

Red Army Reported 28 Miles From Berlin

B.D.I.C.

PARIS EDITION

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

1 Fr.

1 Fr.

Ici On Parle Français

Il est deux heures.
Eel ay duz er.
It is two o'clock.

Man Spricht Deutsch

Waffenstillstand.
Vahffenstillstahnd.
Armistice.

Vol. 1—No. 225 *

Friday, March 9, 1945

1st Army Crosses Rhine, Seizes Firm Bridgehead

Berlin Told: 'Last Hour Has Struck'

Powerful Russian attacks against the "outer ramparts" of the Berlin defense system were reported yesterday by German commentators, who said Marshal Gregory Zhukov's forces had driven 10 miles west of the Oder River and reached Seelow, 28 miles from the German capital.

Nazi reports that Zhukov had opened his drive for Berlin still were not officially confirmed. But Moscow Radio broadcast to the people of Berlin: "Your last hour has struck. This is your last chance."

Fierce Fighting Indicated

The Germans reported the Russian force which reached Seelow broke out of the Oder bridgehead opposite Goritz, six miles south of the Nazi bastion of Kustrin. The Nazis said they had retaken some ground in counter-attacks.

This and other Nazi accounts of action on the Kustrin-Frankfurt front and above Kustrin, indicated that Zhukov's long-awaited assault was well under way. The Germans said fierce fighting was in progress, with some localities changing hands hourly.

The Russians were reported to have captured Rathstock, west of the Oder, on the Kustrin-Frankfurt (Continued on Page 8)

Eisenhower Hails First's Rhine Crossing

Gen. Eisenhower yesterday sent the following message to Lt. Gen. Hodges:

"The whole Allied force is delighted to cheer the First U.S. Army, whose speed and boldness have won the race to establish the first bridgehead over the Rhine.

"Please tell all ranks how proud I am of them."

(Signed) Eisenhower
Supreme Commander.

Indians Drive Into Mandalay; Lashio Taken

Indian forces in central Burma reached Mandalay yesterday, while Chinese troops in the north captured the Burma Road terminus of Lashio.

A Reuter dispatch said that the 19th Indian Div. of the British 14th Army, driving down rapidly from the north, had "entered the city limits" of Mandalay and was fighting in a northern suburb about 2,000 yards from the heart of the city.

Yesterday's SEAC communique said the northern outskirts of Mandalay had been reached. It also reported an increase to 3,000 in the number of Japanese killed in operations around Meiktila, 80 miles south of Mandalay.

The recent Allied thrust to Meiktila almost completed isolation of (Continued on Page 8)

River Barrier Is Hurdled Between Cologne, Coblenz

By Dan Regan

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH FIRST U.S. ARMY, March 8. —Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' First Army troops have crossed the Rhine and established a bridgehead on the east bank, it was officially announced tonight.

After a surprise move at 1640 hours yesterday, Gen. Hodges' men struck across the last great water barrier to the heart of Germany, apparently hitting the Germans where they least expected it. For the past several days German opposition has been completely disorganized, and a blackout had been imposed on American operations.

Bridgehead Growing Rapidly

[Late frontline dispatches this morning described the new Rhine bridgehead as growing rapidly against light resistance. One correspondent reported the capture of a village. All reports emphasized that the Germans had been caught napping, although enemy planes came over to show that they caught on soon enough.

A Reuter dispatch reported that the crossing was made at Remagen, on the left bank of the Rhine about 12 miles south of Bonn. Earlier, the Nazis had asserted that a force of Americans had reached the Rhine at that point.

[The Rhine River at Remagen is nearly a half-mile wide. The shore of the Remagen side is flat but across the Rhine it rises to cliffs south of the small town of Erpel.

[The town is at the junction of the Cologne-Coblenz and Ahr Valley rail lines.

[The Ludendorf Bridge, a double-track rail bridge, spans the river at Remagen.]

Superhighway Lies Beyond the Rhine

[Opposite Remagen, less than 10 miles beyond the bank, a superhighway parallels the Rhine and provides a northern route to the Ruhr. Near Duisberg, the highway veers northeast to Hanover, Magdeburg and Berlin. The southern route leads to Frankfurt.

[The town, originally a part of the Duchy of Julich, up (Continued on Page 8)



U.S. First Army yesterday seized bridgehead across the Rhine opposite Remagen, Reuter reported.

Mild Work Bill Nears a Vote

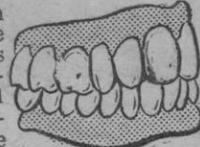
WASHINGTON, March 8 (ANS). —The Senate yesterday killed two proposals for compulsory manpower controls and cleared the way for a vote on the much milder bill recommended by the Military Affairs Committee.

The Senate first voted, 60-23, against an attempt by Sen. Josiah W. Bailey (D-N.C.) to apply the work-fight principle to men between 18 and 45 years of age not engaged in essential jobs. Later, they defeated, 54-27, the Revercomb bill.

Meanwhile, the House voted, 347-42, to draft nurses 19 to 45 years (Continued on Page 8)

Secret Weapon

This Japanese warrior's code with teeth in it was reported by Radio Tokyo yesterday: "Though his weapons are damaged and his ammunition exhausted, he will charge empty-handed and bite the enemy to death." The Japanese news agency said this was one resolve of the by-passed Japanese at Rabaul, in New Britain.



Grinders, MI



Stars and Stripes Map by Jatro
Arrows indicate points where Soviets reportedly resumed their Berlin drive. Nazis reported them 28 miles from capital.

They Saw Their Opportunity, So They Crossed the Rhine

By Andy Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

EAST OF THE RHINE, March 8. —Able Co. crossed first, Charlie second and Baker Co. followed them, and went on to take the high cliff rising sharply behind the beachhead.

That is the simple story of the American crossing of the Rhine—where they crossed and how they crossed are secrets, although the Germans sent single plates over at intervals, attempting to strafe the American flow across the great German river, indicating that they

are very much aware of how the crossing is being made.

In one day the unit which first crossed had pushed seven miles, overran columns of German vehicles, captured ammunition dumps containing tons of German explosives and finally reached the Rhine, and decided to cross it.

The original mission of the force was not to cross the river, but when Lt. Col. Leonard Engemann, of Minnesota, saw the opportunity, he grabbed the chance and ordered the crossing.

Fifteen minutes after that, at (Continued on Page 8)

THE B BAG BLOW IT OUT HERE

Voice Across the Sea

"Let's listen to the dead. Let's learn from the living." Those words will echo throughout the cities, the towns and the farms of this country for a long time. We, at home, are listening to the echo. The war is being won primarily where you are, but it has to be won here, where we are, too. The writers of America are trying to do their share. They are writing and talking to millions every day—about what and why this war is. They reach the old and the young, in homes, offices, factories and schools.

But maybe there is something they are not saying—something that they should be saying. Maybe there are things your readers would like us to know and to tell.

I represent a group called the Book and Author War Bond Committee. We have sent 78 of America's leading writers to cities all over the country during War Bond Drives. Their speeches are more—much more—than sales talks for War Bonds. They are about the war, and, of course, about the peace to come.

But maybe these writers are missing something. Maybe there is something they should be saying, that you alone can tell them. If you suspect so, let us have it. We will listen and we will do our best to pass it on to the people here at home.—Mark Van Doren, Chairman, National Book and Author War Bond Committee.

Nice Way to Get Busted

Last night I wrote my brother about personal matters. This morning an officer censored my letter. That, I realize, has to be done to safeguard military information. But when an officer starts publishing your letter, it's too much. We were told one officer in the battery is supposed to censor letters. Now all the battery officers do it and make a party of the procedure by discussing the letters of different individuals. How about information on censorship?—Pvt. R. D., FA Bn. (Circular 6, Hq. ETOUSA, 17 Jan. 1945, entitled "Military Censorship" says: "Commanders will designate as many officers as required to insure mail... censored and forwarded within 24 hours... Unit censors will not repeat or discuss information contained in communications they censor, except in line of duty."—Ed.)

Doozy

Your Feb. 20 Russian lesson was a doozy. Not only was the pronunciation nowhere near correct, but to use Daw-broy now-chee is bad taste... A Russian would say "Spokoynee noh-tch" which literally means "Quiet night" but is the equivalent of "Good night" in English.—T/Sgt F. J. Piatieski, Inf. Div. (You may be right, but we quoted from TM 30-644, the Army's Russian Phrase Book.—Ed.)

Everybody Duck

Not having been in this theater very long, I must have missed the initial outburst on VD, covered in the B-Bag. About the only self-restraint ever practised by the average service man is that which he uses in shunning work. "Character," to some men, is nothing more than the noun meaning "one individual." "Short arm" should also include a quick look at each individual tongue, many of which have been sorely fouled by the constant flow of expletives, oaths and curses.

Some fellows would be utterly void of any expression whatever if all the baser terms were suddenly deleted from their puny vocabulary.

If the Lord's name was mentioned in supplication just half as often as in connection with a useless "damn," a lot would be accomplished. Cursing is not, as some think, a sign of manhood... It is a mark of ignorance and is a poor substitute for English.—W/O Gail D. Dalley, 231 Gen. Hosp.

A Guest in the House

This Belgian money we're paid with up here is no damn good!! Why? 'Cause it wears out too fast. Just about one time around the board during a hot crap game makes it look like toilet tissue. Twice around the board and "alles kaput!" And even if you don't shoot crap you got to cut the damn stuff down so it will fit in your pocket book. Even after you've got it in your pocket book you still don't know what it is worth!—T/5 Earl D. Burnette, AAA AW Bn.

Foot and Shoe Problem

I have been having considerable trouble with my feet because they do not conform with the Army shoe. How can I have my shoes made to order, as prescribed by myself for my feet—even if it does take as long as three months? I have been to an orthopedic clinic, but I didn't get any co-operation.—Pvt. Melvin Van Egmond, Armd. Co. (Major Gen. R. M. Littlejohn, theater Q.M. states that: If you cannot be fitted from regular tariff sizes, of which there are 90, there are available 195 supplemental sizes. If you cannot be fitted from either of these sources you may have shoes made to order. Orthopedic footwear for enlisted personnel can be obtained as follows:

- a) Your medical officer prescribes orthopedic footwear and submits outlines of your feet on Form 407, and forwards this form to your QM supply officer together with recommendations for corrective footwear.
- b) Your QM supply officer forwards Forms 407 and 400 through QM channels to the Supply Division, OCQM, for action.
- c) Arrangements are then made for the manufacture of the prescribed footwear at the source nearest your unit.

(There is, however, no procedure in the Army for construction of special shoes to fit the desires of the user but disapproved by the medical officer.—Ed.)

Up Front With Mauldin



"Must be a tough objective. Th' ol' man says we're gonna have th' honor of liberatin' it."

An Editorial

Tomorrow May Be Too Late

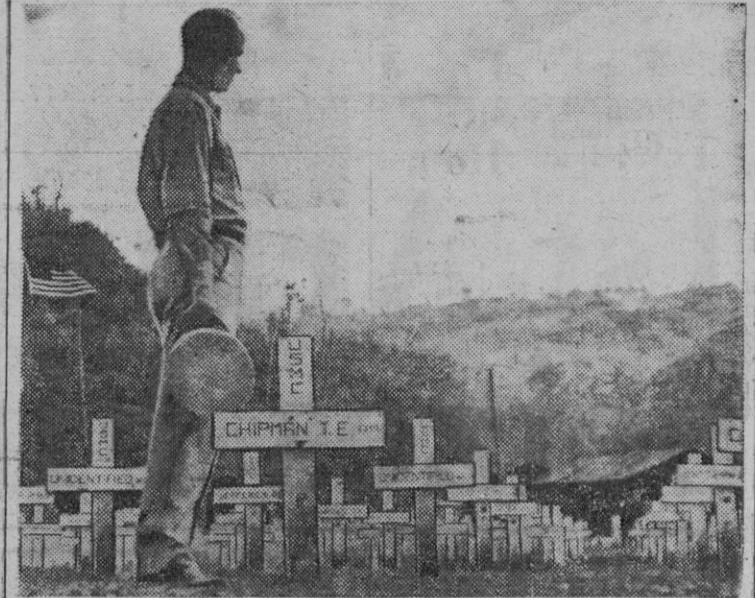
Dear Mr. van Doren:

Your letter in today's B Bag asks what should be said to the people at home. Something that goes beyond a sales talk for war bonds. That deals with war and the peace to come.

Thousands of soldiers will read your letter. Their replies will be more eloquent than ours. We will send their letters to you as they come.

For ourselves, we'd say just this: Some day Germany will be beaten. On that day millions will breathe freely, relax and think of the joys of peace. The enemy in the East may still be strong. The broken body of the Hun may writhe with life and ooze its poison. But human nature won't be denied. Four years of war will have their reaction. To many, "Cease Fire" will be a signal to rest and play.

If it takes sales talks to sell bonds today, what then will it take tomorrow? If our writers are missing something now, to what will they later turn for inspiration? If people can't hear the



guns, or feel the wounds, or smell the dead, how much more immune will they be tomorrow? If, when liberty fights on two fronts for survival, people don't queue up to give money and muscle and brain—what when one foe collapses?

Now is the time for new resolution. To tighten our machinery of war. To ready ourselves for reaction. To take the steps that will commit every American—each according to strength and age and sex—to share the

sacrifice and bear the burden. To the end. Until the last soldier comes home from the farthest outpost.

Tell America the time is now. While two enemies threaten. While thousands die. While no man can hide his selfish purpose behind a facade of victory in the West.

Today may be our last chance to mix the mortar that will keep our house together when the VE tempests blow.

Tomorrow may be too late.

No Laying Down on Job

ROSEAU, Minn., March 8 (ANS).—John Nalaria says that there should be some sort of an award for his leghorn hen for expanded wartime food production. Twice this winter, says Nalaria, his little hen laid two eggs in one day.

Ancient Coblenz and Bonn Historic Rhineland Cities

Beethoven's Birthplace Famed for University

In Munster-Platz, Bonn, there is a statue erected 100 years ago to the memory of Beethoven, composer of the Fifth Symphony whose opening bar is the "di-di-daa" keynote of the V for Victory radio signal.

The signal was a symbol of hope to anti-Nazis who listened to Allied broadcasts. Now the notes are becoming a death-knell for Nazi resistance as Third Army troops close in on Bonn.

The once-picturesque Rhineland city, famed for its university and as the birthplace of the noted composer, is on the left bank of the Rhine about 15 miles southeast of Cologne and on the main railway line to Mainz. Its 1944 population was more than 98,700.

Its chief bridge, built in 1896-98, is 1,417 feet long, flanked by an embankment two miles long.

The Munster church, surrounded by five towers, was a Rhine Valley landmark. The university occupies the larger part of the town's southern frontage; it owes its existence to King Frederick William III.

Rail Center Known To GIs of Last War

As the Fourth Armd. Div. today approached Coblenz, the ancient city of 60,000 at the junction of the Rhine and Moselle Rivers, the clock turned back for many a soldier of the last war.

Although Coblenz was not taken by assault in the last war, it was here that the flag of the Army of Occupation was lowered in a ceremony that started a lot of lonesome guys on their way home.

Coblenz, a railroad center guarded by the guns of the old fortress of Ehrenbretstein, was first occupied in 1919 by American troops who were later relieved by the French. It was the headquarters of the Inter-Allied Rhineland High Commission.

Coblenz, always a peacetime stop on sightseeing tours of Europe and a great tourist center, has seen much war. In its long history, dating back to the days of the glory of Rome, Coblenz has been occupied by the French, the Swedes and the Russians prior to the Allied occupation of our fathers' time.

Stage Door Canteen in Paris

A Paris version of New York's Stage Door Canteen will welcome its first GI guests tomorrow night at 144 Champs-Elysees, near the Arc de Triomphe.

Operated by a French committee and the American Theater Wing for War Service, the "Cabaret des Troupes Alliées," formerly a nightclub, will be open daily, including Sundays, from 6 PM to 11 PM.

It will be the eighth Stage Door Canteen—there are six in the U.S. and one in London.

Guest artists invited for the opening are Maurice Chevalier and Noel Coward. The U.S. Army Band will play.

Although admission tomorrow is by ticket only, thereafter all Allied servicemen and servicewomen will be welcome.

There will be a permanent orchestra, with volunteer French dance hostesses, special guest artists, a bar and other attractions, including ice-cream.

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Ninth's Big Guns Spew Out a Hell Of Long-Saved Shells to Open Drive

800 Pieces Fired 60,000 Rounds In First Hours

By Robert L. Moora
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH U.S. NINTH ARMY, March 8.—For weeks, while the flooding Roer River separated American troops and the Germans defending Cologne and the Rhine, ammunition for the Ninth Army's big guns was strictly rationed, the artillery expending small quantities with great care.

But at 0245 the morning the offensive opened there was loosed upon enemy positions the beginning of the greatest artillery concentration since the Meuse-Argonne offensive in 1918.

Col. L. H. Handley, of San Antonio, Tex., describing today the hell of shellfire which hit the enemy in support of Ninth Army troops and armor, said nearly 800 guns—one for every 30 yards of front—simultaneously opened up on enemy positions. In the first few hours, nearly 60,000 rounds—almost 3,000 tons—were fired from weapons ranging from the 105mm howitzer to eight-inch guns and 240mm howitzers.

Foe Had No Warning

In contrast to the barrages of World War I, the artillery fire in this offensive was concentrated on certain important targets. Heavier weapons far behind the front fired as much as 75 seconds before the lighter pieces up close let loose. As a result of this careful timing, shells from all types of weapons struck the target at once.

As many as 37 shells exploded simultaneously on selected targets with a suddenness that gave the enemy no warning he was in danger. Ranges against the same targets were from 12,000 yards for 105s to 30,000 yards for eight-inchers.

The results, both in casualties and in psychological reaction, were terrific, according to forward observers and prisoners of war. Advancing U.S. infantrymen captured German soldiers who remained in cellars and dugouts long after the artillery shifted targets.

Supplementary Guns Used

In the first six days of the offensive, nearly 350,000 rounds—almost 32,000,000 pounds of high explosives—were laid on 2,500 or more targets, not counting additional thousands of rounds fired by tank destroyers, tanks and AA guns used as artillery weapons.

Enemy communications—telephone and telegraph wires—which had been pinpointed by aerial photographs got first attention while command posts and artillery rated next among priority targets.

Enemy Disorganized

The enemy's disorganization and sporadic artillery opposition attested to the success of the fire. Col. Handley pointed out, and there were equally gratifying results from fire missions against such other targets as troop concentrations, bridges, traffic-clogged roads and enemy observation points. German counter-attacks were repeatedly broken up by artillery.

Anti-aircraft defenses were another important target. As American aircraft attacked, artillery fired on enemy ack-ack positions, either destroying them or preventing interference with bombers' missions.

Tanks Can Operate In Six Feet of Water

NEW YORK, March 8 (AP).—Armored tanks are now so thoroughly waterproofed that they can operate in six feet of water during invasion operations, the United States Rubber Co. has announced with War Department approval.

The methods used—still secret—permit the tanks to plunge from barges into the surf without drowning the engines. They were used successfully in Normandy.

Gen. Ike Looks Over Fallen Citadel



On his first trip to conquered Germany east of the Roer, Gen. Eisenhower spent 30 minutes wandering over the rubble of Julich's Citadel, the 300-year-old former Nazi non-commissioned officers' school. Accompanying the Supreme Commander were Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson and Ninth Army Division commanders.



"This will give the Germans something to think about in the future," Gen. Eisenhower said as he looked over the remains of what was once a German city fortress. At the right is Gen. Simpson.



His inspection of the Citadel completed, Gen. Eisenhower leaves the historic shrine which was a bastion for the Germans until Ninth Army troops surged across the Roer in their Rhine-bound offensive. From here, Eisenhower went on to the 83rd Inf. Div. CP.

Nazis Fail, He Succeeds Yankin Cologne Finds Hidden Jewish Parents

By Andy Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

COLOGNE, March 7 (Delayed).—After 12 years, M/Sgt. Bernard Bernkopf, of Camden, N. J., returned to Cologne, where he spent the first 20 years of his life and found his Jewish parents hiding from the Gestapo.

His father, 65 years old, and his mother had been hidden by Gentiles in Cologne for more than a year while the German secret police looked for them.

Bernkopf found relatives in the town of Krefeld and they told him in whispers where he might locate his family once he got to Cologne.

There were tears in his father's eyes today as the two wandered arm-in-arm through the ruins of Cologne. The son worked as a window trimmer in a large Cologne department store before he left for Palestine and eventually America. They looked at the ruins of the store where he had trimmed windows, and they looked at the ruins of the house where he was born.

"How did you like the 1,000-bomber raid, momma?" Bernkopf asked his mother.

"Beautiful!" the mother replied. "They were beautiful!"

France Shuns Dissent Bloc

The French Foreign Ministry yesterday denied that the De Gaulle government will lead a dissident bloc of small nations at the World Security Conference in San Francisco next month.

Citing reports France intends to rally the smaller nations seeking modification of the Dumbarton Oaks security plan, a Ministry spokesman said his government recognizes the importance of having the responsibility for keeping peace lie with the great powers.

"In no way does France intend to take the lead of those who are dissatisfied at San Francisco," he declared. "France adheres to the principles of Dumbarton Oaks with a few amendments."

The Ministry's statement followed disapproval in Moscow at the French insistence on modifying certain features of the Dumbarton Oaks plan and reluctance to accept the tenets of the Yalta conference.

25 Bathrooms, He's Still a Dirty Nazi

COLOGNE, March 8 (AP).—Doughboys accustomed to foxholes marveled at the wartime luxury of a mansion abandoned by a Nazi bigwig who made millions by profiteering.

His neighbors called him a "dirty Nazi" but he had no fewer than 25 bathrooms. The cooking stove with a dozen electric burners came in handy when a battalion used the house temporarily as an HQ.

The rambling brick structure was built a few years ago of colored bricks to resemble gray-old castles of the Rhineland.

Port Company Sets Mark

WITH 301st PORT CO.—This company recently set a port record by unloading 733 long tons of shells in a 12-hour period. The five crews interrupted their labors only long enough to eat.

Tankers Rest, But They Are Veterans Now

By Ernest Leiser

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

RHEINBERG, Germany, March 7. (Delayed).—The tankers were just sitting around today, their eyes and voices listless as they talked—tired men who had fought too hard. They didn't even pay much heed as the shells cracked in, and smashed the houses a hundred feet or so away.

The tankers were from the 36th Tank Bn. of the Eighth Arm'd. Div. The drive across the Rhineland was their first major action, and the fight for Rheinberg had been their first rough battle.

But these men, resting a little and talking about the fight in dull, worn-out voices, weren't talking like green troops. They were talking like veterans—and they had a good right to, because they had fought like veterans.

Others More Spectacular

Rheinberg didn't get much play in the headlines. Bigger towns and more spectacular actions were going on while the tanks were working with 35th Inf. Div. doughs in pushing through the little town, which should have been easy but wasn't.

Actually, as T/4 Ben Bajorek, of Cleveland, a tank driver put it, "It was a day in Hell." As the tanks barreled up to the town, everything in the world hit them—bazookamen spaced five yards apart, 88s on either side of the road into town, AT guns and artillery from stuff as heavy as 150mm.

Maj. John Van Houten, of Detroit, recalled the battle slowly, monotonously, in a tired voice: "We took a pasting but, by God, we let them know we were around."

They're The Best

His boys, he said, in his only flash of enthusiasm, were "the best in the division—the best in the whole damned Army." He told how a platoon leader, his tank knocked out, hit the ground, and to cover his men sprayed a ditch filled with six Jerries and killed them all. Wounded in the mouth, he kept on going, shooting constantly until he just disappeared.

Then there was Pfc Edward Murray, of Chicago, who hopped out of the tank in the middle of cross-fire to put out a blaze started by an 88, and then stayed out to riddle another ditchful of Germans.

Several Germans were climbing up the disabled tank of 2/Lt. Wesley Buller, of Brookshire, Texas, when he stuck his head out and killed them all with his pistol. "It was just like shooting jackrabbits back in Texas," Buller said, with a trace of a grin.

But shooting the heavy stuff wasn't like that. In one column of eight tanks from Baker Co., only one was still going, and its boss, Sgt. Vernon McLean, of Towson, Md., said, "All we could do was sit there and sweat. We were hemmed in by the tanks in front and back of us and couldn't turn."

Finally, after a ricocheting 88 had knocked McLean's Tommy gun right out of his hand, they managed to wiggle out. They had been there three hours.

For the whole day, it had been like that—and when, at night, they managed to break into the town, they had fought enough war to make any outfit veteran.

Hospital Ships Kept Busy

HQ., 15th MAJOR PORT TC.—Hospital ships transported 27,550 wounded American doughboys from this port to Charleston, S.C., during 1944.

Goebbels' Hall a Synagogue

WITH 29th INF. DIV.—Jewish services for doughboys were held in the banquet hall of Nazi Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels' chateau.

More than 100 infantrymen attended the service conducted by Chaplain Manuel M. Poliakoff, of Baltimore. The chaplain said he'd prefer services in a synagogue, but both of those in the area had been leveled by Hitler.

The banquet hall still had Hitler's portrait over its medieval fireplace. And the Holy Ark was placed over the casement window, still draped with a swastika.

T/5 Martin Willem, 115th Infantry Regiment Service Co., of Baltimore, acted as cantor.

Wounded GI Shuns Award, Raps OCS Bust

LOUISVILLE, Ky., March 8 (UP).—Sgt. Joseph Kusaila, of Waterbury, Conn., 24-year-old veteran of the Western Front, disclosed today that he had refused a recently awarded Bronze Star because the citation for leadership was "a reversal of the decision" of the Ft. Benning OCS, where he had washed out.

In a 2,500-word letter to Gen. George C. Marshall, Kusaila explained that, although the award "might have conceded to me a certain amount of leadership," it reversed the infantry OCS which "handed me a white slip of paper stating that I lacked the qualifications of a leader."

The sergeant is recuperating at Nichols General Hospital here. He was wounded in Germany Nov. 22. The citation, dated Jan. 2, from headquarters of the Tenth Army Div., said that Sgt. Kusaila was a member of a platoon subjected to intense enemy artillery and mortar shelling. As fire began to inflict casualties, the men became confused and panicky and were having difficulty meeting the onslaught.

Sgt. Kusaila took charge and "without regard for his own safety" assisted medical men in caring for the wounded. The citation praised his "exemplary courage, leadership and concern for the welfare of his fellow soldiers."

Kusaila said he was removed from OCS in September, 1943, because he criticized the school's method of estimating the intelligence of candidates. Kusaila is a graduate of Columbia University.

Two New Strikes Spring Up in Detroit

DETROIT, March 8 (ANS).—Two new strikes developed in the Detroit area today as the regional WLB ordered approximately 13,000 employees of seven Briggs Manufacturing plants to return to work. The latest work stoppages involve 1,000 employees of Thompson Products Inc., and 3,000 workers at Graham Paige Motors Inc.

The Thompson strike came after 158 employees accused by the management of participating in illegal work stoppages were suspended or discharged. The strike at Graham Paige followed a dispute over how much time workers should be allowed for washing up before quitting.

Meanwhile, Briggs employees, who have been on strike for a week, will vote at a mass meeting Friday whether to accept the back-to-work directive.

The directive also ordered the management to reinstate eight of the 15 employees discharged. Dismissal of the seven others was ordered submitted to an arbitrator spokesman for Local 3.

Approximately 1,100 employees of the Detroit Aluminium and Brass Corp. returned to work today after a two-day strike that followed the dismissal of 12 men.

WASHINGTON, March 8 (UP).—The United Mine Workers and soft coal operators still were sparing over the price John L. Lewis has set for uninterrupted coal production. Both sides agreed that a showdown isn't expected until next week, when the 12-man conference committee will reach the voting stage.

His Quest for Heiress Ends in Own Home

EVANSVILLE, Ind., March 8 (ANS).—Special Investigator Walter Downs Jr. came home one night and confessed failure in his quest for a Miss Ruth Elder, heiress to an estate in Scotland.

"Why," Mrs. Downs exclaimed, "that's my cousin! Her name is Mrs. Fletcher Dentor now." The detective's wife also knew the cousin's correct address.

America Newsreel



Sarasota—CIRCUS GETS READY—Preparations for the 1945 tour of the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus are well under way at the winter quarters in Florida despite reports that the tour might have to be called off because six officials had been given prison sentences as a result of the Hartford fire last year. Here, the elephant ballet number is rehearsed.



New York—A DINNER DATE—Pretty Ava Gardner, who two days before this picture was taken was a platinum blonde, dines with band leader Artie Shaw in the Stork Club. Ava is the former Mrs. Mickey Rooney.



Asheville—DESERVING RECEPTION—S/Sgt. Don Geyer, of Elizabethtown, Pa., has a porter at the swank Battery Park Hotel carry his suitcases, as the sergeant, a vet of 35 months of combat overseas, turns into Army Redistribution Center No. Car.

GOP Demand Delays Vote on Bretton Woods

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP).—Roosevelt Administration leaders today abandoned hope for enactment, prior to the San Francisco United Nations conference, of legislation joining the U.S. to a world economic organization as patterned at Bretton Woods.

Republican members of the House Banking Committee demanded an intensive inquiry into all international monetary commitments, leading Chairman Brent Spence (D-Ky.) to give up hope of the legislation passing now.

S. Carolina Will Require Delay for Weddings

COLUMBIA, S.C., March 8 (ANS).—South Carolina is slamming the door on hasty marriages. A bill requiring a 24-hour waiting period after a marriage license is obtained will become effective in July.

The new legislation concludes a three-year fight by women's clubs to erase the state's Gretna Green marriage reputation. South Carolina laws have no divorce provisions.

Calder, Former Senator From N.Y., Dies at 76

NEW YORK, March 8 (ANS).—William Calder, 76 years old, U.S. senator from New York from 1917 to 1923, and one of the sponsors of first daylight saving law, died Tuesday after a long illness.

Powerful New U.S. Tank Is Revealed

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP).—The most powerful tank ever built by the U.S.—the T26, which will bear the name of General Pershing—is now being produced "in quantity," it was announced today by General Motors and Chrysler Corporations.

Under-Secretary of War Robert P. Patterson described the new tank as the answer to Germany's Tiger tank. It is equipped with a 90mm gun, but no other details were released, nor was anything said about the new tank being engaged in combat at present.

The Senate War Investigating and the Military Affairs Committees will be asked to look into complaints by American soldiers on

Vets to Spur College Boom, Educator Says

WASHINGTON, March 8 (ANS).—A great many GIs are going to trade in their uniforms and military manuals for saddle shoes and text books after the war, E. V. Hollis, specialist in higher education for the U.S. Office of Education, predicted today.

There will be enough of them with the thirst for higher learning to make the first normal peacetime year the biggest in college history, Hollis asserted.

Hollis said that after the fighting stops college enrollment will get a lift from its present doldrums and will soon set a record. Hollis declined to predict how high the post-war enrollment will reach, saying employment conditions will have a lot to do with it.

One of the chief stimulants will be the tuition allowance provided in the GI Bill of Rights. It gives military personnel a maximum tuition allotment of \$500 and also provides maintenance money.

Campuses have been thoroughly scoured of male students since the start of the war, and of many women. In 1939-40, a normal pre-war year, national enrollment was 1,493,000. During the current term, it is 1,020,000, and many of the students are military personnel taking special courses.

The great majority of enlisted personnel have not completed college. Of the estimated 10,800,000 men in the services, only 3 1/2 per cent have graduated, and sheepskins are held by less than 1 per cent of 199,800 service women. Of those totals, 6,300,000 eventually will matriculate.

U.S. Reich Advisor To Call on FDR

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP).—Ambassador Robert D. Murphy, Gen. Eisenhower's ranking advisor on German affairs, has returned from SHAEF to confer with President Roosevelt and other American officials.

The exact nature of his mission is unknown although it coincides with the new period of operations and civilian control inside Germany.

The State Department said only that Murphy is making one of his "periodic trips" to Washington.

At 13, Wed for 2 Years, Wife Sues for Divorce

TAZWELL, Tenn., March 8 (ANS).—Mrs. Wilma Jean Buchanan, 13, whose marriage to Walter Buchanan in 1942, when she was 11 years old, attracted nation-wide interest, filed suit for divorce yesterday. She charged her 55-year-old husband beat and abused her.

Musicians' Hours Cut

CHICAGO, March 8 (UP).—The work week of Chicago café musicians has been cut from 48 hours to 30 hours under an agreement between the Chicago Federation of Musicians and the Café Owners Association. The five-hour day, six-day week became necessary because of the midnight curfew.

Just Friends



Lt. Cmdr. Wallace Beery poses with Sylvia Galfield, the 17-year-old girl with whom rumour-mongers had linked the movie actor romantically. Beery said Miss Galfield is the daughter of a "very dear friend" and that she came to Los Angeles to school.

It's the Man Who Pays And Pays and Pays and Goes to Aleutians, Too

GREAT FALLS, Mont., March 8 (ANS).—Lester Logan Martin, 38-year-old Don Juan, had a man-sized job confronting him today as sentence was suspended on charges of violating the Mann act.

Sentence of four years and six months was suspended on Martin's promise to pay \$25 a month to his wife, and \$25 monthly to children of each of three sweethearts. The other romances include Bwynne Doyle, who has two children; Wanda Joy Bailey, one child, and Lavelle O'Leary, who is now in a Seattle hospital awaiting birth of a child.

Judge Charles N. Pray placed Martin on five years' probation, while Martin's construction company boss said he would send the Don Juan to the Aleutian Islands as a \$160-a-week construction foreman.

the Western Front that U.S. tanks do not equal the enemy's armor.

"It certainly is something we should look into if reports from the front show they're not working," Sen. Homer Ferguson (R-Mich.) said. He promised to take the matter up with the Senate War Investigating Committee.

Sen. Harold H. Burton (R-Ohio), a member of both committees, said the Military Affairs group should check the record of U.S. tanks and see "whether the proper thing has been prescribed."

Sen. Edwin C. Johnson (D-Col.) said the War Department "has assured us we are putting out a tank second to none."

Several weeks ago, Maj. Gen. Levin Campbell, chief of ordnance,

revealed that the Army was using another new tank, known as the "assault tank," which he said was five tons heavier than the medium 35-ton Sherman, and which has about double the frontal armor of the Sherman.

It is believed the Pershing carries more armor than the Sherman and the new assault tank, but it probably is considerably lighter than 62 tons. Several years ago, the U.S. built tanks in the 62-ton class but discarded them because, according to Campbell, field generals said they did not want so heavy a tank.

Campbell's opinion of the Nazis' 75-ton tank is that it is "big and clumsy" and bogs down in soft mud "where it's like a sitting duck."

This Happened in America Yesterday:

Memories of The Bulge Restrain U. S. Optimism

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 8.—Home town people are happy about the victories on all fronts, but the lesson of the Belgian Bulge provides a restraining note against dizzying optimism. The war commentators are setting a tone of caution.

Maj. George Fielding Elliot warns, "We have already had painful experience of the reactive capacity of the German Army, given anything like an opportunity." Hanson Baldwin hopes that the Allies in east and west can maintain momentum. Lowell Limpus, in the New York Daily News, trumpets, "Old Blood and Guts Doing It Again."

And while on the subject of Blood and Guts: Mrs. George S. Patton Jr., reading the papers in South Hamilton, Mass., says she's not surprised at a report that Patton swam the Rhine. "He is a great swimmer," Mrs. Patton says, and reminds everyone that he came in third in the Stockholm Olympics, 1912, in the swimming event in the modern decathlon.

1,575 Pounds of Hog Down the River

A sad tale comes from Peoria, Ill., the town that shares honors with Brooklyn as a victim of gags on the vaudeville circuits. Seven hogs strayed out on the ice of the Illinois River, and Farmer Bob Carver hog-called mightily but they turned deaf ears. Mournfully, Farmer Carver watched an ice floe break away and carry his pigs—average weight 225 pounds—away in the gathering darkness.



Hog-calling would probably appeal to Jimmy Durante, who's going overseas to entertain fighting men. The Schnozzola wants noise—city noises like auto horns and clanking trolleys. "Birds and bees are not for me," he honked.

Get going on reconversion, says Rep. George H. Bender (R-Ohio), who feels that the war news justifies "orderly guides for change of war plants to their peace-time production." When victory comes, he says, there should be a neatly-wrapped plan to keep those factory chimneys smoking.

The smoking chimneys have knocked those white collars out of business, in the opinion of Sen. Ernest W. McFarland (D-Ariz.). When WLB Chairman William H. Davis used the term, "white collar workers" in an appearance before the Senate Banking Committee, the senator said, "Mr. Davis, my laundry told me this morning they couldn't take my shirts any more because they didn't have labor and couldn't get it. Instead of calling them white collar workers while the war is on, we should call them dirty collar workers."

Penicillin for the Drug Trade

PENICILLIN, the wonder drug, will be distributed through regular drug trade channels starting March 15, the War Production Board announced, but it will be sold only for "parenteral medication," meaning injection into the blood stream or muscles. All hospitals and doctors will be able to get it.

Iwo Jima slipped into the strained atmosphere of a Detroit court where Mrs. Ignatius Bates was resisting her landlord's attempt to evict her. Mrs. Bates showed Circuit Court Commissioner Carl M. Weideman a letter from her son, Robert, who is a marine on that bloody island. Judge Weideman then turned down the landlord's bid, saying, "I cannot in good conscience evict the mother of a marine who is going through what the Marines are going through on Iwo Jima. They are evicting Japs and I think that is all the evicting that should be done in this case."

SIN came in for a heavy thumping in the South Carolina House of Representatives where an effort to revoke the 50-year-old constitutional prohibition of divorces was defeated through lack of a two-thirds vote. One representative thundered that the change would "let down the bars to wholesale sin," and said he was proud that South Carolina was "the only state where you can't get rid of your wife for a few dollars."

In New York City, a court clerk called the case of Mrs. Marianna Gagliano, charged with maintaining improper fire escapes on a building, and heard Mrs. Gagliano's son-in-law say she was 80 years old, too aged to answer a summons. But Building Inspector Otto Larson hopped in, saying, "She's 80 all right, but she's working in a war plant."



A little girl who jumped the gun on nature's usual 9-month warm-up for entrance into this world is clinging favorably to life in an incubator in Brooklyn. She was born more than three months prematurely to Mrs. Sidney Morrell, 29, wife of S/2 c Theodore Morrell, who is out at Mare Island, Cal. The baby weighed 29 ounces when born Saturday.

Mrs. Roosevelt Wants Profile View

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT told a press conference she believed children born out of wedlock to women of occupied countries of Europe who were forced to go to Germany would be welcomed back to the mothers' native lands. She also said she wants to ask FDR soon to turn sideways so that she can see what his mouth looks like in profile, because she saw a plaque of him recently which looked wrong.

Young America, the youth that paunchy viewers-with-alarm always worry about, is doing okay. Brilliant high school seniors from all over the U.S. met at Washington in the fourth annual science talent search. Among the accomplishments: Alice Dale, 17, of Columbia, Tenn., had built a mechanical heart from lab jars, a geared-down electric motor, a tin pie plate and parts of a child's Erector set; Edward Walker, 17, of Detroit, had made, from an old file and some radio mike parts, a tuning fork device for measuring the speed of bullets.

MAYOR Edward J. Jeffries and some other married men of Detroit are very unhappy today because of the mayor's slip-of-the-lip while addressing a swanky audience, three-fourths of whom were women, on the subject of a Red Cross drive. The mayor had predicted the drive would be successful, because "looking over this audience, I see the reason, for here we have the same old war-horses who have always carried us to victory." The women sat stunned, then gasped indignantly, and some married men guffawed.

125,000 Homeless in Flood

Ohio Waters Near Peak; Subside At Some Points

PORTSMOUTH, Ohio, March 8 (AP).—Flood waters inched closer to the tops of dikes in this Ohio River city today, but elsewhere along the 1,000-mile valley, floods neared or passed crests and at some points were beginning to subside.

An estimated 125,000 persons were made homeless by the flood, greatest since 1937, when the Ohio rampaged out of its banks and caused nearly a half-billion dollars' damage.

The river here was over the 64-foot stage, two feet higher than the city's floodwall, but was being held back by hastily erected barriers. River Forecaster George Marth said the crest here would be reached at 64.5 feet late today.

47-Foot Crest Expected

Louisville expected a crest of 47 feet tonight or tomorrow. The Ohio reached 11 feet above flood stage at Wheeling, W. Va., but upriver at East Liverpool, the surging waters began to fall. The Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers, headwaters of the Ohio, dropped steadily at Pittsburgh.

At least nine lives were lost in the floods, all in industrial and agricultural Ohio Valley.

Prospects of relief from the rising waters brightened in western Pennsylvania, where some 25,000 miners and mill and shipyard employees were sent home from work when the plants became flooded.

An estimated 20,000 West Virginians were evacuated to safety, chiefly in New Cumberland, Benwood, Moundsville, New Martinsville, Parkersville and Point Pleasant communities.

Indiana Feels Overflow

An estimated 3,500 families in Indiana were affected by the overflow of the Ohio, Wabash and tributary streams. Red Cross officials said that 75 percent of Aurora, Ind., was inundated and that many residents were driven from homes in New Albany, Ind.

Cairo, Ill., residents felt secure behind a 60-foot flood wall. Army engineers at Memphis said that the swollen Mississippi could be kept in hand below Cairo unless more rains fell in the upper watersheds.

Army engineers were battling the White River in the Jackson Bayou section of Arkansas, where high waters menaced levees.

Production of Aircraft Falls Below Schedule

WASHINGTON, March 8 (UP).—Aircraft production fell to 6,280 planes in February, 168 below schedule and 249 fewer than in January.

The WPB Aircraft Division ascribed the lag to a combination of factors, including design changes, slow sub-contract deliveries and the fact that goals were set too high.

WPB said that the seriousness of the situation was magnified by the fact that military requirements in many instances exceeded working schedules.

Gloria Reno-Bound

RENO, March 8 (ANS).—Gloria Vanderbilt DiCicco, who has announced her separation from her husband, Pat, advised a hotel here that she would arrive from the east today.

Errol Flynn's Mexico Romance Reported Heading for Courts

HOLLYWOOD, March 8 (UP).—Hollywood is expecting Errol Flynn to be sued for divorce soon by the former Nora Eddington.

Informants said Flynn will be charged with mental cruelty and incompatibility, and will be asked to contribute to the support of a daughter born last January in Mexico City.



Susquehanna at Flood Stage

Residents of Marietta, Pa., are using boats instead of cars to get around these days. Reason? The Susquehanna River has overflowed its banks, forcing thousands to flee their homes. Here, John Shank carries his wife's fur coat as he leaves his home with the aid of Pvt. Claude Fahringer, a GI on leave, and his row boat.

Girls Do the Whistling Now And Chase the Men, It Seems

COLUMBIA, Mo., March 8 (ANS).—Note to predatory wolves temporarily overseas and out of circulation: You may have done the whistling at girls before you got on that boat, but you may find your "prey" taking over the whistle department when you return.

Stassen's Plan Coolly Viewed

WASHINGTON, March 8 (AP).—Commander Harold E. Stassen's call for a world government on a "higher level" was viewed today as premature by Congressional figures.

Chairman Walter F. George (D-Ga.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said he feared the raising of "controversial issues" might "do great hurt to the immediate peace objectives Gov. Stassen so ably champions."

"There is great doubt whether the world is ready for world-wide government," Sen. Owen Brewster (R-Me.) said. "There is grave danger that in seeking to achieve too much, nothing will be accomplished."

But Sen. Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) said he thought Stassen's proposal that every nation agree on just and fair trials "a most worthy objective that could well be one of the agreements reached through the United Nations organization."

100,000 More Nazi PWs Will Be Sent to U.S. Camps

WASHINGTON, March 8 (ANS).—The War Department says that an additional 100,000 German prisoners will be transferred to the States to ease the burden of guarding prisoners in Europe and help the acute labor shortage in the U.S. The total of Nazi PWs in camps in the U.S. will thus pass 400,000.

If so, you can blame it—if you want to call it that—on the war-time male shortage, which is making girls bolder. So says Dr. Henry Bowman in the April issue of American magazine.

Bowman is director of the division of home and family living at Stephens College, Columbia, Mo. He has made a study of war-time boy-girl behavior and concludes that the shortage of marriageable men has done some strange things.

Some Girls Propose

Many a girl, he writes, has become a huntress, boldly seeking dates and even proposing marriage. This boldness shows itself in three general ways, he said.

1.—"In many towns a young man may be startled to hear girls whistle at him on the street. Many girls have by necessity lowered their standards in boy friends. Some will date almost anything that grows whiskers or peach fuzz."

2.—"Some girls are so eager to please on dates 'that many neck more frequently, but others cling to high moral standards.'"

3.—"Some girls, hedging against war casualties, have become engaged to two or more servicemen."

Frequently at dances, where they greatly outnumber boys, "girls cut in without feeling that they are being improper." Bowman commented. Such an approach is likely to backfire. "It will repel the average sensitive, intelligent man, because it does not fit his own concept of how a prospective bride should behave."

He said that the best course for any girl today is to accept the current male shortage philosophically. She should shun hasty marriage and not scare away, by huntress tactics, the few good prospects still available.

She should build up her talents, make herself a still more vibrant and appealing person and prepare herself for a useful place in life. "Married or single, the surplus of girls has had an adverse effect on boys, too. Apparently they have become either supremely conceited or supremely bored," says Bowman.

They visualize themselves as "god's gift to womankind" and have so forgotten good manners that some "don't even take the trouble to press their trousers or put on a tie," to call for dates.

Could it be these need some MPs—Male Police?

Once Over Lightly

By Gene Graff

NEW YORK, March 8.—Branch Rickey, shrewd boss of the Brooklyn Dodgers, was crying in his cups yesterday and, after listening to the Deacon's lengthy chain of laments, his attitude's understandable. With the opening of spring drills less than a week away, only seven Bums have bothered to sign on the dotted line. Unless War Mobilizer Byrnes has changed the rule, teams still are required to have nine men in uniform to take the field.

"I don't even know how many of the seven will show up," the Deacon moaned. "I haven't ordered new uniforms yet, because I don't know who will wear them. It's been a long time since I've heard from Dixie Walker, Mickey Owen and Bobby Bragan. We sure could use them this summer."

THINGS are so tough along the Gowanus these days that Manager Leo "The Lip" Durocher has suggested he'll tape together his creaky bones and make an effort to fill the gap at shortstop. The Deacon said he'd prefer to string along with 17-year-old Tom Brown at short, but "I guess we may have to use Durocher, who's 40 and has only one arm and I don't know how many legs. Even old Clyde Sukeforth's on the active list again."

Ballplayers Fear Manpower Edicts

RICKEY explained that many players wanted to sign and report to Bear Mountain for training, but were puzzled, if not scared, by the manpower situation.

"All those who write get the same answer—'No Advice'—because this is something they've got to work out themselves," the Deacon explained. "If the War and Navy Secretaries would say they didn't regard 4F ballplayers as slackers, we could sign up our full rosters in short order. I am confronted with several holdovers, but these look to me like subterfuges in a fight for time."

"Just the other day a local player was re-examined at an induction center and adjudged 4F again," Rickey continued. "As he walked off, an officer asked, 'Aren't you a professional athlete?'. The player nodded and the officer had him sworn in. The Army doesn't want him, but that's what happened."

THE DEACON may discover he's got a lot of trouble on his hands if the alleged 4F athlete actually wasn't nabbed after getting one foot out of the induction center, because the Army can be difficult at times. On the other hand, if Rickey's information is true, something should be done to rectify the deplorable situation. After all, baseball players may not be entitled to special consideration, but certainly they deserve as fair treatment as a shoe clerk, bookkeeper, etc.

Army Grabs Howie Schultz

THEN, TOO, it's strange that Howie Schultz, who was believed to be a fixture at first base for the Dodgers this year, should be dumped into the Army yesterday, after a review of his case by Washington Selective Service officials. Schultz, who's been starring this winter for Hamline's basketball team, previously was turned down in the draft because he's six feet, seven inches tall, a mite over the Army limit.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if somebody in authority would issue a statement exempting players from the draft, or else throwing everybody, lock, stock and barrel, into the Army? Then Rickey and other big league moguls would know the score.

Covering GI Sports

WITH THE SIXTEENTH PORT, FRANCE.—The first round of a basketball tournament played here has eliminated 20 of the original 40 contenders for the championship of the Sixteenth Port. First-round play was dominated by teams from the 494th Port Bn., the 373rd Engr., the 114th AAA, the 3691st QM Tr. Co. and the 16th Port Hq. Tournament finals will be conducted, March 19.

The 301st team defeated the 302nd cagers, 32-28, in a league tilt, in which both clubs previously were undefeated. Howard Bainbridge, of Cincinnati, topped all scorers with nine points.

An ice hockey league is being organized by Seine Section Special Service with two American, one Canadian and one French team entered so far. A U.S. Army team, captained by Cpl. Seagie Gambucci, former Illinois U. pucker, will play an independent game against a Parisian outfit next Tuesday at 8 P.M. at Sporting Victor Hugo, 17 rue Mesnil.

The Fifth Ganders extended their basketball winning streak to 24 straight games by defeating the 448th Snowballs, 26-15.

Cpl. Ray Barrett, of Philadelphia, tossed a field goal with five seconds of an overtime period remaining, to give the 368th Thunderbombers a 43-42 triumph over the 354th Pioneers.

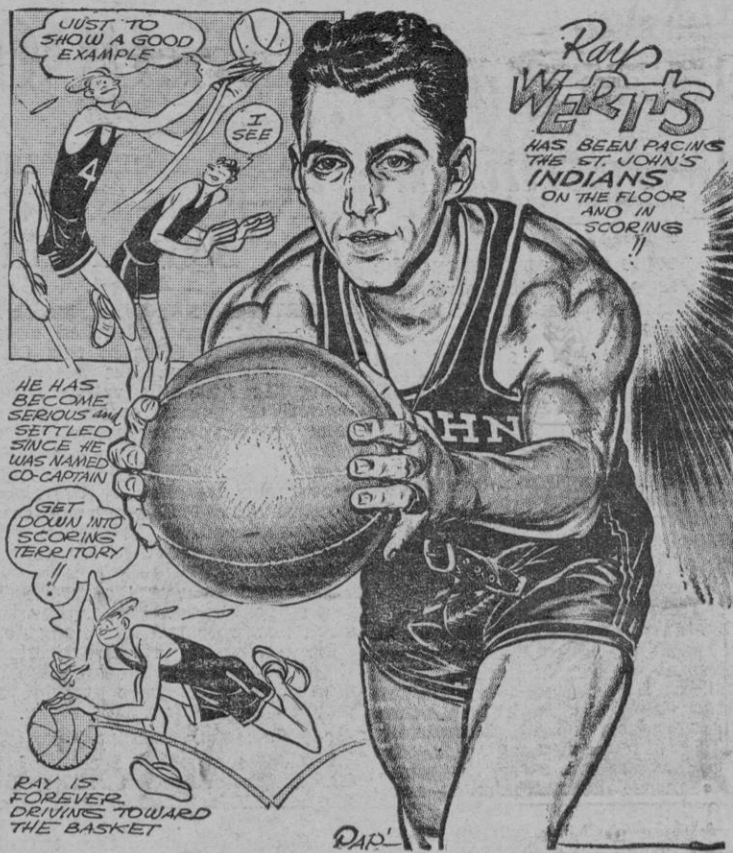
The 367th Lightning Bugs defeated the 362nd Maulers, 38-37, on a last-minute free throw tossed in by Stanley Betela. M/Sgt. Elmer Stevens dumped in 12 points for the winners, while Lt. Virgil Perkman marked up 11 for the Maulers.

Chicago Climbs Hockey Ladder

CHICAGO, March 8.—The Chicago Black Hawks, cellar club in the National Hockey League for three months, jumped into a fourth-place tie with the Boston Bruins last night by drubbing the New York Rangers, 6-3, the losers dropping into last place.

Lach Hits 70 Points

MONTREAL, March 8.—Elmer Lach, of Montreal, leads the individual scorers in the National Hockey League with 70 points, including 48 assists, while his teammate, Maurice Richard, scored his 46th goal to add another record to his string. Syd Howe, of Detroit, picked up four points to push his total for 15 years to 514.



NYU Five Raps City College; Assured of Tournament Bid

NEW YORK, March 8.—New York University's flashy cagers defeated CCNY, 75-48, last night in Madison Square Garden to virtually assure the Violets of an invitation to either the Eastern NCAA or National Invitational basketball tournaments. A crowd of 18,185 fans saw St. John's defeat St. Francis, 69-35, in the first half of the doubleheader.

Three teams now can lay claim to the New York City crown. CCNY previously defeated St. John's, and the Brooklyn school toppled NYU.

NYU set a scorching first-half pace and led, 35-23, at the intermission with Frank Mangiapane contributing five field goals to the spurt. Forman was high for the victors with 20 points.

Ray Wertz, St. John's forward, needed six points to win the Metropolitan individual scoring crown and, after achieving his goal in eight minutes, he continued to total 19 for a season's mark of 310 points.

Buckeyes to Play in East

NEW YORK, March 8.—Ohio State today agreed to play in the Eastern NCAA basketball tournament here, while Bowling Green accepted a bid to the National Invitational at Madison Square Garden. Kentucky is the only other NCAA entry to date, while St. John's, Tennessee, Muhlenberg, DePaul and Rhode Island States fill all but two of the spots in the Invitation tournament.

Bishop's 1,049 Pts. Leads GI Scorers

SEATTLE, Wash., March 8.—Gale Bishop, Fort Lewis, Wash., basketball player, won the nation's Service scoring honors with plenty to spare—300 points, to be exact. Bishop scored 1,049 points in 45 games. Don Barksdale, of Camp Ross, Calif., was second with 749 points in 34 contests.

Bagby Okays Cleveland Salary Terms—But Waits

ATLANTA, Ga., March 8.—Jim Bagby, Jr., righthanded pitcher and problem child of the Cleveland Indians, has agreed to terms for 1945. Bagby, employed in an aircraft plant here, is 4F.

"I intend to wait and see what the government's attitude is toward baseball," he said, "and it's possible I may stay right here, though the Indians gave me what I asked for."

Senators Find Only 3 Players At Spring Drill

COLLEGE PARK, Md., March 8.—The major league spring training for 1945 got under way on the University of Maryland diamond yesterday when three—count 'em—three members of the Washington Senators showed up for the first workouts.

Pitcher Emil "Dutch" Leonard, who beat Detroit out of the pennant in the final game of the American League season last year, was one of the trio to report. Leonard appeared with a baseball troupe in the ETO this winter, visiting many frontline units. Roger Wolff, another flinger, and Catcher Al Evans also reported.

The next boat in from Cuba is expected to have more Washington players aboard.



Dutch Leonard

Yankees Sign 16 Players

NEW YORK, March 8.—The Yankees today announced 16 players had signed baseball contracts and were due to report for spring training, which begins Sunday at Atlantic City, N.J.

Manager Joe McCarthy has five pitchers, three catchers, four outfielders and three infielders in the fold. Moundsmen who will work out for the first time in 1945 under supervision of Marse Joe are Walter Dubiel, Allen Gettel, Lloyd Bevens, Joe Page and John Moore. Catchers are Bill Drescher, Mike Garbark and Bill Steinecke. Bud Metheny, George "Tuck" Stainback, Herschel Martin and the veteran Paul Waner are the outfielders, and Don Savage, Oscar Grimes and Joe Buzas are the infielders.



Paul Waner

Giants Sign Trio

NEW YORK, March 8.—Mel Ott, manager of the Giants, announced today his roster now numbers 17 with the signing of Pitchers Harry Feldman and Johnny Gee, and Catcher Ernie Lombardi.

Tigers Trade Henshaw

DETROIT, March 8.—The Tigers traded the veteran lefthander, Roy Henshaw, and Infielder Les Floyd, to the Buffalo club of the International League yesterday. Detroit got Catcher Milton Wetch and Outfielder Ed Mierkowitz, who batted .302 and .331, respectively, for Hagerstown, of the Interstate League last year.

Admiral for BB Czar?

NEW YORK, March 8.—Latest nominee for the baseball commissioner's post is Rear Admiral Robert Donahue, of the Coast Guard, 58-year-old holder of the Legion of Merit and Flying Wings.

Hockey Standings

National League			
	W	L	T Pts
Montreal	33	7	4 70
Boston	14	27	3 31
Detroit	28	12	4 60
Chicago	12	27	7 31
Toronto	22	20	4 48
New York	11	28	7 30

American League			
Wednesday's Result			
EASTERN DIV.		WESTERN DIV.	
	W	L	T Pts
Buffalo	28	20	8 64
Cleveland	31	15	9 71
Hershey	24	22	4 52
Pittsburgh	25	24	7 57
Providence	22	26	6 50
Indianapolis	21	23	11 53
St. Louis	12	35	7 31

CAGE RESULTS

St. John's 69, St. Francis 35
NYU 75, CCNY 48
Long Island U. 58, Gallaudet 15
Lakehurst Naval 76, Phila. Marines 63

Answers to GI Joe's Sports Questions

Pfc Harry Robinson.—Jim Thorpe, one-time great all-around athlete, is on a stage tour. He's plugging for citizenship for the Indians. A better life for the youth of the nation and against juvenile delinquency.

Pvt. F. W. Pietto.—Ohio State defeated Michigan, 18-14, to win the Big Ten football title. Notre Dame didn't play Ohio State in 1944.

Pfc Henry Gorr.—Number of pro football titles won by the Green Bay Packers: 6, by the Chicago Bears: 5.

Sgt. George Rebrey.—Oregon State met Duke in the 1942 Rose Bowl game played at Durham, N.C., with Oregon State winning, 20-16.

Sgt. Sherman Hines.—Paul Christman's passing and running were the decisive factors in the West's victory (20-14) against East, Jan. 1, 1941.

Pvt. Cal Regan.—Bob Feller enlisted in the United States Navy, Dec. 11, 1941. He was with the Cleveland Indians from 1936 to 1941, inclusive, and won a total of 107 games against 54 defeats. He pitched a total of eight and two-thirds innings in All-Star games, allowed an average of one run, three hits. His best year with Cleveland was in 1939, when he won 24 and lost 9. General consensus is that over a long period of time Sammy Baugh was a much better passer than Sid Luckman, but last season Luckman was far superior.

Pvt. V. Mascarella.—Hugh Mulcahy is

the property of the Philadelphia Phillies.

Pvt. John D. Mjcola and Pvt. Vincent A. Smith.—Joe Louis knocked out Al Ettore in the fifth round, Sept. 22, 1936, in Philadelphia. Joe Medwick is five feet ten inches tall. Major League home run record: 189; major league batting



McCoy committed suicide at his home in Detroit, April 18, 1941.

Cpl. Charles W. Greza.—Max Baer fought Primo Carnera once, June 14, 1934, knocking out the Italian in the 11th round.

Pvt. P. R. Gunther.—Joe Boley played short stop with the A's the day they made ten runs in one inning against the Cubs in the 1929 World Series. Boley played short during the 1929-30-31 World Series for the A's and was bought from Baltimore in 1925.

Pfc Paul Warner.—National AAU winners (1945), in pole vault: Bill Moore, of Western Michigan, jumped 13 feet, 10 inches; high jump, tie between Ken Wiesner, of Marquette, and Sgt. Joshua Williamson, of Army, six feet, six inches.

PUP TENT POETS

The Banner of the Free
 I am the flag of freedom
 For which men fight and die,
 I am the flag that flutters
 Against the blazing sky.
 I proudly fly my colors
 On land and on the sea,
 I am the flag of a nation
 The home of the brave and the free.

I flew through many a battle,
 Was pierced by shot and shell,
 I saw my soldiers falling,
 Defending me as they fell.
 I saw them... small, outnumbered,
 Battered, bloody and worn,
 Fight with courage, devotion
 From dark to bloody morn.

I fluttered in the sunlight
 On that December morn
 When the Japs swooped down on
 Hawaii
 And the Day of Infamy was born.
 I flew with MacArthur and Wainwright
 When they made their epic stand,
 I saw our Filipino brothers
 Die with the Yanks for our land.

I flew with Marines on Wake Island
 Through fifteen long days of
 hell,
 I saw those gallant five hundred
 Battle 'til death tolled the knell.
 I flew from the carrier Lexington
 In the war on the Coral Sea,
 I saw her fight like a demon
 That I might not vanquished be.

And now I arise upon two
 My banner again is unfurled...
 And I'll rise wherever men are
 fighting
 For the peace and the hope of
 the world.
 And I'll never be forced to descend
 For a tyrant who seeks to enslave
 The people and all that is cherished
 In the land of the free and the
 brave.

—Cpl. Harold F. Mohn.

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes, Paris, France. APO 887

MICHEL PERARD

WILL anybody knowing whereabouts of this young Frenchman, who is believed to be connected with an American AAA Unit formerly located at Vitry-le-François, notify his father: M. Georges Perard, 8, rue Pierre-Curie, Angers (M.-et-L.), who is very despondent over the absence of this son and the recent death in action of another.

APOs WANTED

SGT. Ruth Richtmyer, Montclair, N.J.; Pvt. Joe Schactex; Cpl. Elroy J. Simpson; Cpl. Mickey Shimmel; Cpl. I. Van Snodgrass, Doyad, Wash.; Pvt. Hugh Williams, Williamsport, Pa.; Cpl. John Winkski; Charles Wiesener, Monroe, Va.; Lammy Weisman, Herbert Viel, Dolgeville, N.Y.; Pvt. Salvatore Teti; Pvt. Claude Taylor, Pennsylvania; Cpl. William S. Thomas, Plymouth, Mich.; M/Sgt. Edward Thiekava; S/Sgt. Richard Treffield; Pfc William Spanos, Newport, N.H.

AMERICAN FORCES-NETWORK

Also AEFP 523 Ke. — 514 M.

Time	TODAY	TOMORROW
1200-News	1930-Kate Smith	0555-Opening
1215-Chowhound Conc	2000-World News	0600-Rise, Shine
1300-BBC Orchestra	2005-Your War	0701-Rise, Shine
1330-Saludos Amigos	2015-Johnny Mercer	0800-Combat Diary
1400-News	2030-American Band	0815-Personal Album
1415-Showtime	2100-News	0830-America Music
1430-Gildersleeve	2105-Canada Sing	0900-News
1500-Strike Up Band	2115-String Serenade	0915-Army Talks
1530-Combat Diary	2130-Music Box	0930-Canada Orch.
1545-On Record	2200-U.S. Home News	1000-Morning After
1630-Music Time	2207-Mildred Bailey	1030-Strike Up Band
1700-News	2230-Here's Romance	1100-U.S. Home News
1715-Phil Green	2300-News	1105-Duffie Bag
1730-At Ease	2305-Rudy Vallee	1140-Melody Round-Up
1745-Rhythm Music	2335-One Night Stand	
1800-News	2400-News	
1805-Mark Up Map	0015-Night Shift	
1810-American Sports	0200-S and S News	
1815-GI Supper Club	0205-Sign Off	
1901-Command Perf.		

News Every Hour on the Hour

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features

By Al Capp



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

By Milton Caniff



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features

By Raeburn Van Buren



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.

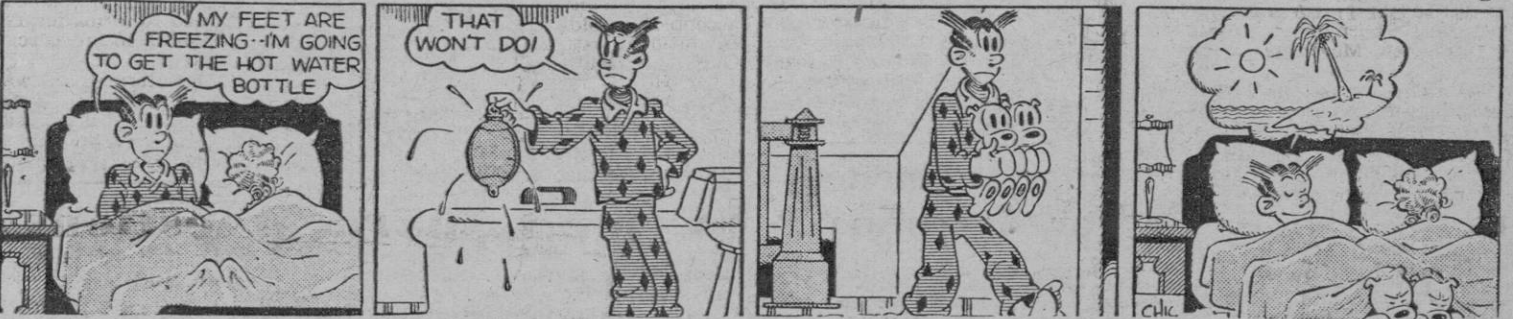
By Chester Gould



Blondie

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate

By Chic Young



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror

By Norman Pett



Yanks Reach Bay on South Luzon Coast

MANILA, March 8 (ANS).—U.S. invaders of Luzon have reached the south coast for the first time and are inching forward east of Manila against Japanese positions softened by a record air strike.

Americans penetrated to the south coast Tuesday, capturing Balayan and Calatagan. Balayan Bay is on Verde Island passage between Luzon and American-held Mindoro.

In the Marikina watershed, east of Manila, American fliers dropped 900 tons of bombs on Japanese entrenchments which held up Yank ground forces for weeks.

Heavy bombers sank or severely damaged five Japanese freighter-transport, three freighters and a corvette in Formosa Strait, sank another small freighter and left still another afire.

U.S. planes sank a Japanese destroyer southwest of Hong Kong, where three freighters and three freighter-transport also were sunk or badly damaged.

Marines Carve Out Gains Against Desperate Iwo Foe

GUAM, March 8 (ANS).—U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima today were exploiting gains of up to 500 yards, hacked out of the Japanese last-stand line yesterday.

The Japanese showed no signs of collapse as they poured machine-gun and small-arms fire from a maze of pillboxes and blockhouses.

Every step the marines took was contested by an enemy who was fighting to the last man, after losing two-thirds of the original Iwo garrison of 20,000 men.

Yesterday's advances were supported by warship guns, heavy artillery and land-based and carrier-based planes.

Carrier planes also attacked Japanese bases in the Bonin Islands, north of Iwo.

U.S. Soldier Dies As Civilian for London Murder

The Stars and Stripes London Bureau LONDON, March 8.—Pvt Karl G. Hulten, stripped of his U.S. Army uniform and wearing a civilian suit, was hanged this morning on his twenty-third birthday at Pentonville Prison for the murder of left-winged George E. Heath, a London taxi-driver.

U.S. Army officials had requested British officials not to permit the paratrooper to die in the uniform of an American soldier. Hulten was the first American soldier to be executed by British authorities.

While the execution was taking place, Mrs. Van Der Elst, a non-capital-punishment advocate, harangued a crowd of 500 sightseers on the outside of the prison.

Dressed completely in black, Mrs. Elst shouted: "You let the girl off, out you hang the man. It's a damn shame." She was arrested along with Charles F. Smith who drove a truck through police lines.

Hulten died without knowing that his accomplice-in-crime, Mrs. Elizabeth Jones, a former strip-teaser, had been reprieved.

Bonomi Weathers Rome Political Crisis

Premier Bonomi has temporarily weathered the political crisis confronting the Italian government, an Associated Press dispatch from Rome reported yesterday. The Cabinet, AP said, reaffirmed confidence in the Premier and promised a swift purge of Fascists.

New outbreaks of violence included shots fired Wednesday night at two carabinieri guarding a nursing home in Rome in which Francesco Jacomini, former viceroy of Albania, is detained during a political trial, a Reuter dispatch said.

Tokyo Reports Wake I. Attack

Radio Tokyo reported yesterday that American Superfortresses had made their first attack on Wake Island.

Flag on Corregidor



The American flag flies over Corregidor for the first time in almost three years as it is attached to the tallest remaining pole on the island by Paratroopers Pfc Clyde Bates, of Evansville, Wis., and T-5 Frank Arrigo, of East Chicago.

Mild Work Bill Nears a Vote

(Continued from Page 1) old. All nurses within the specified age group would have to register, but those with children under 18 and those married prior to March 15, 1945, would be exempted from induction. The bill now goes to the Senate.

The Revercomb bill, in addition to authorizing the War Manpower Commission to set labor ceilings, would have ordered a work draft for men from 18 to 45 "not performing substantial work in lawful occupations." The vote on this measure was 54-27.

Under the Military Affairs Committee bill, there is no direct compulsion. The War Manpower Commission would be directed to establish a maximum number of employees for any business, and regulate or prohibit hiring of new workers.

Door Is Opened For Argentina

Foreign ministers of the 20 republics represented at the Inter-American conference in Mexico City have approved a declaration inviting Argentina to join the new hemisphere system and the United Nations, the Associated Press reported yesterday.

However, dispatches from Mexico City and Buenos Aires say that to rid herself of a year-long diplomatic quarantine, Argentina must change her policy.

A declaration of war against the Axis is a condition of eligibility for the United Nations.

London Dock Workers Agree to End Strike

LONDON, March 8 (AP).—Striking stevedores and dock workers have agreed to return to work tomorrow.

Union officials said the 11,000 workers had agreed to end the week-end strike when they were promised that their grievances against the National Dock Labor Corporation would be fully investigated.

Reds 28 Miles From Berlin, Nazis Report

(Continued from Page 1) road, as well as Klessin, in the Oder loop to the southeast. The Germans claimed to have re-entered Rathstock and said that in Klessin "the remnants of the Russian defenders were crushed."

Northwest of Kustrin, the Germans said, Zhukov intensified his attacks near Zehden and plunged forward to Niederwutzen, 31 miles northeast of Berlin.

Highway Appears Cut

The Russians were reported attacking near Manschow, five miles southwest of Kustrin; Lebus, five miles north of Frankfurt, and at Kietz, five miles beyond Kustrin on the main Kustrin-Berlin highway, which appeared to have been cut.

Continuing and powerful Soviet attacks against Kustrin, on the east bank of the Oder, were reported by the enemy. One account said the Russians penetrated Kustrin defenses at two points.

Farther north along the Oder, Zhukov's forces were closing in on Stettin from the northeast, east and south. With Stettin's waterways commanded by Russian artillery, the city no longer is an operational port.

60 Towns Captured

Last night's Soviet communique said Russian troops advanced to the east bank of the Oder west and northwest of Stargard, taking more than 60 towns and villages.

More than 3,000 prisoners were taken by Zhukov's First White Russian Army yesterday, the communique reported. The day before, 8,000 were taken when the Russians eliminated a German pocket 50 miles east of the Oder.

Meanwhile, the heaviest fighting along the Baltic appeared to have shifted eastward to Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's front, where German forces trapped on the Pomeranian coast were counter-attacking strongly in an attempt to break out to the west.

On Rokossovsky's right flank, Soviet troops were 13 miles from Danzig on the southwest and 21 miles away on the southeast, the Germans reported.

Crossing...

(Continued from Page 1) approximately 3:30, the First Infantry Company, commanded by 2/Lt. Carl Timmons, of West Point, Neb., was on the Berlin side of the Rhine. They encountered small-arms fire and heavy opposition from 20mm anti-aircraft guns the Germans had set up on the banks.

The first platoon across was commanded by 2/Lt. Emmet J. Burrows, who was probably the first American to set foot on the east shore of the Rhine.

The crossing took place at a point which the Germans could have defended with hand grenades from the top of a shale hill behind the beachhead.

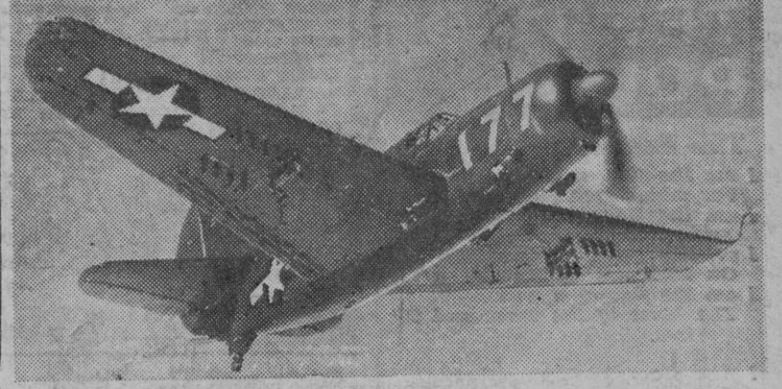
Baker Co., commanded by 1/Lt. Jake Liediecke, was given the job of taking the hill. He took his men around to the right and they started climbing. Not from the top of the hill in front of them, as they expected, but behind them, to the right, along the river bank, a stream of 20mm. shells poured into the hillside. Baker Co. fought a strange rearguard offensive to secure the hilltop.

Fifth Army Yanks Peril Bastion Below Bologna

ROME, March 8 (Reuter).—Moving down from newly-won mountain positions, U.S. troops of the Fifth Army in Italy today were threatening the German mountain stronghold of Vergato, which bars the route to Bologna, 21 miles to the northeast. The Yanks were meeting heavy German fire.

Eighth Army forces also encountered heavy fire along the Senio River.

The New, Deadlier Helldiver Which Blasted Tokyo



This is the first picture released of the new Curtiss SB2C-4, the latest version of the Helldiver dive-bomber which joined in the Navy's first full-scale carrier smash at Tokyo. Besides carrying the heaviest load of bombs ever toted by a single-engined aircraft, the plane has 20mm cannon in its wings plus eight 5-inch rockets.

First Army Crosses Rhine

(Continued from Page 1) to now was known principally for its wine industry and for Roman archeological remains which abound in the vicinity.

Most of Bonn Cleared

First Inf. Div. troops, meanwhile, had cleared most of Bonn, the university city of some 100,000 persons, 33 miles south of Cologne, and Ninth Inf. Div. doughboys had almost complete control of Bad-Godesburg, southwest of Bonn. It was at Bad-Godesburg that Neville Chamberlain held his ill-fated talks with Hitler just before the Munich pact which led him to make the now historic "peace in our time" promise.

Opposition at Bonn was described as heavier than that which was met at Cologne, but still was not considered too heavy. South of Bad-Godesburg, where resistance was light, the First Army area was blanketed by a censorship. Before this blackout was imposed, German troops, entirely disorganized, were reported fleeing toward Coblenz, which was threatened by Third Army troops who already have reached the Rhine north of Coblenz.

Five or Six Nazi Divisions Are Reported Trapped

Before the report of the crossing of the Rhine, a blackout was imposed on the operations of forward elements of both the First and Third Armies between Bonn and Coblenz. About five or six Nazi divisions were said to be trapped between the two armies as a result of the spectacular 60-mile dash which carried the Third's Fourth Arm. Div. to the Rhine north of Coblenz in 58 hours.

Exactly where this crack division of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's forces had hit the Rhine was unreported, but one front-line dispatch said that German forces ferrying across the Rhine at Andernach, nine miles northwest of Coblenz, were being shelled by Fourth Arm. Div. artillery.

Gain Four Miles

Meanwhile, 11th Arm. Div. tanks advanced four miles east in a drive roughly paralleling the first part of the Fourth Arm. breakthrough. Stars and Stripes Correspondent Pat Mitchell reported from Third Army. The 11th Arm. reached the vicinity of Boos, nine miles west of the Mayen area, against light opposition.

South of the breakthrough area, the 76th Inf. Div. cleaned out the towns of Diresbach and Arranrath, about a dozen miles north of Trier. Fifth Inf. Div. troops also cleaned out two towns at the base of the breakthrough area—Eisen-schmitt and Schwartzborn, both ten miles northeast of Bitburg. Elements of the Fifth Div., advancing to the vicinity of Danscheid, 22 miles northeast of Bitburg, mopped up tanks and by-passed Jerries.

Allies Slowly Squeezing German Pocket at Wesel

In the north, Allied armies held the Rhine's west bank from Cologne to Nijmegen, Holland, with the exception of the Nazi pocket at Wesel, which had shrunk to an area of about 40 square miles. The rail bridge at Wesel was reported passable for foot troops, but most Nazi troops were being evacuated by ferry and barge. Bad weather hampered air assaults against these troops.

Cologne 4th Biggest, Last Records Show

Cologne, third or fourth largest city in the Reich? News stories in the last few days have been at variance on this point. The May 17, 1939, census—last official record available—states that the population of Cologne was 768,426, which would make it the fourth largest city, behind Berlin, Hamburg and Munich.

at Wesel, which had shrunk to an area of about 40 square miles.

German troops west of Wesel were putting up stiff resistance against American forces pushing in slowly from the west and Canadians edging down from the North, according to S and S Correspondent Ernest Leiser.

1,350 Heavies Raid Oil Plants

More than 1,350 heavy bombers of the Eighth AF yesterday attacked six benzol and synthetic oil plants in the Ruhr Valley, immediately ahead of the First and Ninth Armies. Significantly, most of the formations encountered no flak.

The largest number of British warplanes sent over Germany this year—1,250—gave Berlin the shiver Wednesday night, with one force attacking Dessau, important rail-river junction 65 miles southwest of the Nazi capital.

Thirty-eight British planes were missing, while only one American heavy bomber failed to return.

Ninth AF medium and light bombers flew 350 sorties through bad weather to block enemy reinforcements from reaching the First Army's Rhine River bridgehead. No flak or enemy fighters were encountered and all planes returned safely.

Mandalay...

(Continued from Page 1)

the Japanese forces defending Mandalay. Those forces are believed to constitute the bulk of the enemy's Burma garrison. Allied troops evacuated Mandalay in May, 1942.

The Chinese First Army, which took old Lashio on Wednesday, captured new Lashio and its railroad station yesterday. The Chinese now control all the Burma Road from the Lashio railroad to Kunming, in China. Capture of Lashio, with its important airfield, came six weeks after the opening of the Stilwell Road running from India through Burma to China. Lashio is 125 miles northeast of Mandalay.