

# NAZIS 50 MILES IN BELGIUM ON 35-MILE FRONT

**Twin Wedges Meet 50 Miles  
Inside Lowland, Wipe  
Out U. S. Pocket.**

**MAY BE HITLER'S PLAN**

**Officials Believe German  
Counterblow Engineered  
by Nazi Chief.**

Paris, Dec. 26 (AP)—Two German armored columns had plunged 50 miles into Belgium by Sunday night, reaching within four miles of the Meuse river.

The enemy wiped out the American St. Vith salient and formed a solid front 35 miles wide.

Supreme headquarters disclosed this information today.

Two and possibly three Nazi armies have been sent into the battering counteroffensive believed at Supreme headquarters to have been planned by Hitler himself in an effort to shatter Allied forces in the west.

Backed up by infantry, the twin German tank pushes had plunged 11 more miles into Belgium since the last previous headquarters report.

They had pinched out the American stand west of St. Vith, a jutting salient that had split the German offensive and formed a single bulge 35 miles wide and now 50 or more miles deep.

**Nazis near Collee.**

Punching due west one Nazi tank column neared Collee, only four miles from the Meuse at Dinant, and only eight miles north-east of the French border.

Another column hit west and north, reaching Ciney in a 10-mile split. Ciney is nine miles from the Meuse and 14 from the jutting northeast corner of France. Ciney and Selles are six miles apart.

The security news cloak covered any further progress since Sunday night. At latest reports, a battle was raging in this general area with the Germans building up forces west of Rochefort and south of Marche. The deep Sunday gains came after the invaders had been held almost at a standstill for 48 hours.

In the heart of this bulge a surrounded American force several thousand strong fought doggedly to hold the important Belgian road hub of Bastogne after rejecting a surrender ultimatum. It is under incessant Nazi armor and infantry attacks.

**Still Gain Ground.**

The whole hope of this isolated force focused to the south where General Eisenhower's counterassault had beaten back up the Arlon road within five miles of Bastogne—and still was gaining ground.

The American wedge west of St. Vith had kept Field Marshal Karl Von Rundstedt's drive split.

German stabs had veered north of Laroche through to Grandmoulin and Lieroux, threatening to cut off Americans dug in on ridges west of St. Vith and keeping Von Rundstedt's assault prone from merging.

These forces had to be pulled out in rearguard fighting the last two or three days, Supreme headquarters said and the German junction had been formed by Christmas morning.

There were no reports whether this withdrawal was completely successful or if some armor and infantry that had held the pocket for almost a week had been left behind.

**Point Toward Namur.**

The northern line of the German bulge now runs from north of Rochefort, 18 miles from the Meuse, northeast through Marche, Horton and Grandmoulin, then northwest to Lieroux, to near

Stavelot, then 14 miles east to Bullingen and on to Monsechau in Germany.

A lead dispatch declared Von Rundstedt apparently now was seeking a breakthrough toward Namur rather than Liege, 34 miles southeast of Namur. The Germans were more than 80 miles from Namur by Sunday.

Besides pounding into Rochefort, German armor and infantry farther southeast also had taken L'Arbreumont, only 23 miles from Sedan and 16 from the French border. Prisoners said the German timetable called for Paris by Jan. 17.

Even as the German offensive bit deeper into Belgium, Americans to the northeast at Duren, 20 miles from Cologne, had entered Windem four miles below Duren Sunday and cleared Obernubach a mile farther down.

## WOUNDED VET IS HURT IN WRECK

**Two Treated at Hospital—  
Several Accidents Laid  
to Ice.**

Two persons, one of whom was a wounded veteran recently returned from overseas, were injured Monday noon in an automobile accident at Thirteenth street and Michigan avenue.

Police took John Graham, the veteran, who is under treatment at Wakeman General hospital, and Miss Maurice Terrill, 1624 Central avenue to the county hospital where they were treated for minor injuries.

They were passengers in a Tunnel taxi being driven west on Thirteenth street by Lon Taylor, 47, of Route 8.

**Both Vehicles Wrecked.**

Police said that John H. Seward, 634 Rao street, traveling south on Michigan avenue in a 1936 Ford coach, struck the taxi broadside at the intersection. Seward is a former taxi driver.

Both vehicles were badly wrecked but neither overturned. Police estimated the total damage at \$500.

Minor damage was caused to a King taxi driven by Charles Shoultz, 214 College avenue, in an accident Saturday afternoon in East Columbus.

Deputy Sheriff Glenn Howe said a truck backed into the front of the taxi at the corner of Sixth and Pleasant streets.

**Cab and Car Collide.**

Damage estimated at about \$50 was caused at 11 o'clock this morning when a Tunnel taxi driven by Harry Jones and a Chevrolet truck owned by William Lawless and driven by Marshall Palmer of 214 Volmer avenue collided at Fifth and Washington streets.

Car driven by Norman I. Grimes, 2312 Newton street, and George Luttrell of Bedford collided at 5 o'clock Monday afternoon at Eighteenth and Newton streets. Damage was estimated at \$40.

A number of accidents were reported to have occurred on highways in the Columbus vicinity over the holiday, caused by the slick condition of the roads.

### Marriage Licenses

William Earl Dady, 18 Columbus factory employe, and Mildred June Black, 16 Columbus, to T. Robertson, 27 Columbus minister, and Reata LaBach, 26 Columbus, minister.

# 1944\_12\_26 Nazis 50 miles into Belgium

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