

Man Spricht Deutsch
Gehoert dies Ihnen?
Gehert deess Eenen?
Is this yours?

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
J'habite là.
J'aime là.
I live there.

Vol. 1—No. 227

Sunday, March 11, 1945

Bridgehead Battle Opens

Two-Way Traffic Over Rhine—Yanks Go East, Nazis Go West



Supplies, men and equipment pour over the Ludendorff Bridge—the steel link across the Rhine won four days ago by the Ninth Armored Div. Erpel, a German village on the east bank, lies to the left. (Other pictures of the Rhine crossing on Pages 4 and 5.)

Yanks Hold Heights On East Bank

The first big battle of the Rhine bridgehead began to take shape yesterday as the Germans began shelling Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' U.S. First Army troops on the east bank. The Nazis also brought up infantry and tanks to halt expansion of the Remagen salient, which is now firmly established.

Late front dispatches said that the bridgehead continued to grow despite the heaviest German artillery shelling since it was formed. S and S Correspondent Dan Regan reported that several towns and villages were captured in addition to Erpel, opposite Remagen. German opposition, however, was described as "disorganized fighting by hodge-podge units" by one First Army staff officer.

Control High Ground

Columns of German vehicles, their headlights ablaze, were seen rushing toward Maj. Gen. John V. Leonard's Ninth Armored Div. armor and infantry, Regan reported. The Ninth now controls the high ground east of the 1,300-foot Ludendorff Bridge.

Planes of Ninth TAC, meanwhile, covered the vital Remagen railway bridge from the air. First Army anti-aircraft artillery is now emplaced around the span, where German AA had been successful in fending off repeated Allied air attacks.

Wesel Pocket Narrowed

It was estimated at Supreme Headquarters that several hundred infantry, backed up by tanks of a panzer division were engaging American forward elements.

As First Army troops battled to widen this salient, the Nazi pocket at Wesel, 100 miles to the north, had been hammered into a narrow salient of 20 square miles. Except for this salient, the Allies now control the entire west bank of the river from Dutch Nijmegen to Remagen and are speedily gaining

(Continued on Page 8)

U.S. Rhine Crossing Praised by Churchill

Prime Minister Churchill yesterday telegraphed Gen Eisenhower the "warmest congratulations" on the Rhine crossing and added that "no one who studies war can fail to be impressed by the admirable speed and flexibility of the American armies and groups of armies."

Gen. Eisenhower replied that "the attraction of sizable enemy formations to the north to meet the attack launched by the 21st Army Gp. on Febr. 8 resulted, as planned, in increasing vulnerability of the enemy to devastating later attacks of the Ninth First and Third Armies."

Tokyo Left in Flames After Raid by 300 B29s

GUAM, March 10 (ANS).—More than 300 Marianas-based Superfortresses spread a great lake of fire through Tokyo in an all-incendiary attack today (Friday, Paris time) that caused "50 times more damage" than the Feb. 25 assault, which devastated 240 city blocks in the Japanese capital.

Brig. Gen. Thomas Power, in charge of the Guam-based elements of the B29 fleet, returned after two hours over the flaming city and made that report to Maj. Gen. Curtis Lemay, commander of the U.S. 21st Bomber Command.

The Superforts dropped an estimated 1,300 tons of bombs—every bomb an incendiary—in highly inflammable and densely populated central Tokyo. It is calculated that 1,030,000 Japanese lived in the bombed area.

Targets of the Superforts were railroad stations, small factories not valuable enough for precision bombing and homes of persons who labor in Tokyo's industries. These targets furnished fuel for flames visible 150 miles away.

Gen. Power said that perhaps 15 square miles of Tokyo were fired. The original plan for the mission called for 10 square miles. The target area was approximately four miles long and three wide.

While he was over Tokyo, the general checked each blossom of flame by making a dot on a chart

(Continued on Page 5)

Report Trouble in Munich

LONDON, March 10 (UP).—Serious disturbances have broken out in Munich and the town is surrounded by SS troops, Radio Moscow said today, quoting a dispatch from the German frontier.



Carrying their own wounded, some of the first German soldiers captured on the east bank head toward the prison enclosure.

Industrial Plan Set for China

WASHINGTON, March 10 (ANS).—Foreign Economic Administration officials disclosed today that they have completed a \$1,000,000,000 post-war industrialization plan for China.

The five-year program is in the hands of the Chinese government after more than a year's work by FEA engineers and technicians.

FEA leaders emphasized that this is not the official U.S. program for China, but "they asked us to help them. This is the result of our efforts."

The Stripper Pinch Bare Essentials

LONDON, March 10 (AP).—Commander Oliver Locker-Lampson, Conservative, told Commons that he would ask the Minister of Labor whether, in view of the shortage of young women for war work, he would allow "only women of over 50" to perform as strip-teasers.

Rumania Gets Transylvania

LONDON, March 10 (AP).—Marshal Stalin has agreed to return Transylvania to Rumania, as requested by Premier Peter Groza, the Moscow radio announced today.

[A Reuter dispatch quoted Stalin as saying: "Taking into account that the new government which has come into power in Rumania assumes responsibility for maintenance of order and security in Transylvania, for the safeguarding of the rights of nationalities and for the proper functioning of all institutions serving the needs of the front, the Soviet Government has decided to grant the request."]

Premier Groza promised that in ruling the province, the Rumanian Government would be "guided in its action by principles of equality, democracy and justice in regard to the entire population."

Rumania originally lost Transylvania to Hungary by the German-Italian arbitration decision of Vienna, Aug. 30, 1940. The population of the province is 2,395,153, with 50.2 percent Rumanians and 37.1 percent Hungarians.

Russians Drive Close to Danzig

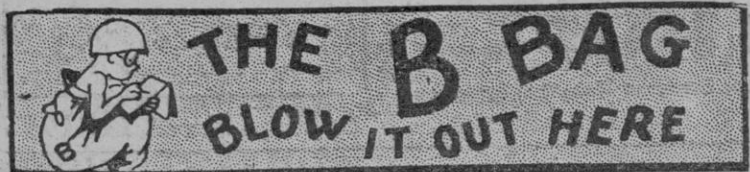
Red Army forces fought their way closer to the Baltic ports of Danzig and Stettin yesterday and, according to German reports, continued heavy attacks against the German bastion of Kustrin, 40 miles east of Berlin.

Only the Germans reported fighting on the approaches to Berlin, and they spoke only of the Kustrin action. They said that although their Kustrin salient on the east bank of the Oder River had been narrowed, they still clung to the city itself in street fighting.

Moscow Radio reported that troops of Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army had broken into the "southern outer suburbs" of Danzig, splitting the German defense force, and were eight miles from the port itself.

Marshal Stalin announced in an order of the day that other forces of Rokossovsky's Army had captured Kartuzy, in the Polish Corridor about 18 miles west of Danzig, and Lauenburg, in Pomerania, about 30 miles west of Gdynia. Both the

(Continued on Page 8)



Rank

Just came back from a furlough in England and would like to compliment those in charge of the UK Leave Centers for their excellent work.

At the same time there were several things that brought gripes from the boys. One was the serving of only two meals per day. To most of the boys coming from the front, who at times eat not too often, and then "C" rations, three meals would be heartily appreciated.

Secondly, there was a noticeable difference between the food of the officers and men served aboard the ships. On the boat coming back, officers of company grade ate the same food as the EMS—stew, and pears for dessert. All officers of field grade ate pork chops, lettuce and tomato salad and cake for dessert. This was served in the same room, with the result that the officers were annoyed.

In my three years as mess sergeant for some of the best officers' messes in the United Kingdom, I've yet to experience anything like that. Someone should definitely be advised.—T/Sgt. M. Snyder, SHAEF.

On Making Whoopee

If the servicemen and others back home who are bitching about the nightspots being closed at midnight could be brought here, we could show them plenty of entertainment. We certainly wish we had a chance to go and see just how "unbearable" San Diego is getting to be, because we think we know what it is for a town to be unbearable.

If it's a hot time after midnight they want, please let them come up on the line, because at midnight our party is just beginning and we can guarantee them the fireworks will last until daylight. We aren't nearly through bitching, but the party is starting now and we mustn't miss it.—Pfc Vincent Di Piazza (and the rest of the Third Squad.—Ed.) 413 Inf.

Praise Lord and Pass Ammo

Com Z troops have no complaints other than the usual gripes and go to repple depots for combat training as directed. Recently we received a bulletin on the observance of religious services in this area, stating that such services for Jewish personnel will be held in the most centralized locations, including St. Nazaire and Lorient.

Please advise us if the Nazis have any knowledge of this and if it is to be on an exchange basis. Further request, if such is not the case, that we be accompanied by a full combat team, including flame throwers, rockets and tanks.—Puzzled Company Clerk.

Fits Like a Shoe

Can anything be done about the gloves we are issued to work with? They are all leather and the trimmings on them only help to give a fellow corns on his hands and he has to ride the sick book. An average day's work is to unload two freight cars and transfer the loads to the dump and stack them. Wool knit gloves are "frozen." So I'm told.

Maybe you've noticed that my writing seems sort of nervous and unsteady. Well, if working all day

with wet, rotten potatoes, rotten smashed oranges, spreading canvas over the stacks after you've finished fixing them up without gloves, doesn't make you unsteady I don't know what will. I know if you print this there might be some answers as to 'How about the infantry?'—Pfc James Q. Hay, 3168th QM Serv. Co.

(Showed your letter to the Chief Quartermaster who states: "A great deal of experimentation with gloves has been conducted both in the U.S. and this Theater. It is believed that the work gloves made available by the Army meet the general condition for which they were designed. Wool knit gloves are not frozen but are not issued to working groups because they are not sufficiently rugged for heavy work. If the leather seams are hard on your hands, turn the gloves inside out and smooth the seams with sandpaper or trim them carefully with a sharp knife. . . . Can be softened by the use of dubbin."—Ed.)

My Card

The card below may serve as solace to some.—Chaplain Wess.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
30	TROUBLE SHARING								11
29	CARD								12
28	Bear ye one another's burdens,								13
27	and thus fulfill the law of								14
26	Christ, Gal. 6:2.								15
25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16

Not Going: Woe

The Reinforcement System has never been too good at its best, but...

The latest exhibition is a case of where rank stank. Eighteen junior officers were very happily situated in comfortable quarters and had been there for some time. All of a sudden, a new colonel was placed over the organization. He immediately ordered the officers to move as he had chosen this building as his quarters. It wouldn't have been so bad, but there was no place to move. As a result, the dispossessed officers are protruding from someone else's rooms until other quarters are found. Nothing like keeping the men in his command happy!

Of course, we realize that many others are a lot worse off, and we would gladly give up anything we have to help the Joes at the front or anyone on their way up, but I don't think he is going any place. Much to our woe.—Lt. A. J. S., GRRC.

Private Breger



"Well, if officers don't wear these Sam Browne belts any more, I don't see why us GIs can't!"

An Editorial

Maria of Monschau

FROM a recent issue of Time:

"When the Americans marched into Monschau on the German-Belgian frontier last September, pretty Maria, a 17-year-old German, watched them in stony silence. But she confided her feelings to her lover, Peter, an SS man, in letters which she could not mail to unoccupied Germany. The letters were discovered when Maria was arrested last week for talking to a would-be Nazi saboteur.

"I feel it clearly," wrote Maria, "that we, the youth, are a sorely tried, but also a steeled youth and as hard as iron, destined to fight on for the ideal of our indispensable Fuhrer. When everybody deserts the Leader, he will be able to depend on his real youth. They will never betray him..."

"Besides all our other troubles, we have to have these Americans in the street. These pigs are afraid of us... I hate the Americans. One thing they cannot take away from us. We will start our new life under the old principle that we have been taught: To live means to fight... I wish the new secret weapon



Like Maria, this fraulein is young and pretty...

would appear. The flames are licking up to the Rhine. My Cologne, Peter! Isn't there any justice any more to make these culprits pay?

"The American is altogether a comical soldier. He stands guard with an umbrella... The American comes and then he gets no

farther... They are not soldiers—jitterbugs and tango lovers—'fight' and 'advance' are foreign words to them..."

"As an afterthought she added: 'Today I just about rushed into a buried mine. An American saved my life.'"

Ernie Pyle Writes...

Japs Inconsistent, But Deadly

By Ernie Pyle

IN MARIANA ISLANDS.—Soldiers and Marines told me stories by dozens about how tough the Japs are, yet how dumb; how illogical and yet how uncannily smart at times; how easy to rout

when disorganized, yet how brave. I've become more confused with each story. At the end of one account I said, "I can't make head nor tail out of what you've told me. I'm trying to learn about Jap soldiers but everything you say about them seems to be inconsistent."

"That's the answer," my friend said. "They are inconsistent. They do the damndest things, but they're dangerous fighters just the same."

They tell one story about a Jap officer and six men who were surrounded on the beach by a small group of Marines.

As the Marines approached they could see the Jap giving emphatic orders to his men and then all six bent over. The officer went down the line and chopped off their heads with his sword.

Then, as the Marines closed in, he stood knee-deep in the surf and beat his bloody sword against the water in a fierce gesture of defiance just before they shot him.

What code led the officer to kill his own men rather than let them fight to the death is something only another Jap would know.

Another story: A Marine sentry walking up and down before a command post on top of a steep bluff one night heard a noise in the brush on the hillside below.

The sentry called a couple of times, but got no answer. Then he fired an exploratory shot down into the darkness. In a moment there was a loud explosion below. A

solitary Jap hiding down there had put a hand grenade to his chest.

Why he did that instead of tossing it over the bluff and getting himself a half-dozen Americans is beyond American comprehension.

On Saipan they tell of the Jap plane that appeared overhead all alone one bright noonday. The Jap obviously wasn't on a photographic mission and they couldn't figure out what he was doing.

Then something came out of the plane and fluttered down. It was a little paper wreath with a long streamer on it. The Jap had flown it all the way from Japan and dropped it "in honor of Japan's glorious dead" on Saipan.

We shot him down in the sea a few minutes later as he undoubtedly knew he would be before he ever left Japan.

Touching gesture—but so what? As far as I can see, our men are no more afraid of Japs than they are of Germans. They are afraid of them as any modern soldier is afraid of his foe, but not because they have weapons and fire them like good, tough soldiers. And Japanese are human enough to be afraid of us in exactly the same way.

I've not been here long enough really to learn anything of Jap psychology, but the Pacific war is gradually getting condensed and consequently tougher and tougher. The closer we get to Japan itself the harder it will be.

The Japs are a dangerous people and they aren't funny when they have guns in their hands. It would be tragic for us to underestimate their power to do us damage or their will to do it. To me it looks like there are soul-trying days for us in the years ahead.



Ernie Pyle

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Paris Edition
Printed at the New York Herald Tribune Plant, 21 Rue de Berri, Paris, for the U.S. armed forces under auspices of the Information and Education Division, Special and Information Services, ETOUSA. Tel.: ELYsees 40-58, 41-49.

Other editions: London, Liege, Nancy, Marseilles. New York Office: 205 E. 42nd St.

Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors. Entered as second class matter, Mar. 15, 1943, at the Post Office, New York, N.Y., under the act of Mar. 3, 1878.

Vol. 1, No. 227

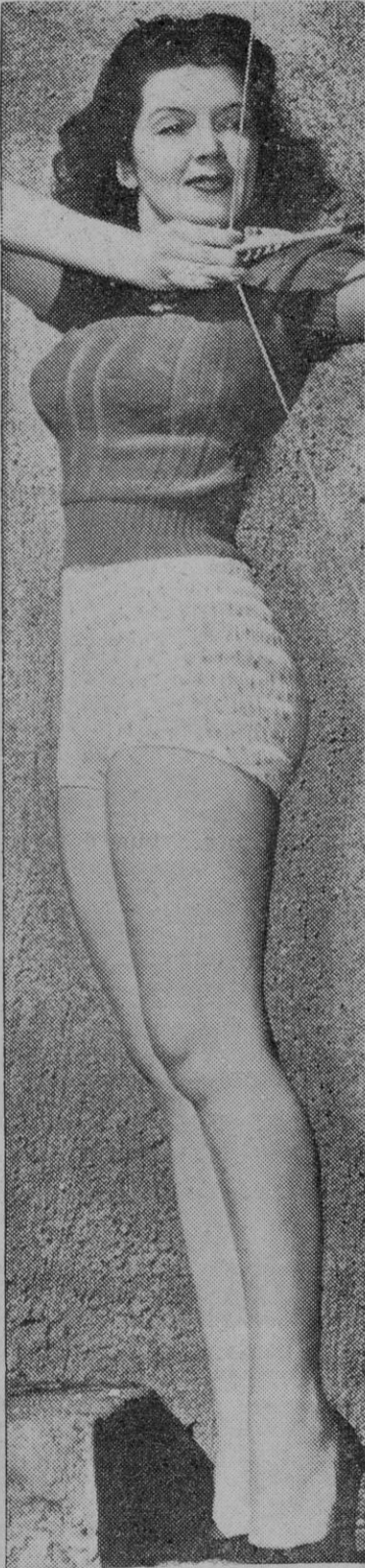


The Washington Week:

Taber Scents Scandal In Commodity Credit

WASHINGTON, March 10.—Shades of the Teapot Dome scandal of the late twenties were raised today by Rep. John Taber (R-N.Y.), who declared that the situation regarding Commodity Credit Corporation operations "transcends" the Teapot Dome affair.

Nice Form



Carol Adams, whose first name really isn't Carol (we lost the caption and just simply couldn't hold the pix any longer) stands poised to fire an arrow during archery practice which, she says, is good exercise. She does it every time she has some spare time.

Along with Taber's statement came the disclosure that three CCC employees had been dropped from the payroll as a result of the CCC's own investigation, and that War Food Administrator Marvin Jones has asked the FBI to investigate.

Democrats Lose a Seat

Other developments in Washington this week showed that the Democrats hold their slimmest Senate majority since the 72nd Congress of 1931-1933. Milton R. Young, a Republican, was named to fill the unexpired term of the late Democratic Sen. John Moses, bringing Republican representation to 44. The Democrats have 55 seats.

During the week, the Senate finally passed a manpower bill, based on a voluntary compliance principle and thrusting aside the big-stick principle involved in the House's May-Bailey manpower bill. The House passed the first woman draft in American history in its bill calling for registration of all nurses and induction of unmarried nurses.

Backers of the nurse draft bill were privately pessimistic about its chances of final enactment. The Senate manpower bill went to conference, where Senate and House members will try to reconcile differences.

Vinson Is Confirmed

The House bill proposes jail and fine penalties for men 18 to 45 who refuse to take and hold jobs considered essential to the war. The Senate bill empowers the War Manpower Commission to set employment ceilings and to penalize employers who violate the ceilings. The Senate also speedily confirmed President Roosevelt's appointment of Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson as Federal Loan Administrator. The House passed and sent to the Senate a bill to raise the national debt limit from \$260,000,000,000 to an all-time high of \$300,000,000,000.

The House also voted a \$50,000 fund to its new and permanent committee to investigate un-American activities. The committee indicated its first inquiry might be directed against its predecessor, the Dies Committee.

Senator Asks Promotion Of Free Flow of News

WASHINGTON, March 10 (Reuter).—Sen. Ernest W. McFarland (D-Ariz.) last week called for creation of a postwar communications system dedicated to unhindered interchange of news throughout the world.

McFarland, key figure in the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee inquiry into future international communications policy, expressed hope that legislation may come from its studies. He praised Kent Cooper, Associated Press general manager, for dramatizing the fight for postwar news freedom over the world.

McFarland further emphasized necessity of cheap international communications to take free news to papers everywhere.

Porter Who Was Crucified Will Face Lie Detector Test

CHICAGO, March 10 (ANS).—Police planned today to give Fred Walscher, who was found nailed to a cross yesterday, a lie detector test to determine whether he knows the identity of the three men he said crucified him.

Police believe the 44-year-old porter was not an unwilling victim and that he was pledged, not to talk. Walscher told police he had planned to gain publicity for a

world peace scheme, but authorities believed that he was surprised when he was selected for the role of martyr.

However, it was thought he had finally concurred after being assured that the nails driven through his hands would not inflict severe pain. The nail wounds were not serious and a wound in his side proved to be only a superficial razor scratch.

Ice Storm Fells Trees in Texas



An ice storm last week which snapped communications lines and shattered trees over a wide section of north Texas left this scene in Denison, where electric power and telephone service were disrupted for more than two days.

Gambling House And Three Speaks Are Raided in N.Y.

NEW YORK, March 10.—Prohibition's ghost rode along with cops today as they enforced the national midnight curfew with raids on three speakeasies and an alleged gambling house, netting 116 arrests.

The largest haul was made in Harlem, where 50 persons were seized in the apartment of John F. Moore, who was arrested as a liquor law violator. Cops also raided a cellar speakeasy in the Bronx, hacked a 25-foot bar to pieces with axes and confiscated a quantity of purported liquor.

In Champaign, Ill., the University of Illinois faculty canceled a decision to curtail the weekend dating deadline from 1 AM to 12:30 AM because of the curfew.

Sailor Held in Seduction Of Italian Girl Gets Aid

NEW YORK, March 10 (ANS).—Rep. Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.) told the Veterans of Foreign Wars today that he would intercede in behalf of Chief Pharmacist's Mate Frederick Brooks, 21, accused of seducing an Italian girl near Naples.

Brooks, now held in a naval hospital here, should be tried "if necessary" before a naval board rather than be sent back to Italy for a court martial, Celler said. Brooks is scheduled to be returned to Italy by plane.

\$500,000,000 Ordnance Lost

NEW YORK, March 10 (AP).—Brig. Gen. Stewart Reimel, chief of the N.Y. ordnance district, said \$500,000,000 worth of ordnance equipment had been lost in Europe since the invasion. This included \$200,000,000 worth of tanks, 6,205 combat vehicles, 34,250 other vehicles, 16,685 rifles and small arms, 23,871 mortars and machine-guns and 75,245 binoculars, watches and compasses.

\$27,000 Roams City on Streetcar

NEW ORLEANS, March 10 (ANS).—A large black purse, containing \$27,000 in \$100 and \$500 bills, was recovered intact today after being left on a streetcar.

Mrs. Fred Barraco told police that she went downtown to put the money in a bank lock box, but couldn't find one.

Returning home, she left the purse on a streetcar. The conductor located it at the barn.

After recovering the purse, Mrs. Barraco had to borrow a dime for her streetcar fare home.

Adventists Arouse Army's Wrath in Observing Sabbath

WASHINGTON, March 10 (ANS).—In answer to an inquiry by Sen. James Briggs (D-Mo.) the War Department reported that six Seventh Day Adventists who were court martialed at Camp Barkeley, Texas, had been charged with refusing to obey an officer's command.

The senator, investigating complaints that one of the men, Charles Eastham, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., had been sentenced to six months at hard labor for refusing to drill on his Sabbath was told that it was the Army's policy to give men every opportunity to observe their own day of worship.

Eight men originally refused to attend guard mount, according to the report, because it was held before sundown and constituted a violation of the Sabbath. Two later agreed to reconsider their decision.

The War Department said that, although no other soldier could have every Sunday off, Adventists regularly had been allowed a full 24-hour period from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, except when they were detailed to guard duty.

Progress Against VD With Penicillin Reported

WASHINGTON, March 10 (UP).—Surgeon General Thomas Parran today reported that five years from now syphilis and gonorrhea may be removed from the list of major health problems. Penicillin has had a cure rate of 96 percent among all gonorrhea patients in the last 18 months, and cures some cases of infectious syphilis, he said.

'Commando' Kelly to Wed

FT. BENNING, Ga., March 10 (ANS).—T/Sgt. Charles E. "Commando" Kelly, who won the Congressional Medal of Honor in Italy, announced today that he would be married this weekend to Miss May Boish, of Pittsburgh. Kelly, stationed at The Infantry School here, would not reveal where the ceremony would take place.

Three Wives, Two Too Many, So He Goes to Police for Help

NEW YORK, March 10 (ANS).—A wounded veteran of Italian and French campaigns walked into a police station in Brooklyn today and told police, "I'm married to three women and I want to straighten it out."

Pfc Lester Horton, 21, a discharged paratrooper, was charged with bigamy on the complaint of Marie Horton, Brooklyn, who said she was wife No. 2. She told police she married Horton in December, 1942,

Flood Ranked As a Major One But No Disaster

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau CINCINNATI, March 10.—The Ohio Valley began to write off the Ohio River's 1945 flood today as one of "major caliber," but far from a disaster.

Although the flood as a whole ranks fourth in magnitude in Weather Bureau records dating back to 1832, river men reported that the damage apparently was not excessive.

Numerous war plants were forced to shut down and thousands of families were evacuated from their homes, but ample warnings kept the loss of life and property to a minimum. Ten dead have been reported.

At Portsmouth the swollen Ohio and Scioto Rivers slowly reduced their pressure on the flood wall and sandbag dike protecting the city, but authorities refused to let evacuees return to low areas yet.

The Ohio, which crested yesterday at 64.94 feet, 14.94 above flood stage, has fallen about three inches. Mayor John M. Salladay declared "gravest peril" still existed and forbade return to low-lying sections.

Coal Producers Move to Prevent Union Strike Vote

WASHINGTON, March 10 (ANS).—The Southern Coal Producers Association, employing about one-third of the 400,000 miners of the United Mine Workers, today further strained negotiations between soft coal operators and union chief John L. Lewis, by seeking to block a contemplated strike vote.

Lewis had filed notice with the National Labor Relations Board of intention of calling a strike vote under the Smith-Connally act. The miners' contract with the operators expires March 31, and the NLRB had made plans to hold a strike vote March 28.

The Southern Coal Producers Association sent a petition to the NLRB asking it to cancel the vote on the grounds that no "labor dispute" under the terms of the act actually exists.

Meanwhile, the Detroit strike situation eased with the promise of 13,000 Briggs Manufacturing Co. employes to return to work Monday and with the approval of labor's wartime no-strike pledge by members of the United Auto Workers, CIO, in a national referendum.

Father of Nine Is in 1A, But Draft Is Doubtful

PHILADELPHIA, March 10 (ANS).—There is little likelihood that Henry J. Huston, 36-year-old father of nine children, who refused to leave a \$70-a-week job in a hosiery mill for an essential industry job, will be inducted into the Army, according to William Leader, a member of his appeals board.

Leader, also an official of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers, said: "The Army doesn't want men with nine children."

Huston, who had been reclassified 1A after his refusal to shift jobs, said he would not appeal. His wife expects another child soon.



SOMEBODY IN EUROPE

Special Service Leg-Pulling

MAJ. J. C. Weisman says he was the victim of a swell gag—and he wants to pass the story along. As Special Services officer of the 58th QM Depot, he managed a deal with a Belgian boxing promoter to borrow a "beautifully made portable ring which had many intricate parts, the loss of any of these rendering the ring useless." The promoter stipulated that officers sign a certificate saying the ring would be returned in good condition.

"I brought the ring back to the depot on a truck," the major said, "and left it in the parking space with instructions to the driver not to leave it for a second. When I got back, an EM with pad and pencil was checking over the contents. He told me his captain had ordered him to have the lumber cut up in proper sizes to make sentry boxes."

I tried to explain that it was a valuable boxing ring, but he politely told me those were his orders. I sweated and stewed for several hours, until they admitted it was a gag which I fell for like a ton of bricks.

She's the Sweetheart of MG

Connie Marshall, the "Little Cover Girl," whose acting in the movie "Sunday Dinner for a Soldier" won her a seven-year Hollywood contract, has been selected as a "mascot" by the Military Government Det. GIB2, Civil Affairs Regt. And among the most loyal of Connie's rooters is 1/Lt. John T. Marshall—her father.

The lieutenant revealed the family connection one morning as he prepared to teach his MG German class. He said he, "the only father in foreign service who has a Hollywood movie star as a daughter." Connie, incidentally, is 11 years old.

And a Franklin Delano Was Born

WHEN a frantic German sought help for his wife, two U.S. Army doctors didn't let non-fraternization stand in the way of professional ethics.

Capt. Alfred Hartmann, of Malone, N.Y., and Elwyn Akers, St. Louis, spent four hours with the couple, finally delivering a seven and one-half pound boy to the accompaniment of heavy artillery fire.

The grateful parents named the child Franklin Delano Ludwig.

But It's Good Cover!

IT'S hardly swimming season yet but six cavalrymen of Co. F, 125th Recon. Sq., Mezz, recently took an unintentional dip in the Roer.



Checking a river level one night, the group, S/Sgt. Ben W. Lenig, Charlton, Iowa, Sgt. Harry M. Muse, Humeston, Iowa, Sgt. Arnold G. Kruger, Westonka, S.D., T/4 Maurice A. Schneck, Seymour, Ind., T/5 William J. Dixon, Penn. Pa., and Pvt. Adrian C. Pluckhahn, Carroll, Iowa, had waded 20 feet from the bank when a Jerry plane came over.

The men took cover—under water—when a searchlight probing the sky for the plane swept toward them.

Their comment on the water: "Cold!"

And That Was That

Pfc Stanley J. Slama, of Bolivar, Miss., an MP on duty at XIII Corps advanced CP, was disconcerted when Maj. Gens. Dragoun and Suslaprov of the Red Army walked up with Maj. Gen. A. C. Gillem, Jr., and said: "Daw-broy OOTra ta-VA-reesch."

Slama didn't know the answer, but he threw them a snappy salute.

The Russians said one of the highlights of the trip was the amazement of German prisoners at seeing the Red Army this far west.

Prisoners Fit the Records

Lt. Col. August Van der Heyde, German paratroop commander, was astounded at the wealth of information interrogators had about himself and 36 men captured by the First Bn., 47th Inf. of the Ninth Div.

After learning the Germans' names and serial numbers, the Yanks supplied the home towns, birthdays and next of kin. "You Americans know everything," one English-speaking Jerry said.

The Americans' secret: Among the first prisoners taken was the German adjutant. He had a roster of the unit.

Correction—and a Real Relief

Recon pilots who snap pictures in Jerry's backyard are stout fellows—but there's a limit to what even they will do.

1/Lts. William Brackett, of New York, and Robert C. Landers, of Pittsburgh, were flying near Wiesbaden when they were contacted by fighter control. "If you're near such-and-such co-ordinates," control said, "we'd like to have you check a report there are 500 MEs in the area."

Brackett and Landers did slow rolls as they thought over the prospect of checking on 500 MEs. "Give us that again," Brackett gulped. "Oh, sorry," the controller said. "It's 500 trucks—we meant MTs. Excuse us please."

Negro Wacs Training in UK For Work Here

By A. Victor Lasky
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

BIRMINGHAM, March 10.—A battalion of Negro Wacs—26 officers and 686 enlisted women—is undergoing training in UK after arriving at a North England port on Lincoln's birthday to highlight that historic anniversary for members of their race.

First Negro Wac to set foot on foreign soil was Pvt. Nispa Tankard, a New Yorker.

Interviewed at what used to be a ritzy boys' school and now serves as the Wacs' combined living quarters, training school and headquarters, Pvt. Tankard modestly admitted today that her debut among the legion of "firsters" was "just a lucky break."

"Everybody was so excited just as we were about to embark that no one knew what was going on," explained the 31-year-old Wac, who before volunteering for the Army was employed by the Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland.

Will Move to Continent

The Wacs will be in the UK just long enough to familiarize themselves with the work of the Army Directory Service. They will then take over on the Continent, it was explained by their commanding officer, Maj. Charity Adams, 27, of Columbia, S.C.

Maj. Adams, member of the first class of WAC OCS candidates to be commissioned in August, 1942, said that her "troops" will be trained in changing addresses of American soldiers who are battle casualties, reinforcements or transfers.

"We are the first Army Postal Unit composed entirely of Wacs," she said.

The GI Janes were met on arrival by Brig. Gen. Benjamin O. Davis, highest ranking Negro in the Army. Carrying field equipment and to the tune of a bagpipe pumped by a killed Scot—the first the girls had ever seen—they filed off the ship in orderly manner on to a waiting train.

They were greeted in Birmingham by the brass band of the 10th Replacement Depot, which blared forth "Roll out the barrel" to keep the girls in step.

Oldest Wac in the group was Sgt. Erma L. Pifer, 52, whose sprightly bearing belies her age, "Granny" to her younger "buddies," Erma, who comes from Chicago, really is a grandmother with three grandchildren.

Crossing Made Swiftly

A platoon from 2/Lt. Carl Timmerman's Able Company, commanded by 2/Lt. Emmett Burrows, moved across first and was followed by three companies of a 27th Armored Inf. battalion commanded by Maj. Murray Devers.

Before dark, Gen. Hoge had pushed across every man and vehicle he could take from the area; and by noon the following day the roads on the east side of the Rhine leading from the bridge area were crowded.

Blasts Do Slight Damage

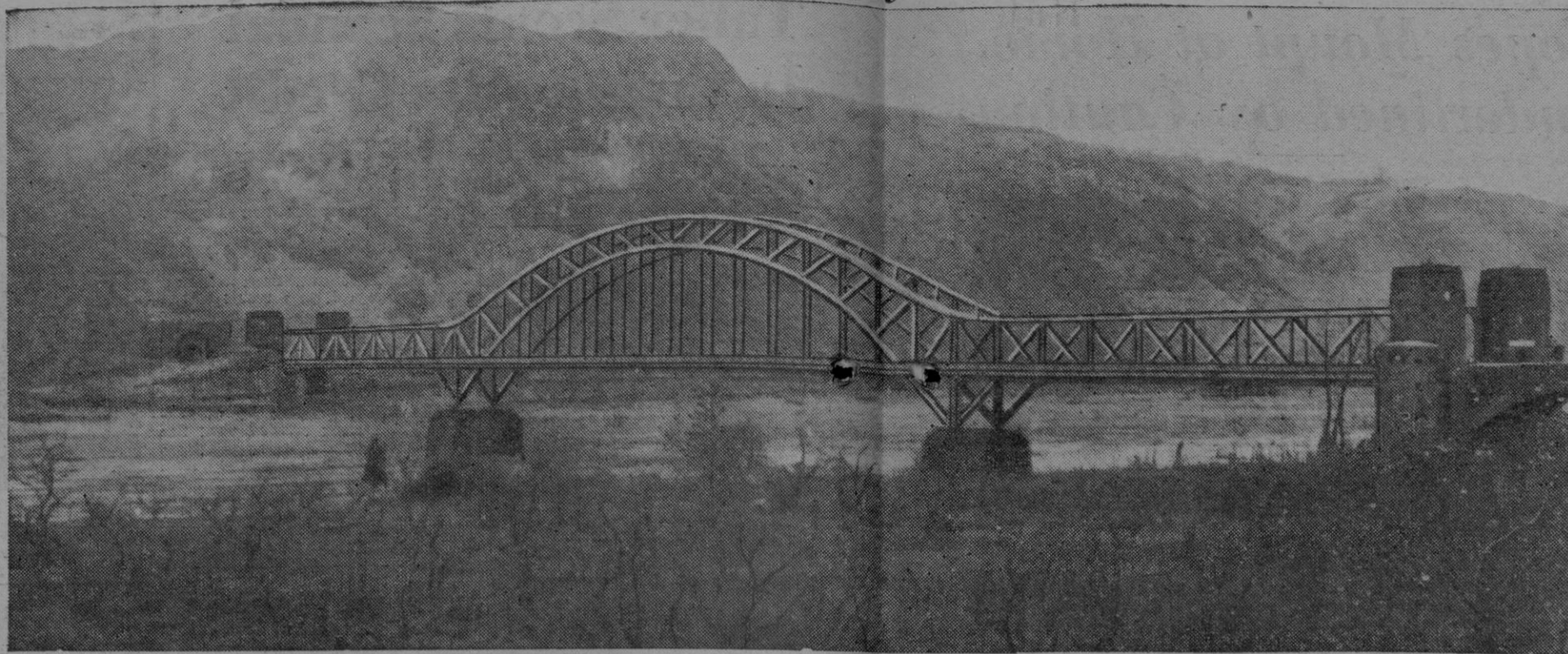
As Burrows' platoon approached the bridge to make the first crossing, the doughs more than half expected that it would be blown to bits under their feet. When they came up the approach, a German soldier on their side of the Rhine touched off pre-set demolition charges which slightly damaged the span. The Jerry was not injured, but several other Germans in the middle of the bridge were killed by the explosions.

The bridge was under small-arms and 20 mm fire up to 10 PM Wednesday, when engineers from B Company of the Ninth Armored Engineers began making necessary minor repairs under direction of 1/Lt. John Mitchell, of Pittsburgh. They worked all night, and before they had finished their job three men were killed by snipers.

Tito Is Premier

Marshal Tito is Premier and Minister of National Defense in the new Yugoslav Government, according to a Yugoslav broadcast heard by the BBC. Dr. Milan Grol is vice-premier and Dr. Ivan Subasic is Minister of Foreign Affairs.

First Pictures of Yanks Making History as They Pour Across Rhine



This picture, taken from the west bank of the Rhine, gives an excellent side view of the Ludendorff Bridge. Note how the span disappears into a tunnel on the east bank.

Here's How Yanks Took Gift Bridge

By Andy Rooney
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

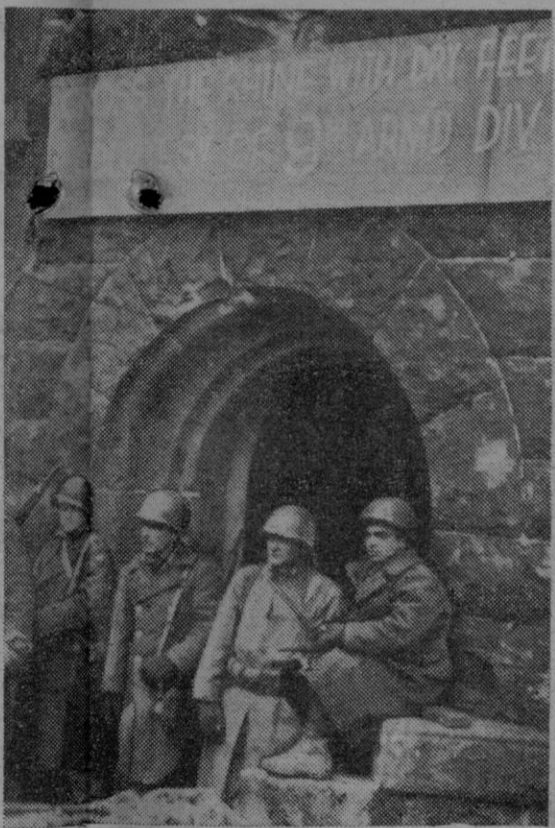
EAST OF THE RHINE, March 10.—Here are the details of the momentous "accident" which resulted in the establishing of the Allied bridgehead across the Rhine at Remagen.

A Ninth Armored Div. combat command under Brig. Gen. William Hoge reached the Rhine at Remagen at about 3:30 PM Wednesday and ran into the biggest and most welcome surprise Germany-bound troops could imagine. The Ludendorff Bridge was intact.

Oldest Wac in the group was Sgt. Erma L. Pifer, 52, whose sprightly bearing belies her age, "Granny" to her younger "buddies," Erma, who comes from Chicago, really is a grandmother with three grandchildren.



Ninth Armored Div. tank, trailed by doughs of an infantry division, make their way up to the bridge.



The sign above these armored division soldiers tells which outfit is on the link across the Rhine.

Members of an engineer combat battalion and an anti-tank unit roll over the Ludendorff Bridge into Germany as an MP directs traffic at busy intersection.

Chennault Says Japan Cannot Block Invasion

NEW YORK, March 10 (ANS).—Maj. Gen. Claire L. Chennault, commander of the U.S. 14th AF in China, said in a broadcast today that he could foresee no way in which the Japanese might prevent Allied landings on the home islands of Japan.

Chennault's statement, together with one from Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, was made on the second anniversary of the 14th AF and was broadcast from Chungking.

"I think I can say now that we enjoy air superiority over all of occupied China," Gen. Chennault said. "The Japanese now are attempting to dig themselves in for a last stand in China, Manchuria and Korea, as well as their own islands. I can see no way they can avoid Allied landings in Japan."

Chiang extended "warmest congratulations and heartfelt gratitude for the magnificent part" the 14th AF has played and will continue to play "in the final defeat of our common Japanese enemy."

Japanese Report U.S. Preparations

SAN FRANCISCO, March 10 (UP)—It is now fairly well established that a Radio Tokyo broadcast saying that "the enemy is attempting to make a landing on Japan proper" referred to reports of U.S. preparations for invasion rather than an actual landing.

Indians Attacking Fort in Mandalay

Indian troops in Mandalay were attacking Japanese-held Fort Dufferin yesterday after having captured Mandalay Hill, which overlooks the city from the north-east, the United Press reported.

The Indians, holding firm positions before the fort, repulsed a Japanese counter-blow, but the enemy action slowed the Indian attack.

Burmese in northern Mandalay, from which the Japanese had been cleared, were settling down to a normal life again, UP reported.

Allied troops advancing toward Mandalay from the west continued to make progress against Japanese opposition, and in northern Burma Chinese patrols were active in the Lashio area.

Chinese Communists Call Chiang a Dictator

CHUNGKING, March 10 (AP).—Chinese Communists have expelled any last lingering hope of settlement of their differences with the Chinese Government by a statement describing Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek as a despot and dictator, and asserting that he should be sacked and punished.

An Iwo Commander



Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates, commander of the Fourth Marine Div., which took part in the landing on Iwo Jima two weeks ago.

Marines Reach Northeast Iwo, Splitting Japs

GUAM, March 10 (ANS).—Troops of the U.S. Third Marine Div., driving forward against "very stiff" Japanese resistance, reached the northeastern beaches of Iwo Jima and split the enemy defense forces, Adm. Nimitz announced today.

The drive to the beaches was completed yesterday afternoon, and by noon today the Marines had widened their position. Japanese troops still clung tenaciously to strongpoints, but their resistance was losing vigor.

The Third Div's breakthrough was made about 2,000 yards from Kitano Point, northern tip of Iwo. Fifth Div. forces, on the north-western beaches, were about 1,100 yards from the point.

On the American right flank, Fourth Div. Marines repulsed infiltration attempts by the Japanese and killed 564 enemy troops. The Japanese had heavy mortar and sniper support.

Two-based planes and warship guns supported the Marines who made the breakthrough after artillery had softened up Japanese positions.

A small group of Japanese planes approached American positions yesterday morning, but retired without attacking.

Tokyo Aflame After B29 Raid

(Continued from Page 1)

with a red pencil. When Gen. LeMay saw the chart he said: "This looks like the most successful attack we have made to date." But he cautioned: "Don't get too enthusiastic until we see the photographs."

Emperor Hirohito's palace was at the edge of Gen. Power's chart. It was menaced by flames, but apparently was not burned, Power said. The edge of the fire area on the chart did not quite reach to the palace.

(Radio Tokyo reported fires on the Imperial Palace grounds. One enemy account said that fires in the palace itself had been extinguished, but other reports spoke only of blazes in the stables. The Japanese said that the fires in the target area still were raging.)

Japs East of Manila Sealed Off in Caves

MANILA, March 10 (ANS).—Silent on Japanese reports that American troops had landed on Mindanao, Gen. MacArthur reported today that several thousand Japanese had been sealed off and suffocated in caves east of Manila by Yanks using phosphorous grenades, flame-throwers and demolition charges.

For the second day in a row, MacArthur announced that U.S. planes had dropped more than 100 tons of bombs at Zamboanga, Mindanao's largest city.

On Luzon, the Americans' successes east of Manila carried them past the first line of caves and tunnels known as the Shimbu Line, the strongest Japanese defense system encountered on the island.

Japanese forces of Lt. Gen. Tomoyuki Yamashita had laid careful plans to exact a heavy toll when Yanks attacked the line frontally. MacArthur said these plans had been foiled by systematic American attacks which doomed the Japanese to die "without taking any compensation toll."

American artillery and planes drove the Japanese into their underground positions. They were kept there with flame-throwers and phosphorous grenades while demolition squads sealed off the entrances.

One brigade of the U.S. First Cav. Div. sealed off 137 caves and 446 outlets in 48 hours. Some of the Japanese were trapped in underground compartments which had four or five lateral tunnels.

B29s Over Malaya

WASHINGTON, March 10 (AP).—Superforts based on India were in action a few hours after the strike at Tokyo, hitting the Kuala Lumpur railroad yards in Malaya, northwest of Singapore, the War Department announced today.

Arctic Vets Going to Dogs

By a Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A lot of big, strapping Arctic huskies, who ought to be musing about in Alaska and eating whale blubber, are currently whiling away their days at a Paris airport, munching C rations and French pastry and thinking ain't this a hell of an army?

Victims of the old hurry up-and-go all the 197 sled dogs were rushed to hell for leather from the American north country several weeks ago and flown to the front in France to pull sleds through the then-deep snow.

By the time they reached here, of course, the snow had melted away to a trickle in somebody's brook, and the doughfueled up front who spied the canine horde thought that maybe the USO was in town.

The dogs fooled around for a while up front without pulling so much as a little red wagon, and better go back to the States, so the Air Transport Command got them.



Some of the huskies managed some way or another to get themselves in a family way, and now mothers them, is forced to bome up on pre-natal dos and don'ts in addition to taking care of their service records and seeing they get the proper mixture of C and dog rations.

He also has to see that they get their shots. He's dodged making out a morning report for them, but is keeping his fingers crossed on that.

The dogs are no rookies—all were in the service before Pearl Harbor, and four of them, Mopey, Toughie, Whitey and Pat, once dragged a sled 1,222 miles across the Atlantic in 83 days, a course record. As a result of that mighty mush, they struck up an ear-scratching acquaintance with Adm. Richard E. Byrd.

At present, it looks as if the huskies will have to go home by boat, which will be a blow, because most of them have become accustomed to travel by air.

Future Black, But Baseball Will Carry On

By Paul Horowitz

Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

Every day, dispatches from the States tell of one or more big league ballplayers being snapped up by Uncle Sam. Since Hugh Mulcahy, Phillies' pitcher, became the first major leaguer to join the Armed Forces, shortly after Pearl Harbor, over 600 major and 3,714 minor league players have entered the services. Professional baseball has suffered, but it apparently will get through the 1945 season on its 4F, teen-age and over-age manpower. That's as it should be.

Gate Receipts Won't Suffer

New faces and old names will be noticed at the various training camps this spring and the caliber of play, once the season begins, is certain to be below pre-war caliber. Gate receipts definitely won't suffer, for war workers on the night trick made the turnstiles click in 1944 and there's no reason to doubt they will do the same this year, despite the inferior brand of baseball played.

But what about the ballplayers who have entered the services? What is their future?

They'll spend their most effective athletic years overseas, digging fox-holes instead of slamming out base-hits; hitting the dirt in ditches instead of sliding into bases, etc. When they return, perhaps in one, two or three years after their induction, it may take them two years more to make the big league grade. Throwing arms get rusty and batting eyes lose their lustre, for athletics demand constant training and the fighting men in Uncle Sam's services don't get enough leisure time to keep in top shape all the time.

C'est la Guerre

We're not feeling sorry for those caught in such a net, for hundreds of thousands of GIs who left lucrative businesses of their own at home, or secure jobs, will be held here and lose just as many precious months or years. But major league baseball definitely will suffer over the war period and beyond. We don't expect to see another team like the 1927 Yankees, or the 1943 and 1944 St. Louis Cardinals for another decade or more. It's a pity, but—C'est la Guerre.

Higgins Taken by Army

DETROIT, March 10.—The Detroit Tigers' chance for another neck-and-neck finish in the American League pennant race, flew out the window yesterday with the receipt of word that Thirdbaseman Pinky Higgins will enter the Armed Services March 20.

Higgins' loss on top of Dick Wakefield's departure, makes Detroit just another ball club this season.

Higgins will be 36 in May. Last year he hit .297 in 148 games.

A's Grant Newsom Spring Concession

PHILADELPHIA, March 10.—Surest harbinger of balmy spring weather and an ironclad guarantee that better times are coming was received here today in a lengthy telephone conversation (collect) from Hartsville, S. C. Louis "Bobo" Newsom has assured the Athletics' front office that he is good for 20 victories this year, which will be a great improvement over his 13-15 performance in 1944.



Bobo Newsom

Earl Mack, acting manager of the Athletics during his father's vacation, has given Bobo permission to work out with the Hartsville High School team until just before the season starts.

American Hockey League

Friday Night's Result

Cleveland 4, St. Louis 3.



Gretchen MERRILL — THE NATIONAL FIGURE SKATING CHAMPION!!

SHE QUIT SCHOOL FOR A SPELL TO GO TO CALIFORNIA WHERE MARIBEL VINSON OWEN, THE FORMER CHAMPION, COULD TUTOR HER

THE BOSTON MISS INJECTS A HIGH DEGREE OF SHOWMANSHIP INTO HER "FREE-SKATING" OR EXHIBITION PROGRAM

Nelson, McSpaden 'Graziano Upsets Play Best Golf in Arnold; Beats 5-1 Favorite by TKO

MIAMI, Fla., March 10.—Byron Nelson and Harold "Jug" McSpaden, shooting near-perfect golf, eliminated Lt. Ben Hogan and Ed Dudley, 4 and 3, to enter the semi-finals of the \$7,500 Miami four-ball tournament yesterday.

McSpaden and Nelson built up a five-hole advantage after 29 holes yesterday, then lost two straight holes, but bounced back to close the match off on the 33rd hole. Henry Picard and Johnny Revolva defeated Chick Rutan and Claude Harmon, 4 and 3; Sammy Snead and Bob Hamilton knocked off Craig Wood and Tony Penna by the same margin; and Denny Shute and Sammy Byrd put Frank Strazza and Joe Zarhardt out of competition in the closest match of the day, 3 and 2. Nelson and McSpaden turned in the No. 1 best-ball score of the day, 33 and 30 for an 18-hole total of 63.

Semifinals will pit Nelson and McSpaden against Picard and Revolva, and Snead and Hamilton against Shute and Byrd.



Byron Nelson

NEW YORK, March 10.—Rocky Graziano, roughhouse Brooklyn middleweight, plastered a surprise TKO on Billy Arnold, Philadelphia Negro, in the third round of a scheduled eight-round bout before 14,000 at Madison Square Garden last night. Arnold entered the ring a 5-1 favorite off his record of 28 knockouts and three decisions in 32 previous battles, but left the ring under guidance.

Graziano, badly hurt in the second round, came out shooting in the third, and put Arnold down for counts of nine, six and seven before Referee Frankie Fullam intervened at 1:54. Arnold cut Graziano's face and eyes in the second round and it looked like Rocky couldn't last the distance. Arnold started to work on him again in the third, but Graziano exploded a right haymaker on the Negro's jaw and sent him to the canvas.

It was the second defeat and the first knockout in the 19-year-old Negro's career.



Rocky Graziano

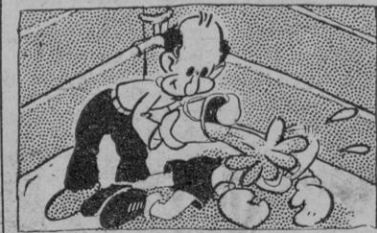
Covering GI Sports

HQ. OISE SECTION.—Eight regional basketball tournaments will be played in Oise Section, March 22-24, to determine entries for the finals of the Oise Section basketball tournament slated for March 29-31. Regional boxing tournaments also are on the athletic program at Oise Section, under Capt. Jack Springer.

ADDING COLOR AND CROWD appeal to the weekly ARC-Special Service sponsored boxing shows at Palais de Glace, Paris, are the 366th Engr. Regt. swing orchestra and the 764th AAF band of 28 pieces, which play before the bouts and during the intermission.

The Paris ARC Columbia Club ping-pong team Friday defeated the Educational and Sports Center of Puteaux, Class "B" champions of the capital, by six games to four. The GI team was comprised of Sgt. Milt Zimmerman and Pfc Phil Poskanzer, Philadelphia; T/3 Sol Frankel, Perth Amboy, N.J., and T/4 Harry McKinney, Pittsburgh.

Four technical knockouts were scored in the first SHAEF-sponsored boxing show in which one all-French, an all-British and six American bouts were scheduled. Pvt.



Tom Hardy TKO'd Pfc Lloyd Findley in the second round in a heavy-weight match that topped the eight-bout card.

Results of other bouts: Cpl. Tommy Russell, Scotland, decision; Cpl. Bill Bode, London; Roland Dubois and Jean Antonin, French lightweights, drew; Mike Massano and Dave Olovitch, drew; Pfc Jack Murray decision; Pfc Sal Albans; Pfc Tom Self, TKO'd Sgt. Bill Moye (1:00, third round); Pvt. Ted Pritchard, TKO'd Pfc Eddie Sumey (1:10, third round).

This Happened in America Last Week:

Hopes Mount at Home, Underlined by Caution

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 10.—America was a land with fast-beating hearts last week, with wives, mothers and fathers grabbing newspaper extras on the Rhine crossing. The Yank advances stirred the Main Streets, and hopes rose on every tongue that wagged in the bars, the factories, the farms, the beaneries, the barber shops and the corner drug stores.

So dramatic was the crossing that an excited "Germany Quits" rumor sped the rounds in Wall Street and made many a newspaperman cling to his desk after normal edition time. While the people hoped for a Reich collapse, many were chary of being stung again by an over-optimistic war-is-over bug. But Gen. Hodges' doughboys are legendary figures now, and the New York Sun said history would place them "beside another band of Americans who made another winter river crossing to surprise a band of Hessians and contribute greatly to the shortening of a war."

The victories of American fighting men are being paid for in blood, and the historical records department of Iowa somberly reported that since July 1, an average of ten Iowans in the armed forces have died each day.

To the Honor of the Infantry

THERE may yet be an official infantry song rated tops by everyone. The War Department is supporting "The Ballad of Rodger Young," which tells the story of a Tiffin, Ohio, Medal of Honor winner who died in the Pacific.

Walter Lippmann remarked, anent the De Gaulle incident, that "it is the business of the State Department and of our diplomats abroad to see to it that the President of the United States is never placed in a position where he can be snubbed." He also said FDR feels the Yalta accomplishments "were so massive that his old dread of talking to the people about foreign affairs has given way to the certainty that now he has a story to tell which, the more it is told, the more our people will understand and agree."

FINANCIAL worries gave night-club owners headaches. They blamed the headaches on the midnight curfew, and Variety, the showman's voice, groaned that drinks were a buck a throw in speakeasies. Just before midnight, the song played in the cocktail lounge of New York's Astor Hotel is "Happy curfew, cash customers, happy curfew to you."

The state legislatures have been busy: In Tennessee, the people's choices upped their own salaries five bucks a day; in North Carolina, a bill outlawing manufacture and sale of synthetic, imitation or substandard wines went to the finance committee, but opponents asserted it would ban practically all wines now sold in the state; in Texas, Rep. B. J. Lecendecker, who has 15 great-grandchildren, passed out cigars to celebrate the birth of his 30th grandchild.

One Place Where There Isn't Much Chicken

THERE'S a shortage of chicken in Detroit, as a result of which 90 per cent of the fowl dealers have closed their shops. Another event in the motor city was the decision to tear down the tower in the waterworks park.

Bean Blossom's 200 citizens liked folk music so well that they paid \$3,000 to a noted hillbilly singer to twang "You Are My Sunshine" to them last year, and Variety said this week that the little Indiana town thus was responsible for launching the national revival of such melodies.

FOLKS in Kansas City are flocking to see the big winter show, the Police Circus, in the municipal auditorium. Highlight of the show is Miss Victory being shot from a cannon.

If you're interested, Errol Flynn hit the news again this week with a story that his wife, Nora Eddington, was going to sue for divorce. But Nora said it wasn't so, Nora's stepmother said it wasn't so, and Flynn was so peeved that he sent out word that he had been "badly misquoted in the past" and wouldn't talk now.

On the Entertainment Front

A new play, "Calico Wedding," with William Post and Jane Hoffman, received a chilly reception from first-nighters. ETO vets will be interested in Rita Hayworth's new movie, "Tonight and Every Night," which centers its action in "The Windmill," the little theater near Piccadilly Circus which specializes in fancy stripping.

Liberty Magazine stresses the need for better understanding among the Allies, Time and Newsweek feature women in uniform, the Saturday Evening Post points out that front-line nurses don't live glamorous lives, and Look got itself banned from Washington newsstands because of pictures of nudes in Miami night-clubs.

A miniature offensive hit the sunroom of the R. J. Delano School in Kansas City where officials found a four-foot dollhouse smashed, five dolls broken and pet goldfish sliced into three pieces. Two eight-year-old boys later told police they "were just playing war."

Tough Time in Texas

THE good folk in Jacksboro, Tex., did their best when their fire station and the city hall caught fire. They ran to get the siren wailing, but it wouldn't even whisper because it was muffled by ice and sleet. So they had to use a telephone to call volunteer firemen.

SECRETARY of War Henry L. Stimson announced that many U.S. temporary generals are due for demotions soon, but with no reflection on their ability. The procedure is made necessary by eventual transfer of personnel to the Pacific.

Radio ratings show that Joan Davis and Jack Haley have climbed to third behind Bob Hope and Fibber McGee and Molly. Bing Crosby dropped to eighth place, and Jack Benny slid to 11th. The Andrews Sisters have a firm hold on first place in the best-selling record list.

"INTELLIGENT Americans' Guide to the Peace" is gradually moving up toward the top in the best-selling book list. New book this week is "American Chronicle," by Ray Stannard Baker, who tells the story of his life and how he and Lincoln Steffens fought for truth in politics and government.

Two columnists invaded the literary market, with Earl Wilson producing "I Gaze Into My Eightball," and Morton Thompson dashing off a tome with such cracks as "a columnist is a reporter who got a lucky break that later turned out to be a fracture."

PUP TENT POETS

'Our Boy Richard'

(Written by a medic about a buddy killed in action)
 He was a fine young fellow,
 Blond hair like corn in "shock"
 The boy that you called Richard
 And the man that we called "Doc."
 Just pausing on the threshold,
 Where boyhood starts to fade,
 His final step to manhood
 On the shores of France was made.

'Twas above the call of duty,
 He ran to do his bit
 For the boy who lay up there ahead,
 In the road, where he'd been hit.

It was there the sniper hit him,
 As beside the man he knelt;
 His hand still in his aid-kit,
 Still fastened at his belt.

Their job is one of danger,
 Those men who render aid,
 And their names are seldom present
 When the heroes rolls are made.

So though his name may not appear
 On some exalted chart,
 It shall for e'er be graven
 Upon our living heart.

And we're thankful for the friend-ship,
 As sound as any rock,
 Of the boy that you called Richard,
 And the man that we called "Doc."
 —Cpl. Charles E. White.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival:

Sgt. Wesley M. Weaver, Wayne, Pa.—Wesley Maurice, Dec. 21; Lt. Joseph Silverman, Brooklyn—Carol Ann, Aug. 7; T/5 Eugene B. Haller, Van Wert, Ohio—Susan Kay, Feb. 10; Capt. George P. Whitman, West Medford, Mass.—William Whittemore, Jan. 13; T/Sgt. James T. Napier, Moselle, Miss.—Larry Edwin, Jan. 23; Lt. John Z. Schmidt, Columbus, O.—girl, Dec. 25; Pvt. John Garibotto, Medford, Mass.—Ronald Steven, Dec. 23; Lt. David K. Stolte, Fort Wayne, Ind.—Kaye Angela, Jan. 15; Lt. Girard A. Ehlinger, Los Angeles, Calif.—girl, Jan. 8.

Cpl. Joseph M. Paolillo, Jamaica, N.Y.—Linda Joy, March 5; Capt. George J. Heid, Lewiston, Pa.—George Joseph, Feb. 9; Sgt. James A. McCormick, Brooklyn—girl, March 6; S/Sgt. Leonard D. Askew, Jacksonville, Ala.—Leonard Dewey, March 2; S/Sgt. C. W. Page, Washington—Caleb Wesley, March 5; 1/Lt. Edward Heter, Scotia, N.Y.—Christiana Sue, March 7; Cpl. Bruce A. Caldwell, Turtle Creek, Pa.—Bruce Lawrence, March 6; 1/Lt. Donald L. Clarke, Watertown, N.Y.—Terrey Lee, Feb. 27; Cpl. Alex E. Ship, New York—Rona Francine, March 2; Pfc Nat Rosenfield, Bronx—girl, March 7; Cpl. David Feuer, New York—Syndee Sue, March 6; Capt. James H. Bauman, Ferdina, N.J.—James Joseph, March 6; Capt. Walter Pachak, Pueblo, Col.—boy, March 7; 1/Lt. Laurence P. Benz, Nashua, N.H.—Coralee.

Lt. William M. Smith, Roanoke, Va.—Helen Dare; Pvt. Robert J. Peck, Royal Oak, Mich.—Elinor Marie, Feb. 9; 1/Lt. John D. Thomson, Union City, N.J.—Linda Jean, Dec. 17; Capt. J. I. Schaetzle, West Point, N.Y.—boy, Feb. 27; Pvt. Julien Masson, Woon, R.I.—boy, Dec. 25; Pvt. James Huff, Cincinnati—boy, Feb. 24; Pfc Louis J. Suppa, Belfast, Ireland—Anthony Louis, Feb. 8; Pfc Lewis Cibelli, Bronx—Amalia Lois, Feb. 20; Pfc Warren G. Kennedy, Newburg, N.Y.—March 2; S/Sgt. Robert C. Wells, Columbus, O.—girl, March 5.

AMERICAN FORCES-NETWORK

150 AEPD 4523 Ks. — 514 M.)

Time	TODAY
1200-News	1813-Familiar Music
1215-GI Jive	1845-Raymond Scott
1230-Clear Decks	1900-Jack Benny
1300-Atlantic Spotlight	1930-Info Please
1330-Sammy Kaye	2000-World News
1400-News	2005-Year War today
1410-Combat Quiz	2015-Dorothy Carless
1425-Double Feature	2045-Ed Murrow
1455-Sports Roundup	2100-News
1501-Barn Dance	2105-Mail Call
1530-Combat Diary	2135-Guy Lombardo
1550-At Ease	2200-Hour of Charm
1600-Spotlight	2230-Kostelanetz
1615-Music for All	2305-Hit Parade
1700-News	2335-One-NightStand
1715-AEF Special	2400-News
1800-News	0015-Night Shift
1805-Mark Up Map	0200-S & S News
1810-Sport News	0205-Sign Off

Time	TOMORROW
0600-Rise and Shine	0510-Spotlight Band
0700-News	0525-James Melton
0715-Song Parade	1000-Mail Call
0730-Canada Orchest.	1030-Strike Up Band
0800-Combat Diary	1100-U.S. News
0815-Personal Album	1105-Duffie Bag
0830-Modern Music	1145-Melody Round
0900-News	

News Every Hour on the Hour

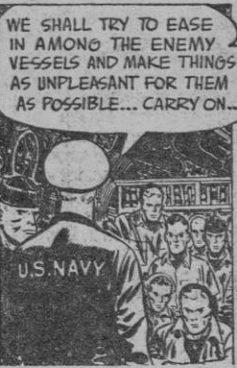
Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features



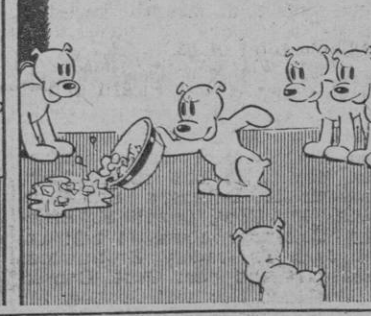
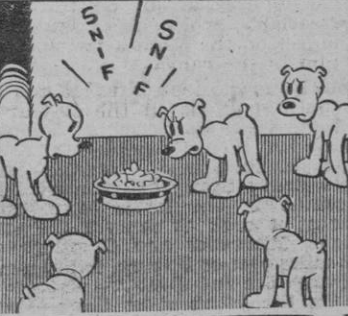
Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.



Blondie

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror



Losses of Past Two Weeks Germany's Worst in West

By Richard S. Lewis
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

German armies in the west have suffered in two weeks their worst defeat since the battle of France, an authoritative evaluation of the Allied Rhine offensive showed yesterday.

But optimism which prevailed last September when Nazi armies were reeling back to the Moselle River is not apparent now.

In their truncated land between the Rhine and the Oder Rivers, the Germans are expected to mobilize what they have left, reorganize troops who escaped across the Rhine and throw into the battle fresh divisions from Norway and Italy.

Even after the German army is so badly smashed until it no longer has the will or the power to offer organized resistance, a hold-out by many thousands of Nazi die-hards and war criminals is anticipated in the southern highlands.

Twilight of Gods

A Nazi version of the twilight of the gods may be staged around Hitler's Valhalla of Berchtesgaden.

In comparison to the main Nazi effort in the east, German forces in the west have been conducting a holding action, trying to keep the Allies at bay. The bolt to the Rhine now threatens their interior for the first time in the west.

The powerful drive of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's U.S. Ninth Army and Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' U.S. First Army across the Roer River in the early morning darkness of Feb. 23 split the German 15th Army in half.

This force had been defending the Rhineland between Venlo and Schleiden.

The northern half of the 15th Army was rolled back on Krefeld.

The southern half fell back on Cologne. Within a short time, five German divisions were written off.

Frantically, the Nazis sent for reinforcements in the Eifel. A panzergrenadier and an infantry division started to move north to bolster the sagging Rhine defenses, but they could not move fast enough.

Battalions were committed as fast they arrived, only to be chewed up.

Movement of these forces northward, meanwhile, loosened up the Eifel for Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U.S. Third Army. The Fourth Armd. Div. broke loose and rolled to the Rhine. The 11th Armd. Div. followed two days later, joined Hodges' First Army, driving south of Bonn, and shut the door on five to six enemy divisions whose troops are now pouring into prisoner-of-war enclosures.

Most serious threat to the Germans now is the Ninth Armd. Div. s bridgehead at Remagen.

The Germans are rushing a cordon of considerable strength to contain the bridgehead, but every division they put there adds to the disruption of the refitting and reorganization program the Nazis had planned on the east bank.

Rushed Into Defense

Elements of one Panzer Div., which normally would have been in a rest area, have been rushed in to hold the bridgehead and more are undoubtedly on their way.

Field Marshal Von Rundstedt, who is still assumed to be German commander in the west under Hitler, cannot get replacements. These are going to the eastern front.

Additional forces, however, may come from Italy. Von Rundstedt could withdraw some divisions from Norway and probably still hold the country.

Because of blasted railroads and gasoline shortages, however, these cannot be moved up to the line without delay.

Meanwhile, the pocket at Wesel is beginning to go. Wesel is one of the most strategic crossings in the entire Rhine Valley, but the days of the pocket are numbered.

Russians Drive Close to Danzig

(Continued from Page 1)

captured towns are communications centers.

Moscow announced that 4,000 Germans had been killed in the fighting for Stolp, Pomeranian town which fell to Rokossovsky's troops on Friday.

Soviet dispatches said that Marshal Zhukov's troops, were near the outskirts of Stettin yesterday, and that the German defenders were building street barricades with trees, telephone poles and building blocks.

Three thousand Germans were captured Friday on Zhukov's front, which extends from the eastern approaches to Berlin northward to the mouth of the Oder.

The German High Command reported Nazi gains in the areas of Guben and Forst, on the southeastern route to Berlin, where Marshal Ivan Koniiev's Soviet forces have been building up strength.

Russia Passively at War With Japs, House Hears

WASHINGTON, March 10 (AP).—Rep. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) returned from a confidential presidential mission to China and told the House yesterday that Russia is at war with Japan even though there has been no "clash of arms."

He predicted that Russo-Jap differences will eventually blow up into open hostility and questioned whether the open break would not slow down the Red Army's drive into Germany.

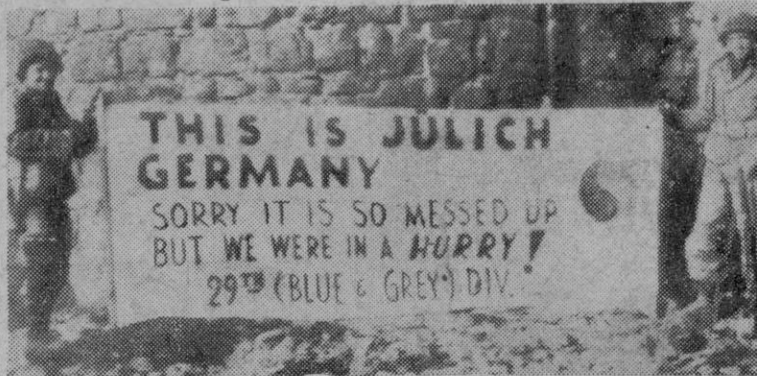
"People who are demanding that Russia give us Siberian bases or enter the Pacific war immediately would do well to ponder this question," he asserted.

Wetmore Sets Pace for Aces

Capt. Ray S. Wetmore, of Kernan, Calif., now leads aces in action in the ETO with 21 1/2 enemy planes downed. Wetmore also has destroyed two aircraft on the ground.

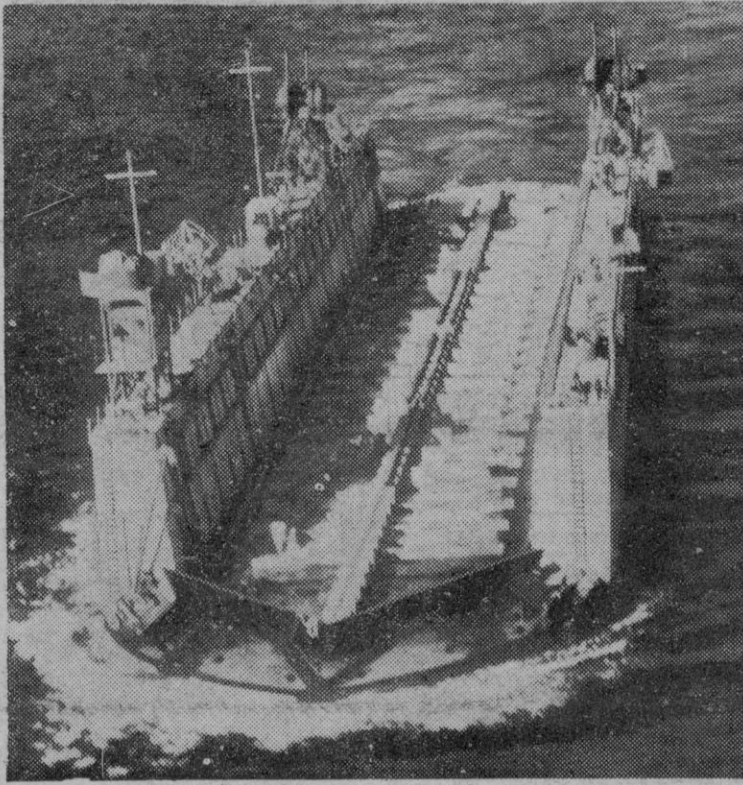
Ratings of other aces follow: Capt. Leonard K. Carson, Denver, 19 and three destroyed on the ground; Maj. Glenn T. Eagleston, Alhambra, Calif., 16 1/2 and one; Maj. Richard A. Peterson, Alexandria, Minn., 16 and three; Capt. Kenneth H. Dahlberg, St. Paul, Minn., 15; Capt. Lowell K. Bruehl, Callendar, Iowa, 14 1/2; Lt. Col. Jack T. Bradley, Brownwood, Texas, 14 and one; Capt. Donald H. Bochkax, North Hollywood, 14; Lt. Col. Arthur F. Jeffrey, San Francisco, 14; and Capt. Felix D. Williamson, Cordele, Ga., 14.

Doughs Apologize With Sign



Pfc Tom Snyder, of New York, and Pvt. Paul Mattox, Washington, hung up this sign in front of the Julich citadel after Ninth Army troops had captured the German stronghold last week.

A Sec. Going Drydock



A Navy auxiliary drydock moves through water with blocks installed on the deck to hold keels of ships it will service. Made of concrete, the drydock operates by submerging to allow the entry of ships, then rising to lift the keel of the craft clear of the water.

Nazis Rush Troops to Battle First's Expanding Bridgehead

(Continued from Page 1)

control over the remainder between Remagen and Coblenz.

Link-up of Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's Third Army with Hodges' First made the clearing of the Rhine bank a matter of days. Of the six divisions trapped, an estimated 6,500 prisoners already have been taken.

So confused was the German position in the Eifel, the wooded, hilly area in the Rhine-Mosel triangle, that a security time lag was imposed on operations between Remagen and Coblenz.

Forward elements of Maj. Gen. Hugh J. Gaffey's Fourth Armd. Div. were disclosed to have taken Rubenach, a village two and one-half miles from Coblenz and two miles west of the Mosel River.

Divisions Involved

Advancing through the Eifel toward the Rhine in the wake of the spear-thrusts of the Fourth and 11th Armd. Divs. were the 90th, Fifth and 76th Inf. Divs., cleaning up after the armored dash.

Brig. Gen. J. A. Van Fleet's 90th Div. advanced four miles, taking Bauler, Baudenbach, Rothenbach and Heiroth in an area 15 to 16 miles west of Mayen.

Maj. Gen. Stafford L. Erwin's Fifth Inf. mopped up in Bittenfeld and Manderscheid. Doughs ran into heavy tank and infantry opposition in the latter town, but thrust it back to capture the village.

Musweiler and Grosslittgen, 13 miles east of Bitburg, fell to men of the 76th Inf. Div.

On the 76th's right flank, Maj. Gen. William Henry Harrison Morris, Tenth Armd. Div. entered Bekond and Reivenich, a mile and

one-half north of the Mosel and 14 miles northeast of Trier. The Tenth was advancing along the northern bank of the Mosel and one of its elements took Salmrohr, on the Trier-Coblenz railway line.

Closing in from the north, Gen. H. D. G. Crerar's First Canadian Army advanced south of Xanten, whose capture Friday broke the northern shoulder of the enemy's Wesel pocket. Nazis hurled artillery and mortar fire into the Canadian lines from big guns and mortars across the Rhine.

Reports from 21st Army Group said that the Nazis had blown both Wesel bridges and were withdrawing by ferry as the British neared within one and a half miles of the approaches to one bridge.

Reach Wallach

Troops of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's U.S. Ninth Army, attacking the pocket from the south and southwest, pushed along the Rhine from Wassenburg to Wallach, a German embarkation point for Wesel. Ninth troops reached Drupt, south of the main road out of Wesel. This road has been cut by British troops battling to the northwest of Simpson's men.

Ninth Army dispatches said that American artillery was ranged along the Rhine banks, shelling the Nazis' industrial Ruhr. One UP report said that 240s were in use, which would bring into range even Essen, the Krupp works capital.

Heavies Batter Rails in Ruhr

Germany's vital Ruhr Valley, already under fire of Allied big guns, was pounded yesterday by more than 1,350 Eighth AF heavy bombers attacking rail targets just beyond the range of American artillery.

Flak over the once-heavily defended industrial area was almost non-existent at each of the seven targets.

Hardest hit city was Dortmund, 35 miles southeast of the Wesel pocket, where three railyards were bombed as part of the attack plan to isolate the Ruhr. Other targets were rail lines at nearby Paderborn, Soest, Schwerte and Coesfeld.

The 375 medium and light bombers of Ninth AF which attacked communications east and north of the Remagen bridgehead encountered no enemy aircraft and only slight flak at one target.

Japs Grab Rule Of Indo-China; French Resist

The Japanese, accusing French officials of secretly aiding U.S. air forces and Allied submarines and failing to co-operate toward defense against Allied attack, stepped yesterday to wipe out the last trace of French control over French Indo-China.

Tokyo reported that Gov. Gen. Jean Decoux had been taken into "protective custody," along with other officials after rejecting an ultimatum, and asserted that fighting accompanying the coup lasted an hour and a half.

A Domei News Agency broadcast said later, however, that "some French troops are still putting up resistance" after Japanese occupation forces, in a surprise move, took over full administration of the French colony, which had been jointly controlled since early in the war.

French Fight From Barracks

The broadcast said French soldiers were barricaded in the citadel barracks at Hanoi, the capital.

In Chungking, Chinese sources estimated the French garrison in Indo-China at 10,000 and told of a well organized native underground movement awaiting the proper moment to strike.

One Japanese broadcast, recalling a 1941 Japanese agreement with Decoux, asserted that "with the progress of the war the attitude of French officials" changed gradually until the situation became such that they "did not show sincerity with regard to joint defense to safeguard against an attack on Indo-China by the British-Americans."

Tokyo accused the French of being in secret contact with Americans and charged that some Indo-China military leaders were known to favor an attack on Japan's occupation forces. As a result of liaison between the French and U.S. Air Forces based in the Philippines, China and India, American planes dropped supplies to French forces there, the Japanese charged.

All important buildings in Saigon were reported by the Japanese to have been captured from French forces "which resisted us." Power stations and port facilities were also reported seized.

French Indo-China was placed under the armed "protection" of Japan in 1941 by agreement with the Vichy French government. Under the pact, Japan occupied military and naval bases there.

'Doughs at Front' Kissed at Opening Of Paris Canteen

Bill Jones, 20-year-old infantryman from Tallmadge, Ohio, who left a foxhole in Germany to come to Paris on a three-day pass, last night was the first GI to enter the Paris Stage Door Canteen. Later he climbed on the stage to get his reward from Marlene Dietrich—a smacker of a kiss "meant for all the doughs at the front."

Marlene also greeted in like fashion, before the cheering crowd of 2,000 Allied servicemen and women, British Sgt. Cecil Doughty, of Ontario, and French Marine Jean Maucoirt.

Jones was the first man into the Canteen by accident. With his buddies, Pfc Frank Lobaugh, of Plainfield, N.J., and Walter Krantz, of Easton, Pa., he was pushed through the doorway when the crowd streamed in for the opening. The three found themselves feted for the rest of the evening.

Other stars of the first night were Noel Coward, who came from England especially for the occasion, and Maurice Chevalier. The U.S. Army Band played for dancing.

Dorothea Wieck Killed

LONDON, March 10 (AP).—The German News Agency reported today that German film actress Dorothea Wieck had been killed in an Allied air raid on Dresden. After starring in the German film "Maedchen in Uniform," she did some film work in the U.S.