

7 Bridgehead Towns Fall

... And Then Only Seven Clung to East Bank

By Ed Clark

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

REMAGEN, Germany, March 10 (Delayed).—One platoon of armored infantrymen, eventually cut down to seven men, held the Rhine bridgehead for the Allies during the critical hours of the Remagen-Erpel crossing Wednesday afternoon and evening.

For those several hours, they were the only Allied troops east of the Rhine.

Members of the second platoon of Co. A of the 27th Armd. Inf., they stayed east of the Rhine while the rest of the company pulled back to the western end of

Russian Forces Smash Within Sight of Stettin

Germany's Baltic port of Stettin was directly threatened last night as Marshal Gregory Zhukov's Red Army forces drove to within sight of the city, already burning from Soviet shelling and bombing.

Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's troops were advancing in strength on the Baltic port of Danzig, after crumbling German fortifications south of the city. Soviet front-line dispatches said that the Russians were only six miles from Danzig.

The Soviet communiqué also said that more than 40 towns and villages had been captured on the southeastern approaches to Danzig, and that more than 200 had been taken by Rokossovsky's forces advancing from the west toward both Danzig and Gdynia. More than 1,000 Germans were taken prisoner.

Strafe Fleeing Fox

In the Stettin area, Russian planes were ranging out in front of the advancing ground forces to bomb and strafe Nazis trying to get across to the west bank of the Oder River.

Zhukov's big guns pounded the outskirts of Altdamm, the Stettin suburb on the east side of the Oder. Red Army advance units were reported two miles southeast of Altdamm and less than seven miles south of Stettin itself.

Along the central front, 40 miles east of Berlin, fighting raged in Kustrin, German stronghold on the shortest road to the capital. The Germans said Saturday that the Russians held the northern half of the city.

The German High Command reported that a Russian attempt to expand Oder bridgeheads south of Kustrin had been frustrated, "except for insignificant penetrations."

1,300 Germans Captured

On the Baltic coast of Pomerania, more than 1,600 Germans were captured by Russians seeking to destroy the enemy garrison trapped in the eastern section of Kolberg.

The Germans claimed continued success in counter-attacks against Marshal Ivan Konev's forces along the Neisse River, southeast of Berlin.

Far in the rear of Konev's front, Russian troops have reached the center of Breslau, in Silesia, and Soviet reports indicated that the city was practically destroyed.

In Hungary, the Soviet communiqué said, Red Army troops threw back strong German attacks north-east and east of Lake Balaton.

the Ludendorff Bridge to reorganize after the initial crossing.

They call it the "Battle of Flak Hill." Flak Hill is a sheer chunk of rock towering several hundred feet above the eastern side of the Rhine at Erpel.

Crossing the bridge with the rest

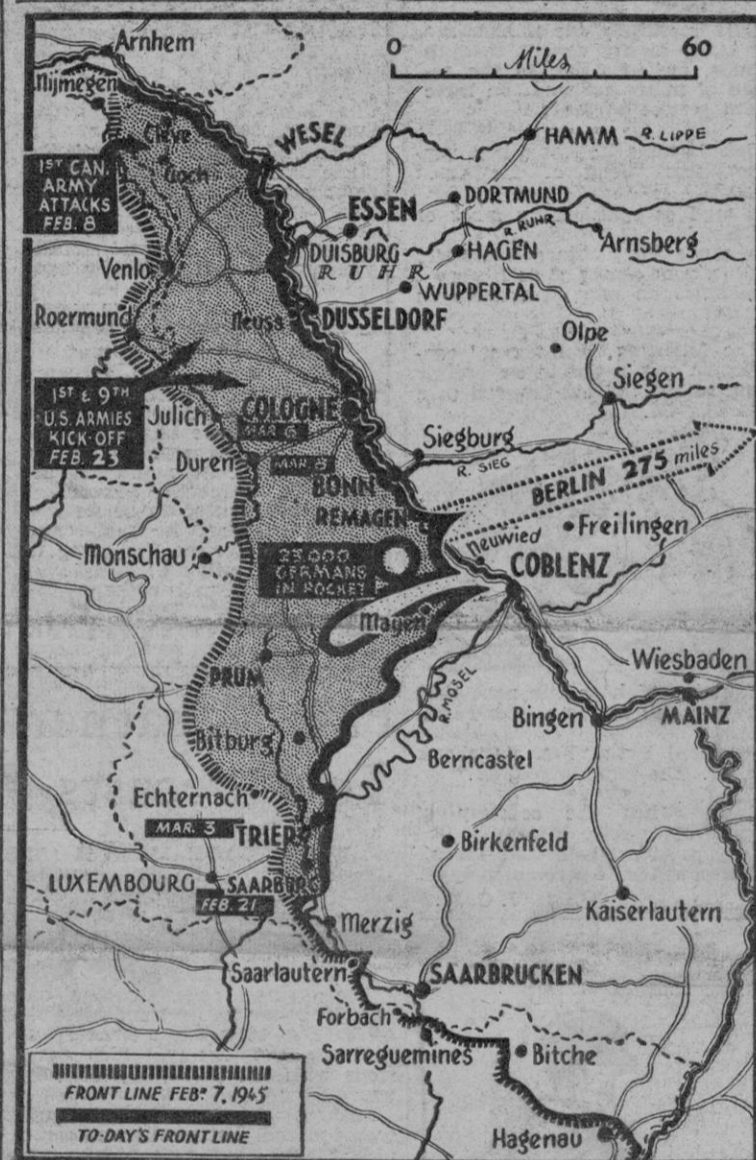
of the company in the late afternoon, the second platoon stormed the face of Flak Hill and clung to crevices while the Germans shot at them and rolled rocks down on them.

They stayed there and took it in the back, when a Jerry four-

gun 20mm. flak wagon opened up from the opposite side of the river while one by one they were picked off to fall to death or injury on ledges a hundred feet and more below.

Seven were left when they were relieved after dark. They were S/Sgt. Helmer Larson, Odessa, Minn.; Pvt. George Kirk, Potterstown, Pa.; Pfc Forrest Miner, Sycamore, Kan.; Pvt. Ralph Munch, Sioux City, Iowa; Sg. Cecil Jarvis, Ransom, Kan.; T/5 John Azukas, Sheboygan, Wis., and T/5 Gaccarino Mercadonte, Brooklyn.

The rest of the platoon stayed there, too. They were dead or wounded.



Allied forces hold the entire west bank of the Rhine from Nijmegen to Coblenz and a bridgehead across the river at Remagen.

Pre-Discharge Leaves Urged 1,200 Heavies Hit Sub Pens

WASHINGTON, March 11 (ANS).—Adm. William H. Standley, retired, today advocated a month's leave with pay for all armed forces members at the time they are eligible for discharge. He said in an article in the unofficial Army-Navy Journal that bitterness over any delay in the discharge procedure would thus be averted.

Franco Assisting Nazis, Moscow Radio Charges

LONDON, March 11 (AP).—Moscow radio broadcast a Soviet communiqué accusing the Spanish Government of aiding the Germans. "While gabbing of its love for peace," the communiqué said, "the Franco government is forming military units and sending them to aid Hitler."

Attacking western Germany in great strength for the fourth consecutive day, more than 1,200 Eighth AF heavy bombers threaded their way through intense flak yesterday to attack submarine yards and oil refineries at Bremen and Hamburg and sub yards at Kiel.

The Fortresses and Liberators were escorted by 750 fighters. One bomber and three fighters were missing.

The RAF Bomber Command sent 800 escorted bombers over Essen, only 19 miles southeast of Wesel, to attack a rail and communications center vital to German forces in the Wesel area.

More than 700 medium, light and fighter-bombers of the Ninth AF struck at four airfields between 40 and 75 miles east of the Remagen bridgehead across the Rhine. They also hit communications targets in the same area.

German Fliers And Guns Fail To 'Get' Bridge

By Andy Rooney

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

REMAGEN, March 11.—Luftwaffe pilots are apparently operating under suicide orders to "get the bridge" and at the same time all of Germany must be after the man who forgot to blow it.

Ever since the Ninth Armd. Div. forces found the bridge intact and crossed it, German artillerymen and Luftwaffe pilots have been knocking themselves out, trying to drop the thin span into the Rhine and cut off American forces on the Berlin side of the river. But if German pilots have a pool for the first man who kicks over the Ludendorff Bridge, no one has won it yet.

German artillery has caused some damage, but it has not knocked out the bridge. Lost Luftwaffe bombs have fallen into the Rhine and the rest have hit in the hills along the banks.

Town Being Cleared

This German town in the Rhineland hills at the western approach to the bridge is being cleared of civilians because it has been obvious that there are German spotters with radio communication to their artillery. One German officer was caught in the top story of a house overlooking the river by a cook attached to an engineer unit at the bridgehead.

From a ringside seat on the Rhine banks you can sit all day and watch slow-cruising, ancient JU87s, the original dive-bomber, move in and out of the cloud banks over the bridge at 15 to 20-minute intervals. Occasionally, a darting ME109 or FW190 rips out of the cloud and mist and, sweeping the

(Continued on Page 8)

Farmer's Daughter— She's In Again

LONDON, March 11 (Reuter).—Here's the latest version of the old one about the farmer's daughter. It's true, too.

Flying Officer J. P. Crisp, a RAF radio operator, bailed out of his night bomber and fell halfway through the roof of a Belgian farmhouse. He wiggled through the roof into the room below. In the room was the farmer's daughter, and she hadn't been expecting callers. She screamed.

"Her two brothers ran into the room when she screamed," said Crisp, "and the family soon got the situation straight."

Salient Now 3 by 9 Miles, Is Growing

By Dan Regan

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE FIRST ARMY, March 11.—General Hodges' forces across the Rhine tonight held a bridgehead three miles deep and nine miles long and have taken seven towns within the area.

Advances made today in the bridgehead area were more than a mile in some directions. Towns taken within the bridgehead area include Linz, Rheinbreitbach, Uffel, Bruchhausen, Ohlenberg and Dattenberg. Yank troops are fighting in Honnef.

Little resistance has been met so far by the Ninth Armd. Div. tanks and other infantry units fighting with them. But intense enemy artillery fire continued to pour in.

Nazi Barrage Lessened

One immediate advantage in extending the American bridgehead area will be to get the bridge at Remagen out of enemy artillery range. Meantime strong counter-battery fire this afternoon forced the Germans to lessen their barrage. The Germans have been using mostly 88s with indirect fire. They had no observation today.

No enemy air activity was reported today over the bridge, out yesterday 47 planes tried to bomb it. First Army anti-aircraft unit's knocked down 23 and considered five others as "probables."

Prisoners taken to midnight last night totaled 1,820 for 24 hours, most of these coming from the bridgehead itself. Since the start of the present First Army push, Feb. 23, a total of 33,795 PWs have been taken.

Allies Rule Rhineland

North of Coblenz

General Eisenhower's Rhineland offensive was virtually ended yesterday as Allied Armies stood on the western bank of the great river from Nijmegen to Coblenz and expanded their trans-Rhine bridgehead steadily in the face of increasing artillery fire and stiffening resistance.

The end of this phase of the war, climaxed by the dramatic Allied drive from the Roer to the Rhine, was marked by heavy explosions Saturday morning when Germans blew up two bridges at Wesel, following the collapse of their west-bank pocket.

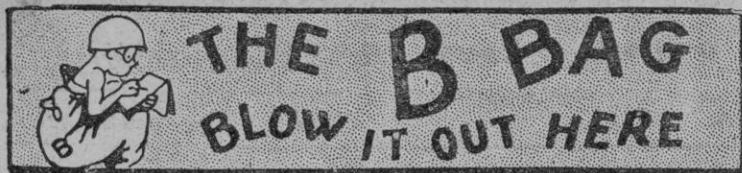
Yesterday at 21st Army Group the German radio was heard playing "The Watch on the Rhine" as Allied armies patrolled the banks of the historic river. Ironically, the radio program from Berlin featured a male chorus from Cologne, accompanied by the Breslau Symphony Orchestra.

A Model Operation

It was stated at SHAEF that the offensive had been virtually a model operation, surging ahead of schedule after the attack by Gen. Simpson's U.S. Ninth Army had been delayed by the flooded Roer River.

It was pointed out at SHAEF that since U.S. forces have gained the high ground east of the Rhine, German observation is blinded

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Make Yourself at Home

Arriving from the field we received a taste of real Dutch hospitality. We were beseeched by numerous families to live in their homes. Five of us moved into one home where they forced us to use their best beds and sheets, letting the sons sleep on the floor and sending the nephew and niece to sleep with the neighbors. The mother often prepares tea, coffee, cakes, cookies, fresh eggs, various drinks and other rare delicacies for our enjoyment. This is only a single instance of the hearty welcome given every decent soldier in this delightful little country.—M/Sgt. R. W. B.

Take a Bow

Orchids to the Air Force Repl. Depot for being so well organized for their excellent menus, clean areas and efficient processing of reinforcements.—Pfc W. N. AAF. Rep. Bn.

Bitter Pill

At the rate promotions for nurses are given out, you'd think the 50 cents a day comes from the pocket book of either the chief nurse or the commanding officer. When, actually, all they have to do is send in the letter of recommendation and the War Department and Treasury take care of the rest.

What was the point in announcing that promotions could be given in spite of T/O if no one pays any attention to it?

The only thing that keeps nurses on the ball is the patients. They need to be cared for, talked to and cheered, but most of the time it is they who do the morale-building—ours.

They write big articles about "angels in white." But you cannot be a sweet and smiling angel when the people who should make things easier and more pleasant for you are interested only in their OWN decorations, and say "to hell with the nurse."—Hash-marked nurses. Gen. Hosp.

And How!

In November, 1942, at Detroit, Mich., I took a physical examination and was inducted and sworn into the armed forces. I was forty-four years of age but took everything the training period had to offer with the result that at forty-six I am now in Germany.

Now here is where my bitch comes in. On last Dec. 10, my draft board sent a notice to my home stating that I was classified as 4-F. Now I ask you, what in hell am I doing then in a 1-A outfit on the front lines in Germany? Do you think I am entitled to this squawk?—T/5 R. Ed George A. Lane, FA Bn.

The Last Straw

After seven months of exhausting work running the Cherbourg roundhouse and shops, the men of this battalion have decided to pack their bags and go home. And why shouldn't we? No one seems to know that we're here. We've done all the work in this particular roundhouse, being the first railway shop battalion to land in France, and along comes the 728th Ry. Op. Bn. to grab all of the publicity and credit that is so rightfully ours.

Your recent article "Friendly Ike

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.: ELYsées 40-58, 41-49.

Other editions: London, Liège, Nancy, Marseilles, New York Office: 305 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. 238

Visits Busy Cherbourg" has caused no end of disgust among us of the 757th Ry. Shop Bn. The 728th never has and never will operate the Cherbourg roundhouse. It's definitely our baby.

This isn't the first incident in which another railway operating battalion has received credit for work done by this shop. It's high time someone got on the ball to give credit where credit is due.—Hq. Co. 757th Ry. Shop Bn. (100 signatures.—Ed.)

Double Reminder

Nazi Germany has placed great emphasis on the frequent display of the swastika flag and the system of government for which it stands. I do not believe in an excess of flag waving on our part, but if every headquarters, particularly in occupied Germany, would display Old Glory it would both act as a morale builder for our own troops and would also serve as a constant reminder to the Germans that their Nazi flag will never again fly from those staffs, and that the type of government for which it stood will be destroyed.—Lt. Chas McDonald, 16th Ord. MPM Co.

For Army of Occupation?

The following game of solitaire may be of interest to some of your readers.

Deal out eight cards face up in two rows in front of you. Hold rest of pack face down in left hand.

Turn up one card at time and play on top of one of the eight if the card is of the next higher or lower value and of the opposite color. No attention is paid to suits.

If the card cannot be played it is placed face up on a discard pile which is started to the right.

After playing a card from the hand, it is frequently possible to play one or more cards in turn from top of discard pile.

To provide a continuous circle of values, for example, a red ace can be played on either a black two or a black king.

When all cards in hand have been played, pick up discard pile, turn face down in left hand and repeat as often as necessary.

Occasionally and surprisingly you will be able to play all the cards and win the game.

Shuffle thoroughly and start new game. —Lt. Col. W. L. S., Sig. Sec.



A GI walking along the Champs-Elysees remarked, "bowlegs are few and far between."

Remember H. L. Mencken's remark? "Man weeps to think that he will die so soon, woman, that she was born so long ago."

A certain base headquarters received a letter from a British laundry which handles its business. The letter, apologizing for "slow service," reads in part,



"This is entirely due to shortage of staff, mostly caused through illness, but also due to the return of many husbands on leave from service overseas."

Cpl. Thomas K. Rowe has composed this "Song of the Open Road."

Oh, mud as splashed by truck or jeep,
You make my filthiness complete;
As thru your slushy slime I creep
Sometimes on rear, sometimes on feet.

The following "well-meant" conversation was heard in an orderly room, as the CO bid farewell to a departing GI.



Captain: "I hope the next time I see you, you will be a second lieutenant."

Flustered Pvt.: "Yes, sir, thank you, sir. The same to you, sir."

Poem (Thru the courtesy of Mauey Campbell.)

Many a sailor, bold and brave,
Perhaps will find a permanent wave.

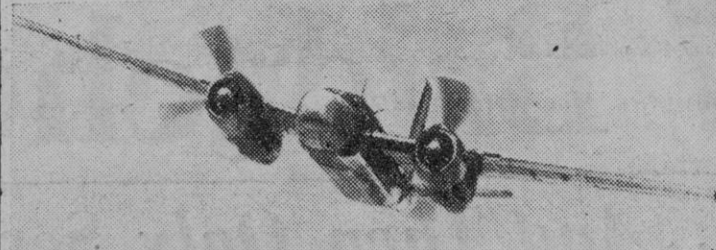
J. C. W.

Up Front With Mauldin



"Sir, do you hafta draw fire while yer inspirin' us?"

Fast, Powerful A26 Invader Leaves the Luftwaffe Wary



Fighter-like speed and great firepower of Invaders like this make them a potent weapon.

WITH A NINTH AF BOMB GROUP, March 11.—Air gunners of this bomb group have flown 200 missions with the A26 Invader without firing a shot at a Nazi fighter. No enemy fighter has dared get close to the powerfully armed warplane.

"It's all right with me if I never fire another shot," said S/Sgt. Philip Bruno, of Pt. Pleasant, N.J. "When I was gunner on a Fortress I was shooting all the time and being shot at. But I haven't pulled the trigger on this Invader. Guess I better knock on wood."

The fighter-like speed of the plane and the firepower of its 10 front guns make the Luftwaffe wary of the Invader, the gunners believe. Since they went into operation here several months ago, the Invaders have been used to both bomb and strafe, the latter chore being one that once wasn't in the books for medium bombers.

Asks Invader Assignment
S/Sgt. Nathan Winer, of Three Rivers, Mass., is listed as the aerial gunnery NCO instructor at the field, but he has taken advantage of the present situation to stop his classes and get assigned to an Invader himself.

"I never wanted to be an instructor anyway," he said, "and if they will let me I'm going to keep right on flying."

The pilot of an Invader, as the gunners quickly point out, is practically the whole show. He flies, bombs, navigates and shoots

the front guns. The rear gunner fires top and bottom turrets from a multiple sight set-up.

No one has exactly figured out what the engineer-gunner who sits alongside of the pilot is supposed to do, but 2/Lt. T. B. Smith, an Invader pilot, says that his engineer-gunner "lights my cigarettes and keeps me bucked up."

All Are Enthusiastic
Both gunners and pilots are as enthusiastic about the Invader.

"It's my favorite plane," said Capt. Phil J. Wallen, of Dallas, Tex., who has flown everything from fighters to B29s. "It will go faster on one motor than a lot of planes will on two. And she will take a bank into a dead engine."

But the practical crew chiefs who keep the Invaders flying don't concede them to be the zenith in warplanes.

"They are damn good planes," said T/Sgt. Ben Courtwright, of Eldorado, Kan., "but I just patched up 127 holes in Lt. Shouler's. They still haven't built one that will outfly flak."

Past Weather Used as Key To Forecasts For Foe's Land

WASHINGTON, March 11 (ANS).—Army Air Force's weather division has solved the deficiency in current weather observations over enemy-held territories from which direct observations are not available.

A new technique, "synoptic climatology," bases forecasts on the frequency with which certain patterns of weather, or distribution of weather elements, occur.

The division collected data on weather behaviour, in some cases as far back as 1870, where territory is held by the enemy. This data stops with the beginning of this war.

Meteorologists catalogued and cross-indexed past weather so completely that they now possess an integrated weather history of the world for 45 years.

Thus, when future campaigns are planned in territories where no current data are available, they can assist the planner of operations by predicting, on the basis of past weather behaviour and possible recurrence of certain weather combinations.



Also AEF (583 Kc. — 514 M.)

Time	TODAY
1215-Swing Time	1915-Winged Strings
1230-Yank Swing	1930-Duffy's Tavern
1300-Concert Hall	2000-World News
1315-Movie Music	2005-War Today
1410-On the Spot	2015-Mercer's Music
1430-Village Store	2105-Top Ten
1500-Strike Up Band	2135-Comedy Caravan
1530-Combat Diary	2200-U.S. News
1545-On the Record	2207-Calif. Melodies
1630-Fiesta	2235-Fred Waring
1715-Music Parade	2305-NBC Symph'ny
1810-U.S. Sports	0015-Night Shift
1815-GI Supper Club	0200-S & S News
1900-Murray Chorus	0205-Sign Off
TOMORROW	
0555-Opening	0910-Spotlight Band
0600-Rise and Shine	0925-Music U.S. Loves
0715-Song Parade	1000-Canada Show
0730-American Band	1030-Strike Up Band
0800-Combat Diary	1100-U.S. News
0815-Personal Album	1105-Duffie Bag
0830-Dance Music	1145-Piano Parade

News Every Hour on the Hour

New Rocket Barrage Turned on Germany

LONDON, March 11 (Reuter).—One of the war's most devastating weapons—the rocket barrage—is now being used by British and Canadian troops on the Western Front.

Based on the highly successful rocket barrages put down during landings on Sicily, Salerno, Anzio and Normandy, this new weapon is used as medium artillery. A barrage is laid down by a group of rocket projectors, each group consisting of 12 projectors with 32 barrels each. This gives concentrated fire power comparable with 280 five-inch guns.

Ordnance Chief Asks More Pershing Tanks

DETROIT, March 11 (UP).—Maj. Gen. Levin H. Campbell, Army chief of ordnance, disclosed today that America's new T26 General Pershing tank crews need "the very maximum number in the least possible time."

While only about 250 T26s have been produced, Campbell said, "Our tank forces are enthusiastic over the fighting ability and great destruction power of the tank."

Campbell said that the T26 went into action last month. The tank has heavy armor, a high-velocity 90mm gun.

Warweek

Allies Return to France — Pulverize
Nazi Europe in Drive to Rhine — First
Phase Map of Assault from the West

Monday, March 12, 1945

WARWEEK—THE STARS AND STRIPES

Page 3



Here's How Our Half of the Iron
Noose Was Tightened Around
Adolf Hitler's Vaunted Fortress—
Strangling His Festung Europa

A Play-by-Play Picture of
Our Moves Since D-Day

Ringging the Reich!

WHEN the Allies hurdled the mighty Rhine this week, they closed one of the most difficult chapters of the war and set the stage for the final round in the battle to defeat Germany.

American troops who swept across France after the St. Lô breakthrough reached the Siegfried Line on D plus 100. Yank First Army doughs entered the Rhineland's bastion city of Cologne on D plus 274 and hours later went on to spearhead the Rhine crossing.

The First Army's relentless thrust carried the ball to the river's west bank from which point Berlin lies some 290 miles away. While Allied forces prepare to broaden the breach over the great water barrier, it is a good time to take stock of the war on the Western Front.

In eight months the Allies have driven the Germans back from the sea walls of their crumbling European fortress into a steadily shrinking circle, in some points within the Third Reich's original borders. Here are the historic events which marked the Allied march from the beaches to the Rhine.

BATTLE OF THE BEACHES

The battle of the beaches actually began months before the troops poured ashore. The U.S. Eighth Air Force and the R.A.F. had been hammering relentlessly at the German fighter aircraft industry for almost a year to insure that the Luftwaffe would not be over the beaches on D-Day. For weeks before the landings, Kraut fortifications, communications and supply points also were pounded along the entire invasion coast.

The operation that began in the night and early morning of June 5 and 6, 1944, was undoubtedly the most complicated and difficult military accomplishment ever undertaken. It was carried out in spite of intense sea and land mines, submarines and E-boats, and a furious gale, which forced a one-day postponement of the jump-off.

The landing of airborne troops on the vastest scale ever attempted was the outstanding feature of that assault. About six hours before troops stormed Omaha and Utah beaches, the American 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions struck inland on the western flank of the beachhead zone, while the British 6th Airborne wave anchored the eastern flank.

The British 6th captured intact the vital bridges across the River Orne, northeast of Caen. It was their job to secure the eastern flank until sufficient forces were landed to prevent the Germans from pushing the vanguard of doughs back into the sea. The

The objective of the campaign that has brought the First Army over the Rhine, and the other Allied Armies to the Rhine's banks, as set by General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower. With reasonably good weather the Allies could expect to destroy, he said, "every German west of the Rhine and within the area in which we are attacking." The battle for the Rhine has carried the Allies into Germany's home ground. The enemy is steadily being forced back before the Allied ring of steel. Every advance into the Reich will be felt with increasing severity.

enemy threw heavy concentrations of artillery and tanks at them, but the Tommies held on.

The 82nd and the 101st dropped in the darkness near Sainte-Mère-Eglise and Carentan and so completely crippled German communications that the Nazi High Command didn't know our forces were ashore until six hours after the landing. The 101st proceeded to its assignment, seizing causeways off Utah beach to allow the Fourth Division, landing at that point, to move in rapidly. The 82nd had the job of linking with the 101st to capture bridgeheads across the Merderet River so that infantry divisions landing later could travel fast across the Cherbourg Peninsula.

At H-Hour, parts of the First and 29th American divisions landed at Omaha Beach, and the Fourth Division came in on Utah beach. At the same time, parts of the British Second and Canadian First Armies hit the coast further east.

General Montgomery, later to become a field marshal, declared in his pre-invasion instructions, that the assault troops "must penetrate deeply and quickly into the enemy country." And that is exactly what they did.

By June 11 the fusion of the beachheads in Normandy was completed and a coastal strip some 60

miles long was held firmly in Allied hands. It was then possible to build up a force powerful enough to strike inland without the aid of supporting naval bombardment. Montgomery established his headquarters in Normandy on June 10 and was able to announce the next day that "we have won the battle of the beaches."

The landings cost us some 7,000 men, but about a quarter of a million reached the shore safely for further attack. Our surprise tactics were a complete success. The Allied forces gained numerical superiority while the Germans hesitated to commit their major forces, fearing these landings were not our major effort.

While British and Canadians continued to pin down large German armored and infantry forces on the left flank of the bridgehead, our First Army, under command of Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, lashed westward from Carentan. By June 18 the First had knifed through the Cherbourg Peninsula, and the V, VIII and XIX Corps were proceeding with the job of mopping up the peninsula to the north. On the 25th, Cherbourg fell, providing the Allies with their first continental port.

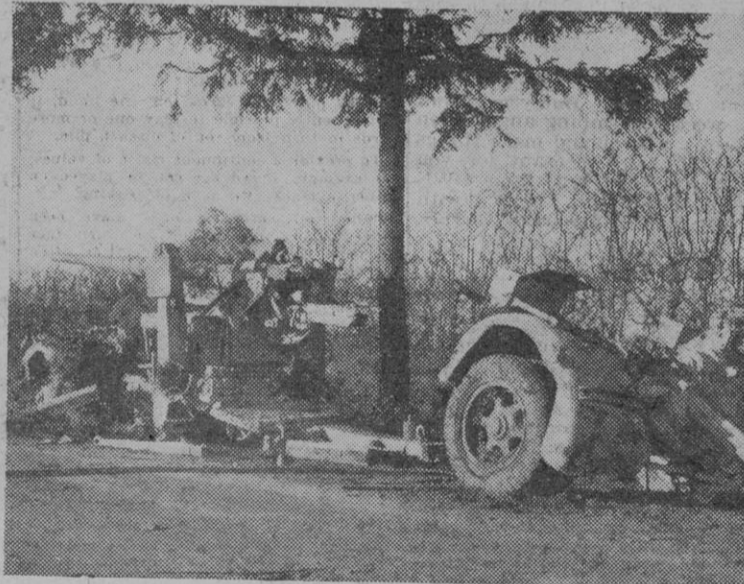
In the meantime, the British and Canadian Armies had seized the Caumont-Caen road—one of the main German supply arteries—and, after bitter fighting, drove the Germans out of Caen on July 9. Caen was the hinge of the whole enemy line blocking our advance into Normandy.

HEDGEROW FIGHTING

The Americans, veering south from the Cherbourg Peninsula, were in the hedgerow country. The hedgerows in most parts of Normandy are so close together you can run from one to the other in four or five seconds—if nothing is in the way. There usually was; the dirt embankments and deep ditches at the bases of the hedges gave the Germans plenty of protection and a good field of fire. They were finally routed out, field by field, by mortars, machine-gun and BAR fire, as well as the famous hedgerow cutter that a GI designed during battle and Ordnance shops fashioned out of German beach obstacles.

The drive southward to St. Lô took most of July and was one

(Continued on page 6)



DEFEAT, destruction and death. That sums up the fate facing Hitler's troops; the way photos on this page symbolize body blows dealt Germans in campaigns from the Beaches to the Rhine. Shown are: (top) prisoners at St. Malo, (middle) wrecked 88, (bottom) German mobile HQ, and former occupants.

From Normandy Beaches...



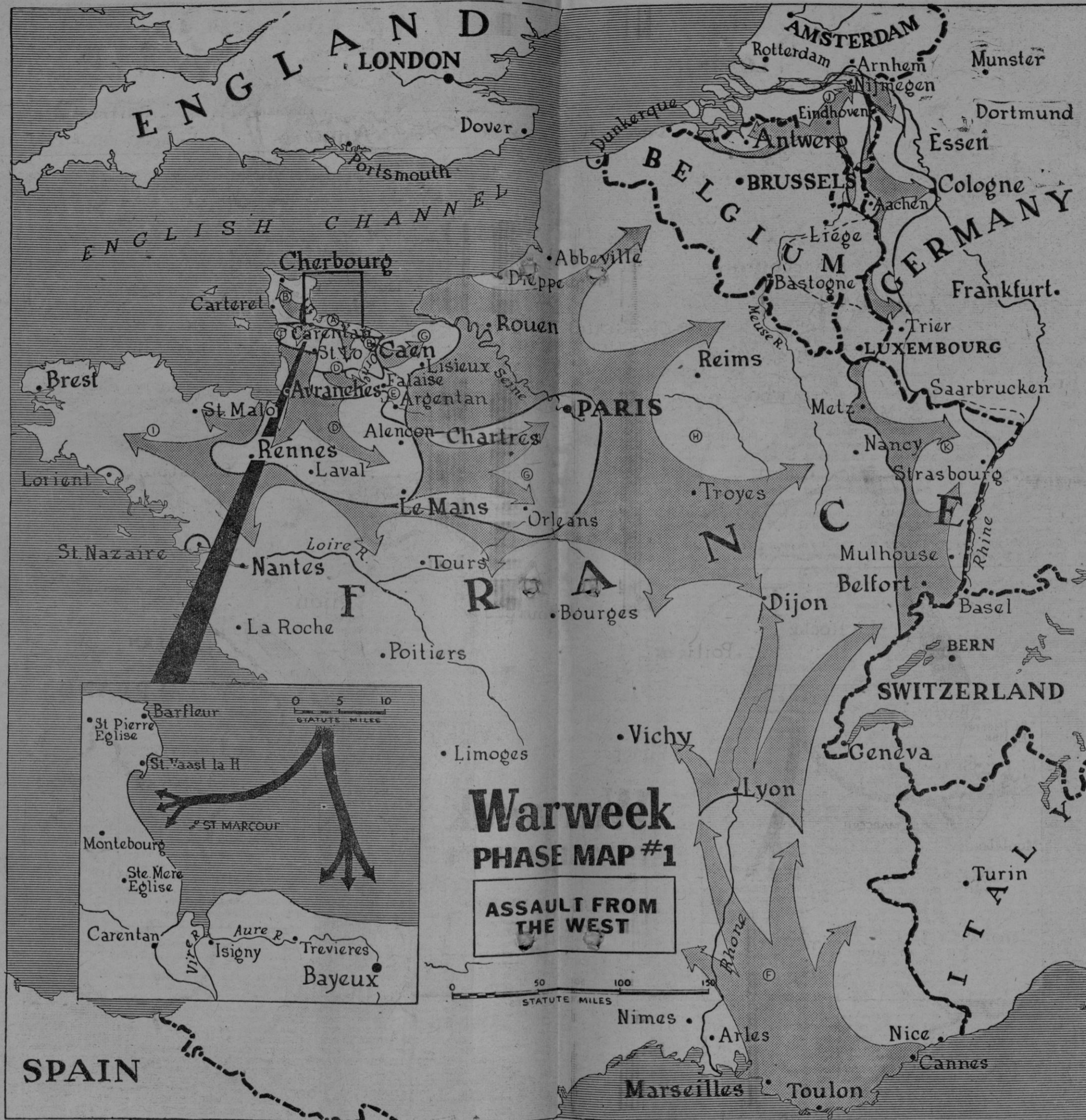
D-DAY, H-hour—and Allied troops make military history in the World's first successful landing against a manned, fortified and defended coast. Here, American infantrymen storm ashore under fire to take and hold the vital beachheads.



HEDGEROWS were the feature of bitter Normandy fighting which followed landings. This U.S. doughboy was snapped as he aimed at an enemy sniper from behind a hedge near Mortain, which was the scene of fierce infantry clashes.



PARIS greeted Allied deliverers on Aug. 25 when Second French Armored Division led victory parade down Champs-Elysees from Arc de Triomphe. Lurking Kraut snipers fired on marchers and celebrating civilians, but city was soon quiet.



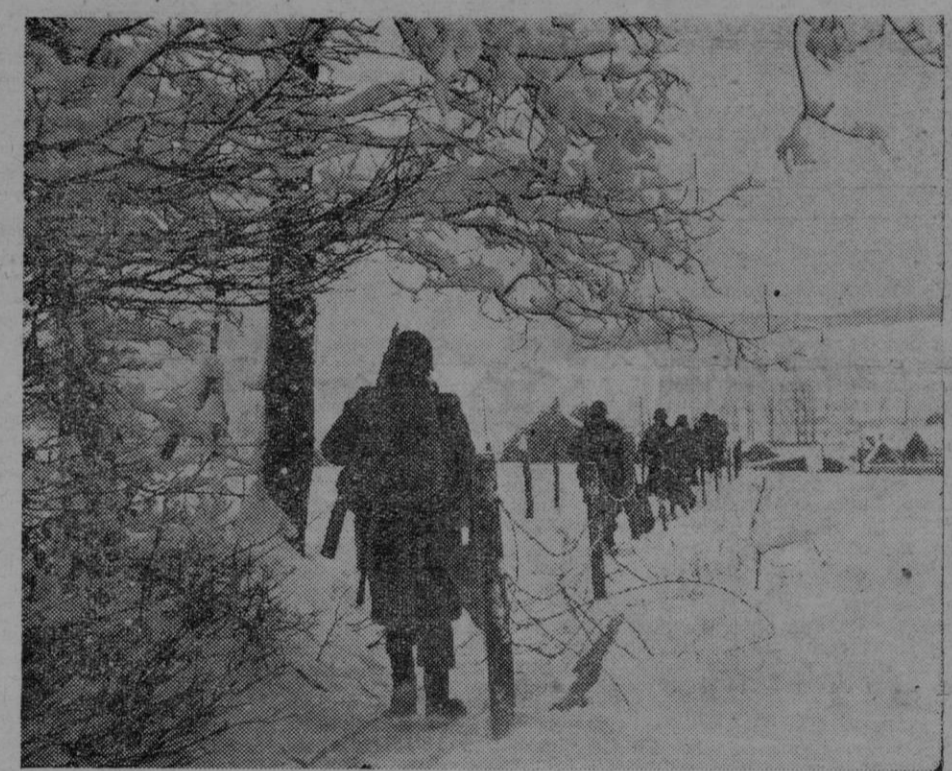
- A) 6 to 11 June, landings effected, beachheads established and consolidated and a quarter of a million men with their supplies, arms and equipment poured into a coastal strip 60 miles long and up to ten miles deep.
- B) 11 to 25 June, First Army, under Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley, breaks out of the beach area, attacks to the south, west of Carentan, then swings north to take Cherbourg, first major Continental port to fall into our hands. Bulk of reinforcements and supplies still coming in via the beaches.
- C) 25 June to 19 July. The Hedgerows. St. Lo fell on 19 July and Avranches 22 days later.
- D) 27 July to 8 Aug. The Breakthrough. Third Army gets loose and starts toward Paris. Rennes fell on 3 Aug. Laval and Le Mans occupied on 7 and 8 Aug.
- E) 12 to 15 Aug. The Falaise Pocket. German troops who had counterattacked at Mortain and Avranches were cut off and German General Von Rundstedt ordered a general retreat from Normandy. American units, swinging around from the south, attacked the retreating Germans on their flank, encircling the greater part of the German 7th Army in an area of about 300 square miles.
- F) 15 to 25 Aug. Southern landing. Paris falls. With the Germans in trouble in the west, new danger was provided by landings on the Mediterranean Coast, from Cannes to a point west of Marseilles. Striking north, up the Rhone Valley, the Seventh Army took Lyons and Dijon.
- G) 15 to 25 Aug. While the Southern Armies advanced, American and French troops reached and liberated Paris. Troops of the FFI had already cleaned out most of the Germans still in the city and the Second French Armored and Fourth American Infantry Divisions had no major fight in Paris.
- H) 25 Aug. to 15 Sept. Allied troops pushed on past Paris to reach the Siegfried Line on D plus 100. American Third and Seventh Armies linked up near Dijon, on 12 Sept.
- I) 15 to 18 Sept. Brest falls. Troops of the Ninth Army, aided by FFI men, captured the Channel port of Brest on 18 Sept. Germans hold Lo and St. Nazaire as well as a coastal strip near Bourdeaux.
- J) 17 Sept. to 21 Oct. Battle for Holland. While troops on the central sector re-grouped and built up supplies and reinforcements, American and British troops attacked in the north, cutting in behind and capturing the great Belgian port of Antwerp and reaching Arnhem and Nijmegen, Holland.
- K) 21 Oct. to 23 Dec. Metz and Strasbourg were taken and, in the north, the Ninth and First Armies pushed toward, then across, the Roer. A German counter-attack, the Belgian Bulge, threatened Liege but was finally stemmed west of Bastogne where surrounded paratroopers and other elements fought an epic action.
- L) 23 Dec. to 9 March. Through the Siegfried Line and across the Roer and Ertf Rivers, troops of the American First Army swept across the Cologne Plain, took the historic city and began cleaning up German troops left west of the River Rhine. The formal announcement that our forces had crossed the Rhine in strength was made from Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges' headquarters on the night of March 8.

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...To the Rhine and Across



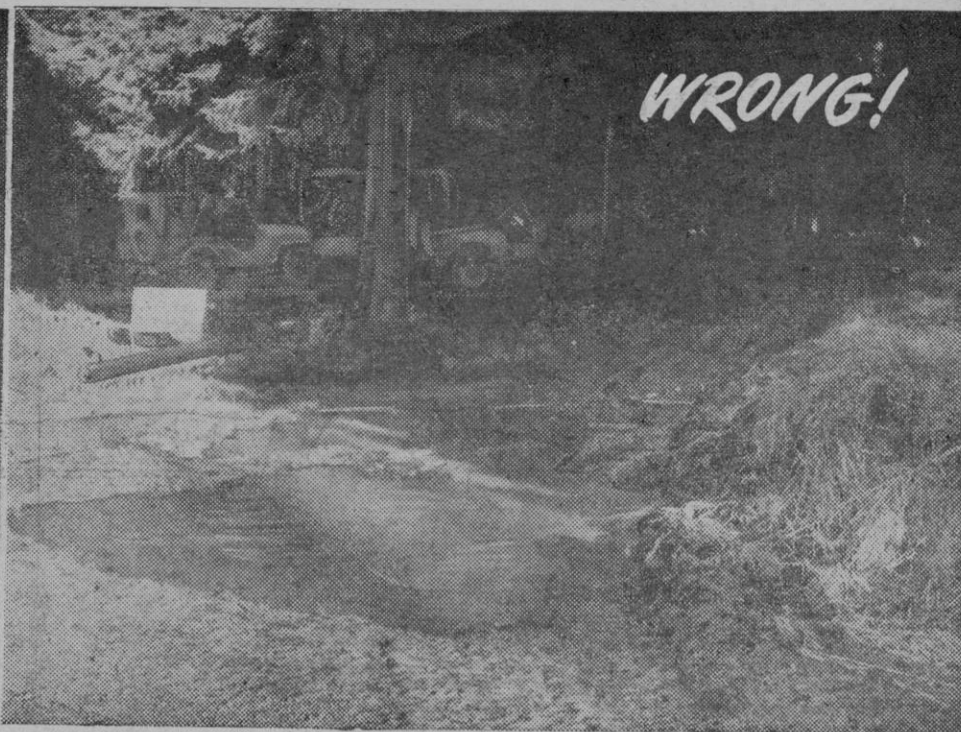
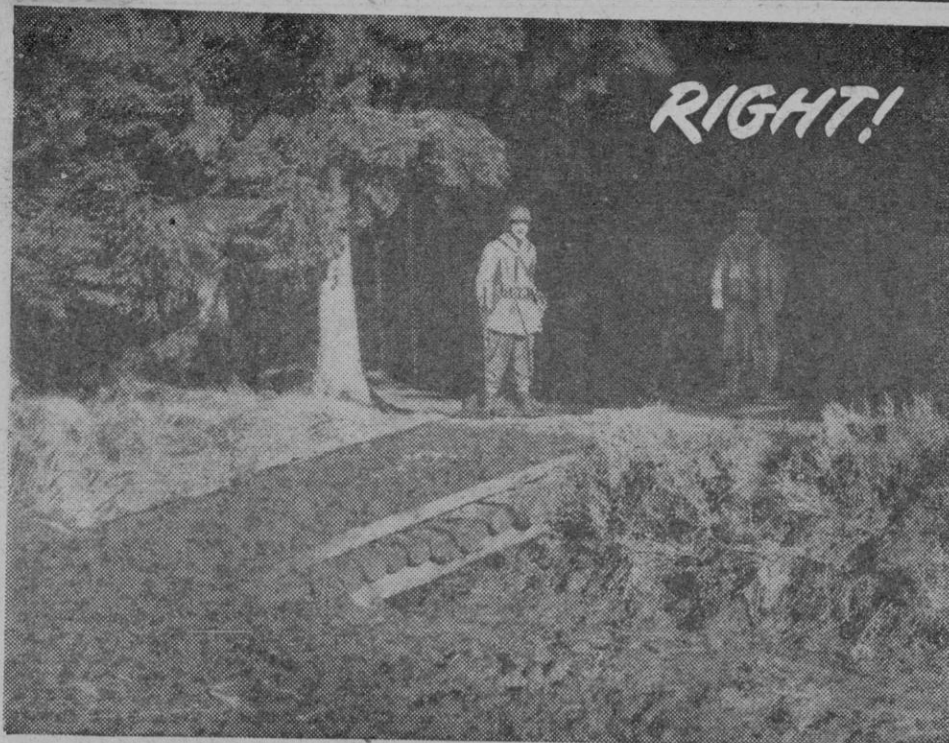
AACHEN, first major German city to fall to U.S. troops, provided the blue-print for future assaults. Here, cautious doughboys work down shell-swept street, alert for "last-stand" resistance. City was battered into submission.



WINTER warfare tried stamina of Allies, proved troops of the "decadent democracies" could take it—and keep dishing it out. This Third Army patrol is shown moving into Belgian village of Lutrebois. Mud replaces snow now.



RIVERS didn't stop advance as United Nations Armies closed in for the kill. American doughboys crossed Moselle (shown above) in assault boats. Boats, plus bridges, were used at the Roer and the Ertf. Broad Rhine was next.



MUD is still an enemy, a quiet, dirty fighter who slows down armor, bogs trucks and jeeps and generally raises hell when our Army is on the move. Like the Kraut he aids, Gen. Mud can be beaten—but it takes brains and elbow grease to do it.

The two pictures shown above illustrate the **RIGHT** and the **WRONG** way to turn off a highway into a parking area. In the first picture, the work of an outfit with good **MUD DISCIPLINE** is shown. These boys knew that:

1. Water will run off in a ditch but collects in a pool if given a chance to do so;
2. Traffic, moving over soft shoulders and through

water, churns up mud which can slow up the operation of getting off the road and under cover.

Their answer—the answer of an outfit which is on the ball—was a few minutes work with pick and shovel, axe, saw and drift-pin maul. Their vehicles were able to roll off the road, across the log bridge and into the parking area without making a mud-pie big enough to satisfy a six-year-old.

THE second picture indicates an outfit with an "Aw t'hell with it" attitude. OK for a couple of jeeps or maybe even a weapons carrier or a command car—but a Grade A headache for the driver of a 6x6 loaded down with rations or ammo. Hungry men, men with only one bandolier left, don't say "Aw t'hell with it." Ordnance

men, trying to doctor up a mudded-out truck, so she'll be fit to roll, don't say that. They have much stronger, much more picturesque and much more personally-pointed remarks to make.

This rustic bridge job is only one of the many ways in which the **MUD ENEMY** can be licked. Some others are:

Stay on hard shoulders if possible, don't take short cuts, don't track mud onto highways, keep vehicles clean, ditch stagnant water so it will drain off, fill in soft spots, mark bad spots to warn the man behind you, use four-wheel drive and don't dig in by spinning.

Here's a tip: Use the highest gear ratio, and the lowest motor speed you can without stalling, if you do get stuck.

Ringing the Reich!

(Continued from page 3)

of the most stubbornly-fought periods of the war for the First Army. All of it was close fighting. While the infantry was struggling forward and taking heavy losses, the Army was being regrouped for the breakthrough to Avranches, at the hinge of the Normandy and Brittany coasts.

St. Lô, scene of bitter fighting by the 29th Division, fell on July 19. A week later the First Army broke through west of St. Lô and, on July 31, took Avranches. Then, turning east in the direction of Paris, it drove on toward Argentan, where it later became the southern flank of the Falaise pocket.

At the same time, the new U.S. Third Army, under Gen. Patton, was sent in on its right to exploit the breakthrough. Moving along with its right shoulder brushing the entrance to the Brittany Peninsula, the Third Army took Rennes on August 3. Third Army's VIII Corps advanced into the Brittany Peninsula while XX and XV Corps turned east to take Laval on August 7 and Le Mans on August 10. Then they swung north to Alençon.

Just before the breakthrough, Gen. Montgomery threw into the offensive the British Second Army and the newly-formed Canadian First Army under Lt. Gen. Crerar. The British Second Army attacked on July 31 from the Caumont sector and reached the river Vire on August 2. South of Caen, the First Canadian Army launched a very heavy attack in the direction of Falaise on the night of August 7-8.

Meanwhile, the Germans launched a strong counter-attack at Mortain. Their aim was to cut Gen. Patton's army off from supplies. But the VIIth Corps stopped them cold in their tracks, with the 30th Division bearing the brunt of the attack.

THE FALAISE POCKET

The First Army was putting the heat on the Germans near Argentan. Patton's XV and XX Corps columns turned north from Alençon to help them. British and Canadian forces continued to push down from Caumont and Caen. The enemy was given no chance to disengage or regroup. His lines of communication were threatened and the forces that had counter-

attacked at Mortain and Avranches were cut off from further supplies. To raise the pressure, First Army's V and XIX Corps—which had finished cleaning up Cherbourg and the rest of the peninsula—were added to the enveloping movement.

On August 12, the Germans began a general retreat from Normandy. In a stirring order of the day addressed to all Allied soldiers, sailors and airmen, Gen. Eisenhower called upon them for a supreme effort to turn the opportunity they had created into a major Allied victory.

Lieut. Gen. Dittmar, the spokesman of the German High Command, later gave a frank summary of what happened: "While the German troops on the front sealing off the enemy lodgment area in northern Normandy were still locked in heavy fighting against the British and Canadians, the obvious thing happened. The Americans, further to the south, after effecting a breach, swung round with strong forces to the north against the rear of the German front so as to link up via Argentan with the Allies attacking from Caen."

The greater part of the German Seventh Army was encircled in a "pocket" some 300 square miles in area. The main escape routes for the Germans were the roads through Falaise and Trun to Lisieux. "The fleeting but definite opportunity for a major Allied victory" was seized by all the Allied forces who exerted increasing pressure on the enemy from all sides, narrowing the escape gap at Falaise and raining blow after blow from the air upon the formations who attempted to escape. On August 19, the gap was finally closed when the Polish Division of the Canadian First Army joined up with our forces in Chambois. Argentan had been captured on August 15, thus effectively sealing off the enemy escape routes. Only a small part of the German Seventh Army got away—and practically all of its equipment was destroyed.

SOUTHERN INVASION

Just at the point when the German situation in western France was most serious, on August 15, the Allies made a new landing along the Riviera, in southern France, from over 800 ships. French divisions with the Seventh Army liberated Toulon and Marseilles. The Army almost succeeded in cutting off the Germans in the Rhône Valley at Montélimar. After that, it pushed for Lyons and the Moselle River.

PARIS LIBERATED

While the Germans were busy trying to save what they could from the Falaise gap, another wing of the U.S. Third Army swung east to take Chartres, Orleans and Dreux. This great advance, combined with that of the British, eastward to Lisieux, once more outflanked the German forces escaping from the "Falaise Pocket," setting yet another trap for them. They now had no way of retreat other than across the bridgeless Seine River at its widest stretch nearest the sea.

The Second French Arm'd. Div. and the U.S. Fourth Inf. Div. headed for Paris and entered the city on August 25. The FFI had already cleaned up most of the city and the Germans surrendered the same day.

For all of our forces this was a period of vigorous pursuit and wide-open warfare, and many of our divisions were acting largely on their own. The enemy was running and we were going after him as fast as we could. The Transportation Corps and all the other supply services did a swell job of keeping supplies moving forward. They had to rebuild the roads and railroads as they went along, and they managed to do in about one month the supply job which they had expected to spread over three months. And they had terrific loads to carry. Everything in this war seems to be heavy. In fact, up to the end of the year, the supply services brought more than 61 million tons of material to our Army in this theater alone, in addition to providing quite a few millions of tons for our Allies.

SIEGFRIED LINE

The capture of Paris, the French capital, did not stop the Allied troops. They continued to press their assault against the fleeing enemy, with the British Second and the American First, Third and Seventh Armies sweeping across Belgium and France along a 500-mile front, and the Canadian First Army holding down the left flank on the Channel ports.

On September 12, the American Third linked forces with the Seventh, thus uniting the forces invading from the south and the west. The union took place near Dijon, about 80 miles from Belfort. On D plus 100, American troops hit the Siegfried Line. Shortly afterward, following the sealing off of the Channel ports, the British and Canadian forces chased the Germans across the Dutch border.

Apparently, the German strategy was based on the teachings of Karl von Clausewitz, a long-since-dead Prussian general, who had maintained that Europe could be defended successfully against any invader as long as the defender held the ports. Consequently, the Germans attempted to hold, and, in fact, still are holding, some of these ports (St. Nazaire, Lorient, etc.).

HOLLAND INVASION

On September 17, the Allies attempted to turn the left flank of the whole German position by an advance through Holland. The idea was to get loose on the wide, open plain which runs to Hanover, Brunswick and Berlin. Three airborne divisions, one British and our 82nd and 101st, came down near Eindhoven, Nijmegen and Arnhem.

The main purpose of these airborne assaults was to secure the bridges crossing the various branches of the Rhine River and open up the way for an armored attack on the flat German plain. The Germans were surprised, but soon managed to reorganize, throwing heavy forces against the British armored column at the border and stopping it from getting through the corridor in time. The British airborne fought one of the heaviest and most bitter actions of the war, but finally had to withdraw. We held on to Eindhoven and Nijmegen, however, and cleared a large part of southern Holland.

By November 4, the Germans had been driven out of all of Belgium. The situation then saw the Canadian First Army and the Second British Army on the left flank driving the Germans northward into Holland. The new U.S. Ninth Army took up its position between the British and the U.S. First, facing the Roer River, 21 miles from Cologne. The U.S. First Army was in front of Coblenz, while the U.S. Third and Seventh Armies and the French First had pushed into the Saar basin and occupied Alsace. The accomplishments of the Allied troops since D-Day are rated as one of the outstanding feats of all time.

GERMAN BREAKTHROUGH

The Ninth and First Armies pushed on toward the Roer River. Metz, the mighty fortress of Central Europe, fell by direct assault for the first time since the days of knights in armor, to the Third Army, which continued to advance from the Moselle River to the German frontier. The U.S. Seventh and the French First Armies broke

through at Saverne, seized Strasbourg and pushed northeast to the German border, entering Germany on December 7.

Then we took a terrific sock on the chin. On December 16, south of Liège and north and east of Bastogne, the Wehrmacht, under the leadership of Von Rundstedt, hit back. By December 23, it had achieved a breakthrough on the First Army front extending from just south of Monschau, in Germany to the area of Wiltz, in Luxembourg. Enemy forces, refreshed and vicious enough to shoot American prisoners without mercy, were all through the Ardennes Forest and were threatening the general line of the Meuse River.

Hardest hit was the front of the VII Corps, which had been in position to the east and north of Bastogne. The front was dissolved and three American divisions were badly battered, but the enemy's apparent plan of piercing through to seize Liège and Antwerp did not succeed.

Gen. Eisenhower quickly regrouped our forces to squeeze the top and bottom of the bulge. The northern flank was placed under Montgomery and the southern was covered by Patton's Third Army.

In this situation, particularly along the First Army sector, "spec" numbers were forgotten, and MPs, QM troops and engineers threw down their shovels and brassards, grabbed rifles, and did a fine job of shooting Germans. These pick-up teams were of outstanding assistance to the regular infantry divisions who were holding off the assault.

On December 19, the 101st Div. took up a position in Bastogne, supported by elements of the Ninth and Tenth Arm'd. Divs., and were soon surrounded by five German divisions. They resisted all German offers to surrender and heroically withstood a siege until they were relieved by the Fourth Arm'd. Div., which came up from the south on December 26.

The breaking of this siege marked the end of the high tide of the German attack, and the enemy proceeded to withdraw from the Ardennes under Allied pressure. By mid-January, the lost territory had been regained and Allied units were again punching all along the line. The big Russian offensive in January forced the Germans to pull some of their divisions out of our front to defend Berlin. The time for a knock-out blow from our side of the battle line was at hand. It came with the drive to the Rhine and the capture of Cologne.

This Happened in America Yesterday:

Host of New Problems To Come With V-E Day

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

NEW YORK, March 11.—There won't be only feverish dancing in the streets when victory comes in Europe. There'll be a host of weighty problems and possibly, Washington observers feel, quick death to the mild manpower draft bill now awaiting Senate-House conference, if that much-debated measure has not been passed before the final crusher on Germany.

The same observers also are worried about an increase in labor-management friction once the Reich falls. They ask: Will labor drop its no-strike pledge, and will employers get tough too? But the observers are heartened by the knowledge that when the armed forces ask for appropriations, the country will know there is still a massive war to fight in the Pacific.

A forerunner of squabbling in the post-war period came with a charge by R. J. Thomas, international president of the United Auto Workers, CIO, that auto industry executives are "sacrificing war requirements to preparations for a quick grab at post-war civilian sales."

Thomas made his charge before the Senate subcommittee digging into utilization of manpower in Detroit, after George Romney, executive director of the Automotive Council for War Production, had accused labor of causing a 25-to-50-percent drop in productive efficiency in the industry.



James F. Byrnes

Friends of War Mobilization Chief James F. Byrnes, who worries about many other things besides midnight curfews, say Byrnes may reconsider his idea of quitting when the European war ends, and stick until the Senate acts on the world security organization. Byrnes, they say, can help immensely when the fur starts flying in Senate debate.

Out in San Francisco, Joe Rosenthal's local draft board is very proud of him, and wants to change his 4-F tag to 2A-F because they feel Joe, an Associated Press photographer, is doing an essential job in taking combat pictures. The AP pix-man's shot of Marines raising the flag atop Mt. Suribachi in Iwo Jima won wide acclaim, and Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D-Wyo.) wants to use it as a design for a postage stamp.

Loaded Bottoms on the Way Out

THE OPA offers cheery news to drinkers in its announcement that after April 16 bars will have to post ceiling prices and also the number of ounces used in a drink. Goodby to the old loaded bottoms and servings that sink well below the lip of a glass.

While pondering this alcoholic titbit, nothing is more fitting than a whale story. About three miles away from swanky Southampton on Long Island, a 64-foot sulphur bottom mammal, which had possibly met a depth-bomb, after being mistaken for a U-boat, was cast up on the beach.

DEATH came to R. B. Nevils, 40, in Dallas, Tex., under weird circumstances. Nevils felt he was about to die, sold his tire shop, left his money with his wife, and then crossed a road to ask two theological students to pray for him. Fifteen minutes later, Nevils was dead.

Mrs. Rhea Warwick, of San Francisco, who has lost three sons in the European war since Jan. 1, hopes the Red Cross will bring back her fourth and last son who is with a tank unit in the ETO. She hasn't seen the remaining son, William, 22, in three years.

GEN. Joseph (Vinegar Joe) Stilwell, commanding Army Ground Forces, says there will be few changes in the Army training program when the emphasis shifts from Europe to the Pacific. Any outfit that can fight Germans can fight Japanese, he says.



Gen. Stilwell

The librarian at the Hohokus, N.J., library hopes the skunk who has been calling will cut it out soon. Best-sellers are converted into stinkers by the visits.

CIGARETTES played a big part at a recent press conference held by Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau. The Secretary, usually a taciturn individual, loosened up and began telling the reporters about loans and such. Pausing finally, he noticed the boys were restless and inattentive. One reporter, looking at his watch, found it was ten minutes to eleven, and said, "Thank you, Mr. Secretary. The cigarette line forms at the Press Club at eleven o'clock, and most of us would like to get away."

Blackout Cloth Comes Out of Storage

OPTIMISTIC city fathers of Denver have placed 12,000 yards of blackout cloth, stored for use in air raids, on sale, and in Detroit Jack Keelan, 62-year-old street beggar, appears out to break his last year's record of 340 days in the clink. Having just cooled off for 90 days, Jack was handed a 60-day return stretch.

POLICE Blotter Note today. Beverley Hills cops grabbed green-eyed Norma Jean Crabeal, 19, and a 16-year-old high school boy as part of a marijuana ring which supplied reefer to students. The police chief says the boy was a runner who brought the weed to Norma, a dental nurse.



Rafferty Beats Haegg Again in K. of C. Mile

NEW YORK, March 11.—Jimmy Rafferty, game little miler of the New York Athletic Club, scored his seventh straight mile victory of the season over famed Gunder Haegg when he captured the Columbia Mile, feature of the Knights of Columbus Games in Madison Square Garden last night. Rafferty was clocked in the slow time of 4:16.3 and won by eight yards over Rudy Simms, of NYU, with Haegg fifth. Simms, Forest Efav and Don Burnham also beat the Swedish ace to the finish line.

Haakan Lidman, Haegg's teammate, also was licked in the 60-yard high hurdles with Ed Dugger, formerly of Tufts, winning the event. Charley Beetham won the historic Casey 600 in 1:13.2.

Michigan Big 10 Victor

CHICAGO, March 11.—Bob and Ross Hume, Michigan's track twins, swept across hand in hand in the mile race as Michigan scored its second straight victory in the 35th annual Big Ten indoor track and field meet. The time was 4:25.

Points scored were: Michigan 55 1/10, Illinois, 54 1/10, Minnesota, 21 1/2, Ohio State, 17 1/2, Purdue, 11 1/2.

Shute-Byrd Team Trips Golf Kings

MIAMI, Fla., March 11.—Denny Shute and Sammy Byrd yesterday upset favored Sammy Snead and Bob Hamilton to gain the finals in the \$7,500 four-ball international golf tournament. Their opponents in the finals will be Byron Nelson and Harold "Jug" McSpaden, who eliminated Henry Picard and Johnny Revolta.

On the 38th hole, Byrd sank a 12-footer for a three, while Snead missed an eight-footer and Hamilton a six-foot putt that would have evened the match.

Nelson and McSpaden were hot yesterday, scoring the best round of the tournament with 62s in the morning.



The bout between Pfc Earl Judge, of Gary, Ind., and Pfc John Thompson, of New York, tops tonight's weekly boxing show at Palais de Glace, Paris. First bout is at 7:30 PM.

Other bouts include: Cpl. Lonnie Scott, 168, Kansas City, Mo., vs. Pfc Jack Nowitzke, 165, New Brunswick, N.J.; Pvt. Charles Perkins, 155, New York, vs. Pvt. Ted Pritchard, 160, Pittsburgh; Cpl. Don Anderson, 148, Philadelphia, vs. Pvt. Jack Murray, 145, Milford, Conn.; Pvt. George Thornton, 166, New York, vs. Pvt. John Stevens, 162, Courtland, N.Y.; Pvt. Robert Wilson, 155, Philadelphia, vs. Pvt. Frank Leal, 158, Houston, Texas; Pvt. John Horn, 150, Detroit, vs. Cpl. Charles Sulich, 152, New York; Cpl. Rufus Bishop, 126, Brooklyn, vs. Pvt. Charles Clark, 128, New Orleans, La.; Pvt. Riley Byrd, 185, Independence, Kan., vs. Pvt. Joe Traynor, 178, Philadelphia; Cpl. Stanley McCarron, 152, Belleville, Ill., vs. Pvt. Chester Clemons, 150, Kansas City, Mo.

Fifty-four teams, representing Seine Section, Com Z and other military units, will start an elimination basketball tournament tonight. A total of 389 teams in 45 leagues competed in earlier rounds to determine the entries.

Tonight's Schedule: 397th MP vs. 398th MP, 134th Reinf. Depot vs. 945th Ord., Wildcats vs. 1348th Engr., 4086th QM vs. OCM, at 7 PM., 32nd MP vs. Marbeuf, at 7:30 PM., 8th Field Hosp. vs. G-1 Com Z, 3104th Ord. vs. 3014th Ord., 382nd MP vs. Ground Forces, at 8:30 PM.

Tuesday's Schedule: 787th MP vs. 9th Reinf. (team No. 1), 112th Chem. vs. Rockets, 67th Reinf. vs. 49th Gen. Hosp., 54th Chem. vs. 7th Conv. Hosp., at 7 PM., 3021st vs. 622nd BMBn., 508th (A) Engr. vs. 583rd QM Sales, Sig. Center vs. 386th MP, at 8:30 PM.

Montreal Puts Crown on Ice

MONTREAL, March 11.—It didn't matter much, but the Montreal Canadiens leisurely went about clinching the National Hockey League title by defeating the New York Rangers, 7-3, here last night. The defeat didn't push the Rangers out of the playoff picture, but reduced their chances of making the grade.

Buddy O'Connor scored three goals to pace the victors.

Leafs Paste Bruins

TORONTO, March 11.—Five goals in the second period added to the slaughter as the Toronto Maple Leafs defeated the Boston Bruins, 9-2, here last night. Ted Kennedy and Bob Davidson each tallied twice for Toronto. Babe Pratt, Mel Hill, Stan Stanowski, Gus Bodnar and Sweeney Schriener got the other Leaf scores.

Hockey Standings

Table with National League and American League columns, listing teams and W L T Pts.

American League Saturday Night's Results

Table with Eastern Div. and Western Div. columns, listing teams and W L T Pts.

Table with Eastern Div. and Western Div. columns, listing teams and W L T Pts.

Kochan Decisions Welch

DETROIT, March 11.—George Kochan, of Akron, took a ten-round decision from Coley Welch of Portland, Me., last night at the Olympia Club. The fight was fairly even during the first five rounds, but Kochan switched his attack to the midriff in the later stages to earn the decision. There were no knockdowns. Kochan weighed 166, Welch, 163.

Wilson Named Big Ten Czar

CHICAGO, March 11.—Kenneth L. "Tug" Wilson, athletic director of Northwestern University, was appointed Big Ten Athletic Commissioner for a period of six years

at a joint meeting of Western Conference athletic directors and faculty members yesterday. He succeeds the late Maj. John L. Griffith.

It was learned that Fritz Crisler, Michigan football coach and athletic director, had rejected the position, but backed Wilson for the job.

The new commissioner is 48 years old. He was graduated from Illinois in 1920, the same year he made the U.S. Olympic team, competing as a javelin thrower at Antwerp. He still holds the United Kingdom javelin record, set on a tour in 1920.

The Big Ten committee tightened its eligibility rules, which had been wide open since Pearl Harbor, by banning civilians from more than four years of competition and barring professional athletes.

Hassett ND Cage Captain

SOUTH BEND, Ind., March 11.—Billy Hassett, of New York, will captain the Notre Dame basketball team next season, it was announced today by university athletic officials.

Savold Loses Finger

CHICAGO, March 11.—The bout between heavyweight boxers Lee Savold and Larry Lane, scheduled for last night, was postponed for the third time because Savold had to submit to a finger amputation as the result of an injury suffered while on duty with the Merchant Marine.

Li'l Abner



By Courtesy of United Features

By Al Capp

Superforts Hit Nagoya; Tokyo Fires Still Rage

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Reuter).—Superfortresses of the 21st Bomber Command today attacked Nagoya, on Honshu, main island of Japan, "in very great strength," the 20th Air Force announced.

This new aerial blow at Japan came on the heels of Saturday's 1,300-ton fire raid on Tokyo by more than 300 B29s.

From Guam an American recon flier reported that fires still burned today in the blackened center of Tokyo, devastated in the great Superfortress incendiary raid on Saturday.

Maj. Gen. Curtis Lemay, chief of the 21st Bomber Command, said that the attack had "left nothing but twisted, tumble-down rubble in its wake."

Smoke from the burning Japanese capital covered Superfortresses with soot, and choked crewmen.

A Russian News Agency dispatch reported that Tokyo newspapers had failed to publish today, indicating that their plants were damaged or destroyed.

Two Japs Split in Three As Marines Gain Again

GUAM, March 11 (ANS).—U.S. Marines on Iwo Jima were getting ready for the kill today after dividing the Japanese garrison into three parts.

Adm. Nimitz's headquarters reported that the Fourth Marine Div., after having been held back for days, made a sizable gain yesterday and sent patrols to the beach at Tachiwa Point, easternmost point of Iwo. The point is well south of the sector where Third Div. Marines had spilled out on the northeastern beaches.

Most of the Japanese garrison—cut down by heavy losses and facing overwhelming U.S. superiority—is in a half-mile-square pocket at Kitano Point, northernmost tip of the island.

Iwo-based Army fighters, carrier planes, artillery and naval guns supported the Marines as they advanced against Japanese sills resisting doggedly.

A few Japanese planes, probably from the Bonin Island fields north of Iwo, attempted to support Japanese troops Friday, but were turned back.

Army Liberators bombed the Japanese airfield at Chichi Jima, in the Bonins, Thursday and Friday. Navy planes hit Wake Island for the fourth time this month.

Yanks Land on Mindanao, Advance East of Manila

MANILA, March 12 (Monday).—Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced today that American troops had landed on Mindanao Island, in the southern Philippines.

The invasion, reported previously by the Japanese, has been under way for several days, MacArthur said.

Yanks went ashore at Zamboanga, in southwestern Mindanao, under cover of heavy naval and air bombardments.

Gen. MacArthur reported yesterday that on Luzon, U.S. troops, 13 miles east of Manila, had driven into Antipoli, southern anchor of the Japanese Shimbu Line. A spokesman said the town was not fully secured.

North of Antipoli, the strongly-defended Shimbu Line was breached by other Yanks, who gained about a mile in three days.

Fifty miles south of Manila, U.S. troops made a nine-mile advance to secure a road network between Taal and Batangas Bay.

In northern Luzon, where Yanks were meeting stiff opposition, more than 100 supporting Liberators bombed Japanese installations at the Balete Pass entrance to the Cagayan Valley. Other planes strafed and bombed Aparri airfield. The finding of 900 Japanese bodies in one sector of the Zambales foothills on the west coast indicated the effectiveness of U.S. bombing and artillery fire.

U.S. airmen continued attacks on Borneo, hitting an airdrome at Baik Papan.

New Incendiary Used In B29 Raid on Tokyo

SAN FRANCISCO, March 11 (ANS).—Why the flames spread so fast and leaped so high after the B29 raid on Tokyo Saturday was made clear today with the Army release of a limited description of the M69 incendiary bomb, designed especially for use in Japan and used Saturday for the first time.

Col. J. W. Lyon, CO of the Chemical Warfare procurement district, said that the bomb was made up of a 500-pound "aimable" cluster which looks much like the ordinary demolition bomb.

At about 5,000 feet the cluster opens, releasing individual six-pound bombs filled with jellied gasoline. Each small bomb spreads burning gasoline for some 30 yards around upon exploding.

Germans Fail To 'Get' Bridge

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length of the bridge, drops a stick of bombs.

When a German plane shows up, first some alert machine-gunner spots him and lets loose with a stream of red tracers. Then hundreds of other men standing impatiently behind their guns spot the Jerry and within five seconds the air over the bridge is filled with neon-like crosses as thousands of tracers light up the dirty weather.

Using a trick which air force men learned to disregard long ago, the German planes invariably lay a faint trail of smoke as they dive behind the hills, often leaving the impression that they have been shot down. And often, of course, they have been. Anti-aircraft gunners claimed four destroyed of the first four German planes which came over the area.

Although pontoon bridges would lessen the importance of the Ludendorff Bridge, the Luftwaffe still seems willing to pay almost any price to get the bridge. Two charges which went off just before the first patrol crossed Wednesday caused slight damage. But engineers quickly got to the bridge, cut wires leading to more than a ton of dynamite and dumped the demolition charges in the river.

No one knew for certain who was charged with destruction of the bridge but the German Army. One story, told by men of the 27th Armd. Div. Inf. Bn., was that a party of German soldiers, all rolling drunk, was captured in a house in Erpel, at the east end of the bridge. They said that they were supposed to have blown the bridge at four o'clock, 20 minutes after the first Americans crossed.

Terry and The Pirates



BEAUTIFUL, YOUR RADIO RECEIVER IS TO BE USED TO MONITOR AND RECORD THE ENEMY BROADCASTS SO YOUR JAPANESE-SPEAKING TECHNICIANS MAY DECODE THEIR COMMUNICATIONS

THAT IS SO, RYAN...



THEN WHY ARE YOUR PEOPLE ALSO MAKING RECORDS OF OUR CODE TRANSMISSIONS?

DOES SUCH A PRACTICE ENDANGER THE SUCCESS OF THE MIGHTY YANKEE OPERATIONS?



THE JAPS WOULD PAY PLENTY TO KNOW HOW WE SEND OUT A RADIO-BEACON SYNCHRONIZED WITH THEIR OWN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PROGRAMS!

PERHAPS THE DRAGON LADY'S WIRELESS MEN WERE MERELY EXPERIMENTING! IT SHALL CEASE AT ONCE!



THAT'S FINE... BUT WHERE ARE THE RECORDINGS THEY HAVE ALREADY MADE? I HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR PAL, HU SHEE, AROUND SINCE THE FIRST DAY WE CAME! COULD SHE HAVE CARRIED A LITTLE PACKAGE TO THE JAP COMMANDER?

A Double Portion of It



No you're not seeing double. They are the MacLean twins, Patty and Barbara MacLean, who can do many things well such as ice skate, dance, sing and play musical instruments. They do those things in "It's a Pleasure," Sonja Henie's new ice ballet.

Tankers Fight and Wonder Along the Haze-Draped Rhine

By James Cannon
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH FOURTH ARMD. DIV., KETTIG, Germany, March 9 (Delayed).—The town across the field was Weissenthun and that's where the Germans were. Haystacks burned in the meadow like the camp-fires of a great bivouac. Smoke straggled up from the spire of church like a dirty banner. The tanks fired at the road along which the wreckage of a column lay and the tracers blew holes in the yellow house in the field.

"Let a tank stick its nose out of the end of this street and that's the end of the tank," said T/5 Lester Powell, of Indian Springs, Ind. "There's big stuff all around us but we haven't located it yet."

The Piper Cub was down low, searching for the big stuff that was working on our tanks.

"We got a Heinie telephone operator still using the telephone a couple of hours after we pulled in here," said T/4 Percy Sheffler, of Waynesboro, Pa. "Some of the other guys cut the wires as we grabbed him or we could have said hello to Hitler."

The tank was shooting at a man running across the field. He fell and rolled and the tracers glanced off the haystacks. The tankers wondered what they concealed.

"One of our tanks got stuck in the mud," said T/4 Kenneth Jekferis, of Downingtown, Pa. "We tried to get it out and they started throwing mortars. The Jerries were in a zig-zag trench 50 yards away. You'd see them stick their heads up

and fire, and stick their heads up and fire again. We were spraying all the time but couldn't keep them down. You could see the look on their faces, but they still kept firing and the mortars still kept coming in."

You could see the Rhine, unwrinkled, haze-hung and broad, finding its way through the hills where the Germans were.

Civilians were looking out of the windows and one of the tankers shouted in German. The civilians closed the windows.

"When are those sons-of-bitches going to quit?" asked Cpl. Rudolph Peskar, of Cleveland.

No one tried to answer that one.

Jeep to the Rescue

LONDON, March 11 (AP).—Five members of a Fortress crew crash-landed their flak-torn bomber in the middle of a No Man's Land northeast of Strasbourg. A jeep came tearing over from American lines. A Nazi military car came racing from the opposite direction. The jeep won and rescued the men.

Yanks Expand Rhine Crossing Under Shellfire

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from the ground and that enemy reconnaissance aircraft would have to fly a formidable gauntlet of First Army AA fire and Ninth AF planes which patrol the skies above Remagen.

South of Remagen, the river junction city of Coblenz was menaced by Maj. Gen. Hugh J. Gaffey's Fourth Armd. Div. The Fourth was one mile from the city, whose 100,000 population and strategic location make it one of the Rhineland's principal centers. It is the only metropolis west of the Rhine and north of the Mosel still held by the Nazis.

French press reports that Gen. Patton's Third Army forces were fighting in the city were unconfirmed at SHAEF, where it was pointed out that Coblenz lies principally between the Mosel and the Rhine, and that any penetration of the city proper would involve a difficult Mosel River crossing.

Third Army infantry and armor still swept up pockets of German die-hards left after the Fourth Armored's breakthrough to the Rhine. S and S Correspondent James Cannon reported. The Third Army won control of the Moselle from the vicinity of Coblenz to a point 16 miles southwest, while control of the Rhine was clinched from Coblenz northward.

Zig-zagging tanks and mopping-up infantrymen captured five towns, cleared one and entered another.

It was estimated at SHAEF that approximately 23,000 Germans had been trapped in the Eifel by the junction of the First and Third Armies. These were contained in a pocket 22 miles long and from seven to 12 miles wide. Tons of enemy materiel were captured.

Bonn Artillery Seized Intact

A Bonn, officially announced as cleared by Brig. Gen. Clift Andrus' First Inf. Div., 75 artillery pieces of the Bonn garrison were taken intact. West of Sinzig, at the junction of the Rhine and Ahr Rivers, U.S. forces seized an estimated 20 carloads of war materiel.

The Fourth Armd. Div. alone captured 823 German medium and heavy-duty trucks, 36 M4, M5 and M6 tanks and more than 250 artillery pieces, including six nebelwerfers. The division estimated its own prisoner bag at about 5,000.

The Fifth and 76th Inf. Divs., mopping up in their areas in the Eifel, were cleaning out town after town.

Yanks in Italy Capture Peak

ROME, March 11 (Reuter).—Brisk fire-fights flared along the central Fifth Army sector yesterday as the U.S. Tenth Mountain Div. drove ahead nearly a mile to capture Mount Belvedere which overlooks Vergato, kingpin of the German defense barrier to Bologna. MAAF medium bombers were out over German-occupied Austria today for the first time. They blasted a rail bridge near Brauburg, 105 miles southeast of Munich, in an area which had been reached previously by heavies only. Other Italy-based aircraft struck at targets along the Brenner Pass line.

by Courtesy of News Syndicate

by Milton Caniff