

Light to moderate winds increasing to fresh during evening. Partly cloudy and mild, overcast in evening. Intermittent rain late evening. Friday: fresh to strong winds, overcast and mild, rain.

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PRINCE RUPERT, B.C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1945

PRICE FIVE CENTS

(Pacific Standard Time) Friday, January 26, 1945 High 0:19 18.3 feet 12:01 21.4 feet Low 6:05 8.4 feet 18:50 2.1 feet

Hitler's Grand Strategy Is Thrown Out Of Balance

War Length Estimates Shortened

Military Authorities Are Now Wondering How Long Germany Can Hold Out WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 25 (AP)—Adolf Hitler's grand strategy of prolonged defence of Germany possibly has been thrown completely off balance by the impact of the Russian offensive. This is the opinion of military authorities here who are beginning to wonder how long Germany will be able to hold out under the onslaught of the European war which has lasted until late summer as a result of the German western front counter-offensive in December now being scrapped. There is an un-mindful attitude on how long and in what manner Germany may be defeated. It is generally believed that General Eisenhower will institute a great new offensive on the western front.

PLAYING OUT POLITICS

Woodworkers Do Not Approve C.C.L. Endorsement of C.C.F. VANCOUVER, Jan. 25 (AP)—The executive board of District 1, International Woodworkers of America, announced last night that the organization had withdrawn from the national political platform of the Canadian Congress of Labor in protest against C.C.L. committee's recent endorsement of the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation. The board agrees, however, to cooperate fully in all other matters in which it is affiliated with the C.C.L. Harold Pritchett, president, said that "our concern is with the principles and policies and the welfare of a political party."

New Allied Offensive On Western Front Looms Up

Nazi Military Authorities Agitated With Uneasiness — Allies Moving Into Initiative In All Sectors

PARIS, Jan. 25 (CP)—Late developments on the western front have caused considerable uneasiness among some German military circles. The British Second Army is advancing inside Germany towards northern reaches of the Roer River. A Stockholm dispatch quotes some Nazi sources as saying that a new Allied offensive can be expected at any moment along the Roer. German reconnaissance is said to have spotted heavy Allied troop concentrations in that area. During the past few days, advances by the British Second Army have eliminated German positions west of the Roer. Troops of the American First and Third Armies have pushed ahead as much as one-and-a-half miles in Belgium. A front-line report says the Germans are using a second-rate conglomeration of troops to fight rear guard actions. It seems that the bulk of their forces have been removed to the east. Despite unfavorable weather yesterday, Allied airmen continued to hammer away at German transporters withdrawing northeastward into Germany. Sixty-eight enemy tanks and armored vehicles were destroyed or damaged, while more than six-hundred enemy trucks were knocked out. A late dispatch from the western front says the Germans have changed the direction of their retreat from the Ardennes salient. The Nazis have turned from the northeast and now are heading south. Allied planes have left the roads to the northeast cluttered with wrecked enemy vehicles.

PLANES ARE COMING

LONDON, Jan. 25 (AP)—Sir Alliot Kinn-Roe, who built the Avro Lancaster in the last war, considers a jet-propelled automobile to be a practical proposition for the not distant future. He says it is mainly a question of developing a good generator to pour gas on superheated dry steam at tremendous pressure through an extremely thin slot in the leading edge of a streamlined wing. By this means, a vacuum can be created in front, and the aerodynamic pressure would be directed at the rear.

BARGAINS GOVERNMENT'S GOODS

TORONTO, Jan. 25 (AP)—There are no bargains for anyone who keeps, used shoes, artificial limbs, or any of the other two-thousand odd items purchased by the government for war purposes. The chief of the consumer goods division of War Assets Corporation, John Gledhill, says the policy of the government created organization was to get every dollar possible from liquidation of goods owned by the crown.

Formerly a 'MANY H.D. GO OVERSEAS'

Vows that they "would overseas" made by members of two eastern Canadian Home defence battalions during the moments of the Terrace disturbances in November were evidently intended to be carried out by almost three-quarters of the personnel of one regiment—Les Fusiliers du St. Laurent. Military authorities reveal that 550 men of that regiment failed to return from embarkation leave after the battalion left Terrace on December 4 to return to Quebec before going overseas. Strength of the unit was 800 men. During the Terrace disturbance—described by military authorities as a "mutinous condition"—members of Les Fusiliers du St. Laurent and its companion regiment, the Prince Edward Island Highlanders, told a Daily News reporter that "they might move us out of Terrace but they can't make us go overseas." At that time the two battalions were parading through the streets of Terrace and ignoring the authority of their officers in protest against the newly invoked government decision to send 16,000 draftees to the battle-fronts. "When they took us into the army it was on the promise that we would not have to fight outside this continent. If they want us to go overseas they will have to conscript wealth and industry just as they conscript us," several of the men said. They delayed the posting out of Terrace of a third regiment, the Prince Albert Volunteers for 24 hours by threatening to turn guns and mortars on any train which started to take the Saskatchewan regiment away. Brigade communications and battalion artillery and mortars were in their control, the mutineers said. It took a visit by Major General G. R. Pearkes, G.O.C.-in-C., Pacific Command, on November 29 and determined action by brigade and regimental officers to restore discipline among the

VOWED 'NOT TO NOW A. W. L.'

The Quebec regiment left a few days later. When the men of the unit were given embarkation leave 550 of them failed to return to their Quebec camp. Six men had gone A.W.O.L. while the unit was travelling from the west. Other units formerly in B.C. reporting high percentages of absentees following embarkation leave were the Prince of Wales Rangers and Les Fusiliers de Sherbrooke. In all, 6,300 men are absent without leave from home defence units throughout Canada. Many have now been classed as deserters, military authorities say.

Lots U-Boats In Atlantic

Is Infested with Subs Again, Says McNaughton SHALLOW LAKE, Ont., Jan. 25 (AP)—Defence Minister McNaughton has warned that the U-boat menace in the north Atlantic is far from past. In an address before a political rally in Shallow Lake, the defence Minister said the Atlantic is alive with German submarines. General McNaughton made this statement in explaining why he had not been able to campaign last week as government candidate in the Grey North by-election. He said he remained at his desk in Ottawa because a large draft of reinforcements was on the high seas.

TODAY'S STOCKS

Table with columns for stock names and prices. Includes Vancouver and Toronto sections.

CANADIANS IN ACTION

LONDON, Jan. 25 (AP)—The latest action on the Canadian First Army sector is described in a dispatch from Canadian Press War Correspondent Douglas Amaron. Canadian reconnaissance troops and tanks wiped out a German force of about fifty men in a brisk skirmish yesterday. Four Germans were taken prisoner, and most of the others were either killed or wounded. This action was the first of any importance on the southeastern end of the Canadian sector in several weeks. Local Temperature Maximum 41 Minimum 34 Rainfall for the 24-hour period ending at 5 o'clock this morning was .02 inches.

Are Nearer To Manila

American Forces Now On Edge of Clark Field MacARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Jan. 25 (AP)—Two weeks of fighting on Luzon Island in the Philippines have carried General MacArthur's troops to within fifty air miles of the capital city of Manila. American losses during this period have been relatively light compared to casualties inflicted on the Japanese. The Americans now are fighting on the edge of Clark Field.

New Packer Is Damaged On Rock

Second new Vancouver fish boat to arrive here in a damaged condition within a week, the 78-foot packer Pender Isle tied up at B.C. Packers' wharf this morning. She arrived under her own power after striking her bottom on a rock near Separation Point on Monday. Owned by B.C. Packers, the Pender Isle was on her first trip after herding under command of Skipper "Curly" Auchterlonie, of Vancouver. She is not believed seriously damaged, and is expected to go into dry dock today. A week ago the 72-foot seiner Dollina II met with a similar mishap in Kent Inlet while scouting herring. Also a new boat, and on her first trip, the Dollina II is owned by Norman Fidler of Vancouver.

NAVY HITS JAP ISLAND

NEW YORK, Jan. 25 (AP)—The Tokyo radio announces new Allied air and sea action in the Pacific. According to an enemy broadcast, four Allied cruisers and eight destroyers shelled Iowjima in the Volcano Islands Wednesday afternoon, Tokyo Time, and the Japanese say that two hundred Allied fighters and bombers attacked the oil centre of Palembang on Sumatra.

COLD IN ONTARIO

TORONTO—Sub-zero weather is prevailing throughout Ontario after another heavy snowstorm.

UNREST IN PRAGUE

MOSCOW—The Moscow radio said today that mass unrest has broken out in Prague, old Czechoslovakia capital, and the Germans announced a state of siege had been clamped on the city. There is open fighting between Czechs and Gestapo as the Germans endeavour to evacuate equipment.

NEW AMERICAN LANDING

SAN FRANCISCO—The Tokyo radio reports a new landing of American forces on the Philippines Islands of Mindoro.

AMBASSADOR KILLED

MEXICO CITY—Constantin Omanski, Russian ambassador to Mexico, and his wife were killed today in the taking off of a plane for Costa Rica.

STILWELL APPOINTED

WASHINGTON—General Joseph Stilwell has been appointed commander-in-chief of United States ground forces.

KENNEY TO OTTAWA

VICTORIA—Hon. E. T. Kenney, minister of lands, has left for Ottawa to attend a Dominion-provincial conference on land settlement for returned men.



"MONTY" VISITS U.S. SECTOR—Field Marshal Sir Bernard L. Montgomery, Allied commander on the northern flank of the German bulge, and Gen. Simpson, looking over the "dragon's teeth" forming part of the German Siegfried line, during a recent visit to the U.S. sector.

On Two Fronts

WEST A great German Ardennes exodus from the Eastward salient continues today with the Nazis restoring to railways and roads farther south since those in northern Germany are declared choked with debris of scores of wrecked troop trains and twisted battle equipment. The British Second Army has dug deeper into a heavily fortified zone just west of the Roer River, capturing Guetlerath, Heinsberg, Schlieden and Weerd. Germans have launched an attack against the American Seventh Army west of the Vosges Mountains, still menacing Strasbourg. EAST The Russians have captured Gleiwitz, largest city yet in German territory. It is a coal and machinery centre in Eastern Silesia 90 miles southeast of Breslau with 118,000 population. The Russians are 124 miles from Berlin at the nearest point after establishing several bridgeheads across the Oder River and cutting off East Prussia. There are great battles near Koenigsberg, Poznan and Breslau. Stalin today announced the capture of Ols, 14 miles north of Breslau. Fall of Breslau, most important industrial city in the Eastern Reich appears imminent as Soviet forces move rapidly west to encircle the city.

ONLY 170 B.C. MEN ARE A.W.L.

VANCOUVER, Jan. 25 (AP)—Pacific Command announced yesterday that only 170 men whose next-of-kin have British Columbia addresses are still absent without leave from Home Defence units drafted for overseas duty.

DEGAULLE REGRETFUL

PARIS—France intends to maintain military forces all along the Rhine River after the war, General DeGaulle told a press conference today. The French leader said regretfully that he had not been invited to the forthcoming big three conference. He envisioned control of the entire Rhine basin for France.

STREET CAR DISPUTE

VANCOUVER—No decision is expected before late today from the Regional War Labor Board on the dispute between the street railwaymen's union and the B.C. Electric. The company announces that, if the basic wage increase is awarded, it will appeal to the National War Labor Board.

SMOKE OUT DESERTERS

VANCOUVER—Following a conference of military and police authorities to arrange for rounding up Army deserters, a spokesman said "we will smoke out the deserters if necessary."

MANY TO BUY CARS

TORONTO—A Maclean's publication survey says that 30 percent of Canadian families plan to buy new cars after the war, six out of ten paying cash. More cars were bought last year than in any year since the war. British Columbia led in purchases.

SEAWEED INDUSTRY

Scotland is planning a seaweed products industry.

Russians Now 125 Miles From Berlin

Oder River Crossed In Strength—Breslau and Posen Are Menaced—East Prussia Isolated

MOSCOW, Jan. 25 (CP)—The Russian Army is now within 125 miles of Berlin. This has been announced officially by Moscow. A bulletin from the front lines says that Russian troops have crossed the Oder River. This means that Germany's best natural defence barrier in eastern Europe has been penetrated by Soviet troops who probably will waste little time in exploiting their gains. Russian infantry now is deployed on the west bank of the Oder four miles southeast of Breslau, the most important industrial city in German Silesia. It is believed that the first crossings have been followed up by powerful Russian armored units, although there is nothing definite on this. The Russians are increasing their pressure against Nazi defence lines around Breslau. An unofficial dispatch from Reuters News Agency in Moscow says that Soviet troops already have broken into the outskirts of the city. On the central Polish front, the Germans say a decisive battle is developing near Posen, one-hundred and thirty-seven miles from Berlin. German civilians already are reported to be streaming back into Germany from the Posen area. To the north, the Second White Russian Army is threatening to isolate East Prussia. A German military commentator said this morning that Russian armored forces have driven through to the Baltic sea.

PEACE PARLEY IS HELD UP

ATHENS, Jan. 25 (AP)—The peace conference between delegates of the central committee of the Greek E.A.M. and E.L.A.S. is being held up over the question of numerical representation, the leftists asking for permission to have five delegates whereas the government has taken the stand that it cannot agree to more than three delegates on either side.

EXECUTED ENMASSE

British Laborites See Horrors of Civil War in Greece ATHENS, Jan. 25 (AP)—Sir Walter Citrine and other members of the British trades union delegation in Greece have observed a mass grave at a town four miles from the leftist headquarters during the civil war battle for Athens. The Citrine group attended the exhumation of 285 bodies of persons executed by the leftist forces. Sir Walter saw chains on bodies manacled together and shot at close quarters. Some were knifed and stripped of their clothing. IN CRIMEAN WAR About 309,000 men participated in the Crimean war. Total deaths were 95,615 or 31 percent of the total strength.

Quits Red Cross, Enters Politics

LONDON, Jan. 25 (AP)—Major General C. B. Price of Montreal yesterday announced his retirement from the post of overseas commissioner of the Canadian Red Cross and said he was returning to Canada to enter politics. He is succeeded by Col. C. M. Frost of Halifax. At Montreal it is announced that Price will be Progressive-Conservative candidate in St. Antoine-Westmount constituency in the next federal election.

COL. JOHNSTON OUT OF ARMY AFTER SERVICE THROUGHOUT TWO WARS

Col. S. D. Johnston, M.C., V.D., after continuous service throughout two World Wars, twenty years as an officer, is settling down to civilian life again in Prince Rupert, resuming the personal management of his insurance and brokerage business of Second Avenue. As he was unable to get into service back in the Army as second-in-command and adjutant of the 102nd North British Columbia Regiment which in 1935 became the 102nd Heavy Battery. I 1927 Col. Johnston assumed command of the local unit, soon being promoted to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. In 1932 Col. Johnston received the Volunteer Decoration in twenty years' service as an officer. The impending start of the present war saw Col. Johnston called out on August 26, 1939 when the 102nd Battery was mobilized. Promoted to full colonel in September 1940, he was area commandant at Prince Rupert for three years and for the past two-and-a-half years has been on the staff of Pacific Command, as colonel of fixed defences until six months ago since which time he has been engaged in special duty. Co-incident with his father's retirement from the Army and following the paternal tradition Kenneth Johnston, son of Col. Johnston, this week joined the Army as a private and is leaving Vancouver tomorrow for the East to start basic training. He will go to the First Battalion, Canadian Scottish, as an overseas reinforcement. His arrival in Prince Rupert also saw Col. Johnston getting

Ketchikan College?

Moving of University of Alaska from Anchorage Mooted—Pulp and Paper Mill Plan Upset A move is on foot to transfer at least part of the University of Alaska from Fairbanks to Ketchikan and the civic authorities have offered a site for the institution, it was stated by Robert D. Seal, well known Ketchikan newspaperman, who was in the city yesterday returning north after a month's business trip to Seattle. Mr. Seal, until recently with the Ketchikan Chronicle newspaper, recently transferred to the Alaska Fishing News which is going from the tri-weekly into the daily field. Mr. Seal said that Ketchikan was still looking forward to the Crown-Zellerbach interests establishing a pulp and paper mill at Ketchikan although plans were temporarily in abeyance owing to the issue over the giving of important territorial rights to the Indians. Ketchikan has been very prosperous of late after one of the biggest fishing seasons on record while the big Ketchikan Spruce Mills plant is operating at full blast.