

Weather Forecast

Occasional showers early tonight, colder. Sunday partly cloudy and colder.

Closing N. Y. Markets—Sales, Page B-4.

The Evening Star

WITH SUNDAY MORNING EDITION

Guide for Readers

Table with 3 columns: Page, Section, Page. Lists sections like Amusements, Churches, Comics, etc.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1943—TWENTY-TWO PAGES.

Reds Deal New Blow to Germans; Flanking Zhlobin, Above Gomel; Berlin Blasted in Third Big Raid

Russian Forces Advance Across Berezina River

By HENRY C. CASSIDY, Associated Press War Correspondent.

MOSCOW, Nov. 27.—The army newspaper Red Star said today the Russians had crossed the Berezina River, inflicting a new blow on the disorganized German Army along the stream where Napoleon's legions met final defeat during the retreat from Moscow.

Following up his smashing victory at Gomel, Gen. Constantin Rokossovsky pushed through White Russia west of the Dnieper River, outflanking the German base at Zhlobin, 50 miles northwest of captured Gomel, the Army newspaper reported.

The railroad running southwest from Zhlobin to Kalinkovichi was cut in yesterday's westward surge, when Soviet spearheads captured the town of Shatsiki, where the railway crosses the Berezina.

Gen. Rokossovsky's White Russian army reached the Berezina by a northward push along the west bank of the Dnieper, while other forces enveloped and stormed the fortress city of Gomel east of the river.

Nazis Driven From Right Bank. Red Star said a heavy artillery barrage and repeated raids by the Red Air Force drove the Germans from the right bank of the Berezina, which flows southeastward into the Dnieper, 20 miles below Zhlobin.

Fast-moving advance spearheads stormed into the towns of Nizhnia and Oiba, forming the strongest knot of German resistance in this sector. Then they fanned out along both banks of the Berezina, striking north and northwest to sever the Zhlobin-Kalinkovichi railroad.

Red Star said the Germans still were holding out in strongly fortified bases along the Berezina to the northwest and were offering stiff resistance to the advancing Red Army.

Gen. Rokossovsky's triumph at Gomel opened the way for a possible general advance toward Pinsk and Brest-Litovsk, chief cities of the Polish Province of Polesie.

Siege Began October 13. Gomel, last German-held bastion east of the Dnieper River, fell yesterday after a siege which began October 13, three weeks after the Russians fought their way into the Gomel sector from the west bank of the River above the strongly-fortified Nazi base.

Held up for more than two months by powerful German fortifications, the Red Army troops, avoiding costly frontal attacks against the strategic stronghold, pushed west from the Sozh in outflanking maneuvers to the north and south.

Wednesday's breakthrough at Propolik, 60 miles north of Gomel, completed the isolation of the beleaguered German garrison and decided the outcome of the battle.

Today Gen. Rokossovsky's troops were pouring through the Gomel gap and extending their control on the east bank of the Upper Dnieper. Red Army advance guards already were reported far west of the river south of Gomel.

Russians Reach Davidovka. One Red Army thrusting toward Zhlobin from the southwest had reached Davidovka, today's Soviet bulletin said, and another was surging down from the north from the Propolik area to complete a pincer which threatened to cut the escape railway at Zhlobin Junction. Other Soviet forces were clearing up in the Rechitsa area, west of Gomel.

Moscow dispatches to London said 20 German divisions—possibly 300,000 men—faced entrapment.

Capture of Gomel, from which "large enemy forces were routed," was proclaimed in a special order of the day by Premier Stalin a few hours after the Germans had broadcast their withdrawal from the city. Twenty victory salutes from 24 guns roared the news of Gen. Rokossovsky's triumph to Moscow's populace.

(The Paris radio said the Germans were trying to rush reserves into the Gomel area to hold the escape route open, but admitted "they were being delayed considerably by bad weather.")

Enemy Bulge Heavily. In the Kiev bulge to the south of Gomel, Gen. Nikolai Vatutin's 1st Ukrainian Army continued to stand (See RUSSIA, Page A-6.)

Italy Charges Nazis Shot Captured Officers Latest Slaying Said To Have Been on Leroc.

By the Associated Press.

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Algiers, Nov. 27.—The Badoglio government, in a special communique issued through Allied headquarters, today charged the Germans with shooting Italian officers captured on the battlefields of Albania, Montenegro and the Aegean Islands.

Tarawa Victory Called Costliest In American Military History

Eyewitness Tells How Marines Charged Ashore Under Heavy Japanese Fire

By RICHARD W. JOHNSTON, Representing the Combined American Press.

WITH THE UNITED STATES MARINE ASSAULT FORCES AT TARAWA, Nov. 23 (Delayed).—Bloody, bandaged heroes of the United States Marines have broken the back of this lizard-shaped Japanese Gibraltar of the Gilbert Islands today after 60 hours of the toughest fighting in the century-and-a-half history of the corps.

In a four-hour push supported by naval gunfire, strafing and dive bombing, the Marines cleared the vital air strip and confined the Japanese defenders to the island's tapering tail and to a small blockhouse pocket on the north coast.

The Japanese were not surrendering, but beginning to commit harikiri. However, there is every indication they will fight to the end from strong positions and that many more American boys will die before the last Japs are driven from Tarawa.

A victory in American military history was ever attained at a higher price.

Battle Fleet Doubled In Year, Now Has 817 Ships, Knox Reveals

Marine Casualties 'Very Heavy' in Capturing Tarawa, He Says

The United States battle fleet has been doubled in 11 months and has 817 fighting ships today, Secretary Knox disclosed as he announced fresh victories in the Pacific despite "very heavy" losses to American marines in capturing Tarawa.

The Secretary, discussing at a press conference the conquest of Tarawa, said yesterday: "It was bitter, hard fighting. I want you to prepare the public for heavy losses."

He said he was unable to estimate the total casualties, but added that the Japanese suffered heavier losses. The entire Japanese garrison of about 4,000 is believed to have been wiped out, he reported.

Mr. Knox compared the campaign for the atoll with the valiant defense of Wake Island by 400 marines, who fought off the Japanese for 15 days and sank seven warships. Tarawa, he pointed out, is about the same size as Wake, and although defended by the sizeable Japanese garrison, fell in three days.

Makin Losses Slight. He described American losses in winning Makin, another Japanese base in the Gilbert Island chain, as "very slight."

In revealing the increase in the American Fleet, Mr. Knox said Japanese shipping was being sunk at the almost incredible rate of a vessel a day. Nine more enemy ships have just been reported sunk.

New American ships constructed during the 11-month period total 419—more than a ship a day, Mr. Knox disclosed.

He said the 21 American warships lost since January 1 will be made up within the next two weeks, boosting the total combat strength of the fleet to 836 vessels.

And he voiced a prayer that the Japanese fleet soon might be drawn into action and wiped out.

40 Carriers Completed in '43. Aircraft carriers, playing an ever more important role in the drive on Japan, made up a large share of the new construction—40 new carriers of all types have been completed in 1943.

In addition, approximately 230 of the scrappy little destroyer escorts have gone into action, primarily for anti-submarine work, though they can do a full sized job in any battle.

The first of this type was completed last February with a goal then fixed at 260. Mr. Knox said that the quota has been filled 90 per cent—approximately 234 ships—and will be exceeded by the end of this year. He added that the DE's "now are being turned out at a rate in excess of 40 per month."

More Subs Being Rushed. He reported also "gratifying results" in steady increases in the size of the submarine fleet, and said that new submarines completed this year would approximate 30 per cent of the submarine fleet in existence last January 1.

The Secretary also said Navy combat planes will more than triple in number "with several hundred planes to spare." The naval aircraft construction program originally called for 27,000 planes, but Mr. Knox said, that total now has been revised upward to 31,000.

Although 1943 has been the bumper year in Navy production, he declared. In terms of dollars, Mr. Knox said, 1944 increases will be \$1,300,000,000 in ships and \$1,400,000,000 in planes over 1943 expenditures.

Stuttgart Also Hit; Record Bomb Load Dropped on Reich

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Nov. 27.—The RAF's heavy armadas struck Berlin, the greatest of all German targets, a third great blow in five nights with heavy burdens of explosives and incendiaries last night in the campaign to rub it from Adolf Hitler's Reich.

The big raid was accompanied by a simultaneous attack on the major industrial center of Stuttgart, 100 miles to the southwest of the German capital.

The two-ply blow split German defenses, but nevertheless heroic fighters were more effective in stemming the waves of attacking aircraft and the Air Ministry announced that 32 bombers had failed to return from the twin operation.

This compared with the loss of 26 bombers on the first night of the campaign and 20 on the second.

24-Hour Record Set. The operation brought a new 24-hour record in the deluge of bombs on the enemy's vital centers.

With Thursday night's RAF attack on Frankfurt-Am-Main and a record blow at the North Sea port of Bremen yesterday, the total tonnage probably was considerably over the 4,000 peak of November 3 when the United States Air Force bombed Wilhelmshaven and Northern France and the RAF hit Duesseldorf.

The greatest force of Flying Fortresses and Liberators ever employed flew against Bremen and their escorts totaled nearly 1,000 planes. They lost 39 of their number, 29 of them large bombers, and destroyed 56 German defending aircraft.

Fires Still Blazing. Fires from previous night assaults were still blazing in Berlin as the hundreds of heavy bombers roared over, returning pilots reported, and the Air Ministry said the new bombing was concentrated and "most effective" with the weather good for spotting the targets.

Strict German censorship prevented neutral correspondents from reporting today any vital bombing details in the sixth day of the aerial "battle of Berlin."

Dispatches from the German capital were confined to the official communique except for the additional mention of a "wild fight" over the city last night by RAF bombers and Nazi planes.

The world's most-bombarded city now probably has received a load of about 14,000 tons of bombs this year, compared with the 10,000 which flattened Hamburg.

Even before last night's deluge Berlin was 25 to 30 per cent wiped out, according to an unidentified military expert just arrived in Sweden from the Reich.

At Stuttgart, one of Germany's major centers of airplane, submarine engine, tank and truck production and an important rail hub on the route to Italy, large fires were lighted, particularly around the railroad yards, the Air Ministry said.

The city was bombed by the Fortresses on October 16 and by the RAF on October 7 in a joint attack with Friedrichshafen. Last night was Stuttgart's 16th raid of the war.

The "very great force" which raided Berlin and Stuttgart went into three contingents which thundered over the coast for 45 minutes. Some of the bombers started before dark.

Two Planes Raid London Area. Soon afterward the Germans, in their second successive night raid on England, succeeded in getting two planes through to the London area. A few bombs fell and several persons were killed.

The record American operation yesterday probably involved 700 or more Fortresses and Liberators. In their previous peak on November 3 they dropped nearly double the tonnage, about three tons apiece, dropping something under 2,000 tons of bombs.

Their loss of 29 was the heaviest since the record 60 lost in the Schweinfurt attack on October 14 when nearly double the 15 which were lost on a Bremen raid on November 13.

Last night's raid was the 19th this month, a month that probably has seen a record weight of bombs dropped on the enemy. In the previous peak month of August, there were 22 raids, but the weight of bombs probably was lower.

A Flying Fortress pilot who took part in yesterday's mission said that Germany for the first time is beginning to look defenseless against daylight attacks. In the last six months things have changed plenty," he declared.

The inability of the Nazis to stretch their thinned-out fighter defenses to cover simultaneous blows against Berlin and other targets was brought into bold relief Thursday night when waves of RAF heavy bombers pounded Frankfurt (See RAIDS, Page A-6.)



Senate Asks Probe Of 'Good Neighbor' Spending Activities

Byrd Demands Answer By Rockefeller After Charge by Butler

By the Associated Press.

Senate investigators called for a detailed examination of "good neighbor" activities and spending today, the outcome of the charge of Senator Butler, Republican, of Nebraska that the United States has spent or obligated more than \$6,000,000,000 in Latin America.

Nelson Rockefeller, co-ordinator of Inter-American Affairs, said the Butler estimate was a "misrepresentation of the facts," and that the expenditures totaled less than \$600,000,000.

Mr. Rockefeller gave this information in a speech at an American Legion dinner here last night as Chairman Byrd of the Congressional Committee on Nonessential Federal Spending said he had asked Mr. Rockefeller for a complete accounting.

In a 200-page report, Senator Butler asserted yesterday that United States cash is being used for "boogymongering" projects in Latin America.

Senator Butler, who made a 20,000-mile personal investigation, said the neighboring republics either believe Uncle Sam is a "sucker" or are plainly distrustful of the motives.

The attack attracted wide notice in Latin America, but comment generally was restrained.

Vice President Wallace, who has taken an active interest in South American affairs, called Senator Butler's report "a shocking slur" on our Latin American Allies based on "fantastic figures which have been used in an apparent effort to discredit the Good Neighbor policy."

"As Vice President of the United States, I feel compelled to express my deep regret to our Latin American allies in the war for the shocking slur which has been made against them," Mr. Wallace said.

"To the people of the other Americas, I want to say it is my belief that the people of the United States are profoundly grateful to you for the sincere, unselfish support which you have given us in our time of need."

"To those New World nations (See GOOD NEIGHBORS, A-6.)

Michigan Hunting Deaths Reach New High of 15

By the Associated Press.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich., Nov. 27.—Hunter fatalities from gunfire in Michigan's deer season reached the record high of 15 today with the death of Charles P. Krehl, Gary, Ind.

Mr. Krehl was accidentally shot in the back by a hunting companion yesterday near Fibre, 40 miles west of the Sault.

Besides the 15 killed by the gunfire of fellow hunters, at least five other hunters died in automobile accidents and four others of heart attacks in the hunting areas.

The previous high in gunshot fatalities was 14 recorded in 1937 and again in 1940.

Temblor Shakes Turkey; 30 Reported Killed

By the Associated Press.

ISTANBUL, Nov. 27.—An earthquake which shook Turkey today hit hard in the Amsya-Tokat region of North Central Turkey, killing 30 persons and destroying hundreds of buildings, first reports received here said.

It was feared that greater damage was done in other sections of the country.

Although the seat of government at Ankara felt the quake, its center appeared to be in the hills south of the Black Sea.

Wartime Government Workers May Get Social Security Credit

President Orders Simplified System For Identifying Employees by Number

By the Associated Press.

The possibility that wartime Government workers whose jobs will lapse six months after the end of hostilities may get credit under the Social Security Act for the time spent in Federal service developed today as President Roosevelt issued an executive order directing Federal agencies to use individual Social Security account numbers for identifying Government workers whenever this is found desirable.

The order itself has no immediate bearing on this matter, it was said, but it was explained that the interchanging of Government retirement and Social Security credits had been discussed between the Budget Bureau and the Civil Service Commission and that a uniform set of account numbers would be one of the steps helpful in such a program.

If anything of the sort eventually is done, legislation would be required. The Civil Service Commission is understood to have approved the plan, which would involve old-age insurance protection under the Social Security Act and Government retirement.

Thousands of wartime employees who are holding emergency jobs already had social security numbers obtained when they were in private employment. They also have their individual retirement accounts. The regular social security numbers now are being used in the railroad retirement system, and the War Department uses this system of numbers in setting up allotment accounts.

Social security numbers also are being used by the Internal Revenue Bureau for identifying individual tax returns.

In his order Mr. Roosevelt said that approximately 70,000,000 persons already have social security numbers and that "it is desirable in the interest of economy and orderly administration that the Federal Government move toward the use of a single, unduplicated numerical identification system of accounts and avoid the unnecessary establishment of additional systems."

The President authorized any agency finding it advisable "to establish a new system of permanent account numbers pertaining to individual persons" to utilize social security account numbers, and directed the Social Security Board to make such numbers available when called on.

It was said that the Social Security Board that while it was not mandatory for agencies which have been using other systems of numbering to follow the President's direction, that undoubtedly, in the interest of uniformity, some would.

Army, Navy Teams Both at Peak for Traditional Contest

Notre Dame Is Choice Over Great Lakes to End Season Sweep

By the Associated Press.

WEST POINT, N. Y., Nov. 27.—Army and Navy football teams will trot onto the field today virtual even-money betting favorites in their second meeting during the present war.

Shunted to Michie Stadium by a presidential order which limited spectators to those who live within a 10-mile radius of the field, the game will draw only 16,000 fans in contrast to the 100,000 which jammed stadiums at Chicago and Philadelphia in peacetime encounters.

Today's contest could have done little to help the teams suffer only one defeat each by Notre Dame and the Army had an additional blot on its record in the 13-to-13 tie by Pennsylvania.

Both Teams Fit. While it had appeared that Navy's squad would be decimated by a plague of midweek illnesses, all the midshipmen were in good working order, and Capt. J. E. Wheelan announced his regular line-up would start.

It was the same with the Army forces. Lt. Col. Earl Blaik's athletes were every bit as fit. Only Doug Kenna, September choice as the team's best back, was in the questionable class. He hasn't scrimmaged since early November, but may see action today as a passer.

Half of the cadet corps had seats on the Navy side and under the guidance of midshipman cheer leaders was to give vocal support to the "enemy" from Annapolis.

Notre Dame Favored. In today's other top game Notre Dame will attempt to wind up its first unbeaten season by defeating the Great Lakes Bluejackets who are powered by two former Notre Dame players, Emil Sitko and Steve Juzwik.

Notre Dame was expected to notch its 10th straight win without too much trouble, but Great Lakes will present a staunch defense which has held opponents to an average of 105.5 yards by rushing per game and an average of 69.5 yards through the air. Northwest, breaking the Bluejacket line for 203 yards, is the only team to top the 200-yard mark this season.

A capacity crowd of 23,000 recruits will watch the Bluejackets shoot for an upset victory in their Roush Field "portable" stadium. A triumph would give the team a record of 10 wins and two losses in a campaign to repeat for the Nation's service team championship.

Patton's Case Not Yet Closed, Reynolds Says

Senate Committee To Continue Inquiry Despite Army Report

By J. A. O'LEARY.

The Senate Military Affairs Committee is holding open for further study the case of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., despite the report of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower that adequate corrective action already has been taken as the result of Gen. Patton's treatment of two of his enlisted men in Sicily last August.

In the report, read to the Senate late yesterday, Gen. Eisenhower called Gen. Patton's conduct "reprehensible," but called attention to the general's apology to his entire 7th Army and to a letter of rebuke from Gen. Eisenhower. The commander of the Mediterranean theater also emphasized his belief that Gen. Patton's ability as a leader in battle will make him useful in the fighting still to be done.

Gen. Eisenhower gave every indication that he considered the case closed, and that Gen. Patton would retain his command, as did Secretary of War Stimson in submitting the report.

The Army and Navy Journal unofficially authoritative service publication, today praised Gen. Patton's accomplishments, but declared that any officers guilty of undermining a "state of discipline based on mutual respect" should be relieved instantly of command.

Suggest Patton Rest. "After a rest as in the case of Gen. Patton," the Journal's editorial said, "they might prove to be useful again."

The Army and Navy Register, another unofficial service publication, said in an editorial: "Another regrettable affair in the Army, attributed to the desire to suppress news. If the incident... had promptly been disposed of and a truthful statement issued from the headquarters of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied command would have been protected as a happy ending following the difficult campaign in Sicily when nerves of officers and men had been severely strained. Instead, an effort was made to suppress the story although it was known by the press."

Avoiding any comment on the Eisenhower report, Chairman Reynolds of the Military Affairs Committee merely said, "This by no means closes the matter," and added the committee would discuss it further at a meeting next week.

Promotion Pending. When the storm broke with the delayed revelation of Gen. Patton's conduct toward two unwounded but shell-shocked soldiers there was pending before the Senate committee the nomination of Lt. Gen. Patton for promotion to major general rank of colonel to major general. Senator Reynolds said this and other pending nominations may come up next week.

Whether the committee goes any further into the Patton incident is likely to depend on the informal reaction it gets from the Senate as a whole during the next few days.

Senator Holman, Republican, of Oregon, one of the few committee members who commented immediately, said, "I've just got to defer to Gen. Eisenhower, who is out there."

"My current notion," he continued, "is that I want to win this war. There are a lot of things I don't like, but expediency in winning the war must be considered."

Thomas Lusk, Republican, of Utah, said he had passed final judgment on the matter. Senator Thomas, Democrat, of Utah praised Gen. Eisenhower for his full report on the subject, and said he believed Gen. Patton's apologies "shows he is a good man."

New Tire Quota Raised Slightly for December

By the Associated Press.

The December quota of new tires for passenger cars and motorcycles will be 27,685 units more than the number available for civilians in November, the Office of Price Administration announced today.

The agency emphasized, however, that the shortage of new tires continues, and that the December figure is substantially below that for October and earlier months. More extensive use must be made of recapping services, OPA said.

The truck and bus new tire quota also was raised slightly, with 290,519 units available next month as compared with 290,245 in November. A total of 581,373 new tires for passenger cars and motorcycles, as against 553,688 in November.

Officer Resigns in Probe Of Sale of Army Tools

By the Associated Press.

The War Department announced today that an investigation into the sale of Army-owned tools in Detroit to private sources had resulted in the resignation of one officer and that others will be "subject to reclassification proceedings" or sever administrative admonitions.

Changes also are being made in the Army's procedure for handling the sale of obsolete and surplus material with special reference to cutting tools, the department said in a statement.

When arraigned before United States Commissioner James K. Cullen, Dr. Hens was held in \$15,000 bail for a further hearing December 3.