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Red Army's Victorious Advance Continues

NO RESPITE FOR WEARY GERMAN TROOPS IN SOUTHERN RUSSIA

The Nazi forces on the Eastern front are not given a respite. They are being relentlessly attacked by the victorious forces of the Red Army which is pushing into the heart of Poland and towards the Rumanian frontiers. After capturing Kirovgrad and many other important strategic centres, the Russian forces are now within twelve miles from the Odessa-Warsaw railway line, the last direct life-line between the German forces in Southern Russia and their home bases. Russian tank spearheads, in the face of German armour along the two highways, which cross the Bug from Nemirov to Rakhni and Tulchin, have only a dozen more miles to go to reach their objectives. When they do, half a million German troops, already weary with 20 days of fierce fighting in a retreat during which their numbers have been greatly thinned, may find themselves at the mercy of big Russian armies prepared to fall upon them from all directions.

NAZI LIFE-LINE THREATENED

With this line lost, von Mannstein's only railway connections with the west will be through Rumania by a round-about route from Odessa through increasingly mountainous country by way of Tiraspol and Jassy, or Tiraspol, Galatz and Ploesti.

Incidentally, the Russian front has now reached a point a little more than 200 miles from the Ploesti oilfields—much nearer than any Allied base.

15,000 NAZIS KILLED

Fifteen thousand Germans were killed in the Kirovgrad direction up to January 8 says a Soviet communiqué which adds:

"In the Sarny direction, our troops forced the river Slutch and north of the town occupied the railway station of Shelsk, and to the south the town of Nemovich.

"South-west and south of Novograd-Volynsk our troops waged offensive battles and occupied Yatun, a district centre of the Zhitomir region. They also took 30 other places, including a number

Nazi Choice In Russia Is "Surrender or Die"

The massacre of the remnants of five German divisions surrounded north of Kirovgrad illustrates what the Russians mean when they say that not a single German will escape alive if he insists on resisting.

Dive-bombed and strafed day and night by Stormoviks, pounded mercilessly by a ring of artillery and masses of mine-throwers, the divisions perished in the Ukrainian snowfields.

When General Koniev encircled Kirovgrad, these five divisions retreated northwards and sought to break out by means of sharp tank engagements. These attacks were thrown back, the Germans being forced back into a more and more restricted area.

The Russians called on them to surrender, but they refused. They were then hammered by artillery, which fired thousands of shells, while overhead the Stormoviks never relaxed.

Nazi Generals To Face Trial

Moscow radio says that two German generals are to be brought before court "to answer for their crimes."

They are the commander of the 106th German Infantry Division, General Forst, and the commander of the Eighth Army Corps, General Raus.

The Moscow radio says that General Forst set fire to a house in which women and children had been locked, and that General Raus was responsible for the destruction of Karlovka.

German Press On War In Russia

The big "winter battle" in Russia, according to German newspapers, is now entering its third week with no indication that the climax has already been reached, says the Berlin correspondent of the Scandinavian Telegraph Bureau.

The only hope the German newspapers are able to give their readers is that "the Russian mass attacks, in spite of everything, sooner or later must fade out."

German reports no longer try to conceal the heavy losses, and admit that many units are encircled and are "fighting to the last man." Hardly any prisoners are taken.

The German Press claims that the Russians have adopted entirely new tactics. They no longer try to break the German front by pure weight in numbers, but are "manoeuvring attacking columns so skilfully that they always find the German front's weakest point, thus causing the German Command great difficulties."

Rumanian Government Gets Ready To Move

The Budapest correspondent of the "Svenska Dagbladet" says that the authorities in Bucharest are hurriedly preparing for the evacuation of the Rumanian Government, and have warned all foreign legations to be ready to move from the capital in case of air raids, and to procure rooms for their staffs in Brasov, Transylvania, to which town the Rumanian Government is planning to move, if necessary.



Black Man's part in the war. Natives of New Guinea are here seen unloading equipment for the attack on Japanese base of Lae.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN INFANTRY'S DRIVE ON CASSINO IN ITALY

British and American infantry of the Fifth Army, after capturing the strongly fortified village of San Vittore and important heights in Italy, are now pushing on to the town of Cassino 75 miles from Rome.

They are preparing to attack the Germans entrenched on Monte Tocchio, the last granite bulwark guarding Cassino and the road to Rome.

General Mark Clark's troops now directly threaten this mile-and-a-half-long mountain crescent, which protects Cassino from the south-west to the north-east.

The Germans are fighting bitterly. Their guns and mortars on the heights are battering at the Allied front, ten miles long, in an attempt to break up the Fifth Army's thrusts.

On the north side of the road to Rome the American troops continuing their advance are now five-and-a-half miles north-east of Cassino.

Allied tanks have now joined in the drive on Cassino, and are thrusting

Japanese Bases Heavily Bombed In The Pacific

Heavy bombing and strafing of Japanese bases and shipping along the northern coast of New Guinea and as far as Celebes, to the westward, is reported in a communiqué from General MacArthur's headquarters.

In a daylight attack on Kendari, the Japanese air and supply base on the island of Celebes, Netherlands East Indies, Allied aircraft dropped 25 tons of bombs on the aerodrome and barracks. Six of 13 Japanese intercepting planes were shot down in a running battle and four more were probably destroyed. One Allied bomber is missing.

Eleven Japanese barges, seven of them laden with men and supplies, were destroyed near the American beachhead at Saidor, New Guinea. Japanese shore installations at Gali, 11 miles south of the beachhead, were bombed by warships.

At the Cape Gloucester beachhead on New Britain, American Marines have pressed forward in the Borgen Bay sector. Their losses are less than 15 per cent. of the Japanese total of more than 2,600 killed.

Count Ciano Shot Says Nazi Report

The German news agency says that Count Ciano, former Italian Foreign Minister and son-in-law of Mussolini, who was sentenced to death at Verona on Monday, was shot a few minutes after 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning. Marshal de Bono, Marinelli, Pareschi and Gotthardi, who were sentenced with him, were also shot.

Russian Advance Causes Anxiety In The Balkans

The Balkans are astir, with the news of the impressive continuous advance of the Russian armies, which, it is emphasised, are fighting a battle on the outcome of which may depend the fate of the whole German forces in the southern part of the Russian front.

The Red Army, it is already freely predicted, may be knocking at the northern gates of the Balkans even before next spring, and this menace is filling with awe the hearts of all those who have played the German game. It is also putting the Germans themselves in a quandary—whether to defend the Balkans to the last or to abandon their Balkan satellites and withdraw to the Danube line.

U.S. Committed To Winning War —Roosevelt

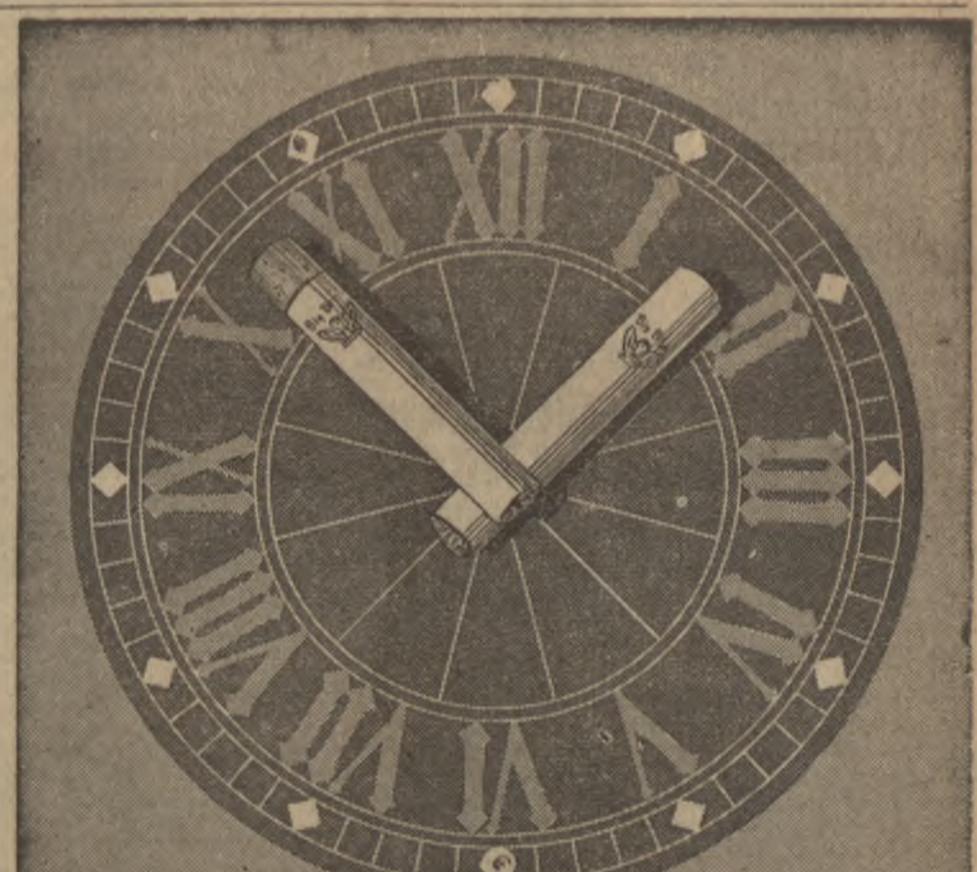
There were no "secret treaties or political or financial commitments" at the Moscow-Cairo-Teheran conferences, said President Roosevelt in his annual "State of Union" message to Congress.

The United States was, however, committed to very large and specific plans for winning the war, and was determined to use all her efforts in securing a lasting peace.

"China and Russia are truly united with Britain and America in the recognition of this essential fact: That the best interests of each nation, large and small, demand that all freedom-loving nations shall join together in a just and durable peace," said the President.

Call From "Pass Office" Leads To Robbery

Africans from a block of flats in this city, who went to the pass office on Monday afternoon in response to a bogus telephone call, found, when they returned, that their rooms on the roof of the building had been ransacked and their clothing stolen. A European was seen leaving the top of the building carrying a large suitcase.



There's always time
to smoke a

BIG BEN
TURKISH CIGARETTE

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