

# 2200 AMERICAN PLANES POUND OIL REFINERY

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—Almost 2200 American planes, including 1250 Flying Fortresses and Liberators, bombed the Nazis' principal synthetic oil refinery at Merseburg and rail yards at Hanau, Aschaffenburg and Darmstadt today.

The attack followed a record assault by 4000 bombers and fighters yesterday.

It was the 19th attack of the war on Merseburg's leading oil plant, the Leuna refinery. Eighteen of them have been made in daylight by American heavy bombers.

The bombing at Merseburg was by instrument because of heavy clouds. All the rail targets were in the open and were hit visually.

All the bombers and most of the Mustang-Thunderbolt-Lightning fighter escort were from the U. S. eighth air force.

Berlin air raid warnings indicated that at least two other bomber blows landed on German targets today—one by Fortresses and Liberators from the U. S. 15th air force in Italy, the other by the RAF bomber command.

All three heavy bombardment air forces participated in yesterday's assault with 10,000 tons of bombs—climaxing a campaign which has crippled synthetic oil production in the Ruhr and severed main rail routes to German defenses in the west.

"Our job now is to keep hitting them and destroying repairs as fast as the Germans can make them," a staff officer said.

The Britain-based eighth sent 1600 bombers aloft yesterday and, with an escort of 800 fighters, they smashed rail yards at Frankfurt, Hanau and Giessen. It was the largest single bomber fleet ever put in the air—twice the size of Germany's peak aerial effort in September, 1940, when 800 planes attacked London.

A force of 500 American heavy bombers from Italy hit an oil refinery and rail yards in Vienna and 500 British bombers attacked three fuel plants and a rail center in the Ruhr.

Mosquito bombers returned to western Germany last night with blockbusters. Continent-based fighters and bombers got in 800 sorties against tactical targets before dark yesterday.

## Millard Wilhelm Transferred to Idaho

Millard Wilhelm, who was assistant manager of Montgomery Ward and company here for a year and a half, has been made manager of the Ward store at Weiser, Idaho, it was reported by Wallace Bruce, local Ward manager.

Wilhelm left here last summer to assume an assistant manager post at Everett, Wash.

## European War Passes New Milestone

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The European war has passed another milestone, having lasted exactly one year longer than the first World War.

World War I ended in four years, 14 weeks and two days—the last shot being fired just six hours after armistice terms were signed at 5 a. m., on November 11, 1918.

The current war was five years, 14 weeks and two days old yesterday.

## Leyte Becomes Jap 'Bataan'



Map of the Philippines, right, above, with close-up maps, left, of Bataan and Leyte, show how Yanks, steadily forcing the enemy into the northwestern corner of the island, have trapped the Japs in the same sort of pocket that sealed the fate of American defenders of Bataan.

# POSTWAR LABOR POWER URGED BY SECRETARY

By HAROLD W. WARD  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—Secretary of Labor Perkins called today for a powerful postwar labor department, to include work now done by the war labor board and the national labor relations board.

"Fixing of wages and prices should be abandoned as soon as possible and the various activities of the government in prevention of industrial disputes or their settlement should be permanently attached to the department of labor," said Miss Perkins in a speech prepared for the national conference on labor legislation.

Secretary Perkins herself has been rumored as being ready to quit, if the president can find a successor suitable to the AFL and CIO. Her resignation is understood to have been before Mr. Roosevelt for a long time.

"Adult education, insofar as it affects working people, should be lodged in the labor department and a strong working conditions service should be developed there," Miss Perkins said.

"Various functions relating to labor matters now scattered through many agencies of the government, should be consolidated in the U. S. department of labor after the war," she continued, "including those of the employment service and the apprenticeship and occupational training service of the war manpower commission and the labor-planning-for-production program of the war production board."

Classified A-7c Being Results.

# RETALIATION FOR DISORDERS FEARED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The possibility that there might be serious disorders if the Japanese should return to the Pacific coast is of interest to the war

department because of possible retaliation against American soldiers held by the Japanese, John J. McCloy, assistant secretary of war, has informed the California congressional delegation in a letter made public yesterday by Rep. Lea (D-Calif.).

"We have every faith," he added, "that the people on the west coast . . . will show their good citizenship by abiding by the military judgment and do their utmost to prevent any acts of discrimination against these people who may be admitted to return."

McCloy said mass exclusion of the Japanese can be restricted only so long as military necessity requires it. It can be said, he wrote, that the invasion, Any removal of the exclusion order, however, would be accompanied by individual exclusion program.

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## PACIFIC CONGRESS MEN'S VOTES SHOWN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AP)—How northwest congressmen voted during the week ended December 8:

Senate:  
On the motion of Senator O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) to re-refer state department nominations to committee: for—Holman (R-Ore.), Cordon (R-Ore.). Not voting—Wallgren (D-Wash.).

On commerce committee amendment to rivers and harbors bill authorizing the Beaver-Mahoning canal project: for—Holman against—Cordon not voting—Wallgren.

House:  
On freezing the social security tax at 1 per cent: for—Angell (R-Ore.), Ellsworth (R-Ore.), Holmes (R-Wash.), Horan (R-Wash.), Mott (R-Ore.), Norman (R-Wash.). Not voting—Jackson (D-Wash.), Magnuson (D-Wash.), Stockman (R-Ore.).

GREETINGS, GERD  
LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—The Berlin radio sent greetings today to Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd von Rundstedt, supreme commander of the German armies in the west, on the occasion of his 69th birthday and referred to him as "Gen. Eisenhower's great opponent."

## New Investigation Planned For Missing Seattle Morticians

SEATTLE, Dec. 12 (AP)—A new investigation, which Prosecutor Lloyd Shorett said would start on the premise the men were murdered, was launched today into the disappearance of John F. Hennessy and Earl J. Cassidy, Seattle morticians who were last seen the night of November 23.

The new probe will be conducted by Hollis B. Fultz, chief investigator of the state attorney general's office, and his assistant, Bill Brewer. The two men have been "loaned" to the prosecutor's office, Shorett said, adding that they "would remain aloof from spiritualists and doodle bugs."

## V-Bombs Kill 716 Britons In Month

LONDON, Dec. 12 (AP)—German V-bombs killed 716 persons and seriously injured 1511 in the United Kingdom during November, the ministry of home security announced tonight.

Of those killed 269 were men, 345 women and 102 children under 16 years, the ministry announced. Among the seriously injured were 197 children and 799 women.

Damage and casualties were inflicted on southern England again last night, the ministry said.

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