



# The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Fair tonight and tomorrow; not quite so cold tonight; warmer tomorrow.

FINAL HOME

PRICE FOUR CENTS

VOLUME 55—NUMBER 184

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1944

Entered as Second-Class Matter at Postoffice Indianapolis 9, Ind. Issued daily except Sunday

## REPORT 1000 YANK PLANES HIT FORMOSA

Tokyo Radio Says U. S. Bombers in All-Out Attack on Japan's 'Pearl Harbor'; Claim 100 Aircraft Shot Down.

One thousand American planes, greatest air fleet ever massed in the Pacific, launched an all-out assault today against Japan's "Pearl Harbor" island fortress of Formosa on the northern approaches to the Philippines, Radio Tokyo reported.

The attack on the island, Japan's largest naval base outside home waters and possible refuge of her elusive fleet, began at 7 a. m. (Tokyo time) and still was continuing eight hours later, an imperial headquarters communique said. It added that 100 American planes had been shot down in the first six hours alone.

The communique was recorded by United Press at San Francisco.

A later Tokyo broadcast heard by N. B. C. monitors at 8 a. m. Indianapolis time (10 p. m. Tokyo time) said the attack was continuing at that time, 15 hours after it began.

### Planes Range Far and Wide

The huge forces of bombers and fighters apparently centered their raid on Formosa's railway system, but Tokyo said the planes also "ranged far and wide over the island."

The stunning blow within 600 miles of Japan's home islands presumably was another step in the American offensive to neutralize Japanese bases preparatory to the promised invasion of the Philippines.

The island, approximately 250 miles long and 100 miles wide, was the base for operations in which the Japanese launched their assault on the Philippines in December, 1941, and ultimately through the entire Southwest Pacific.

### Railroad Is Chief Target

Although the southern tip of Formosa is 225 miles from Luzon, the small islands at the northern end of the Philippines archipelago are separated from Formosa by only the 100-mile wide Bashi channel.

Tokyo said the "entire area" of Takao, Tainan and Tai-chu, key points on the railroad extending across the island, was the principal target.

Tainan is the principal city of southern Formosa, Japan's fortress base 100 miles off the China coast.

Tokyo said the planes were assaulting the island from "both sides," indicating that possibly land-based craft from China bases have joined with carrier planes in the attack.

A later Tokyo broadcast beamed at Italy and recorded by the FOC indicated that other points along the Formosa rail line were bombed, and said the attack was being carried out by "some 1000 fighter and bomber planes."

Tokyo radio boasted in the broadcast that "four war results will increase still more."

The Japanese report of a 1000-plane assault, if confirmed, would mean that the greatest air battle of the Pacific war was in progress over a vital link of Japan's inner defense line guarding the Philippines, China and the home islands.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced Tuesday that a powerful American task force had smashed at the Ryukyu islands, 200 miles south of Japan proper and extending to within 60 miles of Formosa, Monday (Tuesday Japan time).

Tokyo broadcasts later said the rising temperatures are forecast for tomorrow.

## INDIANAPOLIS GETS FIRST OF FROSTS

Weather Bureau Promises Warmer Weather.

Indianapolis got its first frost last night.

R. M. Williamson, meteorologist of the U. S. weather bureau, said frost damage cannot be discerned until after the sun has been out several hours. He added, however, that the frost apparently had been light, and that frost damages, if any, are expected to be minor.

Rising temperatures are forecast for tomorrow.

LABOR . . . By Fred W. Perkins

## 3 'Breaks' That Sway Votes Run Against the President

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—Four of the "breaks" that help swing elections appear today on the labor front. All but one are against Mr. Roosevelt.

1. The Petrillo case, in which the head of the American Federation of Musicians (A. F. of M.) leaves the President out on a limb by rejecting an official but courteous request that he obey an order of the war labor board.

2. The Matthew Smith case, in which this leader of non-affiliated unions order, and then calls off a destructive strike today of 70,000 men in 67 vital war plants—while Republicans might have used as evidence in their case against the administration's manner of handling labor problems.

3. Disclosure that heads of five railway workers' brotherhoods were recently pressured, in some cases unsuccessfully, to declare for re-election of Mr. Roosevelt.

4. The WLB report yesterday which further put the heat on Mr. Roosevelt for a decision on the Little Steel wage formula.

As to No. 3, the rail union heads called on the President a week ago to add their weight to other labor groups in asking for a relaxation of wage-control policies, preferably before election. When they came out of Mr. Roosevelt's office George M. Harrison, president of the Railway Clerks and a vice president of the American Federation of Labor, gave reporters the impression that the entire group was enthusiastically in favor of a fourth term.

What wasn't told was that when the rail labor leaders entered the President's office they found there Dan Tobin of Indianapolis, head of the Teamsters' union (A. F. of L.), and director of the labor division of the Democratic national service.

Joe Williams, 18, inside Indpls. 17; Women's News 20, (Continued on Page 17—Column 3)

## HUNGARY'S BID FOR ARMISTICE BELIEVED NEAR

Plea for Terms Rumored En Route to Churchill And Stalin.

By W. R. HIGGINBOTHAM

United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Hungary appeared ready today to quit the war, and the prospect grew that by the week-end Germany may stand in Europe without an ally.

There were rumors that a Hungarian delegation already has gone to Moscow and may already be dickering for terms with Marshal Josef Stalin and Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Events have moved rapidly since Churchill and his party arrived.

Allied circles were generally optimistic. Russians are good actors but they are seldom able to conceal completely their feelings when things are going badly. Their attitude made plain things are going well.

Dispatches Give Cue

Moscow dispatches on Hungary were worded in unusually strong language indicating plainly a Russian belief that Hungary's capitulation is imminent, but there was no confirmation that formal parleys are already going on.

Great interest was attached to a speech which was scheduled to be made to the Hungarian parliament today by Defense Minister Gen. Ludwig Von Csatai.

Capitulation of Hungary was regarded of great military significance since it would cut off most of the forces Germany has left in the Balkans and would enable the Red army to threaten Germany from the south more strongly than ever.

Fast Action Follows Stalin-Churchill Meet

MOSCOW, Oct. 12 (U. P.).—First fruits of the Stalin-Churchill conference became evident today with a series of diplomatic developments which included an 11th hour effort to achieve a Polish settlement, the apparently imminent capitulation of Hungary, and the acceptance by Bulgaria of preliminary armistice terms.

There was no doubt here that it was more than a coincidence that these developments followed almost immediately upon the arrival of Prime Minister Winston Churchill and his initial conference with Marshal Josef Stalin.

Atmosphere Is Cordial

It was believed other developments of equal or greater significance will follow shortly.

Churchill and his party were received in an atmosphere of unprecedented Anglo-Russian cordiality in which was seen important signs for success of the negotiations.

The importance of Stalin's acceptance of a banquet invitation at the British embassy last night was difficult to over-emphasize. This gesture, which might be regarded as routine in other countries, was absolutely without precedent in Moscow and its significance was increased by the fact Stalin has made virtually no public appearances since the war.

Results of Parley

Tangible developments thus far were:

1. Acceptance by the Bulgarians of preliminary armistice terms to be administered by an Anglo-American-Russian group under a Soviet chairman.

2. Arrival of a London Polish delegation headed by Premier Stanislaw Mikolajczyk and a Lublin Polish delegation headed by its president, Edward Osoba Morawski, for conferences designed to solve the difficult Polish problem.

3. Hungarian developments described here as the "imminent capitulation of Hungary."

4. The WLB report yesterday which further put the heat on Mr. Roosevelt for a decision on the Little Steel wage formula.

As to No. 3, the rail union heads called on the President a week ago to add their weight to other labor groups in asking for a relaxation of wage-control policies, preferably before election. When they came out of Mr. Roosevelt's office George M. Harrison, president of the Railway Clerks and a vice president of the American Federation of Labor, gave reporters the impression that the entire group was enthusiastically in favor of a fourth term.

What wasn't told was that when the rail labor leaders entered the President's office they found there Dan Tobin of Indianapolis, head of the Teamsters' union (A. F. of L.), and director of the labor division of the Democratic national service.

Joe Williams, 18, inside Indpls. 17; Women's News 20, (Continued on Page 17—Column 3)

## DOUGHBOYS STORM INTO BLAZING AACHEN AS NAZIS DESPERATELY DEFEND COMMANDING HEIGHTS



Yank doughboys were storming into the streets of burning Aachen today, and had taken two sections of the city.

## TWO AREAS OF WRECKED CITY ARE CAPTURED

German Counter-Attack Fails to Hold Hodges' Men.

By J. EDWARD MURRAY

United Press Staff Correspondent

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, A. E. F., Paris, Oct. 12.—American doughboys stormed into blazing Aachen under cover of dive-bombers and artillery blasts today and drove steadily forward through rubble-strewn streets toward Observatory hill, which commands the entire city.

The Americans blasted ahead, seizing the Schlachthof (slaughter-

house) area, despite a German counter-attack, apparently made in regional strength, which was beaten off.

They moved forward through streets many of which roared with fires started by the hour-after-hour dive-bombing and artillery shelling.

By 1 p. m., according to a report from United Press War Correspondent Henry T. Gorrell, who was witnessing the operation, the fires in the north and northeast of the city were tremendous.

"I could see our doughboys advancing to seize the high observatory ground which dominates the entire city," Gorrell reported.

There was a German counter-thrust from the northwest in the Wurelen vicinity, but it had little success as the others.

The Nazis were employing a new type of rocket which emitted a whistling noise rather than the shrill scream of the type they previously employed.

There were indications the Nazis were massing tanks northeast of Aachen possibly for another counter-attack.

It appeared to Gorrell that the American infantrymen probably could sweep their way through the entire city if they desired. However, with the apparent massing of Nazi armor outside the city there seemed a possibility that another large-scale battle might be fought before final conquest of the town was completed.

Freddie Fight to Death

One objective of the U. S. command in attacking the slaughterhouse and factory districts of Aachen was to destroy ammunition available to the Germans and also seize their food supplies which were said to include scores of beef cattle.

Among prisoners captured today was a German lieutenant-colonel whose battalion had been wiped out in the past few days. He was captured as he tried to escape with a party of seven men, all of whom were killed by American fire.

Flight after flight of alternating Lightnings and Thunderbolts bombed and gunned the German positions ahead of the advancing infantry, and artillery continued pin-pointing strongpoints within the city.

Nine big fires burned in Aachen throughout the night. One was set by German night bombers aiming at the American front lines but hitting the city instead. Several fires still smoldered when the allied dive-bombers returned to their task of systematic destruction today.

The siege forces now were fighting within the city limits of Aachen, but by mid-day had not entered the circle of parkways extending a radius of some 900 yards from the

(Continued on Page 6—Column 1)

## HOOSIER HEROES—Gerth, Miles and Prall Listed Dead; Three Wounded

A member of the D-day invasion forces has been reported killed on that day and two others have lost their lives in France and Italy. One local airman is missing and three other soldiers are wounded.

KILLED

Sgt. Theodore O. Gerth, R. R. 2, Box 548, in France.

Pvt. Truman L. Miles, Greenwood, in France.

Cpl. Robert Prall, 5448 Winthrop ave., in Italy.

MISSING

S. Sgt. Donald William LaFata, 1240 N. Euclid ave., over Germany.

WOUNDED

Lt. Carl B. Lewis Jr., 2702 N. Talbot ave., in France.

Pfc. James M. Kidwell, 1430 Blaine ave., in Italy.

Lt. Claiborne Cooperider, 2239 N. Illinois st., in Holland.

(Details, Page 19)

## NAZI RESERVES SLOW YANK DRIVE IN ITALY

ROME, Oct. 12 (U. P.).—German troops, reportedly bolstered by reinforcements from northern Italy, waged an all-out defensive battle in the foothills of the Apennines today in a desperate attempt to halt three American columns driving toward Bologna and the Po valley.

Bitter fighting raged in the southern outskirts of Livorno, less than 10 miles south of Bologna, all but halting the main American forces pushing northward on the main highway from Florence.

Marshal Stalin's objection to attending the conference, I am informed, was on the ground that if President Roosevelt failed of election, any decisions of the big three might have to be reviewed and confirmed. Stalin had paved the way for this view in his talk with Eric Johnston and Ambassador Harriman last July, in the course of which he indirectly yet pointedly referred to President Roosevelt as a "politician." As re-

(Continued on Page 12—Column 5)

## NOV. 7 DELAYS BIG 3 PARLEY

Asserts Stalin Prefers to Wait Until Election Is Decided.

By ISAAC DON LEVINE

Times Special Writer

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—Winston Churchill's present visit to Moscow was decided upon last month at Quebec, after Marshal Stalin had declined an invitation to join in another meeting of the Big Three with the American election still pending.

This was only one of the situations that confronted President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill at their recent Quebec meeting. In consequence of several days exploration in American and foreign diplomatic circles here I have obtained many details of that most secret of conferences, where 150 press representatives were made painfully aware of the extent to which President Wilson's ideas of "open covenants, openly arrived at" have been junked.

He emphasized that the hard fighting ahead would be made tougher by the fact that the coercion methods of the Nazi hierarchy now are being used more than ever. If the gestapo pistol were not now being held at the back of the German people and soldiers, there would not be enough Germans resisting to prolong the war, he said.

Eisenhower said a large portion of the German people want to throw the sponge, but they are first inarticulate and second they don't dare oppose the S. S. and gestapo

(Continued on Page 3—Column 1)

## Ike Confident of Victory, Warns Job Will Be Hard

By JAMES F. MCGILVER

United Press Staff Correspondent

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, A. E. F., Paris, Oct. 12.—Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower expressed "complete confidence" today in the home and fighting fronts of the united nations "to see this war through to final victory," but warned that while victory is certain, "we have a hard job ahead."

Eisenhower, looking fit and confident, discussed the entire war situation at a conference of more than 100 correspondents.

Gestapo Pistol at Backs

The supreme commander said the surrender-or-die ultimatum to the Aachen garrison should not be considered a precedent, but was the decision of the field commander who was left to his own devices as how best to kill the Germans.

After saying that the people at home were going to see the war through to victory, he added that "as long as they will see it through, I know that all the soldiers, sailors and airmen possess the indomitable will to win."

He emphasized that the hard fighting ahead would be made tougher by the fact that the coercion methods of the Nazi hierarchy now are being used more than ever. If the gestapo pistol were not now being held at the back of the German people and soldiers, there would not be enough Germans resisting to prolong the war, he said.

Eisenhower said a large portion of the German people want to throw the sponge, but they are first inarticulate and second they don't dare oppose the S. S. and gestapo

(Continued on Page 3—Column 1)

## SOVIET BIG GUNS RAKE E. PRUSSIA

Troops Blast Toward Reich Province and Race For Budapest.

By ROBERT MUSEL

United Press Staff Correspondent

LONDON, Oct. 12.—Russian artillery massed along a 50-mile stretch of the East Prussian frontier opened a powerful bombardment of Germany proper today and Soviet troops smashed westward in a frontal assault against the Reich's easternmost home province.

At the southern end of the fast shifting Eastern front, Red army mobile forces raced over the Hungarian plain toward Budapest in a bid to knock Hungary out of the war and lay open the approaches to Austria.

The Nazi-controlled Scandinavian telegraph bureau reported from Berlin that the Russians had driven into the great Baltic port of Memel, and violent house to house fighting was going on.

Three-Way Drive

Hungary is on the verge of capitulation, United Press Correspondent Henry Shapiro reported by telephone from Moscow.

Radio Moscow said the Red armies of the north had struck out in a three-way drive toward the Latvian port of Liepaja (Libau), Memel, and the East Prussian stronghold of Tilsit.

The Moscow newspaper Pravda reported from the front that Soviet troops going into action along the East Prussian front after a shattering artillery bombardment were

(Continued on Page 3—Column 4)

## Pin Witch Back Under Stone; Odds Are She'll Roam Again

By BOYD D. LEWIS

United Press Staff Correspondent

GREAT LEIGHS, ESSEX, England, Oct. 12.—Nine perspiring burghers pinned the Witch of Scrappagot Green down under her stone once more today but a skeptical little man named Walter Devish watched from the sidelines and offered to bet the perplexing spook would be out of her grave again when the clock strikes midnight.

But Prof. Harry Price of the London Council on Psychical Research, who directed the laying of the ghost by pointing, with his umbrella, was more confident.

"That should fix her, lads," Price said as the big gray stone was shoved back into what he hoped was the position it lay in before a Yankee bulldozer scraped it off the resting place where the witch had slept these last 200 years.

On the other hand the little man called Devish said: "Rubbish."

"What did you say?" he was asked.

"I said rubbish," Devish answered. "And I mean rubbish. She won't stay down."

"Why won't she stay down?" Warden W. J. Sykes, proprietor of the 774-year-old Ye Olde Queen Anne's Castle inn and leader of the nine, stout witch-layers, asked.

"Because," Devish said, "You've got the blooming eye pointed sideways. I've been past this stone every day for 44 years and the eye always pointed up."

Devish pointed at an 'indentation in the stone, resembling an eye.

At that point Price, umbrella in hand, waved farewell to the witching party, shouting that he had

(Continued on Page 3—Column 4)



Nine big fires burned in Aachen throughout the night. One was set by German night bombers aiming at the American front lines but hitting the city instead. Several fires still smoldered when the allied dive-bombers returned to their task of systematic destruction today.

The siege forces now were fighting within the city limits of Aachen, but by mid-day had not entered the circle of parkways extending a radius of some 900 yards from the

(Continued on Page 6—Column 1)

### TIMES INDEX

Amusements	22	Jane Jordan	31
Eddie Ash	26	Mauldin	17
Barnaby	17	Ruth Millett	17
Ned Brooks	18	Movies	22
Comics	31	Obituaries	13
Crowdwork	31	Ernie Fyle	17
Editorials	18	Radio	31
Fashions	21	Mrs. Roosevelt	17
Financial	24	Side Glances	18
Forum	18	Wm. P. Simms	18
Meta Given	21	Sports	26
In Indpls.	2	Tom Stokes	18
In Service	14	Joe Williams	18
Inside Indpls.	17	Women's News	20

(Continued on Page 17—Column 3)