Churchill, Eden Scored

(Continued from Page One)

Churchill's bitterest critic in Commons.

The Laborite called upon Eden to give assurance that the British Government favored a regency, and demanded that King George of Greece be barred from "intriguing" with Greek Ministers in Athens by cutting off his means of communication with them.

Scobie Will Open Attack On ELAS

ATHENS—(AP)—Lt. Gen. R. M. Scobie, British commander in Greece, announced his determination tonight to carry the fight to ELAS forces and warned civilians in Athens that Leftist guns firing upon the city after 9 A. M. would be attacked "with all arms at my disposal."

(A BBC broadcast quoted Scobie as saying the ELAS would be attacked with aircraft, naval guns and rocket weapons as well as other forces).

Scobie's proclamation followed the fall of British RAF Headquarters after a gun-dynamite assault by ELAS forces.

Reds Hit Isolationist Elements In America

MOSCOW—(AP)—Red Star charged today that "reactionary circles" in the United States were furthering German plans to block organization of international security and to prepare a third world war.

"In the past few days the Hitlerites have pointed with unconcealed pleasure at the activity of isolationist elements in the United States who already have started agitation against participation of the United States in the world organization of international security," said the Red Army newspaper.

CHARLOTTE
NOW PLAYING

LEADING THEATRES

CAROLINA — Now Playing
Hedy Lamarr, Paul Henreid —in— "The Conspirators"

IMPERIAL — Now Playing
True - Thrilling - Timely
"The Master Race"

BROADWAY — Today & Thurs.
ANN MILLER IN "JAM SESSION" With 6 Great Bands

STATE — Last Day
"Cowboy in the Clouds" Charles Starrett, Jane Frazee

DILWORTH — Last Day
In Technicolor
Betty Grable -In- "Sweet Rosie O'Grady"
-also-
Robert Cummings, Susan Peters
"Dangerous Blondes"

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Fredonia BURANOVA
FRANK PUGLIA
RAMSAY ANES
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STARTS TODAY
TRYON
DOUBLE FEATURE!
Robert Young
Dorothy McGuire
"CLAUDIA"
-also-
Franchot Tone
Marsha Hunt
"PILOT NO. 5"

Monschau Recaptured By American Troops

(Continued from Page One)

firmation that more than 10,000 Americans had been captured so far.)

U. S. troops were holding out in some key towns and pockets, bypassed by the main German forces in this wholly fluid warfare.

Supreme Headquarters partly lifted the cloak of secrecy to tell of the five to twenty-mile advances up to Monday noon in the Winter counter-offensive.

ALL-POWERFUL ASSAULT

The partial lifting of the security blackout gave the first official disclosure of the depth and danger of the Nazi recoil offensive mounted with all the power of Germany's arsenal—rested crack divisions, tanks, planes, V-weapons, parachute troops, and amphibious vehicles.

In fluid, confused battle, some doughboys fought until they were overrun in their foxholes by tanks. German parachute troopers seized one American hospital, but doughboys rewon it, freeing the captives.

Up to Monday noon the greatest German penetration was to Stavelot. Unconfirmed reports in Paris said a precautionary civilian evacuation of Liege had been ordered last night.

STRIKE ACROSS BORDER

One German column struck in force across the border from near Honsfeld—27 miles southeast of Aachen—and then split. One unit veered to the vicinity of Butgenbach eight miles northeast of Malmedy. A second jabbed on to Stavelot, five miles southwest of Malmedy and eight miles below Spa, the famous resort town.

The second Nazi drive was a pincer thrust on the important road hub of St. Vith.

It cut off some American troops, but up to Monday noon at least these were holding out in tight defense pockets, and St. Vith itself was being barred to the Germans by an American screening force.

One claw cut in as far as Maspelt, four miles south of St. Vith. The main German drive smashed in head-on from the east but was being checked east of St. Vith.

Farther south, the Germans drove out of the Ardennes Forest into Luxembourg on either side of the border town of Echternach. The Germans had not gained as much ground in this attack, nor had they won Echternach itself.

The deepest penetration in this sector was to near Consdorf, five miles southwest of Echternach. Bypassed Americans held grimly to their pockets.

The Germans tried to disrupt First Army rear communications by dropping parachute troops—perhaps 500—in the crossroads areas west of Monschau. At last reports these and other scaled-off Germans were being mopped up.

The Germans were crushing into increasingly dense defenses thrown together by the First Army.

American anti-aircraft gunners claimed more than 200 German planes shot down in three days.

Dispatches today from both British-Canadian and U. S. Ninth Army Headquarters said enemy patrols had suddenly thrust into Allied lines in the Gellenkirchen area—some 25 miles above the northernmost German push—and heavy mortar fire crashed on Allied positions.

(Whether this heralded a new Nazi assault in this area where once the British Second and U. S. Ninth armies had their junction point, or simply was intended to prevent the Allies from moving reinforcements south was not apparent.)

MOVEMENT ACROSS ROER

Some enemy movements were sighted across the Roer River from the Ninth Army front.

A Ninth Army dispatch said German prisoners were extremely confident about the offensive beating into U. S. First Army lines. Buoyed by propaganda, some said this was but the beginning, and that Antwerp would fall in a few days.

Evidence continued to accumulate that Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt had not launched this push merely to gain time or to upset plans for an Allied offensive but had begun an all-out effort to crack the Western Front.

NAZI PLANES RISKED

The continued unlimited use of German planes in spite of costly losses, the concentrations of armor and motor transport and the appearance in the line of certain crack elements known to have been in reserve for a "last ditch" defense of the Reich seemed to indicate Von Rundstedt's purpose.

STAND IN FOXHOLES

In the fighting in the sector below Monschau "some gallant doughboys stood fast in their foxholes and let themselves actually be run over by Nazi tank without retreating," a front dispatch said.

German tank columns were stopped and hurled back in that area and at least six enemy counter - attacks were repulsed. German infantry suffered heavy losses and crowded aid stations showed that American losses also had been heavy. The stabilization of this portion of the front was accomplished by American troops which went down the roads until they met the Germans and then slugged it out.

(A Berlin dispatch to a Swiss newspaper said the German High Command has increased the strength of its western offensive in a gigantic effort to re-take Aachen and drive Allied forces from German soil).

The rest of the Western Front remained generally stalemated.

The U. S. Third Army seized 40 more pillboxes and fortified houses in the Saarlautern area, for a two-day total of 176, and had cleaned up Dillingen save for the factory area. American Seventh Army troops repulsed two strong counter-attacks northwest of Wissembourg. Farther down the front French and U. S. troops made small gains northwest of Colmar and in the high Vosges.

CONVOYS HAMMERED

Despite foul weather, German armor and truck convoys moving into the Belgian and Luxembourg wedges were hammered by fighter-bombers and by a powerful force of British and American heavy bombers yesterday.

Co-ordination of the RAF and U. S. Air Forces in tactical support of the First Army was described as "never better." The British had the dual task of preventing some of the German planes from getting into the battle area, and of disrupting Nazi transport.

Berlin Claims Drive Paying Dividends

LONDON — (AP) — The Berlin radio declared today that the German counter-offensive in Belgium and Luxembourg already had paid dividends by compelling the Allies to halt attacks on other sectors, but said military security precluded full details on the Nazi drive.

The broadcast quoted Adolf Hitler's newspaper, the Volkischer Beobachter, as saying:

"It is certain we are only at the beginning of heavier fighting. The German people, educated by the advances and retreats of this war, view the situation coldbloodedly, realistically and callously. But there is joy in everyone's eye. We are advancing again."

The California desert has a native reptile which lives under the sand and moves through it with a swimming motion.

GREAT BATTLE BAGES—The Americans struck back at the German counter-offensive on the Western Front today by recapturing Monschau, a focal point of one of the German drives. Heavy fighting still raged around the Belgian towns of Stavelot, St. Vith and Malmedy. Stavelot and St. Vith were last reported still in U. S. hands.

Germans In Quest Of American Supplies

(Continued from Page One)

pin-pointing of the German penetrations.

But wildcat Nazi columns are punching ahead in a supreme effort to cut behind First Army supply dumps and thus provide the German columns with sinews they sorely need. So far they have picked up very little, an Army spokesman said.

The Germans have drained men and machines from other sectors in the west to make this "very bold" move, it was stated.

"The war can be won right here," the spokesman asserted. If the German drive is crushed.

PARATROOPS ROUNDED UP

Several hundred German parachute troops have been rounded up since the counter-offensive began Saturday.

The northern German column has reached the general vicinity of Stavelot, but it is the central columns which has achieved the greatest advance. No information was given as to the general location of the southernmost column.

Flying bombs have been roaring over the First Army sector in numbers reminiscent of the hardest days and nights in London last July.

Although Hitler may have ordered the daring stroke, it is considered at First Army Headquarters that it is most likely that he is having no part in its tactical direction. The offensive shows the hands of a skillful tactician, probably Field Marshal Karl Rudolf Gerd Von Rundstedt.

WEATHER

WEATHER BUREAU OFFICE
Charlotte, N. C.
Dec. 20, 1944.

NORTH CAROLINA — Fair and warmer this afternoon and tonight. Thursday increasing cloudiness and mild with rain changing to snow and cold in mountains Thursday afternoon.

SOUTH CAROLINA — Fair and warmer this afternoon and tonight. Thursday increasing cloudiness and mild followed by showers in mountains in afternoon.

Temperature

City Office		Airport	
8:00	27	7:30	23
9:00	29	8:30	22
10:00	31	9:30	26
11:00	36	10:30	34
12:00	39	11:30	36
1:00	44	12:30	30
2:00	47	1:30	46
3:30	47	2:30	50

Highest yesterday, 44; lowest this morning, 25; average yesterday, 38; deficiency for month, 11.7; excess for year, 33.2.

Precipitation

Total for 24 hours ending at 8 A. M., 0.00; total for month, 2.09; excess for year, 13.10; normal for month, 3.86.

Official Weather Bureau records of the temperatures for the 24 hours ending at 8:30 A. M.:

Station	H	L	Station	H	L
Asheville	35	18	Los Angeles	75	56
Atlanta	44	24	Memphis	46	22
Augusta	52	28	Meridian	54	25
Birmingham	50	23	Miami	74	59
Boston	19	11	Minn.-St.P.	30	22
Charleston	51	35	Mobile	56	33
Charlotte	44	23	Mt. Mitchell	11	8
Chicago	25	—	New Orleans	54	49
Columbia	48	22	New York	27	20
Denver	57	32	Raleigh	44	18
Detroit	34	20	San Antonio	64	44
Evansville	31	21	S. Francisco	75	54
Galveston	60	43	Spartanburg	49	21
Greensboro	38	16	Tampa	67	39
Jacksonville	59	28	Washington	31	—
Little Rock	65	32	Wilmington	47	26

Congressmen On Way To U. S. From Front

BARI, Italy—(AP)—Members of the U. S. House Military Affairs Committee were en route home today by plane after a 25-day tour of the battlefronts.

Rep. Clare Boothe Luce, Republican, Connecticut, who had been suffering from ear trouble induced by air travel, remained behind. She said she might spend Christmas with the frontline troops.

Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, Republican, New Jersey, said he plans to suggest that certain American newspapers print editions in Paris and Rome to give the doughboys more news of home and to present the United States more adequately to the liberated countries. Rep. Charles H. Elston, Republican, Ohio, said he favored this project provided paper is available.

Ration Office Entered But Nothing Is Taken

CONCORD—Offices of the Concord Price and Rationing board were entered Monday night but officials today reported that nothing had been taken.

Carl Murphy and Mr. Ashby, OPA officials, came to Concord yesterday soon after a janitor in the county building reported the office had been entered and after they had made a complete check of all records in the office it was reported by the board secretary that nothing had been taken.

When the United States entered the war there were more than 100,000 persons of Japanese ancestry living in the far western states.

Open evenings 'til 9 through December 23.

Ed. Mellon Co.
108-108 W. Trade St.
Charlotte, N. C.

Rail Union Irks Board

WASHINGTON—(AP)—A difference of opinion developed today between a Presidential board trying to avert a threatened strike on the Seaboard Air Line Railway and one of the unions involved.

The issue is whether the union which called the strike for Jan. 15—the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen—shall participate in hearings now under way on the controversy.

The firemen, who have remained absent thus far, wrote the board earlier that they were not appearing because of the expense.

Obviously annoyed by continued absence of the firemen, Board Chairman Houston Thompson reported at the hearing today that the Board had telegraphed their president, D. B. Robertson of Cleveland, as follows:

"The presence of representatives from your organization . . . is essential for the Board to make its investigation and report to the President. . . . Please reply."

Thompson also remarked that it was impossible for the hearing to proceed in a satisfactory manner without the presence of the union.

The threatened strike is over a jurisdictional dispute between the firemen's union and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers regarding reinstatement of discharged engineers.

U. S. Beer For British Troops

LONDON—(AP)—British troops in India, who place beer second only to tea on their list of desires, are to get 1,920,000 quart bottles of American brew.

Lord Munster, Undersecretary of State for India and Burma, reported the order today in a white paper. Production in India has been increased more than 300 per cent, but still is not enough to meet the present ration of three bottles per man per month.

Prime Minister Churchill told the House of Commons that steps were being taken to increase the ration of cigarettes in the Asiatic theaters.

Husband Of Author Found Dead In Bed

RUMFORD, Maine — (AP) — Sheriff F. F. Francis announced today that Ralph Rich, husband of Louise Dickinson, author of the 1943 best seller, "We Take to the Woods", had been found dead late last night in bed.

The body of Rich, a former Chicago resident, was being brought twenty miles from Middle Dam, where the Richs made their home, to Rumford for examination, the sheriff said.

The couple's life with their two children in a forest cabin on the bank of Rapid River provided material for Mrs. Rich's book. Rich was a Maine forest guide.

Paternity Case

Chaplin Shouts Out Denials At Trial

By GENE HANDSAKER

LOS ANGELES—(AP)—Tensely, but not so violently as during his first appearance on the witness stand yesterday in the trial of his paternity case, Charlie Chaplin repeated over and over again today his conversation with Joan Berry about her expected child.

Under the grilling of Joseph Scott, attorney for Charlie's 24-year-old former protege, the comedian replied that he was physically capable of becoming a father.

At one point, in the heated exchange of question and answer, after Chaplin had told his attorney objected to Scott's insistence for exact replies, the latter exclaimed:

"You know we will simply get another act. We got an act yesterday and we don't want any more acts."

Judge Henry M. Willis suggested that the last comment was unnecessary, but ruled that Scott could control his examination of Chaplin, who was testifying as a prosecution witness.

Pressed by Scott for his conversation with Joan at the Chaplin swimming pool during the Summer of 1942, the comedian was asked:

"Did you say, 'Well, are you going to get an abortion? Do you want this baby?'"

"That's a lie," the witness snapped.

"Don't characterize statements as lie," Judge Willis ordered.

"Very obviously, that's not true," Chaplin amended.

"Did you say, 'You can have your baby. You know I can always take care of your baby. You know I am very generous that way'? And did she say, 'I don't want that. Can't you marry me?'"

"Yes, she said that."

The witness denied he told Joan, "I am not interested in babies," or that he said, "You don't have to get married."

"Did you tell her, 'I can't marry you. I am going to have peace if I have to go to jail for twenty years?'" Scott asked.

Chaplin leaned forward tensely in the witness chair and replied in a loud voice:

"No. I said 'How can you be so blatant? How can you look me in the face and say that? I know what kind of a life you have been leading.'"

Yesterday it was a new and violently explosive Charlie Chaplin—one who shouted, "That's a lie! That's not true!" — to questions asked by the attorney of Joan Berry who is seeking to have him decreed the father of her baby.

The Chaplin acquitted last April of a charge of transporting her to New York for immoral purposes was calm and almost icy when he addressed a Federal Court jury then.

Yesterday he was fiery and loud and slashes the air, twists and turns and pounds the witness-box rail as he cries:

"I have committed no crime . . . Your honor, I am human . . . This man (Joan's attorney) is trying to infer that I am a monster. . . . I have been verbally pilloried and lynched. . . ."

Joan wants the 55-year-old comedian ordered to pay $2,500 monthly for the support of her fourteen-months-old Carol Ann—who coo'd so loudly in court yesterday, incidentally, that Joan's mother, Mrs. Gertrude Berry, finally had to carry her out.

The changed Chaplin emerged as he was prodded with such questions as "What happened then?" "What did she say?"—by Joan's 77-year-old attorney, Joseph Scott, veteran of more than half a century at the bar.

Scott, in outlining his case to the jury of seven women and five men, said evidence would show that Carol Ann was conceived in Chaplin's bedroom the night of Dec. 23, 1942.

DENIED BY ACTOR

But Chaplin denied this. He said he and his former drama pupil had broken off their "intimate relations" months before.

"She came to my bedroom," he said, referring to the date of Dec. 23, 1942. "It was close to midnight. I was telephoning someone. She was in the door to the bathroom with a gun in her hand.

"She circled around, and I asked her what she was up to. She said she was going to kill herself. I said, 'Why do you come to my house?—in order to create a scandal?' She said she was going to teach me, that she was destitute.

"I said, 'Why do you do this when I've tried everything in the world to build you up materially and spiritually, to give you a reputation, to teach you to act?'

"I believed in that girl.

"I said, 'You have broken into my house several times. Why? I've tried to be your friend.' I lectured her on our relationship. She said, 'I'm going to kill myself if you come near me or try to put me out of this house.' I said, 'Why are you doing this?—why are you harassing me when I've tried to be your best friend?'

"What did she say?" demanded Scott.

"That she had no place to sleep," said, "Why this attitude, this drama, when I've sacrificed a whole year in which I've tried to build you up?"

A wisp of Chaplin's hair had fallen over his forehead and he was slapping the railing.

"What happened after the lecture?"

"I said, 'You cannot sleep here.'"

"What did she say?"

"Just a moment—this happened a long time ago—it's something I'd rather forget. I have been verbally pilloried and lynched."

Chaplin said he finally consented to her remaining overnight and that she slept in the guest room (Scott had called it the "Paulette Goddard room," referring to one of Chaplin's former wives). Chaplin said he didn't remember whether he gave Joan sleeping garments.

Scott had told the jury he would prove that Chaplin "petted her" and that they had an act of intercourse in his bed. But when asked about this, the comedian shot back:

"No—that is not a fact!"

"You slept with her?"

"No!"

British Warned Robot Attacks May Increase

LONDON — (AP) — The British press warned today that the robot bombs of Germany may step up their flying bomb attacks on Britain. New damage and casualties were caused yesterday and last night.

Work started on the original White House in December, 1792.

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