

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

Men abuse sorrow by mistaking it
or denying it.

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

The People's Paper Read by Everybody

Covers Prince Edward Island Like the Dew

MAXIMS
OF A
MERE MAN

Not everyone who blows a horn is
a huntsman.

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ASSASSIN OF DARLAN IS SENTENCED TO DEATH

Russian Troops Roll Ahead In Middle Don Area

King George Gives Christmas Message

War Shows Value Of "What We Might Have Lost".

24 Jap Planes Destroyed In Solomons Raid

By John M. Hightower
Associated Press Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25—(AP)—An American bomber, achieving its greatest triumph to date over Japanese forces at Munda in the central Solomon Islands, destroyed 24 enemy planes and silenced all anti-aircraft batteries the day before Christmas, the United States Navy announced today.

A communiqué said that all the attacking planes returned undamaged to their base on Guadalcanal, about 170 miles to the southeast.

The number of enemy craft wrecked—14 shot down and 10 blown to pieces on the ground—was the highest despite heavy American attacks on Munda for the past two weeks. The Japs were doggedly trying to build up their base there and, to some extent at least, had succeeded in repairing damage previously inflicted.

Military authorities said, however, that so long as the present ratio of losses continued, Munda would prove more a liability than an asset to the Japanese while offering American forces in the south Pacific an easy target for enemy air strength.

On the basis of incomplete reports to date the Japs have lost 20 planes and 100 men in Munda against known American losses of only two. Their aircraft losses in the Solomons campaign now total 357.

Dismissed On Murder Charge

HALIFAX, Dec. 25—(CP)—John J. Thomas of nearby Beechville was dismissed of a charge of murdering Mrs. Janet C. Snow last Dec. 17, by Magistrate R. B. Inglis here yesterday. Charges of inflicting grievous bodily harm were then laid against Thomas.

He was released on \$1,000 bail until preliminary hearing Jan. 5.

This action followed a report by Dr. F. V. Woodbury, medical examiner, that injuries police said the woman suffered in Beechville were the immediate cause of death. Dr. Woodbury said Mrs. Snow had died of a chronic arterial disease.

At a preliminary hearing on the murder charge, witnesses testified Mrs. Snow had been in the 22-year-old Negro's home for two days prior to her death. Thomas told police he had taken her in off the road when he saw her staggering, holding her hands to her face.

Coming Events

- *Kinkora Hall, Bingo and Dance Wednesday evening, December 30th.
- *Farmers wishing to ship hogs advise McGulgan and Boyle 12-16 to 30.
- *New Glasgow Community Sunday School Concert Monday, Dec. 28 at 8 p.m. 12-26-11.
- *Dance in Emerald Hall Monday, December 28th. Auspices C. W. L. 12-19-23-26-28-41.
- *Annual meeting of New Dominion Farmers Institute, Afton Hall, Tuesday, December 29th. D. H. MacDougall, Secretary. 12-26-11.
- *Buying live and dressed chickens and fowl every Wednesday. Paying top market prices. P. J. Noy Hunter River 9-26-3-M-11.
- *Loading hogs for Davis & Fraser, Harry, Murray Harbour Monday, December 28th, Murray River 26th. John J. Beck. 12-26-11.
- *Dance, Cardigan Hall December 28th. Auspices Cardigan Firemen (A. R. P.) Webster's Orchestra. 12-26-61.
- *We are buying live and dressed chickens and fowl daily paying top market prices. We also require Turkeys, Ducks and Geese. Please write for prices. Island Cold Storage, Ltd. 12-19-12.
- *The members of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 18, are requested to meet at the lodge room on Sunday, December 27, at 12.30 p.m. to attend the funeral of the late Brother Eldon Seaman, Secretary and Warranted.

Russians Retake More Ground Already Than In Last Winter's Offensive.

By EDDY GILMORE
Associated Press Staff Writer
MOSCOW, Dec. 25—(Saturday)—(AP)—Russian troops rolled on in the Middle Don region captured several scores of villages in a continuing advance yesterday, killing or capturing 14,500 Germans to boost their total to 106,700 in this single offensive, the Soviets announced early today.

For there was danger that we should lose such and this has opened our eyes to the value of what we might have lost.

He declared that "the lessons learned during the 40 tremendous months behind us have taught us how to work together for victory," and added that "we must see to it that we keep together after the war to build a worthwhile future."

"The message of Christmas," the King said in his 14-minute address, "remains eternal and unchanged. It is a message of thankfulness and of hope, of thankfulness to the Almighty for his great mercies, of hope for the return to this earth of peace and good will."

He said that this year Britain was sharing her Christmas "with so many of our comrades in arms from the United States," and he expressed the hope that their stay in Britain would be "the basis of enduring understanding between our two peoples."

Recent victories won by the United Nations enable me, this Christmas, to speak with firm confidence about the future," the King said.

"On the southern shores of the Mediterranean the 1st and 8th Armies, our fleets and air forces are advancing toward each other, heartened and greatly fortified by the timely aid of the United States."

"Tremendous blows have been struck by the armies of the Soviet Union, the effects of which cannot yet be measured to the minds and hearts of the German people."

"In the Pacific we watch with thrilled attention the counter-strokes of our Australian and American comrades over large areas of the South Pacific."

"India, who is still threatened with Japanese invasion, has found in her loyal fighting men more than a million strong champions of the British Empire in the defence of Indian soil."

"The King, speaking alone from his study in a country house, was guided by Princesses listened through loudspeakers in another room, declared:—

"We still have tasks ahead of us, perhaps harder even than those which we have already accomplished. We face these in the confidence for today we stand together, no longer alone, no longer ill-armed, but just as resolute as in the darkest hours to do our duty, whatever comes."

"The King said that the European Allies' count on our aid to help them return to their native lands and to rebuild the structure of a free and united Europe."

"On sea, on land, in the air, and in civil life at home," he declared, "a pattern of effort and mutual service is being traced which may stand as a model for the picture of our future society."

"Then he told his story of the Swiss telegraphic agency reported today from Vatican City that Pope Pius XII issued a special plenary indulgence for Catholics who, during air attack, find themselves in danger of death and recite devoutly, with repentance, the rosary and quote 'Jesus miserere mei.'"

The text of the decree was issued in Italian, French, English and German and added that the rosary can be recited in any other language.

Farm Lands Recaptured

Practically all the rich farm lands bounded by the Don, the Stalingrad-Likhaya railway and the Moscow-Rostov line were reported in Russian hands. The capture of Klodney placed the Reds within 15 miles of Millerovo, important railway junction that seemed almost lost, surrounded and bypassed.

The Russians have not yet claimed to have cut the railway leading southwest from Millerovo to Voroshilovgrad, it is threatened.

Special Plenary Indulgence Issued By Pope Pius

BERNE, Dec. 24—(AP)—The Swiss telegraphic agency reported today from Vatican City that Pope Pius XII issued a special plenary indulgence for Catholics who, during air attack, find themselves in danger of death and recite devoutly, with repentance, the rosary and quote 'Jesus miserere mei.'"

The text of the decree was issued in Italian, French, English and German and added that the rosary can be recited in any other language.

Federal Minister's Champagne Stolen

OTTAWA, Dec. 24—(CP)—Thieves entered the residence of Transport Minister Michaud early today and stole four bottles of champagne and 11 bottles of wine. Paul Joseph McLoche and a minor were arrested later and charged with housebreaking and theft.

POPULAR PARBONS

Tragic Highway Crash At Halifax

HALIFAX, Dec. 25—(CP)—Re-telling from placing a wreath on his father's grave, eight-year-old Ben Valle was killed yesterday when his mother's automobile skidded on icy pavement at suburban Birch Cove. The boy was hurled from the car when a door flew open just before the vehicle struck a highway guard post.

The mother, Mrs. A. Valle of Halifax, suffered a fractured collar bone. The child was an only son.

War Situation Last Night

(By Kirke L. Simpson, Associated Press War Analyst)

The indicated rapidity of the Russian advance west and southwest of the still widening Don front, now a week old, again raises the question as to whether it caught the Nazis already back-tracking to a shorter front and better communications in the Donets Basin.

That was suggested by a Berlin broadcast at the outset of the Soviet push across the Don and down the Voronezh-Rostov railway. It does not seem logical, however, that a Nazi retreat on the middle Don would be ordered unless accompanied or preceded by a withdrawal also from the dangerous Stalingrad salient reaching far eastward of closing Russian pincers about Millerovo Junction.

Current Moscow accounts picture Millerovo, communication key to the situation at Stalingrad, as encircled from northwest to southeast by a 50-mile arc of Red Troops. They also report "hundreds of thousands" of German and Italian and Rumanian allies still in the Stalingrad pocket.

The Voronezh-Kurk flank of the bulge would seem peculiarly suitable for Russian flanking attack to knock the foe back from the Don for its whole length.

It might be an element of Russia strategy to leave the Voronezh-Vyazma stretch of front idle for the present while the offensives in the south, in the centre about Vyazma-Rzhev-Velikiye Lukie triangle and farther north in the Lake Ilmen region were pressed. If the Nazi high command is as short of manpower as it appears possible, these far apart fronts would be compelled to think out the dormant front to provide reinforcements elsewhere.

To that extent the Don thrust, distinct as are the strategic advantages to be gained directly, may also have diversion possibilities in the eyes of Russian leaders. It might compel withdrawal of Nazi forces from nearby dormant sectors, like the Voronezh-Vyazma sector, opening the way for subsequent Soviet drives against those weakened links in the long and irregular German front.

Year Of Great Developments In Farm Activities

Island Farmers Contributed Magnificently To Canada's War Effort On The Food Front.

The following report of Prince Edward Island farm activities has been supplied by Mr. W. R. Shaw, Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

The season of 1942 has been one of the most delightful in the history of the Province. Spring opened early and the weather was high and sunny. The soil was soft and the crops were able to apply themselves almost every day with little break in the field and on their crops and livestock. Splendid crop conditions enabled land owners with serious depleted labour supplies to get a high record of increase over the 1941 season. Looking into the next year, it is expected, in order to meet national needs in war time, the high production will undergo a still greater increase. While this may be a stupendous task, our farmers, we feel, will face larger problems with the greatest courage and determination. Our country needs the supplies, and we must provide our utmost effort to reach our commitments.

A serious dry period, following steadily affected the grain crops in many parts of the country. As a result the yield of much needed grain supply is considerably below that of normal years.

The yield in the potato crop is one of the most satisfactory for some years although acreage was reduced to some extent.

Mangles and turnip crops have also yielded a much higher production than normally and the acreage in these two important crops has been substantially increased, principally as a result of the fertilizer subsidy policy, the object of which was to expand the acreage in both grain and root production. Some increase has also been wrought in the acres sown to mixed seeds and wheat.

The yield of the clover crop has been reduced in extent the extent the reduction in yield to which reference has already been made.

This year was also especially suited to production of corn and a large number of farmers have found this crop of exceptional advantage in maintaining the flow of production, pasturage was maintained at a set level during the year. The bonus has promoted a better care of dairy cattle herds. The general situation in respect to dairy production is indicated by an increase of about 30% in creamery milk. From its staple supply of good clover hay and roots the basis of satisfactory feeding conditions during the winter are substantially laid.

The operation of a free freight

Pays Tribute To Dr. MacLaren

SASKATOON, Dec. 25—(CP)—Hon. John Bracken, Premier of Manitoba, spending Christmas here with his 85-year-old mother, paid the following tribute tonight to Dr. Murray MacLaren, former Minister of Pensions and National Health, Dr. MacLaren died in Saint John, N.B., Thursday night.

"I am very sorry to learn of Dr. MacLaren's death. I knew him well and favorably in his official capacity as member of the House of Commons and as Minister of the Crown at Ottawa."

"I am happy to recall that neither party prejudice nor sectionalism was allowed to influence his judgment on the public matters we had to deal with. His sympathetic approach to the various problems that I saw in my mind as pleasant memory. I can therefore well understand the high esteem in which he was held by his fellow citizens to whom, and to his more intimate friends and relatives, I extend my sincere sympathy."

B. C. Potato Growers Oppose Price Ceiling

OTTAWA, Dec. 25—(CP)—V. P. Robinson, a member of the Prices Board regional staff at Vancouver, has been appointed to report on the potato price situation in British Columbia following a threat by lower mainland growers that they would halt deliveries, food administration officials said today.

The appointment of Mr. Robinson was made at the request of growers, who are asking for prices higher than those permitted by a ceiling recently announced by the Board.

About 2,000 growers assembled at Vancouver last night said they would halt all potato shipments, including those to the munitions department for servicemen's use, unless federal authorities agreed to an immediate review of the price situation.

Renowned Pilot

LONDON—(CP)—Group Capt. P. V. Beamish, D.S.O. and Bar, D.F.C., A.F.C., the pilot who found the German battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst after their escape from Brest, is presumed killed in action.

Former N.B. Lt.-Gov. Dead

(By Kirke L. Simpson, Associated Press War Analyst)

HON. MURRAY MACLAREN
Former Lieut.-Gov. of New Brunswick who died Thursday.

SAINT JOHN, N.B., Dec. 25—(CP)—City, Province and Dominion, on Christmas Eve mourned the passing of a distinguished son when it became known that Colonel, the Hon. Dr. Murray MacLaren, physician and surgeon, soldier and statesman, had died that evening at his residence here.

He succumbed to an attack of pneumonia that suddenly developed during a period of indisposition from a cold.

It was a life beset with many affairs—his profession, in which he held outstanding place; his years as a soldier climaxed by a career in the first great war that saw him overseas relieving suffering and saving life and that brought him new distinction and further honors to add to his already lengthy list; his service to his province as Lieutenant-Governor and to city and province and all Canada as a cabinet minister at Ottawa.

Dr. MacLaren passed away in his 82nd year but to the end his interest in the matters that engaged his special interest was keen. Even a serious accident which befell him in August 1939, failed to divert him from his duties as a member of the House of Commons. Dr. MacLaren is survived by two daughters, two sons and two sisters. The daughters are Miss Margaret MacLaren at home, The sons are Ian, Toronto, and Major David MacLaren, active with the Royal Canadian Artillery overseas. The sisters are Miss Christina J. MacLaren and Miss Sophie R. MacLaren, both in Saint John. Laurence MacLaren, former Mayor of this city, is a nephew.

Dr. MacLaren's wife, the former Miss Mary Nicholson, Saint John, passed away six years ago.

Big Battle Seen Pending In Tunisia

LONDON, Dec. 25—(CP)—Increasing activity on the Tunisian front, particularly in the northern sector, was reported tonight through the British press, seized with the news that the Axis was under fresh downpours of winter rain.

This activity still consisted of feeler thrusts. The main battle apparently waited only for an opportune moment and solid footing for the heavy tanks and motorized war machines on both sides.

There still were no signs of a major clash on the Libyan front, where the feeble remnants of Rommel's Army would not stand the test of a full-scale offensive, and the Cairo command, which was "nothing to report" from the forces pursuing the Axis around the Gulf of Sirte coast.

Dispatches from North Africa quoted a spokesman at Allied headquarters as saying there had been a definite tendency on the part of the Allies and the enemy to increase night patrol operations on the North Tunisian front.

"We cannot say what it may portend," he said "but you can be sure this state of affairs cannot continue very long."

The spokesman said the enemy is continually moving more troops into Tunisia in preparation for a showdown and added grimly:—

"Undoubtedly he's got a hell of a lot of stuff there."

A just back from the front, the spokesman made it plain, however, that the Allies also are rapidly strengthening their forward position.

"I was most impressed by the superb motor convoy system which the British are using to move supplies and equipment into Tunisia," he said. "They are doing an incredibly good job of moving great convoys day and night through mud over dangerous roads."

22-Year Old Man Confesses; To Die Today

Gen. Giraud Is Made Acting French Ruler; May Succeed To Darlan's Post

ALGIERS, Dec. 25—(AP)—Lt.-Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Allied commander in North Africa, cut short his Christmas visit to the Tunisian front lines and hurried back to his headquarters tonight to consult with French leaders on a successor to the assassinated Admiral Jean Darlan.

LONDON, Dec. 26—(Saturday)—(CP)—The assassin of Admiral Jean Darlan was condemned to death late yesterday by a French military tribunal and will be executed this morning, Reuters News Agency said today in an Algiers dispatch.

It was learned the young gunman, whose name was withheld, is of French nationality with an Italian mother now living in Italy.

He was tried by a French court martial of the 19th military district at Algiers, and was said to have made a complete confession.

Several letters have been exchanged between the assassin and his mother, Reuters reported.

The youth reportedly insisted that he had acted without an accomplice.

By NOLAN NORGAARD
Associated Press Staff Writer

ALGIERS, Dec. 26—(AP)—Gen. Henri Giraud, Commander of French forces fighting beside the Allies, assumed temporary control in French Africa tonight in succession to Admiral Jean Darlan, killed by the bullets of a 22-year-old assassin suspected of having been inspired by the Axis or the collaborationist Vichy regime.

Gen. Giraud, believed to be a Moroccan and West Africa, vast parts of Empire aligned with the Allies by the Admiral with a minimum of bloodshed. The 25-year-old Giraud assumed police powers by virtue of his position as Commander of French armed forces. With other members of the Imperial Council which Darlan named, he will discuss tomorrow the appointment of a successor to the short, dapper sailor and politician who once ranked next to Marshal Petain in the Vichy Cabinet.

Island Soldier Is War Prisoner

A Canadian Army casualty list last night listed one Prince Edward Island soldier who previously was reported missing, as a prisoner of war. He was Signor Brinsley Williams whose wife, Mrs. Nora Williams lives at Miscouche. Signor Williams was serving with the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. Williams was reported missing after the Battle of Dieppe. The latest list brought the unofficial total of casualties in the Dieppe Battle to 420 killed, 571 wounded, 1,311 missing and 1,188 prisoner.

Springton Airmen Presumed Dead

A Prince Edward Island Airmen Sgt. Allister Bruce Martin of Springton, was listed "previously reported missing, believed killed" now for official purposes presumed dead" last night by the Royal Canadian Air Force in its 450th casualty list of the war. The airman's next-of-kin was given as his father, Cyrus Martin at Springton, New Wiltshire.

Pistol-Type Spray

LONDON—(CP)—A new British invention—a pistol-type spray which speeds up cleaning engineering parts and saves paraffin cleanser.

Assassin Captured

The assassin had visited the government palace yesterday morning, but left when he was unable to see Darlan. He was seen in the waiting room adjoining Darlan's office when the Admiral returned to his office in the afternoon and fired five shots from a 25-calibre revolver and then started to flee.

He was captured by one of Darlan's aides, Adjutant Vulehard, from the scene.

Commandant Houreaud, a marine staff officer, was with Darlan when he walked into the palace and met the burst of gunfire. Houreaud leaped at the assassin's feet and the gunman fired at him. Vulehard, hearing the shots, ran into the building and struck the young killer's jaw with his fist.

The assassin told Vulehard: "I surrender; my gun is empty."

Sword-bearing Spanish, who guard the palace rushed in and tried to kill the assassin, but were stopped by officials. The killer was then turned over to the police. The palace gates, flanked by the marble busts of famous French military leaders, were shut to keep crowds from the scene.

Darlan's wife arrived at the hospital shortly after his death but remained only a short time. His son was believed to be in Rabat, French Morocco, where he was flown recently for treatment of infantile paralysis.

The bullet which caused Darlan's death struck the tip of his lung and lodged at the point of the heart. Physicians said death resulted from the severing of a large

Such Is Life. Turkey Yesterday Wash Today

High tide this afternoon at 2.45 and tomorrow morning at 1.50. Sun sets this afternoon at 5.25 and rises tomorrow morning at 8.28.

Last quarter moon Dec. 30, 2.28 p.m.

Summerside tide 15 minutes later than Charlottetown.

CAR FERRY SERVICE DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY

From Borden—Leave 9.05 a.m. 11.40 a.m. 2.00 p.m. 4.30 p.m. 7.00 p.m.

Leave Cape Tormentine—10.26 a.m. 1.15 p.m. 3.05 p.m. 5.45 p.m. 8.15 p.m.

SUNDAY SERVICE (May 3 to Dec. 27 Inclusive)

Leave Borden 9.00 a.m. 6.45 a.m. Leave Tormentine 10.15 a.m. 8.28 p.m.

DAILY AIR SERVICE (EXCEPT SUNDAY)
Charlottetown—Summerside—Moncton
Leave Charlottetown 8.30 a.m. 12.30 p.m. 4.30 p.m.
Arrive Charlottetown 1 p.m. 5.45 p.m. 7.05 p.m.



(Continued on page 3, Col 1)