would "clear everything with the people" in the development of a permanent NCPAC.

Hillman told a press conference after a meeting of the NCPAC that it would expand its operations and would be continued on a permanent basis.

"We reject a third party as a divisive force and we need unity now," he said. "This organization is going to expand to serve the mutual interests of the farmers and industrial workers, together with small business groups, the church and representatives of the arts and sciences."

Hillman said there would be a meeting of the executive committee of NCPAC within 60 days in either Washington, New York or Chicago to decide on the specific role of the organization.

"We are in agreement on the broad objectives which will be followed and will meet to outline the forthcoming work of NCPAC in detail."

He said the question of finances and organization, including the work to be done by regional or state committees, would be decided by the executive committee conference.

BRITISH WRITER STILL DETAINED

Paris, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—P. G. Wodehouse, British novelist, has been moved to a house in the city where he remains under surveillance by police investigating German occupation, it was disclosed today.

The British embassy said the novelist is still separated from his wife. Mrs. Wodehouse last night disclaimed any knowledge of her husband's location.

BULLETIN

Chicago, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Willie Hoppes took both blocks from Challenger Welker Cochran today to retain his championship as the two wound up their world's three-cushion billiards championship match.

FLUHRER, DEUEL BUY S. P. LAND IN MIDDLE OF CITY

Announcement was made Saturday by the Southern Pacific Company of the sale of the full block on downtown Medford bounded by West Main, Fir and West Sixth streets and the railroad right of way, measuring 300 by 170 feet. Purchasers of the 150 by 170 foot half-block north of Main street are Major and Mrs. William H. Fluhrer and Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Deuel; Major and Mrs. Fluhrer are also listed as purchasers of the other half-block, lying south of Sixth street. Present tenants are the Standard Oil Co., Signal Oil Co., Valley Fuel Co., with which Mr. Deuel is associated, as well as a parking lot and restrooms leased by the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. The transaction was handled by the Mark A. Goldy Agency of Medford. Consideration was not announced.

Plans for the development of the property are as yet tentative although a post-war building program is intended, it was stated by local representatives of Major Fluhrer, now on active duty with the U. S. Army Air Transport Command, in India. Mr. Deuel was out of the city Saturday and could not be reached for comment.

Examination of the deed to the property revealed an interesting historical quirk in that the southern half of West Sixth, bordering the block in question, is also deeded to the new owners, never having been fully released to the city by the railroad company. However, there appears little likelihood of the streets being vacated, it was said by a spokesman for Maj. Fluhrer.

AVIATION PARLEY COINS 'CABOTAGE', WILL DISCUSS IT

Chicago, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—The Civil Aviation conference, acting through a 54-nation committee, tonight announced it had cleared the decks for debate Monday on the controversial issue which have separated America and Britain and on which the two countries have submitted individual solutions.

The committee completed action on the non-controversial portions of the Anglo-American Canadian draft proposals for regulating postwar air commerce.

Also to be considered Monday are the three-country proposals for rate-fixing by international air carriers' conferences and the definition of cabotage (internal traffic).

American and Britain had agreed that cabotage should apply to traffic between a country and its colonies, but it was learned, some Latin American countries protested this definition, holding that they would be deprived of a "fair share" of Caribbean traffic if not allowed to operate among British colonies.

BAY AREA STORE EXECUTIVE, DEAD

New York, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—E. J. Magnin, San Francisco department store executive, died unexpectedly at a hotel here tonight. He had returned from a show when he dropped dead in his room at 7:15 p. m.

BERLIN REPORTS BUDAPEST SIEGE IN FINAL STAGE

Hatvan, Key Defense and Rail City, Taken by Red Forces.

London, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Berlin admitted tonight that red army troops had captured the great communications center of Hatvan, key to enemy defenses northeast of Budapest, and said that up to 30,000 Russian troops had landed on Csepel island in mid-Danube immediately south of the Hungarian capital.

The enemy reports indicated that the long, bitter red army battle for Budapest had entered its final stage.

They were not confirmed by the soviet nightly communique, however, which reported the capture of a number of towns and villages elsewhere in Hungary and in Czechoslovakia.

Hatvan, a big eight-way rail and road junction 22 miles northeast of the capital, was evacuated to red army tanks and infantry this morning, the DNB agency said. The great junction is the key to Nazi-Hungarian defenses between Budapest and Czechoslovakia.

Hatvan was the southern anchor of an 80-mile long enemy defense line northeast of Budapest, holding up a soviet advance toward Austria and Czechoslovakia.

At the northern end of the line, Berlin admitted other red army successes. The DNB agency said that German positions had been taken back to the southwestern fringes of Miskolc, Hungary's fifth city, and German reports strongly hinted that the Germans expect to lose the city very soon.

Budapest's elaborate defenses also were imperiled from the south as Berlin admitted that soviet shock troops had landed on 30-mile-long Csepel island and captured the industrial center of Szegedentmiklos.

Meanwhile, German reports indicated that a battle of gigantic proportions was in progress in Latvia.

FRACTIONAL RISE IN LIVING COSTS IN COAST CITIES

San Francisco, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—Fractional increases in the cost of living were registered in three major Pacific coast cities for the month ending October 15, it was announced today by William A. Bledsoe, regional director of the bureau of labor statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor.

Increases of one-half of one per cent in Seattle and eight-tenths of one per cent in San Francisco sent living costs to new wartime peaks for the second month in a row, after they registered highs in both the July and August periods.

In Los Angeles, an overall increase of one-half of one per cent brought a new high there for the third straight month.

Major factor in the rise was food prices—led by the egg price upswing—Bledsoe said. Clothing costs were the highest in years.

MEXICAN AIR FORCE

Mexico City, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—The Mexican War Ministry announced today that squadron 201 of the Mexican Air Force, which has been in training at Pocatello, Ida., would arrive at Greenville, Ind., next week, where it will await orders.

GRANT CONCESSION

Mexico City, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—The Mexican government today authorized a concession to Ismael C. Falcon of Mexico for the development of a 500,000 pesos (\$100,000) horse race track at Juarez.

NIPP TRANSPORTS WITH TROOPS FOR LEYTE DESTROYED

Tokyo Reports Manila Harbor and Air Bases Under Attack.

Allied Headquarters, Leyte Philippines, Sunday, Nov. 26.—(U.P.)—U. S. fighter planes destroyed another four-ship Japanese troop and supply convoy bound for Leyte yesterday, raising to approximately 17,000 the number of enemy troops killed or drowned in attempts to reinforce the embattled island during the past two weeks, it was announced today.

Warhawk and Thunderbolt fighters of Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney's 5th air force pounded on the convoy in the Visayan sea northwest of Leyte at dusk, sinking three transports and setting a fourth afire from stem to stern in a series of mast-height strafing and bombing attacks.

Washington, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—American carrier-based planes blasted Manila harbor and its surrounding network of bomb-cratered airfields today in the fifth assault on the Philippines capital this month, Tokyo reported, and the U. S. navy department announced that American submarines prowling Japanese waters had sunk 27 more enemy ships.

Tokyo meanwhile claimed that five B-29 Superfortresses were shot down and nine were damaged in Friday's raid on the Japanese capital. The enemy claimed to have salvaged a B-29 almost intact from waters off the bomb-battered industrial island of Kyushu and was now examining it for "flaws and disadvantages."

An American announcement said only two B-29's were missing and a dispatch from their base on Saipan reported that one plunged into the sea when a doomed Japanese fighter crashed into its tail. Brig. Gen. Haywood S. Hansell, Jr., commander of the 21st bomber command, said raids had been sighted possibly carrying men of the missing craft.

Mansell said he was pleased with the success of the initial attack on Tokyo's strategic industrial targets although "it was not perfect and not as good as we hope to run in the future." He revealed that only a few planes were unable to bomb the Nakajima airplane factory and other targets.

He said he thought "we caught the Japs flat-footed, but I don't know why... we expect trouble in the future, but we are confident we can take care of ourselves."

The report of a new U. S. raid on Manila, not confirmed by American sources, was broadcast by the Japanese-controlled Manila radio and heard by the FCC. The enemy said about 60 carrier planes struck from high levels at shipping in Manila bay, already cluttered with scores of enemy ships sunk or damaged in previous raids.

The last announced American raid on Manila was last Sunday (Philippines time) in which 16 ships were destroyed or set afire and 126 planes destroyed.

A late navy bulletin announced their Bonin islands had been raided and a series of other strikes by American land-based planes against by-passed Japanese bases in the Pacific from Tuesday through Friday.

FRENCH ON FENCE

Ottawa, Nov. 25.—(U.P.)—French-speaking members of the liberal party indicated tonight that they would await Prime Minister Mackenzie King's address to the house on Monday before taking any stand on the conscription issue which has already cost King three supporters in parliament.

Jackson County sales to date in the Sixth War Loan are —
"E" Bonds \$122,877
Total Sales \$471,634