

WORLD'S GREATEST NEWS

Heavy Fire Laid Down By Russians

Armored Columns Fight Forward

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW (AP)—Russian siege guns laid down a heavy barrage on Budapest's closest suburbs today as Soviet armored columns fought forward yard by yard, seven miles north and ten miles east of the Hungarian capital. Shells plastered Ujpest and Rakkasfalva, north of the city, and the big suburb of Kispest, east of Budapest, from positions gained with the capture of two strongholds on the heavily fortified approaches to Pest, sector of the capital on the east banks of the Danube.

The midnight Soviet communiqué announced the capture of these strong points. Killing seven miles north and east, and taking ten miles due east, in the stepped-up drive by Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's Second Rifle Army.

VIENNA NEXT

As the Red Army pressed the attack closer to Budapest other Soviet forces struggled for a better foothold for the campaign toward Bratislava and Austria, it was reported.

After Budapest, the fate of Vienna will be decided, the paper said. "The war in Austria" is "threshold."

It was still not clear whether an all-out frontal assault had been planned, but at the rate the Russians were going it appeared that Pest itself might be under fire.

Front dispatches have indicated the Germans are actually strong in anti-tank defenses along the capital, but largely for fear of labor working under the clock under Gestapo orders. Between main points the Nazis have scattered the remnants of their mechanized and smaller anti-tank units.

WINE PROBLEM

Red Army rappers today were reported grappling with the problem of wine fields laid ahead of the anti-tank belt by the German and Hungarian defenders.

Some of the heaviest air clashes since Sevastopol were reported taking place as the Luftwaffe sought to delay the Red Army big guns with constant bombing.

Navy Makes Report

Nazis Lose Fight Off Greenland

WASHINGTON (AP)—Four Coast Guard cutters, operating in ice-packed Arctic waters, smashed a "determined Nazi effort" to establish fortified bases in Greenland.

The Navy, reporting this today, said one German armed trawler was sunk, another captured, a third was found abandoned, 60 prisoners were taken and 200 tons of stores was captured and destroyed.

CUTTERS DAMAGED

In addition a German bomber landed the ice, but in the series of actions which lasted from July to late October.

BATTLE CLIMAX

Three of the Coast Guard cutters were damaged as crushing ice, the Northland, had to be towed 200 miles for repairs.

More Japs Die

Squeeze Is Put On Leyte Trap

GENERAL MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Philippines

(AP)—Great numbers of Japanese were being killed in the mountains east of Ormoc Bay on Leyte, put the pressure on the south end of a trap in the bloody Ormoc corridor, headquarters reported today.

Other enemy troops dropped Tuesday night in a strange attempt to send three small freighters loaded with soldiers and supplies to the island.

The Japanese evidently were unaware the west Leyte port was in American hands but once fought out Ormoc they promptly sent all three to the bottom.

Approval Of Nominations Is Indicated

State Dept. Men Supported

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senate Foreign Relations Committee approval of the nominations of Archibald MacLeish and five other State Department appointees was indicated today when Senator Guffey, Democrat, Pennsylvania, suddenly switched his vote.

Chairman Connally, Democrat, Texas, announced Guffey's changed position as a new conference in the committee room after receiving a hurried telephone call from the Pennsylvania Senator.

The Guffey shift made the committee vote eleven to nine for MacLeish, setting the seal to the vote which had existed previously.

21ST BOMBER COMMAND, Saipan

(AP)—Many direct hits ripped the Mitsubishi big Mitsubishi aircraft factory at Nagoya and probably caused terrific damage.

British Lord Hits UNRRA

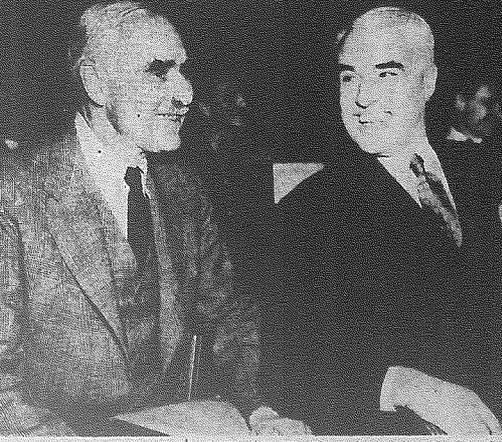
LONDON (AP)—Sharply attacked the House of Lords today was a common belief that huge stocks of UNRRA supplies were available, but "not reaching the people for whom they are intended."

Lupe Velez Dies In Beverly Hills

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The coroner's office said today that Lupe Velez, Mexican motion picture actress, was found dead early today in her home in Beverly Hills.

Denies Motion For Chaplin

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Judge Hiram Jones today denied a motion for Charlie Chaplin's removal, said Judge Jones today.



STETTINIUS AND GREW AT HEARINGS—Seated together during the Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings into qualifications of the six top nominees to the State Department are Joseph C. Grew, nominated as Undersecretary of State, and Secretary of State Edward B. Stettinius Jr., who was the first witness. The committee was reported this afternoon to have approved all six nominations. (Acme)

Aerial Post-Mortem Jap Plane Plant Hit Hard in Raid

WASHINGTON (AP)—The 21st Bomber Command, Saipan, today announced a new raid by B-29's on Thailand and the Japanese radio reported a B-29 strike against Bangkok in Burma.

Thailand last was hit by the big bombers on Nov. 27. The rail center of Bangkok—heart of the enemy rail system radiating to Singapore, Burma and Indo-China—was struck with heavy loads of demolition bombs. All planes returned.

November War Spending Lower

WASHINGTON (AP)—November war expenditures dropped to a new low for 1944.

Churchill Stands Firm On Greek, Italian Policy

LONDON (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill today continuing attack over Britain's policy in Greece and Italy, served notice today he was standing firm and might hit back in another address to the nation.

But He's Lucky Anyway Reynolds Tobacco Head Has To Walk Miles For A Camel

WASHINGTON (AP)—One of the country's leading cigarette manufacturers said today a leaf tobacco shortage prevents an increase in his production.

U. S. Armies Control 14-Mile Line Along River

On Both Sides Near Source

By EDWARD KENNEDY
PARIS (AP)—The American First and Ninth Armies have won a fourteen-mile stretch along the flooded Roer River from Linlich to a point 2,500 yards northwest of besieged Duren, it was announced today at Supreme Headquarters.

This placed the Americans within twenty and a half miles of Cologne, their nearest approach at a point downstream from Duren, through which the river flows north toward the sea.

Twenty miles farther south, other units of the First Army moving along both sides of the river, crossed the Roer at a fourth hamlet, Kesternich, in an advance of a mile or more.

Lull Ends At Athens

ATHENS (AP)—The drive of ELAS forces of the National Liberation Front on the center of Athens appeared today to have been halted and British leaders said the most dangerous phase in the 12-day turmoil apparently had passed.

Report U. S. Warships In Philippine Inland Waters

By ASSOCIATED PRESS
The appearance of six American warships in inland waters of the Philippines was reported—it may be a Tokyo fishing expedition to ascertain disposition of the fleet.

Mistaken For Coon, Man In Tree Killed By Hunter

MARSHALL, Ark. (AP)—Blowing a deer from a tree, hunter Edward Doubtless, 56, of Arkansas, was killed accidentally when a hunting companion mistook him for a coon and fired.

WEATHER

Fair and cold today, tonight and tomorrow with lowest temperatures tonight—18.