

NAZI SPEARHEAD NEARS DINANT

MEDFORD TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

Thirty ninth Year

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Foil Athens Plot to Assassinate Churchill

TON OF DYNAMITE DISCOVERED UNDER CONFERENCE SPOT

Discovery of Fused Explosive Beneath Hotel Made Shortly Before Gathering

Athens, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Allied and Greek leaders met today, a few hours after the thwarting of a possible plot against Prime Minister Winston Churchill by discovery of a dynamite cache under the Great Britain hotel, for a momentous conference aimed at settling the civil war in Greece.

Athens, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—A possible plot to assassinate Prime Minister Winston Churchill was thwarted today with the discovery of nearly a ton of dynamite under the Great Britain hotel, British and Greek government headquarters, while a conference aimed at ending the Greek civil war was reported shaping up.

The dynamite was found in a sewer under the hotel a few hours before a planned convocation of British and Greek factional leaders, and the fused cache was removed.

Greek government sources said representatives of all elements of the civil war were invited to a conference at which Churchill and Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden were expected to make their supreme bid to iron out the difficulties which threatened the make-up of the British coalition government.

(An Athens dispatch of the British Exchange Telegraph said a car carrying a white flag left government headquarters at the Great Britain hotel to fetch ELAS delegates for the conference.)

Two hundred civilians gathered near Constitution Square shouting "Churchill" and "Roosevelt". They dispersed good naturedly at the request of police. A ragged column marched away behind giant British and Greek flags.

Themistocles Sophoulis, elder statesman and liberal party leader, said he had been invited to the conference, but was asking for further details. He said he did not want to attend a meeting where the communists were represented, considering them rebels with whom negotiations were impossible.

Drama in Chaplin Trial



Joan Barry kisses her 14-month-old child, Carol Ann, before returning to stand in Los Angeles court to continue the story of her love affair with Charlie Chaplin, who she claims is the father of the child. This is the first time Joan and baby have appeared together in court.

CHAPLIN AND BABY BEFORE JURY FOR COMPARISON VIEW

Comedian Expressionless As Joan Barry Holds Tot Two Yards From Him in Court

Hollywood, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—White-haired, 55-year-old comedian Charlie Chaplin and the curly-haired, 14-month-old baby that Joan Barry says is his today underwent a two-minute scrutiny by the jury hearing Miss Barry's paternity suit.

An expressionless Chaplin stood before the jury box and Miss Barry held the baby Carol Ann about two yards from him while the tea-sellers tried to see whether there was any facial resemblance.

The joint appearance of the two principals in the case, for which Miss Barry's attorney, Joseph E. Scott, had been arguing since the start of the trial, came after a conference of attorneys in Judge Henry M. Willis chambers.

Ordered by Court
"The court deems it proper that you should be given the opportunity to look at the child and Mr. Chaplin together," the judge told the jury.

Scott recalled Chaplin to the witness stand to show him pictures which the comedian identified as those of his two sons, who he said were two or two and a half years old at the time.

Judge Willis sustained an objection by Chaplin's attorney, Charles E. (Pat) Millikan, however, when Scott attempted to introduce the pictures in evidence.

Miss Barry earlier had denied, under re-direct examination by Scott, that she ever was intimate with Hand Reusch, writer whom Chaplin's attorneys said they wanted to bring from New York to testify in their case.

"Did you have any intimate relations or anything else improper with Reusch on the night of December 30 or early on the morning of December 31?" Attorney Joseph Scott asked.

"No," she answered.

"Did you at any other time?" he said.

"No, sir," she answered.

Scott called Miss Barry to the stand for a brief re-direct examination, following her appearance on the stand at the opening of the eighth day of the trial when Attorney Charles E. (Pat) Millikan called her back to continue his cross-examination.

She told the jury, in answer to Scott's queries, that she was intimate with Chaplin four times during the month of December, 1942—one the night of Dec. 10, the night of Dec. 23, the morning of Dec. 24, and the night of Dec. 30.

The red-haired former drama protegee of Chaplin was calm as she took the stand after a four-day Christmas recess which came just in time to save her from complete collapse under the relentless cross-questioning of Millikan.

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The German drive across Belgium, halted for a short time near Hablont and Monschau, has again gotten out of hand, according to today's reports and a Nazi spearhead is within four miles of the Meuse river line, just east of the Belgian fortress city of Dinant. Southward the enemy smash has faltered under powerful American counterattacks. The U. S. troops have taken high ground three miles west of the Luxembourg-German frontier.

Norwegians Impatient For Invasion by Allied Forces

London, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Norwegian Prime Minister Johan Nygaardsvold, broadcasting to Norway, disclosed tonight that the "impatient" Norwegian government has been urging an allied invasion of Norway.

He also announced that his government will resign at the first meeting that can be held in Oslo palace after the liberation of Norway.

Nygaardsvold said Norwegian forces are too small to invade Norway without help, but said his government realized that allied military leaders must decide where allied forces can best be employed to inflict a decisive defeat on the Germans.

Headquarters, 21st Bomber Command, Saipan, Dec. 4—(U.P.)—Col. Byron Ellas Brugge, deputy commander for operations and training of the 21st bomber command, and Col. Richard Thomas King, Jr., commanding officer of a Superfortress unit, failed to return from yesterday's B-29 raid on the Musashina factory of the Nakajima aircraft works in Tokyo.

(Editor's note—This dispatch filed by United Press War Correspondent Mac R. Johnson on Saipan, has been held up since December 4, presumably pending notification of the next of kin.)

Four other officers and six enlisted men were aboard the Superfortress which information indicated was shot down by Japanese fighters over Tokyo.

Brugge, 36, lived at 109-23 97th street, Ozone Park, N. Y., and his wife, Madeline Tinker Brugge and two sons, David and Stephen, at 2907 Coachman avenue, Tampa, Fla.

King, 36, was a native of Georgetown, S. C., where his parents now live. His wife, Claire Swanson King, lives at 804 1/2 Platt street, Tampa, Fla.

They were the highest-ranking officers ever lost in the raids on Japan.

WARD STORE SEIZURE WAITS ARRANGEMENTS

Washington, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Seizure of Montgomery Ward & Co. properties in Detroit for non-compliance with War Labor Board directives was understood today to be awaiting completion of necessary papers for simultaneous court action against Sewell Avery, company board chairman.

The justice department was said to be preparing to ask federal courts in Detroit and Chicago for temporary orders restraining Avery and other company officers from interfering with presidential agents assigned to operate the stores.

Washington, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—The Office of Price Administration announced today that residences in Eugene and all of Lane county, Ore., will come under OPA rent control on January 1, 1944, as the maximum rent date.

VET BENEFIT UPPED

Washington, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Brig. Gen. Frank T. Hines, administrator of veterans' affairs, announced today that benefit payments to veterans who have lost a leg, arm, or eye during peacetime will be increased from \$18.75 to \$26.25 a month.

Hitlerites Pound For Meuse Despite Air Force Assaults; Further Gains Are Expected

By J. Edward Murray, United Press War Correspondent

Paris, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's offensive, backed by two and possibly three full German field armies, advanced west today, despite continuous American air assaults, and a Nazi spearhead was planted within four miles of the Meuse river line, just east of the Belgian fortress city of Dinant.

The most forward points reached by the Nazis were Celles, four miles east of Dinant, representing a gain of 11 miles from Rochefort, and Ciney, ten miles northwest of Rochefort, about eight miles from the river Meuse.

An allied military spokesman at supreme headquarters, allied European force, said the offensive had been personally planned by Adolf Hitler and was designed to crush the allied forces in the west.

He said the initial objective of the Germans was the Meuse river line and the fortress cities of Liege, Namur and Dinant. The plans had been thwarted, in measure, he said, but further German gains must be expected.

Von Rundstedt has hurled the seventh German infantry army into his attack and is employing the fifth German panzer army and possibly a second panzer army.

With the crumbling away of the American positions in the center of the German salient the Nazis were pounding hard for the Meuse river, despite fresh tactical assaults by the ninth air force.

The ninth had flown 325 sorties by noon and destroyed six German tanks and damaged five. They had also shot down 22 German fighters with one probable and five damaged. Four American planes were lost.

On the southern side of the German salient, where the Americans have been throwing in powerful counterattacks, our troops registered slight gains, taking high ground near Eppendorf, four and a half miles southeast of Diekirch and three miles west of the Luxembourg-German frontier.

Eighth air force Flying Fortresses and Liberators again joined the battle, smashing at the Nazi supply route and freight yards along the Rhine.

Flying conditions were not quite as good as they had been, but most of the bombing was done visually.

At supreme headquarters it was acknowledged that the battle of the Meuse already had begun, with German tanks and mobile infantry riding into the approaches of Dinant in an 11-mile spurt.

Both the German prongs at Celles and Ciney ran into allied troops, and the fight to stop them short of the Meuse was getting under way.

British Join In
(The specification of "allied" troops rather than Americans of the First army suggested the possibility, which was not clarified, that elements of the British second army had moved down to join in the battle of Belgium.)

On the outcome of that battle depended whether the Germans would reach the first big objective of their winter offensive—the Meuse river line. The possibility of their rushing across the river faded when their original plan to have paratroopers seize key bridges was thwarted.

But SHEAF sources conceded that it would be a major victory if the Germans could extend their salient to the river line, giving them a chance to strengthen their corridor while pausing for the next phase of the offensive.

Already committed to it were one infantry army, one panzer army, and possibly a second panzer army, supreme headquarters reported. The immediate objective of the original plan was the line of the Meuse river as defined by the great fortress cities of Liege, Namur and Dinant.

The original plan was reported frustrated in its initial phase by the failure of the American First army to collapse, but more German gains are to be expected before the full picture of one of the most confused military situations of the entire war emerges.

Third Pair Twins To Arrive Here In Month Born Today

Third pair of twins to arrive in Medford during the month of December were born this morning to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shreve, 738 Oak street. The twins, both boys, weighed five and seven pounds. This brings to five the number of sons in the Shreve family, their first three children being aged nine, eight and four years. Mr. Shreve is a salesman for Fluhrer's bakery here.

First twins of the month were a boy and girl born December 4 to Mr. and Mrs. Furman Everham, 519 Mayette street. The next day twins were born to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lowe, 525 Dakota avenue.

EX-SEN LEE DIES
Norwood, Md., Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Former Sen. Blair Lee, for more than 60 years a power in Maryland Democratic circles and the first U. S. senator elected by popular vote, died at the home of a son here last night at the age of 87. Lee, a native of Silver Spring, Md., was elected to the senate in 1913.

Jack Moran refusing to tell his age in his phone call to Santa Claus.

Jack Meyer inventorying his new daughter's good points for the benefit of admiring friends.

Frank Rowe unblushingly maintaining that he could concoct wonderful clam chowder.

CATTLE CEILING BILL ADVOCATED

Washington, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Rep. Emanuel Celler, D., N. Y., calling the cattle bloc "stronger than the government," said today that he will offer a bill in the new congress to compel the government to put price ceilings on cattle.

The office of price administration hearings will be held in Chicago on Wednesday and in Kansas City on Thursday.

Editor Moore Hamilton finding a long-lost piece of news copy in the depths of the family davenport.

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Canned Vegetables On Ration List Again; Point-Free Meat Rationed After Sunday

Washington, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Warned by Price Chief Chester Bowles that many of the nation's food supplies are at the war's lowest ebb, housewives today began paying out blue points again for most canned vegetables and prepared to dole out red points beginning Sunday for meat that has been point-free for many months.

Would-be hoarders were caught unawares by the suddenness of the OPA's move, which was advanced at least 24 hours due to premature circulation of reports that OPA was going to broaden the food rationing program.

The situation, in brief, is this: As of last night all ration-free vegetables are now back on the ration list. This includes asparagus, green and waxed beans, corn, spinach, and peas. Asparagus, beans, and spinach are 10 points and corn and peas 20 points for No. 2 cans.

Meat Not Hoarded
Beginning Sunday 85 per cent of all now ration-free meats will go back on the ration list. The OPA was not too worried about hoarding of meat because it is too difficult to keep. Meats included are utility beef, better grades and cuts of beef, bacon,

pork shoulders, spare ribs, beef and veal liver, some sausages and meats in tin or glass containers. Point values will range from one to 13.

All red and blue ration stamps validated before December 1 are no longer valid. All sugar stamps except No. 34 are no longer valid. A new sugar stamp will be issued February 1, but it will be good for five pounds over a three months period instead of the present two and a half months.

Butter is up from 20 to 24 points.

Necessary Decision
Bowles said the decision had been "difficult to make" but necessary "because civilian supplies of sugar, butter and commercially canned fruits and vegetables are at the lowest point since the war began and meat supplies are declining."

"When Americans understand the facts back of today's action—that prospective supplies are smaller and that it will help each one to his fair share—I am sure they will welcome the action," Bowles said.

Republicans laid the tight situation to the administration's failure to appoint a food "czar" with full power to handle all

phases of the food industry, and indicated they might renew their fight for such an official in the new congress.

Customers Rush
Smaller Stores
To Use Stamps

Small neighborhood grocery stores enjoyed a rush business yesterday from customers who learned the night before that drastic food ration changes were being made by OPA. With all larger food stores closed for Christmas, the few stores open were emptied of canned vegetables, butter, cheese, fish, sugar, and similar items on which points were being raised, returned or back stamps cancelled.

Today store staffs were besieged by customers who wanted more details and hurried clerks had no official information to offer.

At the local war price and ration board it was said that only meager information about the changes had been received in wires from headquarters and that official new point charts would probably be received later this week.

American Flying Fortresses and Liberators earlier bombed the Rhine and targets handling traffic for the German forces on the break-through front.

Lancaster and Halifax heavy bombers of the Royal Air Force, escorted by Spitfires, hit the Germans in the St. Vith area in the northern sector of the enemy salient in Belgium.

American Flying Fortresses and Liberators earlier bombed the Rhine and targets handling traffic for the German forces on the break-through front.

BOMBERS ATTACK CONCENTRATIONS

London, Dec. 26—(U.P.)—Allied heavy bombers today attacked concentrations of German troops and armor in the St. Vith area of Belgium, two rail yards in the Coblenz area, and railroad bridges between Coblenz and Bonn.

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