

B.D.I.C.

One Year Ago Today
Americans drive Germans back in Luxembourg and Belgium. Allied air fleet pounds Wehrmacht for third day. Americans surround last Jap stronghold on Leyte.

WESTERN EUROPE EDITION
THE STARS AND STRIPES
Unofficial Newspaper of U.S. Forces in the European Theater
1 Fr. 1d.

The Weather Today
PARIS: Cloudy, rain, fog—48
S. FRANCE: Partly cloudy—60
DOVER: Cloudy, showers—50
GERMANY: Cloudy, fog, rain—43

Vol. 2—No. 163

Thursday, Dec. 27, 1945

Big Three Scheduled To End Talk

MOSCOW, Dec. 26 (AP).—The second Moscow meeting of the Big Three foreign ministers was scheduled to close tonight with the making of decisions of vast importance for the peace of Europe and the world.

An interim report issued Christmas eve by U.S. Secretary of State James F. Byrnes, British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin and Russian Foreign Commissar V. M. Molotov already had announced settlement of the long-standing dispute among the Big Three powers over procedures for drafting peace treaties with Germany's European Allies.

Other points believed to have been discussed included the question of control of atomic energy and the troubled situation in the Middle East.

The European peace treaty agreement generally followed the lines laid down by Molotov before the London Big Five council (including France and China) ended in disagreement last autumn.

Treaties Decided

The Big Three plus France will draft the treaty for Italy, the Big Three alone those for Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary, and Britain and Russia that for Finland, with which the U.S. severed relations but was never at war.

However, Russia conceded that members of the Big Five council who did not sign individual surrender terms might be called in by the council to "participate on questions directly concerning them." This meant in effect that China probably would not be called in on the European treaties, that France might take a limited part in the negotiations with Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland as well as full part in those with Italy.

Atomic Discussion

Treaty matters affecting other belligerents, such as Norway's position as it affects Finland, presumably would await a full peace conference, for which some plans were disclosed.

As for atomic energy, Byrnes brought to Moscow the American-Canadian-British proposal for a commission, but there has as yet been no indication of what meeting of minds may have been reached on this question.

Premier Josef Stalin was said to have treated this key question in a striking toast at a banquet Monday night, but the nature of his remarks has not been indicated.

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 4)

'It Is More Blessed to Give Than to Receive'



GI Francs Called For Adjustment In Sudden Move

By Eddie Irwin
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Army Finance offices throughout France were turned into beehives of activity yesterday when all French francs legally in the possession of Army personnel or persons employed by or for the Army, except French personnel, were suddenly called in for adjustment in terms of the dollar and the newly-devalued franc.

In a surprise move to prevent speculation on the changed currency rate, Finance offices were closed for 24 hours ending at midnight yesterday for all purposes except the acceptance of money for "spearhead" deposits by units PXs and post offices also shut down for the same period.

Plans for the conversion had been listed as "top secret," one of the requirements the French government insisted upon before agreeing to more than double the amount of francs in the pockets of GIs and officers. The official rate for the Franc is now 119.05669 to the dollar, compared with the former rate of roughly 50 francs to the dollar.

Franc Bonus Ends

Now that the rate has been adjusted, payment of the 850-franc "bonus" from the French government will no longer be made. Thus GIs will receive more francs at the end of each month but will have the dollar amount they can send home cut down by a little more than \$17.

Maj. J. C. Shea, Seine Section finance officer, said that if everything went well, funds should be redistributed to the PX and post office this afternoon, but units and individuals would have to wait longer.

Orders sent out by the War Department called for the completion of the collection of francs at midnight last night, but Shea said that it would be practically impossible, since at 6:30 PM yesterday the line was long enough to keep the office force busy until the deadline.

Open This Morning

An hour later MPs were posted to keep the line from getting longer, and Shea announced that the office would open at 8:30 this morning for the further acceptance of funds.

No person stationed regularly in France should lose out in the change-over, since provisions have been made for men on pass out of France or on temporary duty.

Those who were unable to be in their unit when the money was turned in will have a chance to turn into the Class A finance officer of the unit his francs, upon his return to the unit, but will have to make a sworn affidavit.

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 3)

Chinese Reds Set to Make Truce Offer

CHUNGKING, Dec. 26 (Reuter).

—The Chinese Communist Party was to submit to the Chinese Central Government today a formal proposal, "officially and in writing," for an unconditional armistice, with all troops "frozen" in their present locations, according to a statement made yesterday by Gen. Chou En-lai, Communist leader at the Chungking Inter-Party Conference.

He added that he had obtained the permission of Gen. Mao Tse-tung, chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, to make the proposal.

Official quarters refused to confirm or deny today the report in the Chinese press that Chiang Ching-kuo, special commissioner for foreign affairs in Manchuria and son of Chiang Kai-shek, had left for Moscow Tuesday.

Fighting Continues

Hanohwang, a town in southern Shantung on the railway from Tientsin to Pukow, has been retaken from the Communists, but the Communist troops are attacking Chaochen and Ichen, the Central Government's news agency reported.

(Associated Press quoted a Chinese press dispatch saying 50,000 Communists were attacking Kaoyou on the Grand Canal 60 miles northeast of Nanking, and had started big fires in the town. The dispatch also reported Communist attacks on Shaopo, south of Kaoyou, and on Aih sien, southeast of the town.

(It was believed the Communists intended to seize the three towns in preparation for cutting the Yangtze between Nanking and Shanghai.)



Stars and Stripes photos by Eynon

Junior Mesdemoiselles, above, gaze in wide-eyed amazement at the antics of Fred Medrano, noted Paris puppeteer, during a Christmas party for French war orphans sponsored by the American Red Cross at the Columbia club. Each GI attending the event "adopted" one or more of the children for the afternoon, playing the role of Pere Noel. At top, the children and their "foster fathers" are served cocoa and cookies in the dining room after the entertainment.

Girls, Cafes Deserted as GIs Are Caught With Francs Down

By Lester Bernstein
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

The Army's lightning edict calling for surrender of francs before last midnight carried a special jolt for about 8,500 officers and men in Paris on furlough and for hundreds of others in the French capital on temporary duty, all of whom faced an alternative of taking a loss on francs they held or seeing Paris on empty pockets.

Calas Extends Closing Date

The Stars and Stripes Bureau.
MARSEILLE, Dec. 26.—This port will continue to be a redeployment center, at least through the first week in January, it was reported here today. Earlier plans had called for the closing of Calas Staging Area and the discontinuance of mass redeployment through Sixth Port by the end of the year, but there still are more than 20,000 troops at Calas.

December redeployment now totals 106,969. This figure was reached Christmas Eve. No troops sailed on Christmas Day and no troop ships were scheduled to sail today.

The only arrival yesterday was the Liberty ship John Pillsbury, which is expected to leave about Dec. 31 with general prisoners.

GM Parley Continues; No Progress Reported

DETROIT, Dec. 26 (AP).—Representatives of the General Motors Corp. and the United Auto Workers (UAW) got together across a bargaining table here today in the first conversations since last week's meeting of the GM fact-finding board in Washington.

No progress was reported in the new negotiations, which are limited only to secondary issues of "local" importance. No discussions were held on the general 30 percent wage increase demand.

It packed a wallop, too, for such beneficiaries of GI spending as Montmartre cafes and night clubs and lonely ladies of the evenings. For them, the best-paid soldier in the world suddenly became a pauper—his money was somewhere in Army finance channels getting changed. The GI could count on receiving more than double the amount surrendered and he could plan a blowout to celebrate his forthcoming windfall. But last night Paris was sober as a restricted company area.

Word Goes Slowly

Among those in Paris on furlough and leave, word of the Army's franc order got around slowly, partly because The Stars and Stripes was not published yesterday.

A visit to Rainbow Corner Red Cross Club late in the afternoon disclosed only a relative few who had learned of the edict over the radio or by word-of-mouth, and some of those did not realize a midnight deadline had been set for conversion.

Those who were ignorant of the order were left with their franc holdings intact, but in terms of dollars their holdings had shrunk by more than half.

Those who took advantage of the opportunity to turn in their francs—they could do it individually if they could produce furlough or TD orders and a Currency Exchange Control Book—found themselves without funds if they decided to take full advantage of the conversion.

In most cases, the men on furlough who turned in francs to

(Continued on Page 8, Col. 2)

Nazi Hanged for Slaying of 2 U.S. Fliers



Former German Officer Franz Strasser, who was convicted in the shooting of two American aviators, stands on the gallows at Landsberg prison. The picture was made a few minutes before he was hanged.



Out Of Patience

The war is over; normalcy is returning, but telephone service still stinks!

As a direct result, more telephones are being thrown out of windows than ever before; oddly enough, this has little or no effect on improving service.

Each telephone in the ET should be equipped with a slot which, on insertion of a nickel, three francs or a 50-pfennig coin, would automatically give the operator a thumping good electric shock.

Recently, I made 17 attempts to reach a party in Munich; I was cut off in the middle of a sentence. It took me four hours to reach a



party only ten miles away, and that was achieved only after numerous threats in German, pleadings in English and urgings in profanity.

Why is it the operator will plug you into a number and then promptly forget about you? You sit there and sweat until she checks up 15 or 20 minutes later, inquiring in a voice, the tonal qualities of which resemble a mixture of crude oil and molasses: "Have you finished?" When you inform her you haven't even started, she coos, "I will ring them again," and scampers off somewhere else for another half-hour or so. Incidentally, you never do get the number.

There might be a solution, however: If every chief operator would check to see that his operators are constantly monitoring their lines, the number of lines tied up would plummet. Service would improve, and—who knows—maybe the morale of the entire occupation zone would rise as a direct consequence. —Lt. Marshall Matteson, 3rd MGR.

Claim Parade Delays Them

There are about 2,000 men on this field processed and alerted to go home. We are in the 55-59 ASR bracket and were scheduled to go home this month. Yesterday, we were informed that our shipment has been postponed. The reason given to us was that our place had been taken by the 82nd Airborne Div. The 82nd has to make that parade.

In The Stars and Stripes we read that USFET officials insisted that no high score men had their shipping dates delayed or changed because of arrangements to move the 82nd, and that redeployment was ahead of schedule. A good-portion of the 82nd includes men with less than 50 points. We know damn well that we have been delayed. We also know that 2,000 of us were on the original schedule long before that paratrooper parade was dreamed up. We know that our shipping date is not only behind schedule but is lost in the uncertain future.

We have been over here well over two years and were banking on the points system to spring us eventually.

We have not been retained because of venereal disease. We are just the undecorated orphans of the Eighth AF. — (66 Signatures, Ed.), 13th MRR Sq.

600 Americans Will Observe Greek Election

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—More than 600 Americans will observe Greece's national election in a project believed unique in world political history.

U.S. government officials disclosed the size and scope of the project yesterday, saying they knew of no precedent of one country's election being observed by citizens of another country, by invitation.

Britain and France also have accepted Greek invitations to send observers, but Russia declined.

Grady Heads Mission

Former Assistant Secretary of State Henry F. Grady will head the U.S. mission, assisted by five or six commissioners, including Maj. Gen. Harry J. Malony, who will represent the War Department.

Officials said the rest of the mission would include an "indoctrination" staff of experts on Greek history and politics, a group of "sampling" experts to take censuses in all parts of Greece and about 100 American observation teams consisting in most cases of an Army officer, driver and a Greek interpreter.

Officials said Britain would send about 100 observation teams and France about 40.

Leave Next Month

American administrative officials will leave for Greece early next month.

Russia declined on grounds the "observers" would become "supervisors," saying the Soviet Union opposed intervening in another country's domestic affairs.

U.S. officials regard Russia's refusal as a move to forestall pressure for similar observations in Bulgaria and Romania.

Landslide in Spain Buries 70 People Alive

ALBACETE, Spain, Dec. 26 (AP).—Seventy people were buried alive by a landslide at Alcalá Delucar, a town of 4,000 inhabitants, 30 miles northeast of here today.

The occupants of 20 houses that were engulfed were sleeping when the landslide occurred about dawn, after two days of intense winds and rain. Six were killed and 40 seriously injured.

Authorities said little hope remained for other victims who were dragged from their homes.

Follow Dollar Rates In Paying for S & S

All Stars and Stripes subscribers in France are requested to remit by U.S. postal money order for the dollar value listed on the combination rate scale and order form. The franc column of the rate scale should be disregarded. The new subscription rate is 54 francs a month. Single copies will sell for two francs.

Mister Breger

By Dave Breger



"See here, I told you back in April, 1938, I DON'T WANT ANY!"

Focusing On Nazis

Heinrich Hoffman, who was personal photographer to Adolf Hitler, is held in protective custody at Nuremberg, where he is helping to prepare American photographic evidence, including research work being used in the current trial of Nazi bigwigs. Hoffman, who met Hitler back in the beer hall days, was elevated to the job of personal picture man to the Fuehrer when the latter assumed power in Germany and thereafter accompanied him on all public occasions.



Army, Treasury, State Dept. Near Showdown on Reich Rule

FRANKFURT, Dec. 26 (AP).—A showdown between the U.S. Army, the Treasury and the State Department on definitely placing responsibility for American policy in Germany appears to be developing.

The Army, which has borne the brunt of criticism, frankly wants to turn over administration to some other agency, it was said here. The Army, it was added, prefers to remain only as a police force.

The Treasury group here describe themselves as "hard peace boys" and have been critical of State Department caution.

Recent allegations by Sen. Harley M. Kilgore (D-W.Va.) that some American businessmen working for Military Government were not ill-disposed toward German industries with which they had business connections before the war, were challenged quickly.

A Military Government spokesman declared: "We know of no person working for his own selfish ends against the common policy. Similar allegations have been voiced before, but do not hold up under investigation." The official spokesman countered allegations that German industrial combines have not been broken up sufficiently.

Listing assets of I. G. Farben, he said only 9.75 percent are in the U.S. zone, while 11.50 percent are in the British zone, 20.20 in the French, and 58.55 in the Russian.

Franco Foes Seen Joining

LONDON, Dec. 26 (AP).—Spanish Republican circles here view the scheduled simultaneous visits in London of Juan Negrin and Fernando de Los Rios, leaders of different factions, as a possible beginning of a settlement of the internal squabble among anti-Franco forces.

Negrin, who arrived Sunday, has not yet started his expected talks with British government officials but is said to be sizing up the prospects of an increasing international pressure against the Franco regime.

De Los Rios, who belongs to the "Rightist" faction of the Republican group, is due to arrive here within the next two days.

Members of the De Los Rios party said they expected him to see British officials, but they believed he would prefer to start his talks after the Moscow meeting, which they are confident may bring about significant changes in the relationship between the Western Powers and Franco.

UNRRA Opens 5 Recruiting Offices in Reich

By Robert Marshall Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

HOECHST, Dec. 26.—The establishment of five UNRRA recruiting offices in the American Zone to facilitate the employment of American Army personnel eligible for overseas discharge was announced at UNRRA Central Headquarters today by Lt. Gen. Frederick E. Morgan, head of the displaced persons operation in Western Germany.

The UNRRA employment offices are in Wiesbaden, Heidelberg, Munich, Stuttgart and at the UNRRA Staging Center on the outskirts of Karlsruhe.

After Jan 1, applications may be filed at the new UNRRA headquarters site at Arolsen.

Assembly Center personnel sought include directors, deputy directors, doctors, welfare, supply and warehouse officers. Administrative assistants, secretaries and clerk-typists are required. Salaries range from \$2,200 to \$5,325 yearly.

In addition UNRRA American-recruited personnel have free billing, messing and a uniform allowance.

With the exception of welfare officers who must have had civilian training and experience all of the categories listed call for personnel with Army experience.

A quota of 100 has been set for Jan. 1, with similar monthly quotas planned.

C47 Carries Santa On Visit to French Kids

VILLACOUBLAY, Dec. 26.—Santa Claus paid a visit to 200 French children who were the guests of the European Air Transport Service (EATS) and the American Red Cross at the EATS Station here on Christmas eve. The children came from Saint-Ouen, a bombed-out district of Paris, and many had never seen Santa before. The party opened with American movie cartoons. Ice cream, cake, and doughnuts were served.

St. Nick arrived aboard a Douglas C-47 transport and distributed the contents of his pack of toys and chocolate.

Biarritz Class Operates Former AFN Station

BIARRITZ, Dec. 26.—Radio station WBAU is probably the only U.S. station in Europe not operated by the American Forces Network. Students of the radio art class of Biarritz American University opened the new station when the AFN station at Biarritz closed.

Albert R. Crews, chairman of the radio arts department, has announced that the station would present several "live" shows per day, rebroadcasts of U.S. shows, short-wave news and special events programs from AFN in Paris, London, Frankfurt and New York.

GI Billboard appears on Page 7 in today's issue.

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Dying Girl Gets Xmas Wish

Child Hoped Dad Would 'Come Too'

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26 (AP).—"Papa" gave his eight-year-old dying daughter the Christmas Eve wish she asked for—death.

Mary Ann Potter, eight, seriously ill from a streptococcus infection which developed after an appendectomy, told her mother a few hours before she died Christmas Eve:

"I wouldn't mind dying if only Papa would come along with me." "Papa"—Emory E. Potter, 45-year-old shipyard worker in nearby Camden, N.J.—made arrangements for little Mary Ann's burial. He bought gifts for his wife, Mary, and his other child, Robert, 14. He trimmed the Christmas tree.

But maybe he was thinking of Mary Ann's dying wish as he returned home from the undertakers.

"If only Papa..." she said. Potter died of a heart attack while walking upstairs, three hours after his daughter's death.



The American Scene

Freshman Congressman Dead of Gas As He Clutches a Pistol and Razor

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Rep. Joseph Wilson Ervin, 44-year-old Democratic freshman congressman from Charlotteville, N.C., was found dead yesterday in his gas-filled home and police said there was no doubt that he had committed suicide.

Gas was pouring from open jets of a stove in the kitchen. In one hand Ervin held a pistol and in the other a razor. His body was found lying across two chairs in the living room.

The body was found by Theron L. Caudle, assistant U.S. attorney general. Caudle said Ervin had been suffering acutely from osteomyelitis, a disease of the bone and bone marrow, and evidently had despaired of recovery.

Two notes were found near the body, one to Caudle and the other to Mrs. Ervin, the former Susan Graham Ervin of Morgantown, N.C.

Mr. U.S. Citizen Triples His Income Since '33

CHICAGO, Dec. 26 (AP).—The income of individuals in the U.S. has more than tripled since the depression bottom year of 1933.

The Federation of Tax Administrators has reported that per capita income payments to individuals reached a new peak of \$1,117 in 1944, compared with \$368 in 1933. In 1940 the average was \$575.

Average per capita income—counting the entire population—ranged from \$202 in Mississippi to \$896 in Delaware in 1940. By 1944 the range was from \$528 in Mississippi to \$1,519 in New York.

Sixteen states in 1940 reported income payments above the national average of \$575. They were California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Washington and Wyoming.

Fifteen of the same states also went over the 1944 average. Wyoming, which dropped under the 1944 average figure, was replaced by Indiana.

Guard Air Units Expected to Use AAF Fields

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—Post-war National Guard air units are expected to use a number of the air fields now being abandoned by Army Air Forces as wartime requirements shrink.

War Department officials, planning for participation of State units in the National defense system, have said that the operation of a National Guard air force of perhaps 2,000 first-line planes would require facilities far more comprehensive than those of pre-war days.

GIs Start Fund for Orphan

SCHENECTADY, N.Y., Dec. 26 (AP).—Two-year-old Carol Jorgensen, an orphan, will get a college education when she grows up if 100 GI buddies of her daddy, the late Cpl. Robert N. Jorgensen, of Schenectady, have their way.

The soldiers, members of an Army Service Forces company at Fort Jackson, S.C. sent \$100 to the Schenectady Gazette and asked the newspaper to start a trust fund for Carol.

The Gazette arranged to start the fund and will carry an appeal of the soldiers to the public to help keep it growing.

Jorgensen was killed last month at nearby Watervliet in an automobile accident while on furlough. Carol's mother died shortly after the child was born.

Carol is living here with her father's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nels A. Jorgensen.

Japs' Captive 'Cashes In'



Mrs. Etta Jones, only white woman taken prisoner on American soil during World War II, displays a check for \$7,374 as back pay for her job as Indian Office teacher on Attu Island, where she was captured by the Japs in 1942.

Wac 'Crusoe' Discharged

OSWEGO, N.Y., Dec. 26 (ANS).—Margaret Hastings, heroine of a 47-day stay in a New Guinea jungle following a plane crash, got home yesterday morning after being discharged at Fort Dix, N.J. Miss Hastings said she tentatively planned to write a book.

Grocery Bill of Army Shows a Big Drop

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—The Army's grocery bill in October was the smallest since the summer of 1942.

Quartermaster Corps market purchases of perishable subsistence items totaled a little under \$29,000,000.

The peak of Quartermaster market purchases, the War Department said, was in June, 1945, when \$182,242,898 in perishables were bought.

Winter Freezes GIs' Hopes for Yule at Home

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Transportation difficulties resulting in part from bad weather conditions prevented many servicemen from reaching the States by Christmas and kept others, already on U.S. soil, stranded in port areas over the holiday.

The northern half of the U.S. was locked in snow, sleet and a glaze of ice which hammered rail, air and highway traffic, as a storm mixture of everything in the weatherman's winter catalogue moved northeastward into New England Christmas night. Bad weather at sea caused the troop-carrying battleship Washington and carrier Enterprise to arrive in New York harbor three days late.

59 Ships Arrive

The Washington, carrying 1,626 GIs and the Enterprise, with 4,945 troops, arrived with ice-covered decks to report seven storms and winds of hurricane force. Fifty-nine ships arrived in three East Coast and five West Coast ports with more than 40,000 servicemen aboard, and it was hoped to get the GIs home sometime during the Christmas holidays.

The holiday transportation jam held around 220,000 vets in ports and separation centers over Christmas.

As airlines, buses and railroads moved only a trickle of men out, many were entertained in private homes in the coastal areas and the Army provided holiday festivities for others. Officials said that of 41,000 returned GIs in the San Francisco Bay area, 9,300 were living aboard three troopships. A small number enjoyed Christmas at home after nearby states sent special buses to return their veterans.

As Far South as Georgia

The winter storm extended as far south as northern Georgia and as far west as Nebraska, where 11 inches of snow cloaked Lincoln. In Illinois, snow still was falling, and the Des Moines (Ia.) weather bureau reported the heaviest Christmas snow in many years. Snow was measured at 12 inches in upper Michigan, Wisconsin and Chicago; Richmond, Va., and Baltimore were ice-coated, and Indianapolis bus companies stopped selling tickets and called buses off the highways after they became dangerously slick.

The only warming news came from Miami, Fla., where a record crowd spent Christmas on the beach in 78-degree weather.

'Short Snorters' End Odyssey in New York



GIs who arrived in New York aboard the troopship USS Greeley from the CBI Theater examine their "short snorter" bills. Left to right, Sgt. Moses Levine, Brooklyn, N.Y., OSS paratrooper; Pfc Edward F. Conner, Chicago; M. Murray Carney, Dedham, Mass., flight officer paratrooper, and S/Sgt. Stephanos J. Phillipides, Buffalo, N.Y.

1,500 Enemy Agents Arrested In Americas During War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—The Federal Bureau of Investigation has disclosed that more than 1,500 enemy agents were arrested in the Western Hemisphere during the war.

The list included spies, saboteurs and propagandists.

Searches of alien enemy premises in the U.S. uncovered 3,127

short-wave radio receivers, 2,240 sticks of dynamite, 4,626 firearms, 306,247 rounds of ammunition and much other contraband.

The FBI said that most of the 16,062 alien enemies arrested during war time "did nothing to hurt the U.S., but the dangerous ones would have constituted an army of fifth columnists if they had been left free to follow their inclinations."

FBI investigations resulted in the conviction of 141 enemy agents for espionage and foreign agents registration act violations. Others were sentenced for censorship and neutrality act offenses.

"During the entire war-time emergency period, there was no single successful act of foreign-directed sabotage. Technical sabotage has been found in 2,232 of the 19,466 complaints investigated. Most of the violations have been traced to spite or gross carelessness," the report stated.

Fire Damages Church, 7 Yrs. Older Than U.S.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26 (AP).—Old St. George's Church, shrine of American Methodism and seven years older than the Nation itself, was damaged by fire last night.

The building, dedicated in 1769, is the second oldest Methodist Church in the world. England's Bristol Chapel was built in 1739.

Church officials estimated the damage at \$5,000.

Old St. George's was the site of the first three conferences of American Methodism in 1773, 1774 and 1775.

Petrillo Orders Radio Stations To Ban Foreign Music Shows

CHICAGO, Dec. 26 (ANS).—American radio stations have been told to ban all musical programs originating in all foreign countries except Canada, James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians (AFL), said yesterday. The edict becomes effective Dec. 31.

Petrillo said the order was de-

signed "to protect the American musician against foreign competition." He declared "that through international short-wave radio, a foreign musician could displace an American's services without entering the U.S."

He said the ban was not new, that there had been an understanding between union and radio stations before the war to stop foreign musical programs, but "during the war, the AFM waived its objections to network broadcasts of programs emanating from foreign countries, even though music for these programs was furnished by musicians who are not members of the American Federation of Musicians."

The programs primarily involved are those prepared by the British Broadcasting Corporation, two major shows being "Atlantic Spotlight," on NBC, and "Transatlantic Call" on CBS. An additional ten BBC programs on independent stations also were said to be affected.

In St. Paul, Stanley E. Hubbard, president and general manager of KSTP, Minneapolis-St. Paul stations also were said to be affected, notice was "another example of one man setting himself up as a czar, this time for the purpose of telling the American people what they can and cannot hear."

Felon's Phoney TNT Gets Bank's \$13,000

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26 (ANS).—A bandit threatening a teller with a briefcase which he said contained TNT—controlled by a trigger—held up and robbed a branch of the First National Bank of Portland of \$13,000.

Police said today the bandit tossed the briefcase into the gutter as he fled. When detectives opened the case they found three Christmas candles.

Bond Issue Asked To See if Public Backs British Loan

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Sen. Edwin C. Johnson (D-Colo.) suggested yesterday a loan to Britain to be financed by a special bond issue which, he said, would serve as a popular referendum.

Under Johnson's plan, bondholders, rather than the U.S. Treasury, would bear the loss if the British should default.

The bonds would be offered to the American public by the U.S. Government, and the interest rate would be "exactly what Britain pays" people who buy bonds. Johnson told reporters that bondholders would "take whatever risk there is and accept whatever payment Britain makes."

If the American people approve the loan, Johnson said, they should, prove willing to buy bonds. If the American people don't want it, then the Government ought not to underwrite it," he added.

Death Toll Rises to 3 In Hudson Tube Crash

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 26 (ANS).—Two of 64 persons injured when a Hudson and Manhattan tube train crashed into an open drawbridge near here a week ago, died during the weekend, bringing to three, the number killed in the accident.

Miss Alice Howarth, 39, of Newark, died at St. Michael's hospital yesterday, and Chester Middleton, also of Newark, died at the same hospital Saturday night. The third fatality was Michael J. Mullin, 38, of New York City, motorman of the train, who was killed instantly.



The largest amphibian plane ever built, the XPBM54, stands on the runway at the Glenn L. Martin plant at Middle River, Md. The giant 30-ton ship is a modification of the Martin PBM Mariner, twin-engined flying boat. The dual-purpose plane is able to take off from land or water.

22 Rescued from Bus Hanging Over Bridge

BETHANY, Mo., Dec. 26 (AP).—Twenty-two passengers on the Jefferson Lines bus from Minneapolis to Kansas city were removed safely last night from the vehicle as it hung precariously over the side of a bridge after a crackup.

State highway patrolmen reported the driver, Nels Koch, of Des Moines, Ia., explained he had crashed into a pickup truck parked with lights on the highway trestle.

Spain Acquits 118 Suspects

MADRID, Dec. 26 (AP).—An official bulletin yesterday announced that a "special tribunal for repression of masonry and communism" had acquitted 118 persons since August 11, 1943.

THE BULGE

... ONE YEAR LATER

... "Nuts," said the general and the 101st went on fighting against all the fury Gerd von Rundstedt could summon against the troopers trapped in Bastogne . . . One year ago today the great siege was lifted after eight days of ceaseless assault and the mighty Ardennes breakthrough, last desperate gamble of the German forces, was blunted . . .

The 'Battered Bastards' Held-- And Nazis Had Lost Their War

By E. A. McQuaid
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

The "Battered Bastards of Bastogne,"—surrounded, outnumbered four to one and shelled and assaulted for eight days by the best of the German panzer divisions—were relieved one year ago today in the triumphant climax to an epic of American arms seldom paralleled in history.

Trapped in the tiny Belgian village of Bastogne, guarding seven important roadways which they were enjoined to hold at all costs, the self-styled "battered bastards"—men of the 101st Airborne Division—were credited with breaking the back of Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt's famous Ardennes breakthrough.

Their relief, after more than a week of some of the most savage fighting of the war, in which the Germans dropped all pretext of decency, slaughtering surrendered GIs in cold blood and attacking hospitals and civilian establishments indiscriminately, signaled the lifting of the siege and the start of an American counter-offensive that eventually outwitted Von Rundstedt at his own game.

Desperate Bid to Gain Time

The German offensive, mounted under cover of bad weather that precluded detection from the air, was a desperate bid to gain more time for the Nazis. It caught the Allies off guard—ironically at a time when victory was thought a matter of weeks in America—and except for the heroic stand of the 101st at Bastogne, it might have succeeded.

Spearheaded by two of the toughest divisions in the German army, including the SS panzer division named for Adolf Hitler himself—an outfit of murderous storm troopers, drunk with the promise that they would be back in Paris by Christmas and equipped with the finest weapons at Germany's disposal—the Nazi offensive was launched on Dec. 15.

It struck at a place where the American lines were stretched thin, and, what was worst, manned by green troops only lately committed to battle. In a matter of hours, it had overrun U.S. positions like a tidal wave, and shell-shocked GIs who managed to escape were streaming backward in confusion.

Airborne Moves in Trucks

Against this steel avalanche the 101st Airbornes were sent, traveling by lumbering motor truck in the emergency instead of by plane, as was their usual method. Their orders were to throw up a defense at Bastogne, forcing the Germans to skirt the bastion on secondary roads, instead of rolling ahead on any of seven first class highways, including the Liège-Arion boulevard for which Bastogne was a junction.

They threw up hasty roadblocks, set up other defenses, according to a plan drawn up by the division's acting commander, Brig. Gen. Anthony "Tony" McAuliffe.

McAuliffe, later to become famous for his one-word reply, "Nuts!" to a German surrender ultimatum, ordered a line of foxholes dug on a perimeter two miles outside the town.

Inside the town itself, tanks and tank destroyers were organized as a reserve force, which McAuliffe called his "Fire Brigade." This included elements of the Ninth and Tenth Armd. Divs. of the late Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army.

The Germans hit the town head-on with the full power of their drive. When they found unexpectedly stubborn resistance, they rolled on and around and behind, leaving a substantial part of their forces behind to complete what they thought would be a more or less leisurely clean-up of the town. By Dec. 23, eight days after Von Rundstedt struck, Bastogne was cut off

completely, an island fortress in a swirling sea of battle.

For the first two days, the paratroopers, fighting with a savagery that dumbfounded the Germans, had managed to cling to their outer defense rim of foxholes. While shells ripped into the town behind them, the troopers were assaulted by tanks, and armored cars and "banzai"-like charges by fanatic Panzer men. On the third day, the troopers, badly chewed up, withdrew to their last-gasp positions. But while the Americans had suffered heavy losses, the Germans had been made to pay a price that they certainly had not counted on. Sick of this nonsense, but unable to do anything about it, the Germans, the day before Christmas, tried a surrender offer.

The surrender offer was almost cajoling. It spoke of the "well-known American humanity" and urged compassion for the 3,000-odd civilians, who also were trapped in Bastogne, but who were no more eager to give in to the Germans, despite their tortures, than the paratroopers.

N-U-T-S From Us to You

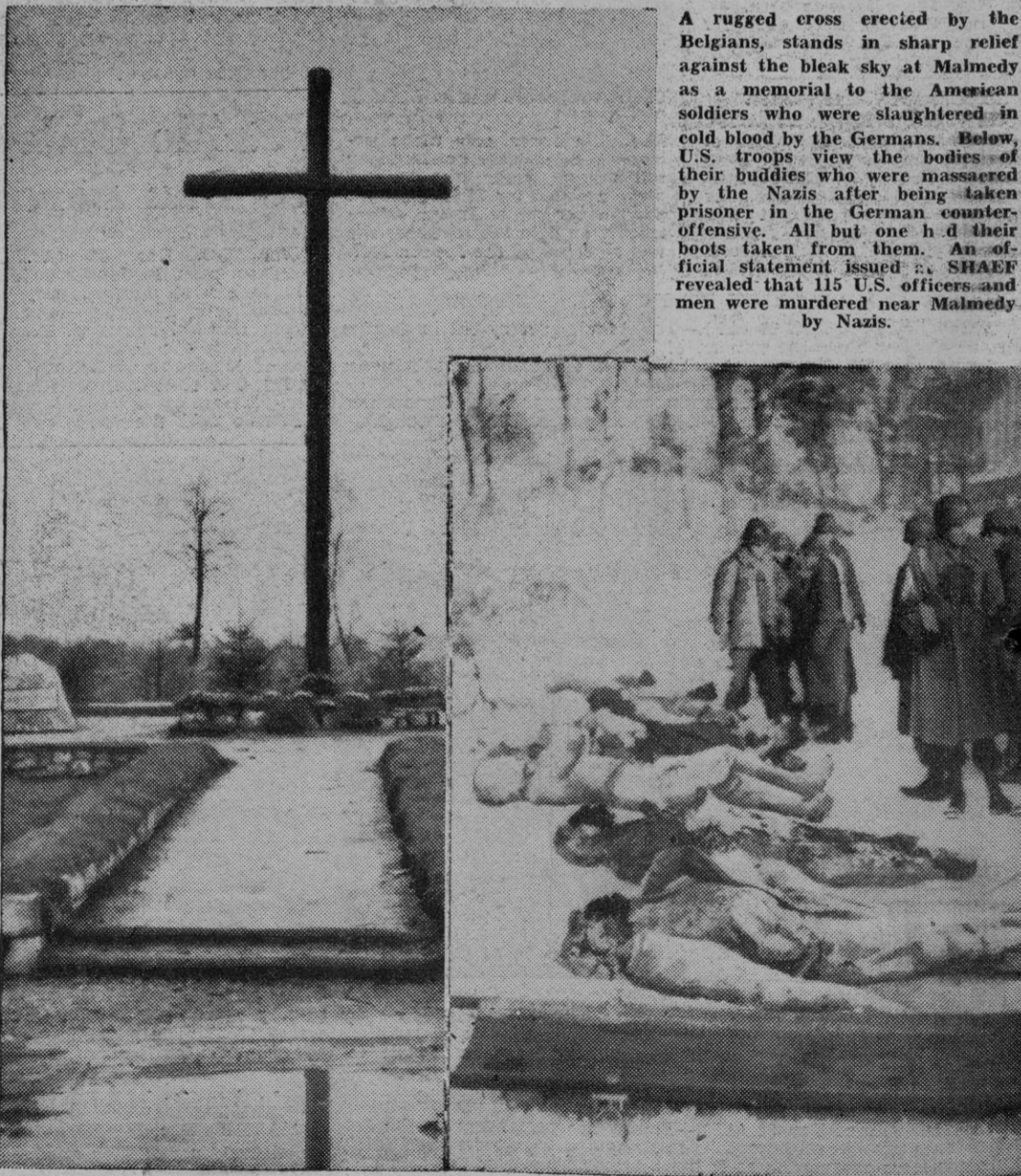
Slight, 135-pound, five-foot-eight McAuliffe, who at 46 was one of the oldest qualified jumpers among the paratroopers, gave the Nazi threat a contemptuous smirk. Then sitting down to a rubble-strewn desk, he wrote his famous reply: "To the German commander—N-U-T-S—from the American commander."

Christmas was about the last of the really awful days that the paratroopers faced. Clearing weather had permitted the Ninth Air Force to send up its Thunderbolts and Lightnings, and these had raised havoc with the Nazi armor. The relief got through to Bastogne actually on the 26th. It was the spearhead of a tank column of the Fourth Armd. Div.

There was too much power now, for the Germans to hold on. Von Rundstedt's great gamble was over.



Heavily-coated against the winter's chill, 101st Airborne infantrymen tramp out of Bastogne, Belgium, after being supplied with food and ammunition, in pursuit of the Germans who had set up strong defensive positions in a nearby town. This photograph was taken after the tenth day of the "Battle of the Bulge" and the day after U.S. ground forces had broken through the enemy lines to relieve the surrounded 101st. Brig. Gen. Anthony G. McAuliffe, commander of the 101st, who made the classic retort, "Nuts," to Nazi surrender demands, declared that his outfit was not "rescued," but was preparing to attack when aid arrived.



A rugged cross erected by the Belgians, stands in sharp relief against the bleak sky at Malmedy as a memorial to the American soldiers who were slaughtered in cold blood by the Germans. Below, U.S. troops view the bodies of their buddies who were massacred by the Nazis after being taken prisoner in the German counter-offensive. All but one had their boots taken from them. An official statement issued by SHAEF revealed that 115 U.S. officers and men were murdered near Malmedy by Nazis.



"When we passed this burning house, we all wished we could stick around and warm our feet. But it was still a little too hot for comfort—and I don't mean from the flames . . ." This extract from a soldier's letter expresses the conditions under which U.S. troops were fighting last winter, striving desperately to halt the German breakthrough. The weather was bitter cold, adding to the other discomforts encountered in battle. The brick building shown here had been heavily shelled after enemy troops took up positions there.



With war-torn buildings still standing as grim reminders of the conflict which raged in these same streets a year ago, the children of Bastogne pass by on their way to school. Life is slowly returning to the battered town which took the brunt of the fighting as the Nazi horde swept forward in a last desperate bid for victory.

On Christmas Day, 1944, C47s dropped food, medical supplies and ammunition by parachute to the beleaguered garrison of the 101st Airborne Div. desperately holding out against the Germans who had tried in vain to capture the stronghold. It was a magnificent Christmas gift for the Yanks, and enabled them to hold.



These gliders, which brought supplies to the trapped American troops at Bastogne last winter, are gaunt reminders of the fighting which took place in these fields. Food, medicine and ammunition were their chief cargos. Local inhabitants have stripped the coverings from the bodies of the gliders to patch up their homes. The storm has passed over, but the Belgians still stand among the relics of battle.

Tank and armored car units played a major role in meeting the German attack in the "bulge." Here the crew of a halftrack takes a "breather" near the battle-front. Other armored units in the background wait for the order to start moving forward again. The halftracks were used extensively in the winter fighting.



Wrecked equipment of the American forces litters the road leading into Bastogne a year after the Yanks fought a holding action there. Smashed and overturned tanks and other vehicles rust along the roadside where the battle once raged. Now they receive only a casual glance from passersby. The outline of the battered town is visible at the right in the distance.

DePaul's Blue Demons Hot on Trail of National Crown



The Blue Demons get a few tips from coach Ray Meyer (extreme left). Left to right, Guard Dick Starzyk, Forward Gene Stump, Center George Mikan, the nation's leading scorer; Forward Ted Furman and Guard Jack Allen.

DePaul Quint Off to Blazing Start; Mikan Tops Nation's Basket-Getters

Big George Pours 187 Points Through Hoops to Set Pace

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Big George Mikan of DePaul's undefeated Demons has taken up where he left off last year in the collegiate basketball scoring race.

In eight games this season, Mikan has poured 187 points through the net to top all scorers in the country. The tall sharpshooter, who tallied 558 points in 24 games last year, has tossed in 71 field goals and 45 free throws.

In second place, only three points behind, is Andy Wolfe of California University, with 184 points on 79 doubledeckers and 26 charity throws. He has played in five more games than Mikan, however. Bill Hall, of Marshall College in West Virginia, is far behind in third place at 160 but in turn has a big lead on Jackie Goldsmith, of Long Island University and Leonard Pyne of Idaho University, tied for fourth at 183.

Ernie Calverly of Rhode Island State and Bob Kurland of Oklahoma Aggies, two of the eight players who scored more than 500 points last year, are away down the list at 92 and 77 points, respectively.

Table with 5 columns: NAME, SCHOOL, G, FG, FT, TP. Lists top scorers like Mikan, Wolfe, Hall, Marshall, Pasco, Texas Christian, Goldsmith, Long Island, Pyne, Idaho, DeLoanour, Montana St., Brown, Evansville, Kok, Arkansas, Otten, Bowling Green, Hamilton, Oregon, Braun, Colgate, Vandeweghe, Colgate, Walters, LaSalle (Phil.), Gabor, Syracuse, London, Wash. (St. Louis), Dawson, Texas Aggies, McIntyre, Minnesota, Calverly, Rhode Island, Black, Kansas, Hole, Rhode Island, Hannum, Carnegie Tech, Barthelme, Balt. Loyola, Lovell, Yale, Lowther, Louisiana St., Madsen, Texas, Schmones, CCNY, Fisher, Union, Campopiano, Rutgers, Kurland, Okla. Aggies, Carroll, W. Virginia, Schwab, Niagara.

11th Airborne, 41st Div. To Meet in Tokio Bowl

TOKYO, Dec. 26 (AP).—Speed and power were blended by the 11th Airborne Div. eleven yesterday to reach the New Year's Day Tokyo Bowl game with a 33-6 victory over the First Cavalry.

In the bowl game, the Airborne eleven will tangle with the 41st Div., which yesterday whipped the Army Service Command, 27-2, at Kyoto. The winner of the game will meet the Hawaiian GI stars on Jan. 26 in the Pan-Pacific Olympic games.

Santa Claus Pays Off To Turf Hunch Players

HALLANDALE, Fla., Dec. 26 (ANS).—Santa Claus and Christmas Day made a perfect hunch for racetrack fans yesterday as a horse named Santa Claus won "the Santa Claus" feature in the fifth race at Gulfstream.

Gallop over a slow track, Santa Claus rewarded hunch players with \$8.30 for \$2.00 win ticket, \$4.70 place and \$3.00 show. Job Dean Jessop, the nation's number one jockey for 1945, was in the saddle.

Bob Mann Wins Holiday 'Cap

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP).—Bob Mann, Paragon Stable's three-year-old, led all the way to capture the \$5,000 Christmas Handicap before 15,600 fans at Gulfstream Park yesterday.

The brown son of Stagehand shot into the lead at the start of the mile and a sixteenth event, and led comfortably until the stretch, when Salvo staged a closing drive. Bob Mann responded gamely to the challenge and stuck his nose in front of the wire first in a photo finish.

Bob Mann paid \$240. Gaytown, a \$43.60-for-\$2 longshot, captured one end of the \$2,000 added Christmas Handicap at the Fair Grounds at New Orleans, with Chipmink, at \$6.40, annexing the second division of the purse. Gaytown came from far back to nail the fast-stepping Triton, while Chipmink also put on a driving finish to beat Play Grier.

Nelson Decides to Take South Africa Golf Tour

TEXARKANA, Texas, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Reversing an earlier decision, golfer Byron Nelson announced yesterday that he would travel to South Africa next spring to meet Bobby Locke, South African ace linksman, in an exhibition series.

Informed of his selection as top male athlete of the year, Nelson said he would be paid \$10,000 and expenses by mining magnate, Norbert Ereleigh for the trip.

Blue Devils Boast Record Of 8 Victories in 8 Starts

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP).—DePaul's Blue Demons, paced by center George Mikan, are leading the field in the battle for national basketball honors for the 1945-46 season.

With a record of eight wins and no losses, the Demons begin a five-game tour of the Midwest and Southeast this week. They meet Illinois Saturday and engage Minnesota, Notre Dame, Western Kentucky and Murray State in that order before heading back to Chicago.

Oklahoma A & M, mythical National Champion last year after defeating DePaul in the finale at Madison Square Garden, boasts a record of four triumphs and one defeat. The Aggies are favored to cop the eight-team all-college tournament at Oklahoma City this week.

Three Teams Threaten In the meantime, three perennial basketball powers—Wyoming, Kansas and Kentucky—are threatening to give the Aggies and Demons a terrific battle for national honors.

The three challenging quintets, along with Notre Dame, Iowa, Cornell, Indiana and New York University, have retained their undefeated status thus far. Other outfits such as Syracuse, Texas, Baylor, Yale, West Virginia and others also have maintained perfect records but the caliber of their opposition has not been formidable.

Wyoming, with three ex-service-men leading the way, comes up with a power-laden outfit this year. After a dismal 1944-45 campaign, the Cowboys are back in the saddle again. Kenny Sailors, Milo Komenich and Jim Weir, the trio that was mainly responsible for bringing the 1942-43 National Championship to Wyoming, have returned to the campus again.

Back With a Bang Sailors, who was voted the outstanding player award in the 1943 NCAA tourney, made his first start on Saturday night since receiving a discharge from the Marines and led the Cowboys to a 43-27 romp over Kansas State for their fourth triumph. Wyoming is on an Eastern tour and will meet some of the section's top fives.

Down Kentucky way, they're hailing the Kentucky Wildcats as the greatest of many outstanding teams that Coach Adolph Rupp has tutored. Unbeaten in six contests, the Wildcats meet St. John's at New York Dec. 29 and Temple at Philadelphia Jan. 1. Kentucky has numbered among its victims the powerful Arkansas speedsters, 67-42. Last week the Razorbacks dropped a last-second one-point decision to New York University in the Garden.

Kansas, established favorite to win the Big Six, has waltzed through its first seven games while piling up 401 points.

Ring Names Willie Pep Leading Boxer of Year; Chalky Wright Moves Up

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP).—Winding up a fistic year featured by rich gates and poor talent, Ring Magazine today named Willie Pep, the Connecticut clouter who owns half the world featherweight championship, as the Boxer of the Year for 1945.

In addition to tabbing Walloping Willie as head man, the magazine, in its copyrighted annual review and yearly ring ratings, also declared the "international" world lightweight championship vacant and dropped two recognized titleholders—Bob Montgomery, of Philadelphia (New York) and Ike Williams, of Trenton, N. J. (NBA)—down to fourth and fifth on the list of 135-pounders.

Bisons Gain Lead in AHL's East Division

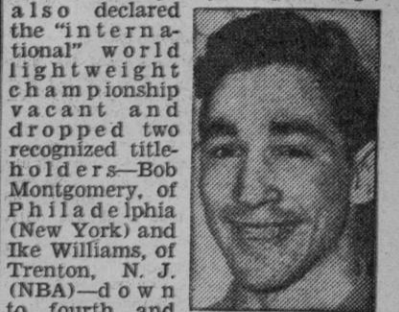
BUFFALO, Dec. 26.—The Bisons are back in first place in the Eastern Division of the American Hockey League today for the first time since they led early in the season.

The Bisons ousted Hershey from the front-running spot last night by walloping the Bears, 5-1, before a 3,500 crowd in Hershey. The triumph gave the Bisons a one-point edge in the standings.

The Cleveland Barons appear to be making their bid in the Western half of the circuit. The defending champions racked up their fifth victory in a row by blanking the Indianapolis Caps, 3-0, before a 6,580 Cleveland turnout. The triumph moved the Barons within six points of the Caps and Pittsburgh Hornets who are tied for first with 35 points each. The Hornets were downed, 4-3, by St. Louis. In the other game on the full program New Haven Eagles whipped Providence, 5-3.

AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE

Table with 7 columns: TEAM, W, L, T, Pts, GF, GA. Divided into Eastern and Western Divisions. Eastern Division: Hershey (15-9-4-34-88-74), Buffalo (15-11-5-35-136-115), Providence (12-15-2-26-109-117), New Haven (5-20-7-17-105-145). Western Division: Indianapolis (15-11-5-35-141-127), Pittsburgh (15-10-3-33-129-95), Cleveland (12-9-3-27-190-96), St. Louis (10-15-3-23-84-121).



Willie Pep



Bob Montgomery

Surprisingly enough, the top lightweight spot went to former featherweight boss Chalky Wright, better known as the Ring's Old Man River. Stepping up among the bigger boys, the Mexican-born Negro lost only one of eight starts and reversed that setback. Behind him, Ring placed comebacking Alie Stolz who batted 1,000 in eight starts.

Following are Ring's copyright ratings by divisions for the year, with champions recognized by the magazine in parenthesis and those inactive because of war unranked:

HEAVYWEIGHTS (Champion, Joe Louis): 1—Tami Mauriello, New York (9 straight 1945 wins); 2—Jimmy Bivins, Cleveland; 3—Lee Oma, Detroit; 4—Elmer Ray, Tampa; 5—Bruce Woodcock, England; 6—Arturo Godoy, Chile; 7—Jersey Joe Walcott, Camden, N.J.; 8—Joey Maxim, Cleveland; 9—Melio Bettina, Beacon, N.Y.; 10—Lee Savold, Paterson, N.J.

LIGHTWEIGHTS (Champion, Gus Lesnevich): 1—Archie Moore, St. Louis, 11 starts, 12 victories; 2—Lloyd Marshall, Sacramento, Calif.; 3—Phil Muscato, Buffalo, N.Y.; 4—Freddie Mills, England; 5—Joe Kahut, Portland, Ore.; 6—Herb Narwo, Australia; 7—Billy Fox, Philadelphia; 8—Nate Bolden, Chicago.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS (Champion, Tony Zale): 1—Jake La Motta, New York (11 starts, 10 victories); 2—Holman Williams, Detroit; 3—Charley Burley, Pittsburgh; 4—Rocky Graziano, New York; 5—Marcel Cerdan, France; 6—Bee Bee Washington, Washington; 7—Steve Belloise, New York; 8—Jack McAvoy, England; 9—Marcus Lockman, New York; 10—Wildcat George Henry, Los Angeles.

WELTERWEIGHTS (Champion, Red Cochrane): 1—Ray Robinson, New York (8 starts, 7 victories, 1 draw); 2—Red Cochrane, Elizabeth, N.J.; 3—Tippy Larkin, Garfield, N.J.; 4—Jimmy Doyle, Los Angeles; 5—Sammy Angott, Washington, D.C.; 6—Marty Servo, Schenectady, N.Y.; 7—Beau Jack, Augusta, G.A.; 8—Tommy Bell, Cleveland.

LIGHTWEIGHTS (International title vacant): 1—Chalky Wright (8 starts, 6 victories, 1 defeat, 1 no contest); 2—Alie Stolz, Newark, N.J.; 3—Willie Joyce Gary, Ind.; 4—Bob Montgomery, Philadelphia; 5—Ike Williams, Trenton, N.J.; 6—Dave Castilloux, Montreal; 7—Ronnie James, Wales; 8—Enrique Bolanos, Mexico; 9—Freddie Dawson, Chicago; 10—Wesley Monzon, Philadelphia.

FEATHERWEIGHTS (Champion, Willie Pep): 1—Willie Pep, Hartford, Conn. (8 starts, 7 victories, 1 draw); 2—Sal Bartolo, Boston (NBA-recognized champion); 3—Phil Terranova, New York; 4—Nel Tarleton, England; 5—Jackie Graves, Minneapolis; 6—Carlos Chavez, Georgia; 7—Al Phillips, England; 8—Freddy Russo, Rahway, N.J.; 9—Miguel Acevedo, Cuba; 10—Jackie Wilson, Pittsburgh.

BANTAMWEIGHTS (Champion, Manuel Ortiz): 1—Manuel Ortiz, El Centro, Calif. (5 starts, 5 victories); 2—Benny Goldberg, Detroit; 3—Luis Castillo, Mexico; 4—Tony Olivera, San Francisco; 5—Cliff Anderson, British Guiana; 6—Simon Vergara, Panama.

FLYWEIGHTS (Champion, Jackie Paterson): 1—Jackie Paterson, Scotland; 2—Seaman Terry Allen, England; 3—Jo Curran, England; 4—Rinty Monaghan, Ireland; 5—Dunty Doran, Ireland; 6—Dag Marino, Hawaii.

NL All-Stars Trim Soldiers

HONOLULU, Dec. 26 (AP).—The National League baseball All-Stars concluded a Mid-Pacific Christmas Day by walloping an Army team, 11-5.

Forty-two hundred spectators saw the game, the professionals' fourth win in seven tries.

They took an early lead, scoring eight runs on nine hits off Army's Bill Carruth in the first two innings. Al Gerheuser gave nine scattered hits but three All-Star misplays aided the Soldiers.

The Stars leave by plane tomorrow for Kwajalein. After games there they move to Guam and then to Manila, where they will conclude their tour in Mid-January.

TSFET All-Stars Tie 7th Army, 7-7

MANNHEIM, Dec. 26.—Dominating second-half play, the TSFET All-Stars came through with a fourth-quarter touchdown to achieve a 7-7 tie with the Seventh Army All-Stars football team at Mannheim Stadium on Monday.

The game was the second in a three-game series and assured the Seventh Army, a 7-0 winner in the series-opener at Nice, no less than an even break regardless of the outcome of the finale which will be played in Paris on New Year's Day.

Wings Gain Tie for 3rd By Beating Leafs, 6-3

DETROIT, Dec. 26 (ANS).—A capacity holiday crowd saw the hometown Red Wings outskate the Toronto Maple Leafs, 6-3, last night to send Detroit into a tie with Boston for third place in the National Hockey League standings. The Red Wings scored three times in the first period, once in the second and twice in the third to hand Toronto its 13th league defeat.

Keep Early Start in Chi.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Both Chicago major league baseball teams decided today to stick to the 1:30 PM game opening time.

Detroit, New Yorker Clash for Net Crown

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (ANS).—Alex Hetzeck, who came here unheralded from Detroit, reached the final round of the Eastern Indoor Junior Tennis championship yesterday by defeating Walter Dockerrill Jr. of New Rochelle, N.Y., 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.

Hetzeck will meet Sidney Schwartz for the title today. Schwartz, top-seeded Brooklyn High School star, gained his bracket win in a 6-3, 6-4 win over Stewart Robinson of New York.

GI BILLBOARD

Paris Area MOVIES TODAY

MARIGNAN—"Sunbonnet Sue." Gale Storm, Phil Regan, continuous 1400-2330. Metro Madeleine.

ENSA PARIS—"Kismet." Marlene Dietrich, Ronald Colman, continuous 1400-2300. Metro Madeleine.

OLYMPIA—Same as Marignan. 2330 only. Metro Madeleine.

EMPIRE—"Junior Miss." Peggy Ann Garner, Allyn Joselyn.

STAGE SHOWS

ENSA MARIGNY—"RAF Gang Show." variety show.

OLYMPIA—"Christmas Belles." variety show. 1430, 2000

MISCELLANEOUS

PX Fountain SHOP—Adjacent to Main PX at Rue de Provence and Rue du Havre. Open daily except Sunday 1300-2130. Malted milk, ice cream, sundaes, beer.

PX BARBER SHOP—12 Rue de Seze (opposite Rainbow Corner). weekdays 0800-2000. Sundays 0900-1700. avec beauty parlor. 146 Champs Elysees. 0900-1900 weekdays only. avec beauty parlor. 48 Avenue Kleber. 0900-1900 weekdays only. no beauty parlor.

COLISEUM CLUB—Enlisted men and guests only. Metro Anvers.

LE PRADO CLUB—Enlisted men and guests only. Metro Farnes or Etolle.

ARMORIAL CLUB—Officers and guests only. 14 Rue Magenta. Metro George V.

OFFICER-EM CLUB—Lunch and dinner by appointment RIC 64-4. Hotel Louvois. Louvois So. Metro Bourse

Nancy

SHOWTIME—"Love Honor and Obey." Virginia Bruce Victor McLagen.

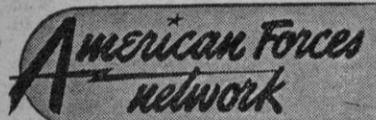
Metz

SCALA—"That Night with You." Susanna Foster, Franchot Tone

ROYAL—"Too Young to Know." Robert Sutton, Joan Leslie

Verdun

VOX—"Love Letters." Jennifer Jones, Joseph Cotten.



Time	TODAY
1200-News	1900-Paul Whiteman
1205-Off the Record	1930-Music Hall
1300-At Your Service	2000-Ignorance Pays
1305-Sports Review	2030-Dinah Shore
1315-Remember	2100-News
1330-Asked for it	2105-Speak Low
1400-Love Song	2130-AFN Playhouse
1430-Heard at Home	2200-Burns, Allen
1500-News	2230-R. Bennett Cond.
1505-Beaucoup Music	2300-Navy Reporter
1600-Symphony Hour	2315-AFN Bandstand
1700-Duffie Bag	2330-Merely Music
1800-News	2400-News
1815-Personal Album	0015-Midnight Paris
1830-Supper Club	0200-Sign Off
1845-Magic Carpet	

Time	TOMORROW
0600-News	1430-The Story
0615-Morning Report	1500-News
0715-Village Barn	1505-Beaucoup Music
0730-Fred Waring	1600-Symphony Hour
0800-GI Jive	1700-Duffie Bag
0815-News	1800-News
0830-Repeat Perform	1815-Personal Album
0900-Modern Music	1830-Supper Club
0930-Navy Reporter	1845-Magic Carpet
0945-String Serenade	1900-Danny Kaye
1000-Ranch House	1930-Kate Smith
1030-Here's Horace	2000-Jubilee
1045-Easy Does it	2030-Duffey's Tavern
1100-Lynna Murray	2100-News
1115-Across the Board	2105-Music We Love
1130-At Ease	2130-AFN Playhouse
1145-Melody Roundup	2200-Shower of Stars
1200-News	2230-Harry James
1205-Off the Record	2300-World Diary
1300-Help Wanted	2315-Spotlight Bands
1305-Sportsin Review	2330-Merely Music
1315-Remember	2400-News
1330-Asked for it	0015-Midnight Paris
1400-Your Love Song	0200-Sign Off

Short Wave 6.080 and 3.565 Meg.
Paris 610 Kc Normandy 1.204 Kc.

Ex-Gov. Earle to Wed Belgian Girl in Turkey

ISTANBUL, Dec. 26 (AP).—Commander George Earle, 55-year-old diplomat and former governor of Pennsylvania, will be married in Istanbul next Friday to Jacqueline Marthe Jermine Sacre, a 23-year-old Belgian beauty.

Earle returned recently to Turkey where he formerly served as assistant naval attaché. Previously he was American Minister to Bulgaria.

Vito, Nephew of Duce, Gets 14-Year Sentence

MILAN, Dec. 26 (AP).—Vito Mussolini, nephew of Il Duce, was sentenced to 14 years in prison, a few hours after the Court of Assizes here opened his trial on charges of helping to maintain Fascism.

Mussolini was absolved on a collaboration charge.

Vito, who bears a striking resemblance to the late Fascist leader, was formerly editor of Milan's Popolo d'Italia.

Egypt OK's Bretton Woods

CAIRO, Dec. 26 (AP).—The Egyptian Senate last night completed parliamentary approval of the Bretton Woods monetary agreement without a dissenting vote.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features

By Al Capp



Larry and The Pirates

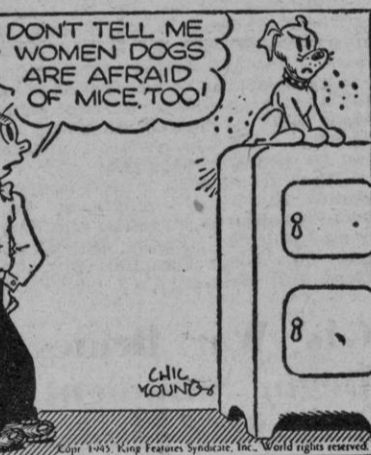
By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff



Blondi

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate



Joe Palooka

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate

By Ham Fisher



War Plants Bring 70 Cents on Dollar

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—Expanding private industry has taken over about \$1,000,000,000 worth of surplus war plants and paid the U.S. Government 70 cents on the dollar.

More than 300 government factories have been sold, leased, or are in the process of being taken over by private interests, a spokesman for the Reconstruction Finance Corp. disclosed today.

RFC estimates that 1,300 factories ultimately will fall into its hands for disposal. They cost the government about \$8,000,000,000 under wartime conditions and represent about one quarter of the productive capacity of the country.

Franco Police Arrest Woman Scientist

MADRID, Dec. 26 (AP).—Maria Teresa Toral, regarded as one of Spain's leading scientists during the Republic has been arrested by Franco police.

Dr. Toral, who worked on the study of atomic weights in the Madrid Rockefeller Institute, was charged with being a member of the Communist Party and participating in the resistance movement.

Yule Marked, Boy Dies

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 26 (AP).—Donald DiGiacomo, 5-year-old leukemia victim whose Marine father flew home from Saipan to help him celebrate an early Christmas last Sunday, died yesterday.

Battle Stars Illegal On Victory Ribbon

FRANKFURT, Dec. 26.—The World War II Victory Ribbon is no place for battle stars, the USFET Adjutant General said today, pointing out that all battle stars will be worn only on theater ribbons.

For World War I, when there were no theater ribbons, campaign stars were affixed to the Victory Ribbon.

The large number of soldiers returning to the U.S. wearing stars on their Victory Ribbons has prompted the War Department to call the matter to the attention of theater commands, USFET said.

Saxony, in Soviet Zone, Bans Military Toys

BERLIN, Dec. 26 (AP).—The provincial administration of Saxony in the Russian occupation zone issued a decree prohibiting the manufacture and sale of toys of a military character, and ordering all such toys in possession of Germans to be surrendered to the police, a Dresden dispatch to the Red Army's newspaper Taegliche Rundschau reported.

Drivers Won't Be Prosecuted

HEIDELBERG, Dec. 26 (UP).—The decision not to prosecute either T/5 Robert L. Thompson or Pfc Horace L. Woodring, drivers involved in the Dec. 9 collision in which Gen. George S. Patton was injured fatally, has not been altered by Patton's death.

Iranian Quits, Ends Cabinet Crisis; U.S. Aide Seeks to Enter Azerbaijan

TEHERAN, Dec. 26 (AP).—Khalil Fahimi, Interior Minister for Iran, resigned yesterday, breaking a deadlock which had created a Cabinet crisis and embarrassed Iranian politics for days.

Fahimi previously refused to quit his portfolio although

a successor, Allahyar Saleh, had been named to take it over last week. Left-wing pressure in the government was then increased to force Fahimi to withdraw.

The Interior Minister said as he submitted his formal resignation that he was stepping down only because "I was asked to do so by the Shah." This development followed the declaration by parliamentarians that he could not be expelled from the Cabinet without a complete reorganization of the government.

Situation Vague

Meanwhile, the situation in Azerbaijan province, which recently declared itself to be an independent national government after a revolt, remained vague as Russian authorities delayed issuing credentials to neutral observers to visit the area.

Harold Miner, Chief of the U.S. State Department's Near East Section, declared in Teheran that the Russians in Azerbaijan had not yet granted him permission to enter the state, although he made application through the American embassy here 13 days ago.

A French correspondent who joined American and British newsmen in seeking to enter the zone said yesterday the Russian press attache in Teheran had refused to see him.

Death Toll For Holiday 341 in States

NEW YORK, Dec. 26 (AP).—The death toll for the U.S. Christmas holiday was at least 341 today, with more than half the fatalities due to traffic accidents. Fires accounted for about 50 of the casualties.

The greatest single disaster was a fire in a hospital in Hartford, Conn., a convalescent home for the aged, in which 17 persons died and 26, including 10 firemen, were hospitalized.

The fire resulted when a woman attendant unplugged a short-circuited extension cord, igniting the cotton decorations on a Christmas tree, according to the state fire marshal. The attendant attempted to extinguish the blazing tree with a small fire extinguisher. The flames leaped out of control, and prevented her from reaching the telephone to summon the fire department which was only five doors away.

Flames Raze Building

The blaze spread quickly through the three-story brick structure, virtually demolishing it.

Mrs. Edith Miller, the supervising nurse, remained in the building directing firemen and volunteers to the occupied rooms, where old people, some bedridden, screamed in fright.

The fire occurred only a short distance from the scene of the Hartford circus fire, where 168 persons died in July, 1944.

California led the list of states in casualties, with 37 traffic and 18 miscellaneous deaths, 35 of which were in the Los Angeles area alone. Violent deaths in Texas accounted for nearly one sixth of the country's total, 47 deaths occurring in the state over the holidays, including 29 in traffic accidents.

Other states with a high holiday death toll were Connecticut, 26; Pennsylvania, 23; Missouri and New York, 20 each; Indiana, 19; Michigan, 18; North Carolina, 14; and Ohio and Wisconsin, 12 each.

GIs' War Brides Begin Shipment To U.S. in January

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Shipment of GI brides and their children from the European Theater will begin next month from Southampton, TSPET (Rear) announced yesterday.

The announcement said redeployment officials emphasized that the shipment of brides and dependents would not retard the scheduled return of military personnel to the U.S.

No figures on the monthly quotas to be shipped could be given, the announcement said, because details of the plans had not been completed. The announcement indicated other ports than Southampton might be used before the shipments were completed. Once the movement has begun, it will continue until all brides have been sent to the States, the announcement said. Ships used for brides and dependents will be used for this purpose only, TSPET said.

Gen. Short Is Ill

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—Maj. Gen. Walter C. Short, USA (Ret.), who was army commander of the Hawaiian department when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor is ill at Walter Reed hospital.

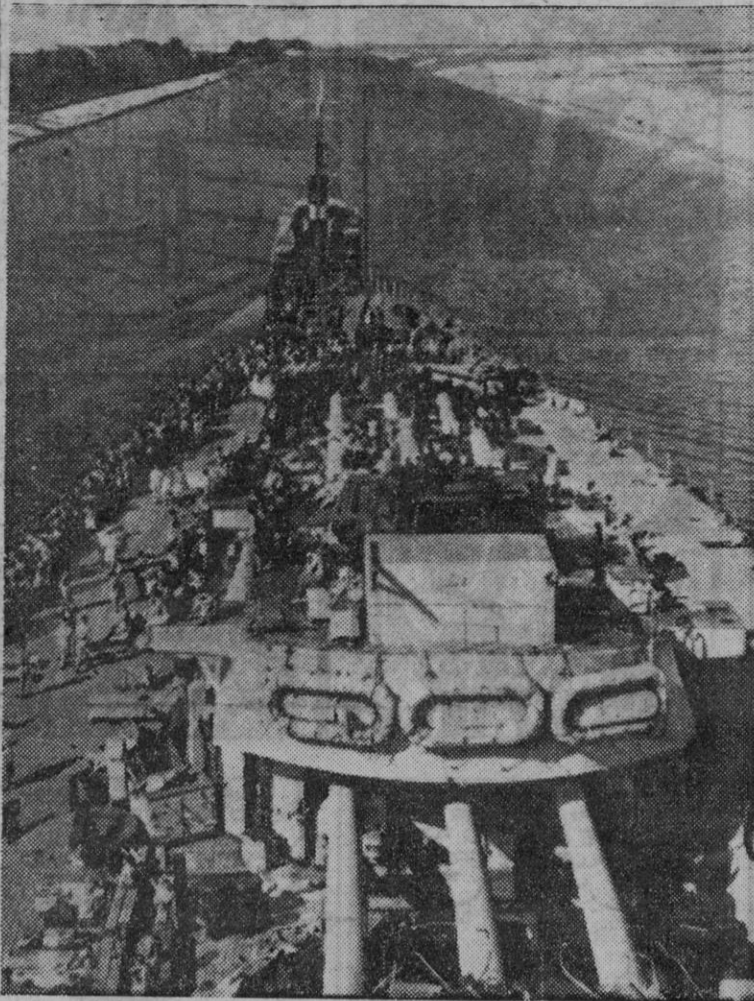
The French Evolution

The Paris newspaper L'Etoile du Soir reviewed France's changing impressions of American soldiers yesterday in an article whose author said:

"I have known three Americans in my life. The first was in August, 1944. Everything he had in his arms he gave me. The second was in January, 1945. Everything he had in his arms he sold to me. The third—that was yesterday. Everything I had in my arms he took away from me."

Nelson Goes Home

H. M. S. Nelson, one of the British battleships which slugged its way through many a battle in the war against the Axis, steams through the Suez Canal on her homeward trip.



Assassins Fail In Ambush of Javanese Chief

BATAVIA, Dec. 26 (AP).—Indonesian Premier Sutan Sjahrir narrowly escaped death today when Eurasians and Surinamese halted his car and opened fire. Five arrests have been made by British military police, who rushed to the scene in time to disperse 15 Eurasians in Dutch uniform who were approaching the premier's car.

Sjahrir had returned on Christmas Day from a tour of Java, during which he conducted correspondents through two Dutch internment camps, at Pourwokera in central Java. The 35-year-old premier is a key figure in Allied relations with the Indonesians, and his death would have thrown negotiations into complete confusion.

The British had arrested Eurasians attempting to break into his house during Sjahrir's absence, and several other disturbances were reported. On Monday the daughter of a parish minister was killed by a stray bullet in front of the church attended by Indonesian Foreign Minister Amir Sjarifuddin.

British troops killed more than 20 Indonesians in a surprise attack in Bandung on Christmas day. Four of the British Indian soldiers participating in the attack also lost their lives.

Allies Report Clash

A Christmas Eve report from Allied Forces in The Netherlands East Indies said that Indonesian groups guarding two road blocks at Gedenhan were dispersed by Punjab troops, and two Indonesians carrying quantities of Jap uniforms were arrested at Pevelegi.

It was understood that Dutch, British and Indonesian leaders would resume negotiations two days after Christmas.

(In Washington New Zealand's Prime Minister Peter Fraser declared that in his opinion the United Kingdom had no intention of participating in the final settlement of the Indonesian problem except through the United Nations Organization.)

A Truman Gift—Pardons for Many Ex-Con War Vets

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26 (AP).—A Christmas gift from President Truman restored to full citizenship thousands of ex-convicts who served in the nation's armed forces during World War II.

In a blanket proclamation last night, Mr. Truman granted full pardons to all persons who had lost their civil rights because of convictions for violating federal laws and who served honorably in uniform for one year or more after July 29, 1941.

The date marked enactment of a law permitting ex-convicts to enlist. Attorney General Tom Clark said those who enlisted before that time might have done so through "misrepresentation, but he added that meritorious cases not covered by the proclamation would be dealt with individually "under established procedure."

The pardon does not apply to men convicted of military or state laws before their induction or to men convicted after their induction.

Clark said more than 2,000 federal prisoners were paroled to enter the Army and that several thousand others were inducted after completing their sentences. A large number also served in the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard, Clark added.

Army Calls in GI Francs In Sudden Exchange Move

(Continued from Page 1)

giving his reason and stating that the money is actually his own.

Col. Carl H. Pforzheimer, Jr., representative of the War Department who conducted negotiations with the French, said that the plan had to be kept secret because of the great opportunity for speculation on the part of men who did not have the full amount shown in their control books.

Protection from loss because of devaluation of the franc was extended to military and naval personnel, American Red Cross personnel, American merchant seamen, U.S. civilians employed by the Army, and other non-French civilians employed by military establishments and U.S. civilians employed by non-governmental agencies operating for the benefit of members of American armed forces.

French civilians, whether working directly for the U.S. or not, will not receive the adjusted rate, since they are paid through reverse lend-lease at the franc and not the dollar rate.

PX Cost Unchanged

Closing of PXs was for the purpose of changing over PX sums and of marking new prices on the merchandise. While the price charged in francs will be increased by 140 percent, actual cost of PX items will not be changed, since it is fixed at the dollar rate, Army Exchange Service officials said.

Items purchased by the PX in France will be the only ones not affected by the conversion, since such articles as perfume were obtained at the franc rate. Gifts from other European countries, however, will be boosted 140 percent since they were bought on dollar credit.

Cigaretts formerly selling for 2 1/2 francs will now cost 6, cokes and candy jump from 2 to 5 francs.

If the exchanges receive their adjusted francs back from Finance they will reopen today, since price tags were to have been changed yesterday.

Finance officials said that December's pay would be undoubtedly delayed, since all payrolls throughout France would have to be made over. Payment to troops in Paris should not be held up more than a week, Col. J. D. Abell, Seine Section chief of staff, estimated.

Official terms of the devaluation were published yesterday in the government's Journal Officiel, and the Paris Bourse and provincial stock exchange remained closed on orders from the Finance Ministry. The new exchange rate already is in effect.

The move was taken to align France's currency more closely to

its actual value in comparison to other nations' money as the French Constituent Assembly took up ratification of the Bretton Woods international monetary accord.

It was expected that President Charles de Gaulle would address the Assembly and give the broad outlines of the financial and economic policy his government intended to follow.

(United Press said the Assembly's Finance Commission met last night to discuss promulgation of a law providing for "requisitioning" of gold, foreign currencies and foreign stocks held privately in France and also any holdings they might have abroad.)

Turks Warn Russia Again

LONDON, Dec. 26 (UP).—The Turkish citizenry would "fight to the last Turk and doomsday" rather than cede parts of their country to Russia, Radio Ankara said in a broadcast heard here last night.

The statement was in reply to a recent letter published in a Tiflis, Georgia, newspaper by two Russian academicians.

"These discordant voices of ambition and dreams of foreign domination have found their answer in the unshakable will and determination and faith of the entire Turkish public opinion," the Ankara commentator said.

Big 3 Talks Scheduled to End

(Continued from Page 1)

beyond the fact that those present were impressed.

There also has been no indication of an agreement on the Middle East. The Russian press has given prominent display during the conference to the autonomy movement in Iranian Azerbaijan and to the claims of Soviet Georgia and Armenia on territory now held by Turkey.

Whether or not these questions, or that of Russia's demand for full Allied control of Japan, will be covered in the communique expected to follow the conference, observers here feel that the meeting can be marked down as a success on the results announced in the interim report alone.

Deputies of the foreign ministers are expected to resume work immediately in London on draft treaties for Italy, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland, over which

the first Big Five council of foreign ministers deadlocked.

Not later than May 1, 1946, all members of the United Nations who took an active part in the war in Europe "with substantial military contingents" will gather for the war's first general peace conference.

Two points remain to be settled, according to the interim report. They are adherence by France and China to the agreement reached by the Big Three which the report said had been requested, and where the peace conference will be held.

The foreign ministers met yesterday in their longest session of the current series.

(A CBS broadcast from Moscow Wednesday said the ministers were again in session in what "will be the final session" and added that if the conference ended, Byrnes probably would begin his return flight to Washington Thursday.)