

# U.S. 10th Army Invades Ryukyu Isles

## Time

Don't forget to set your watch one hour ahead. Double Summer Time came in this morning.

LIEGE EDITION

## THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily News paper of U.S. Armed Forces  
Vol. I—No. 73

in the European Theater of Operations  
Monday, April 2, 1945

## Sorry

The Stars and Stripes will be reduced to four pages for a few days because of a shortage of newsprint.

# Ruhr Industries Isolated As 1st, 9th Armies Link

## Landing Is 325 Miles Off Japan

GUAM, Apr. 1—Veteran Army and Marine divisions of the new Tenth U.S. Army surged ashore this Easter morning on Okinawa island in the Ryukyu group—only 325 miles from the Japanese homeland—in the largest amphibious operation of the Pacific war.

Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz disclosed the invasion, which was supported by the world's greatest sea force. Nimitz said that within two and a half hours following the initial landing, a rapid advance inland had begun and two airports, at Yontan and Kadena, had been captured.

More than 1,400 ships were involved in the operation. The landings were preceded by heavy gunfire and carrier planes provided close-up support for the ground troops. Strategic support was being given by shore-based aircraft of the Southwest Pacific and Pacific Theaters and by the 20th AF.

Hundreds of aircraft had been employed to soften the island's defenses and they were joined by warships in a ten-day bombardment. Several attacks were made on Honshu, Shikoku and Formosa to neutralize airfields there. Nearly 1,000 Japanese planes were destroyed in these operations.

Nimitz said the invasion actually began last Monday when elements of the Tenth Army landed on the tiny Kerama-Retto Islands, west of Okinawa's southern tip.

Nimitz' communique said the capture of Okinawa "will give us bases only 325 miles from Japan, which will greatly intensify attacks of our fleet and our air forces against Japanese communications and Japan itself."

The Tenth Army is commanded by Lt. Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner and includes the 24th Army Corps, commanded by Maj. Gen. John Hodge, and the Third Marine Amphibious Corps, under Maj. Gen. Roy S. Geiger, veteran marine aerial operations expert. Gen. Buckner commanded the Seventh Inf. Div. which drove the Japanese from the Aleutian Island chain off Alaska.

The Tenth Army numbers perhaps 100,000 men, and is opposed by a Japanese garrison estimated at 60,000 to 80,000.

The landings were made along the southern shore of 65-mile long Okinawa. Indications were that the Americans intended to drive across the island, cutting off the well-populated and industrial southern section from the mountainous north.

## B29s Return to Tokyo

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (AP)—A large force of Superfortresses today hammered military targets in the Tokyo area, it was officially announced. Earlier it was disclosed that B29s yesterday attacked Nagoya, Japan's biggest aircraft production center.

## Tanks, Men Pour Ashore At Japan's Front Door



WITH TENTH ARMY ON OKINAWA, Apr. 1 (AP)—Streaming ashore directly in the face of a rising sun, American troops quickly established beachheads on this island, "front porch of the Japanese homeland," today.

A terrific naval bombardment had torn holes in a sea wall, permitting entry of tanks and other armored vehicles. Troops drove inland rapidly against scant initial opposition.

This afternoon, waves of troops were digging in for the night, while landing craft poured more men and supplies into the coral approaches. Americans camped in a small farm area amid wheat, radishes, cabbages and beans.

Equipment was landed without loss of a single landing craft. Hundreds of amphibious tanks and landing craft moved to the shore without opposition.

The landing was so easy that it looked as if the door had been left open for American troops.

## Reds 33 Miles From Vienna, Get Aid From U.S. Bombers

Red Army forces rolling forward in Hungary yesterday captured the stronghold of Sopron, 33 miles southeast of Vienna and 19 miles from the Austrian city of Wiener-Neustadt, important center of German aircraft production.

## C47s Fly Fuel To Fast Armies

12th ARMY GROUP HQ., Apr. 1 (AP)—U.S. Armies in Germany have been moving so fast they now have to be supplied with fuel flown in by Ninth Troop Carrier Command planes.

Brig. Gen. R. G. Moses, Army Group supply officer, disclosed today that several hundred C47s flew approximately 400,000 gallons of fuel in "jerricans" to hastily-prepared fields in Germany and returned with casualties.

Although supply problems have multiplied quickly with the armies bursting through lightly defended territory, it was reported that no column had had to check its advance so far because of a supply shortage.

## U.S. Escort Carrier Sunk, 300 Men Lost

ALAMEDA, Calif., Apr. 1 (ANS)—More than 300 men were lost in the sinking of the U.S. Escort Carrier Bismarck Sea off Iwo Jima on Feb. 21, survivors who arrived here yesterday revealed.

There were 400 men in the group of survivors which arrived by transport ship. They said that a third of the vessel's crew drowned or were shot by Japanese pilots, after the vessel had been struck twice.

## ATC to Fly to Istanbul

ANKARA, Apr. 1 (AP)—The American Army Transport Command operating between Cairo and Ankara will be extended to Istanbul, as soon as a weather station and other facilities are established. From Istanbul ATC is scheduled to be extended into the Balkans.

## Americans 100 Mi. From Czech Line; French, 7th Join

The great industrial Ruhr was completely cut off from the rest of Germany at 1530 yesterday when the Ninth U.S. Army's Second Armd. Div. linked up with elements of the First U.S. Army's Third Armd. Div. at Lippstadt, 20 miles west of Paderborn.

The American encirclement deprived Germany of its last important concentration of war plants. Gen. Eisenhower had predicted at the outset of the trans-Rhine offensive that organized resistance in the Reich could not continue long once the Ruhr was lost. Meanwhile, far to the

## Night Slows Swift Armor To Short Jab

By Ernest Leiser  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer  
WITH SECOND ARMD. DIV.,  
Mar. 31 (Delayed)—This is the way the armor knives across Germany.

It moves by day and by night. By day, it strikes out in bold, roaring columns, cutting over the roads at a steady rate. When it hits road blocks or sectors of resistance it either coils along the road while a small task force cleans out the opposition, or bypasses it and keeps on rolling.

At night it's different. The armored fingers reach out tentatively in the dark, groping toward towns and roads and withdrawing quickly with any signs of resistance. Then, after an hour or two's wait, the fingers start reaching uncertainly out again.

Strikes in Darkness  
Last night, after Brig. Gen. "Peewee" Collier's combat command had rumbled over a bridge laid hastily over the water barrier, it struck out into a no-man's land of blackness.

Moving along in what you thought was the main column, you came in the dark to a handful of scout cars, half-tracks and peeps and were told you'd better stop—unless you wanted to spearhead the whole division push.

This was the point of the combat command's Task Force "A", 1/Lt. Edwin  
(Continued on Page 4)

## No Room for PWs

WITH NINTH ARMY, Apr. 1 (AP)—Volksturm troops captured by the Ninth Army are being set free because there is no room for them in the jammed PW cages. The Army has adopted the view that it is better to send the men back to their homes since they don't want to fight anyway.

southeast, spearheads of two American armies slashed to within 100 miles of Czechoslovakia, and the Third U.S. Army's Fourth Armd. Div. shot almost to Eisenach, 140 miles east of the Rhine and 160 miles southwest of Berlin.

The First French Army, which had crossed the Rhine at Speyer, linked its ten-mile bridgehead with the Seventh U.S. Army ten miles south of Mannheim, giving Gen. Eisenhower a solid four-army chain covering the greater portion of the Reich south and southwest of the Ruhr.

Thousands of Nazis Trapped  
The ringing of the Ruhr, accomplished in four days after sensational dashes by First and Ninth Army tanks, trapped an undetermined number of German soldiers as well as depriving the Wehrmacht of desperately-needed materiel production.

Early yesterday, thousands of Germans caught inside the American trap attempted to flee before the escape gap was closed. However, the speed of the linkup made it unlikely that any large number of Germans escaped.

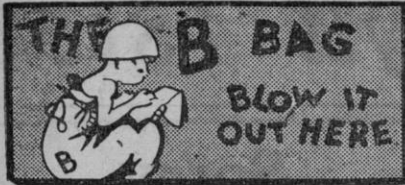
Even before the trans-Rhine offensive opened less than two weeks ago, Allied planes had largely isolated the Ruhr from the rest of the Reich by a program of bridge-blasting which had cut virtually every rail bridge leading into central Germany.

Early reports yesterday indicated that the Germans were making desperate efforts to hold the zig-zagging tanks and infantrymen of eight Allied armies east of the Rhine. Areas of stiffest resistance were north of the Ruhr, in the Ninth U.S. and Second British sectors; south of Paderborn, where the First Ar-  
(Continued on Page 4)

## Nazi Traffic Heavy On Netherlands Exit

HQ, 12th ARMY GROUP, Apr. 1—RAF pilots, returning from flights over German-occupied Holland, reported heavy eastward road traffic, which was interpreted to indicate a wholesale enemy withdrawal from the eastern Netherlands.

British tactical air units caught convoys headed toward the German frontier in the vicinity of Enschede. The convoys were of a size unprecedented in previous isolated withdrawals from the Netherlands.



**Somebody Please Tell Him**

We were recently at a German castle with a duchess and a princess who spoke beautiful English. While we were there, the Germans threw in a few shells and damaged the house and grounds. Upon leaving our Bn. CO ordered some of the men to police up the shell craters and leave it all nice and neat for Her Royal Highness. Did we beautify St. Lo before we left? That we should have to put their junk in order burns me up. I don't know what kind of sob story she gave the colonel but he evidently fell for it hook, line, and silver leaves.—An AAA Soldier.

**Tell the Home Folks**

A fine does not mean much to the average American soldier, especially when in a country like Germany where there is nothing to buy.

Here's a suggestion that would aid the enforcement of the non-fraternization policy. When an officer or enlisted man is found guilty of fraternizing, send a letter to his nearest of kin stating the facts in the case, bringing to their attention how the soldier is aiding Hitler. Even send a letter to his home town newspaper too.

A little shame in the eyes of the home folks would make the enforcement of non-fraternization a lot easier.—Captain, Gerd. Dept.

**Red Hot and How!**

To all Triple A Battalions and FA machine gunners in the Ninth Army: The whole damn bunch of you should go back to aircraft identification school. It's sure easy to tell who slept in what cassettes in training. I'd be ashamed to be called one of you trigger-happy bums.

When you see an enemy plane you never lead, you're always behind. You're damn fools enough to waste ammunition shooting before the target gets in range. Worst of all, damn you, I've seen you shoot at our own Allied planes. Don't you know the difference between a P47 and a Me109.

You better wake up or the Air Force is apt to blow us all to hell just for spite. Yeah, I'm only a recruit with twenty-two months combat service.

If you bums keep on fouling up, we will be jacking empty guns again like we did back in training.

You're darned right I'm mad, but I'm speaking to only you bums in the Ninth Army. That's where I am and that's where I've seen you mess up the works.—A Red Hot Kansan.

**Army Leaders Warn Against Letdown Now**

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (ANS)—Top Army leaders told U.S. men in khaki around the globe yesterday that they are doing a magnificent job, but that there must be no letdown until both enemies are beaten to their knees. The Army leaders were confident of ultimate victory against both Germany and Japan but warned that hard fighting is still ahead.

The statements were made in advance in observance of Army Day, April 6, ten months after perhaps the greatest Army achievement of all time—the invasion of France.

**Stimson Thanks Troops**

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson voiced gratitude to the troops for a job well done, but said the pressure of war prohibited a celebration.

"In these days of crisis the Army cannot pause to take full part in observance of the occasion," he said. "Our efforts are directed to pressing home the attack on our enemies in Europe and in the Pacific. The pressure must not be relaxed.

Gen. George C. Marshall, Army chief of staff, said the war against Germany was moving "toward the successful conclusion for which we have worked and fought so long."

"In the Pacific our forces have already virtually liberated the Philippines and have been brought to bear against the last outposts of the Japanese homeland, but the urgency of the military situation requires that we increase pressure on the enemy by every means within our power," he added.

Gen. Henry H. Arnold, AAF commander, said the fighting men in all branches were "adding new luster to our military history and are giving Army Day an enhanced meaning."

**Stilwell Praises Doughs**

Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, commander of Army Ground Forces, paid tribute to the doughboys, saying: "By our brilliant, deep cutting armored attacks, by the fierce, steady advance of our infantry and by the shattering concentration of our artillery—by all these, combined with the warfare of a bigger team, we have destroyed German armies, German cities and German hope."

Gen. Brehon B. Somervell, commander of the Service Forces, said the satisfaction with progress in Europe must be tempered by realization that a long Pacific war was ahead.

**Ike and Task Force Spurrier**



Gen. Eisenhower congratulates S/Sgt. J.J. (Task Force) Spurrier, of Bluefield, W. Va., first man in the Ninth Army to be decorated with the Congressional Medal of Honor.

**Home of Leica Camera Taken Intact by 1st Army Armor**

By Dan Regan  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WETZLAR, Germany, Apr. 1—The huge Leitz factory, home of the Leica camera, was captured intact by the First Army.

Employing 3,000 workers, the eight-story factory was manufacturing binoculars, gun sights, microscopes and other critical war material only three days before the town of Wetzlar was captured by Gen. Hodges' armor.

Within a few hours after the town was taken, AMG men from the 99th Div. had taken over the plant and were joined later by others from the Second Div. Army engineers immediately started to survey the plant and its contents. Some doughs were disappointed because they couldn't get new binoculars. However, the army now has thousands of dollars worth of valuable lenses and machinery in perfect working condition.

The two Leitz brothers were operating the plant when AMG took over. Ludwig Leitz remained at the plant all day obeying AMG orders in a sullen, but cooperative manner. He spoke English quite well. His general manager, Maximillion Wielding, who had been a London agent for 11 years, was with him. He spoke, dressed and acted like an Oxford grad.

**AMG Tours Plant**

Leitz and Wielding agreed to conduct the AMG men on a tour of the plant. The work starts on the ground floor with the unfinished glass prisms and proceeds, operation by operation, to the final assembly section on the top floor—the same system used in many American factories.

Because of the American bombing, some of the more vital war work was moved to the basement which also housed a part of the town's hospital and living quarters for factory executives during air raids.

Most of the work in the plant was skilled labor and they employed Germans living in Wetzlar, which has a population of 20,000. About one-third of the workers were foreign, "slave labor."

"They were very happy here with us," said Leitz.

French workers in the factory, however, greeted AMG officers with: "Vive les Americains. When can we return to Paris?"

Leitz said he was glad the Germans had not demolished his plant. Asked if they had been aware of the trends of the war, both Leitz and Wielding admitted that they had listened to the BBC as well as the German radio.

"Of course we didn't believe either," Wielding said. "But we tried to balance both stories and reach a decision," he added.

Commenting on the quick invasion of Germany, Wielding said, "You must not think that we like having you here. But we are hopeful that it will end the war soon. We feel toward you as you would feel in America if the Germans marched in."

**Gen. Eisenhower Tells Germans How to Yield**

By Jules Grad

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

SHAEF, Apr. 1—Declaring that the German government and High Command have lost "effective control" of many Wehrmacht units, Gen. Eisenhower has broadcast instructions for Nazi soldiers to follow "to save yourselves further useless sacrifice and loss of life."

Eisenhower's message was broadcast over all Allied transmitters. The instructions are:

1.—"Units in contact which no longer receive orders from the German command are to cease hostilities. The units are to be assembled and until further orders, the present commanding officer of each unit is responsible for the discipline of his men."

2.—"Surrender of troop units takes place by sending an emissary to the nearest Allied command post, under the protection of a white flag. The surrender must take place in an orderly manner and with observance of military discipline."

3.—"Units out of contact remain under the command of their officers until further orders. The units are to be assembled and commanding officers remain responsible for the discipline and supply of the troops under their command until further orders."

4.—"Scattered units and individual Wehrmacht personnel report to the nearest Allied troop unit, while observing the customary signs of surrender, i.e. unarmed, and without helmet, or web equipment. Collecting points are along the main highways, and thoroughfares."

The instructions end with a grim warning:

"These above orders take effect immediately."

**Births**

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

PFC Clarence W. Miles, Iola, Kan.—Janis Elaine, March 8; Sgt. Eugene E. McBride, Ravenna, Ohio—Margene Ellen, March 25; S/Sgt. Curron D. Davis, Pickens, S.C.—Lowell Kenneth, March 7.

SGT. Robert H. Radcliffe, Lonoke, Ark.—girl, March 29; T/5 Robert E. Dynes, Brooklyn—Renée Marie, March 27; 1/Lt. Arthur L. Hindley, Monticello, N.Y.—girl, March 27; Lt. Monte Levin, Brooklyn—Marjorie, March 27; Sgt. Otto O. Pasaneu, Portsmouth, N.H.—Wayne, March 28; T/Sgt. George B. Tolpo, Chicago—George Reardon, March 21; Pfc George E. Spange, Forest Park, Ill.—boy, March 28; Pvt. John E. Daley, Amarillo, Tex.—girl, Jan. 7.

**American Forces Network (First Army)**

1447 Kc—207M

**TODAY**

- 6555-Opening Prayer.
- 0601-Rise and Shine.
- 0712-Progr. Summary.
- 0715-Song Parade.
- 0730-Return Engage.
- 0801-Combat Diary.
- 0815-Personal Album.
- 0830-Modern Music.
- 0910-GI Jive.
- 0925-James Melton.
- 1001-Morning After.
- 1030-Strike Up Band.
- 1101-Home News.
- 1106-Duffie Bag.
- 1145-Piano Parade.
- 1202-Concert.
- 1310-Sports News.
- 1315-Movie Music.
- 1401-Village Store.
- 1430-Let's Go to Town.
- 1510-Melody Roundup.
- 1530-Combat Diary.
- 1545-On the Record.
- 1630-Strike Up Band.
- 1701-Jack Carson.
- 1730-Eddie Condon.
- 1755-Mark Up Map.
- 1815-Supper Club.
- 1905-Novatime.
- 1915-Orchestra.
- 2001-Duffy's Tavern.
- 2030-Canadian Band.
- 2105-First Army News.
- 2115-Top Ten.
- 2145-Johnny Mercer.
- 2201-Home News.
- 2206-Calif. Melodies.
- 2235-Fred Waring.
- 2308-Hit Parade.
- 2338-One Night Stand.
- 0015-Sign Off.

**TOMORROW**

- 6555-Opening Prayer.
- 0601-Rise and Shine.
- 0712-Progr. Summary.
- 0715-Song Parade.
- 0730-Return Engage.
- 0801-Combat Diary.
- 0815-Return Engage.
- 0830-Dance Music.
- 0910-Melody Roundup.
- 0925-Music.
- 1001-Morning After.
- 1030-Strike Up Band.
- 1101-Home News.
- 1106-Duffie Bag.
- 1145-Piano Parade.
- 1202-Concert.
- 1310-Sports News.
- 1315-Kay Kyser.
- 1345-Sound Off.
- 1401-Blonde.
- 1430-Swing Session.
- 1510-Bandwagon.
- 1530-Combat Diary.
- 1545-On the Record.
- 1630-Strike Up Band.
- 1700-Nelson Eddy.
- 1725-Dunninger.
- 1755-Mark Up Map.
- 1815-GI Supper Club.
- 1905-Music Hall.
- 1945-Yank Bandstand.
- 2001-Dinah Shore.
- 2030-Band of the AEF.
- 2105-First Army News.
- 2115-Cass Daley.
- 2145-Johnny Mercer.
- 2201-Home News.
- 2205-Hit Parade.
- 2235-Pacific Music.
- 2308-Front Theater.
- 2338-One Night Stand.
- 0015-Sign Off.

(News every hour on the hour.)

**HUBERT by SGT. DICK WINGERT**



"Quiet burg, isn't it."

**ETO Magazine For Servicewomen Comes Out Today**

Gen. Eisenhower and Mrs. Roosevelt send messages to American women serving in the ETO in the first issue of "Overseas Woman," illustrated magazine for nurses, Wacs and Red Cross girls, which makes its debut today.

Published by ETO Special and Information Services, "Overseas Woman" aims to be a link with the home-front; a channel of introduction to our continental Allies and their countries, and a bond between all American women stationed here.

In the first issue, an article on Hitler's women throws new light on the role Nazi women played in the war, and Vercors, French author and illustrator, who directed a publishing group in Paris during occupation, depicts Frenchwomen "Heroines of France."

Fashions of war, military and civilian; book and theater reviews; cartoons, and tips on how women can make Army life more comfortable are all in the first number. The magazine also contains servicewomen's news from the other war theaters, and articles from the home front.

Distribution to the ANC and ARC hospital workers will be through the chief nurses of hospital units; to the WAC through COs of detachments, and to Red Cross girls through ARC channels.

**Damson Appointed**

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1 (ANS)—The House committee on Un-American Activities, has named Ernie Damson, 55, Pittsburgh attorney, as its chief counsel.

**THE STARS AND STRIPES**

Published daily by and for the U.S. armed forces at the plant of La Meuse, Liege, Belgium, telephone Liege Switch 74 for editorial department, 76 for circulation department.

Contents passed by U.S. Army and Navy censors. Entered as second class matter Mar. 15, 1943, at the Post Office, New York, N.Y., under act of Mar. 8, 1878.

Other editions at Paris, Nancy, Nice and London, under auspices of Information and Education Division Special and Information Services, ETOUSA.

Vol. I, No 73

This Happened in America Last Week:

## Peace Rumors Swept Land As Nation Counted its Dead

NEW YORK, April 1—This was the week in which people felt the exhilaration of a 20-minute phony peace, but the flood of better and better news kept everyone from too severe a letdown.

It was Holy Week for both Jews and Christians. Churches, chapels and synagogues were full of worshippers with hope and gladness in their hearts. But on Friday the nation counted its dead—230,541 since Pearl Harbor—and realized that for every thrilling headline there were a hundred tragedies.

Among the rumors was one that Germany hoped Japan would sue for peace shortly so that Germany could claim she was never defeated—just let down by her allies.

It was a global war on the editorial pages, but hometown papers told how America's war effort came from every community: "Many Georgians, in Rhine Crossing," "Assault Boats Made in New Orleans Used for Rhine Crossing," "Chicago Paratrooper Leaps Into Germany."

### Spring Wasn't Late

WE enjoyed an early spring last week.

Washington's cherry trees were blooming and 23 twig-snatchers were pinched in one day. The apple blossoms were out in Virginia. Fishing started in Chicot State Park Lake, La. Tappers were busy in the New Hampshire sugar bush with perhaps the sweetest crop on record. Farmers were afraid the crops fooled by the premature spring would be nipped by frost. That already had happened with fruit trees at Las Cruces, N. M. Even the staid New York Herald Tribune, affected by the season, headed a piece about shad being caught unprecedentedly early, "Shad Mistake."

On the swollen waters of the Mississippi, a house, floated into a Budgely (Tenn.) farm, and nobody has claimed it yet. . . A blade snapped off the world's largest windmill on Grandpa's Knob, Green Mountain Ridge, Vt., and hurtled a thousand feet.

District Judge Herbert Rhoades, of Omaha, came out with an Easter gift to children with the remark: "The trouble with this country is that we have too many bathtubs."

### Press Featured Airborne Activity

BOTH Time and Life featured Maj. Gen. Matthew Bunker Ridgeway and his 18th Corps of the First Allied Airborne Army, and Newsweek published a spread on airborne activity. Life also traced a reinforcement from the time he stood with chalk marks on his helmet on some U. S. dock to the day he went in the line.

A book called "Cartels" is climbing on the best-seller lists, indicating a growing interest in the post-war world. A biography, "Eisenhower," by F.T. Miller, also is selling well.

The fiction best-seller is still A.J. Cronin's "The Green Years," despite the competition of the lusty "Forever Amber." Robert Frost, 70-year-old poet, has produced another tome, "A Masque Reason," in which biblical characters discuss war in terms of the poet's own friendly, skeptical philosophy.

### Soldier Voice in Peace Debated

LEGISLATURES of 11 states adopted or were considering resolutions urging Congress to give absent servicemen a voice in shaping the world organization to preserve peace.

George Gallup came up with two polls showing that homefront beefing, though audible, wasn't too serious. Eighty-five per cent of those polled said the present income tax was fair, and 82 per cent approved of the midnight curfew—but don't think there isn't a lot of beefing about both.

The nation was perturbed about the possibility of a meat shortage, although nobody could see why there should be one.

Distillers warned of another potential shortage—whisky—and in Atlantic City, proud of its golden-fried pullet, cafes advertised a specialty: "Chicken necks and dumplings."

In Charleston, W. Va., a butcher laid down his cleaver and vowed to try something more stable. In 1933 he was out of work because people couldn't afford meat—now they can't get it. Maybe he should go to Miami, were they pay dishwashers \$150 monthly plus room and board.

IN Cambridge, Mass., cops arrested a 19-year-old youth who organized a group of juvenile burglars. He also organized himself a 15-year-old "Queen of the Gang." And in Malden, Mass., they were looking for a baby carriage thief—ten have been stolen this year.

Someone asked Bob Hope what it was Bing whispered when Hope handed Crosby the oscar. "He said, 'Let go,'" said Bob. . . Nat Burton, who wrote the words of "White Cliffs of Dover" and "Don't Ever Change," died last week. . . Pat O'Brien was trying to sell studios on letting him make a picture on the life of the late Al Smith.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Feature.



## Hurlers Carry First-Division Hopes of A's

(This is the 11th in a series on major league prospects for 1945.)

FREDERICK, Md., Apr. 1—Connie Mack, apparently satisfied he has a squad capable of doing better than the fifth-sixth tie his Athletics achieved last year, has shaved his roster to less than 30 men and will spend the remainder of the training season whipping the squad into better condition.

The pitching staff looks good on paper and is shaping up fairly well in early workouts. Loquacious Louis "Bobo" Newsom, who won 13 last year, broadcasts to all who lend an ear that he'll win 20 in 1945. Russ Christopher is the No. 1 veteran on the mound with Jonas Berry, Don Black, Jesse Flores and Car Scheib the other holdovers. Woodrow Crowson and Luther Knerr are up from Toronto.

Frankie Hayes will do most of the catching with Lou Parisse, of Lancaster, and Jim Pruett, of Milwaukee, his understudies.

The infield is well fortified with Dick Siebert, Bill McGhee, George Keil, Irvin Hall, Edgar Busch and Joe Burns back from last year's team.

In the outfield, Hal Peck has been brought up from Milwaukee, where he swatted .345 last season; Ed Levy, formerly of the Yankees, Larry Rosenthal, Charley Metro and Bobby Estallella. The A's lost a lot of power when Mayo Smith, who hit .340 for Buffalo and topped the International League batters in 1944, suffered an attack of rheumatic fever during the winter and retired for the year to regain his health.

### A's Belt Tars, 15-7

NORFOLK, Va., Apr. 1—The Athletics clubbed out 19 hits yesterday to beat the Norfolk Naval Training Station team, 15-7, scoring six runs in the first two innings for Jesse Flores, who started on the mound.

## Vince DiMaggio Goes to Phils in Gerheuser Trade

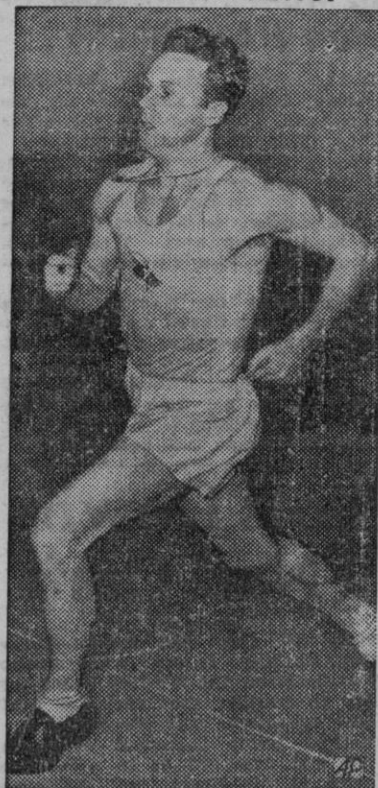
PITTSBURGH, Apr. 1—Vince DiMaggio, eldest of San Francisco's famous baseball brothers, has been traded by the Pittsburgh Pirates to the Philadelphia Phillies for Al Gerheuser, southpaw pitcher. DiMaggio's appetite got him in bad with Pirate officials last year and Gerheuser has been holding out, dissatisfied with the contract offered him after he won eight and lost 16 in 1944.

Vince's difficulties with the Pirates started over a meal check presented to the club last summer for some outlandish amount, including entertainment tax. The club complained and DiMaggio said government policies regarding tax on entertainment were none of his business, but that he got hungry after night ball games and it wasn't his fault if music went with the meals in the Pirates' hotel.



Vince DiMaggio

### Unbeaten Miler



Jimmy Rafferty

## Rafferty Wins Buffalo Race

BUFFALO, N.Y., Apr. 1—When Gunder Haegg, Swedish distance runner, telegraphed AAU officials he couldn't compete in the feature invitation mile at the Buffalo Armory last night, because he couldn't make plane connections from California, little Jimmy Rafferty, who has beaten Gunder the Wonder thrice in a month, expressed keen disappointment. But Jimmy didn't stop long to commiserate. He ran a 4:10.9 mile to win the event and established a new meet record.

Ed Duggan, Dayton, Ohio, star, defeated Haakan Lidman in the 70-yard high hurdles and set a new American indoor record by topping the timbers in 8.3 seconds, one-tenth of a second faster than Allan Tolmich's 1940 mark. The Swedish hurdler came back, however, to beat Duggan by 18 inches in the 100-yard invitation hurdle race. Duggan is the National AAU indoor 60-yard high hurdles champion.

## Orval Grove Joins White Sox Staff

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Apr. 1—Jimmy Dykes, manager of the Chicago White Sox, lured Orval Grove into a hotel room here last night and came out with Grove's signature affixed to a contract, thus relieving his No. 1 holdout headache.

Grove, who lives in Mayood, Ill., joined the other Sox pitchers immediately. He won 14 and lost 15 with Chicago, which finished seventh last year.

### Giants Sign Two More

LAKEWOOD, N.J., Apr. 1—The New York Giants came to terms with Catcher Ray Berres and Infielder Billy Jurges today.

## Toronto Puts Montreal Out Of Ice Series

TORONTO, Apr. 1—The Toronto Maple Leafs, third-place club in the final standings of the National Hockey League, accomplished the outstanding upset of wartime professional hockey competition last night by eliminating the World Champion Montreal Canadiens from the Stanley Cup playoffs with a 3-2 victory, their fourth triumph in six games over the Canadiens. The Maple Leafs will meet the winner of the Detroit-Boston series in the finals.

The champions, picked to walk off with the playoffs, got off to a bad start losing their first two games, then the fourth and sixth. The sharp-shooting front line of Dave Schriner, Lorne Carr and Gus Bodnar, and the great defensive skill of Goalie Frank McCool, enabled Toronto to outfight and outsmart Montreal in the short series.

The first period ended in a 1-all tie as Johnny Morris scored for the Leafs and Maurice Richard for the Canadiens. Both were made solo. Schriner shot the puck past Goalie Bill Durnan at 7:11 of the second period on a pass from Carr, then Bodnar put the clincher past Durnan at 1:53 of the third period on a pass from Babe Pratt. Emile Bouchard took a pass from Leo Lamoureux for the Canadiens' final tally of the year at 16-26.

## Nags Will Run After V-E Day

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1—Horse racing, blacked out in the United States since Jan. 3, will be resumed with the defeat of Germany, War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes said yesterday. Attributing the racing ban to "lagging production", Byrnes said that this and other restrictions will be removed on V-E Day.

"Lagging production" has made it necessary for various conservation measures to be placed into effect to include a reduction in travel, the suspension of racing, a reduction in the use of electricity in night lighting and the closing of places of entertainment at midnight, Byrnes said in his report to the president and Congress on WPB progress.

"These measures are of an emergency nature and, with the exception of the travel measure, should be withdrawn on V-E Day".

Harry Pharr, president of the Thoroughbred Racing Association, said he expected the tracks to resume 90 percent operation within 30 days after Germany falls.

## Len Dodson Ties Penna At 139 in Durham Golf

DURHAM, N.C., Apr. 1—Len Dodson, of San Francisco, shot a par 70 yesterday to tie with Tony Penna, of Dayton, Ohio, for first place in the Durham Open golf tournament. Each has 139 at the halfway mark. Byron Nelson's 69 yesterday put him one stroke behind the leaders.

Others with a chance to cop top honors were Sammy Byrd, 141; Jim Quant, 142; Jug McSpaden and Craig Wood, 143; Gene Kunes, 144; Sammy Snead, Joe Zarhardt, Bobby Cruickshank and Eddie Furgol, 145.

## Dedicate Field to GI Killed on Belgium Soil

CAMP LEE, Va., Apr. 1—Baseball officials, including Ford Frick, president of the National League, will participate in ceremonies here Friday when the camp baseball field will be dedicated to the memory of Sgt. Hank Nowack, former St. Louis Cardinals' pitcher.

Nowack, a native of Buffalo, N.Y., and former Camp Lee pitcher, was killed in infantry action in Belgium New Year's Day.

## U.S., Britain Reject Soviet Bid on Poland

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1—Political observers today said hopes that the San Francisco World Security Conference would open April 25 in complete Allied harmony have received a setback in the form of a dispute between the Soviet government on the one hand and the U.S. and Britain on the other.

Soviet demands that the Warsaw government of Poland be permitted to send delegates to San Francisco have been rejected by Washington and London, on the ground that the Warsaw regime has not been reorganized according to plans approved at the Yalta conference of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin.

Moscow radio stated that "the Soviet government has informed the U.S. government that it expected an early reply to the proposal concerning the invitation of Poland."

### U.S. Hopes for Solution

This brought from a State Department official in Washington the comment that the proposal has been rejected by the U.S., although hope is held that it may be possible to have Poland represented at the conference by a government which meets the terms of the Yalta plan.

The British Foreign Office summed up its reply to the Soviet proposal as—"No." The Russian broadcast asserted that reorganization of the provisional Polish government as provided at Yalta cannot be completed in the "near future." The Yalta agreement was that the Warsaw regime, successor to the Moscow-sponsored Lublin Committee, was to be reorganized in such a way as to include members of all Polish democratic factions.

In particular, representatives of the remnants of the pre-war Polish government which has been exiled in London throughout the war were to be included in the reorganized government. This exiled government is still recognized by the U.S. and Britain as the legitimate Polish regime, but Moscow has no relations with it.

### Allies Were to Help

The Yalta plan was for a committee composed of Russian Foreign Minister Vyachislav Molotov, and the American and British ambassadors to Russia—respectively W. Averill Harriman and Sir Archibald Clarke-Kerr—to bring the Polish factions together in a single government that would be recognized by all three of the dominant United Nations.

Following its assertion that the new, unified government cannot be formed in time to name delegates to the San Francisco conference, the Moscow broadcast said exclusion of the Poles from the conference would be an "unfair and absolutely unjust insult to the Polish people."

The broadcast pointed out that the U.S. and Britain should have no objection to the attendance at San Francisco of a government which they have not recognized, since Russia has agreed to the participation of India, Bolivia, Paraguay and other nations with whom the Soviet does not have diplomatic relations.

### Nazis Exploit Opening

The new development in Big Three relations came closely on the heels of the Moscow announcement that the Soviet delegation to San Francisco will be headed by Andrei Gromyko, Russian Ambassador to the U.S. rather than by Molotov, whose presence would add to the prestige of the delegation, observers said.

German propagandists seized on the dispute to trumpet that the San Francisco conference threatens to collapse even before it begins.

## Nazi Tea Party Ends In GI Shooting Party

WITH 17TH AIRBORNE DIV. EAST OF RHINE, Apr. 1—The soundness of the Army's non-fraternization policy was proved to the satisfaction of three air doughs of the 17th Airborne Div., who became suspicious of a German invitation to tea and cakes.

The men were members of the 194th Glider Inf. and had just finished clearing their third house when offered the invitation.

They posted a fourth man outside the house to cover them. He noticed the 13-year-old youngster of the house slipping out to warn Nazi soldiers hiding in a haystack. The ensuing fight resulted in liquidation of the tea party and proved the soundness of the policy.

## Big Money Shortage Vexes Nazi Banker

DUISBURG, Apr. 1 (AP)—Herr Gunther Knappe, manager of the Reichsbank, blustered into the office of the Allied Military Government.

The Reichsbank, said Herr Knappe, did not have enough money. He had 2,000,000 marks but 500,000 must be paid in pensions to Wehrmacht widows and family allowances. A larger sum was needed by local firms to pay workers' wages.

Why, coaxed Herr Knappe, could he not be allowed to print emergency currency to be recognized by the Americans?

Added Knappe, threateningly, "If people do not get their money, there will be a revolution."

The Reichsbank has been closed.

## Pilots Down 79 Nazi Craft

Ninth AF flew 564 fighter-bomber sorties, striking enemy transportation and airfields on the Western Front yesterday in weather that curtailed heavy bomber operations over the Reich.

Tactical pilots destroyed 44 enemy planes and damaged 35 in attacks on airfields in the Kassel and Mulhausen areas. Thirty-five more planes were downed over Austria and Czechoslovakia by 15th AF fighters, bringing the day's bag to 79 destroyed.

## British Apologize For Hague Bombing

LONDON, Apr. 1 (AP)—Netherlands government officials said today they had received from the British government a "handsome apology" for an accidental bombing of Hague, March 3 which, they said, killed 800 Dutch civilians, wounded 1,000 and made "a great number" homeless.

## Ruhr Industries Isolated ---

(Continued from Page 1)

my's Third Armd. Div. was battling against a dug-in foe; and in the vicinity of Kassel.

At the northern end of the Western Front, Canadian troops drove northwest into Holland, presumably the region from which German V-bombs have been launched against England.

The news blackout on the Ninth U.S. and Second British Armies, pushing east above the Ruhr, was still in force last night, but Reuter reported the British were 70 miles beyond the Rhine.

German Radio said the British were at the edge of Munster, due north of Dortmund in the Ruhr.

Meanwhile, armored spearheads of the First and Third Armies were driving on Kassel, key communications center on one of the main roads to Berlin. Unconfirmed New York reports last night put the Third Army tip only five miles from the city.

The announcement that two American armies were only 100 miles from Czechoslovakia was made at SHAEF, but there were no other details. However, the Third and Seventh Armies previously had been reported in Bavaria, striking toward Czechoslovakia from the Wurzburg area.

The enemy was battling hard in spots near Aschaffenburg, where the U.S. Seventh Army's 45th Inf. Div. was still fighting for the town.

On the southern flank of the great,

## V-E Will End Curfew, Race Ban—Byrnes

WASHINGTON, Apr. 1—The nationwide midnight curfew, ban on racing and brownout will end as soon as Germany is defeated, War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes announced last night.

He defined V-E Day as "the day we are advised by Gen. Eisenhower that organized resistance of the German Army has ceased."

However, Byrnes held out no hope for an early increase in food rations—particularly meat, predicting the available supply would drop and demands increase in 1945.

In his second report to President Roosevelt and Congress on war mobilization and conversion, Byrnes said American factories would be free to produce almost a third more civilian goods within nine months after V-E Day—a slower conversion rate than had been anticipated last fall. He added that munitions deliveries would drop 40 per cent within a year after Germany's collapse.

The report was submitted "with high hope for an early victory in Europe, mixed with profound sorrow at the sacrifices which must be made to accomplish this victory and to defeat Japan."

He said unemployment after Germany's defeat would be "temporary in nature," because the "tremendous backlog of civilian demand with savings, including war bond holdings at a total of 140 billion dollars, should quickly provide employment."

Partial industrial conversion after Germany's surrender would mean more automobiles and refrigerators for civilians and "perhaps a small increase in the basic gasoline ration," Byrnes said.

Despite his prediction of heavy food demands next year, the war mobilizer said "we will not be hungry and our diet will not be deficient. We must tighten our belts a little." He added that "we must prevent disease and unrest in areas where American troops are stationed."

## General Fights Beside Pfc

By Frank Woolner  
Stars and Stripes Special Writer

WITH THIRD ARMD. DIV., Apr. 1—There are no non-combatants in the drive which has taken this tank unit to Paderborn in the First Army's campaign to encircle the Ruhr. Even the CG, Maj. Gen. Maurice Rose, of Denver, Colo., engaged the enemy—with his pistol.

On a lonely stretch of road near Rehe, the Germans had been flushed from the roadside into a nearby cemetery when Rose and his driver, T/5 Glen Shaunce, of Albert Lea, Minn., and Maj. Robert Bellinger, of Brooklyn, came along.

A second jeep, carrying Col. Frederic Brown, division artillery officer, of Britton, S. D., and his driver, Pfc A.C. Brazeal, of Flint, Mich., was close at hand.

The five men, armed only with tommy guns and pistols, engaged an estimated 15 Germans. By the time an armored car and two motorcycles arrived, 12 of the enemy had surrendered.

Rose helped herd the prisoners with his .45.

## Warm Sunshine Marks Easter in Most of States

NEW YORK, Apr. 1—Easter was sunny and warm in most of the States except for scattered rain in Texas and the northern Rockies.

Prayers and tributes for soldiers and veterans keynoted the day in thousands of communities and military installations.

Col. Alfred O'Oliver, Jr., Army chaplain recently freed from a Philippine prison camp, participated in the Arlington Cemetery services he originated 15 years ago. Soldiers at Ft. Benning formed a living cross in the post stadium.

On Easter eve in New York, a double rainbow, appeared in the east.

## Meat Plant Shut By 10-Man Strike

NEW YORK, Apr. 1—A strike by ten men in the power plant closed the Armour packing plant at Kansas City, Kan., yesterday and all gates were picketed. The plant employs 3,500 workers.

An Army Quartermaster Corps spokesman said deliveries on government contracts had ceased. Government inspectors entered the plant and supervisors remained inside to insure refrigeration of the meat stock.

The Army said refrigerator cars were waiting to be loaded with 300,000 pounds of meat for shipment overseas.

Reason for the strike in the power plant was not given.

In Detroit officers and stewards of the United Automobile Workers Local 154 voted to end a strike which has kept 13,500 Hudson Motors plant workers idle since Wednesday.

## Mussolini's Rescuer Reported in France

PARIS, Apr. 1—Capt. Skhorzeny of the Nazi SS, who participated in the rescue of Mussolini after Italy's surrender in 1943, is "somewhere in France," the Paris newspaper Ce Soir says.

Publishing Skhorzeny's photo under the caption "Have You Seen Him?" the newspaper asserted he is "reported to be in Paris just now" and is being "actively sought" by civil and military authorities. He was described as "corpulent," six feet three inches tall, with a saber scar on the left cheek.

## Yanks Seize Negros City

MANILA, Apr. 1 (ANS)—The 40th Inf. Div., moving so fast that the Japanese were unable to explode prepared demolition charges, have captured Bacolod, capital of Negros Island, Gen. MacArthur announced today.

MacArthur also reported that land-based planes, continuing their blockade of the China coast, destroyed 14 Japanese ships, including three destroyers.

The 40th Div. seized Bacolod (population 50,000) Friday, second day of the invasion of Negros. Only three Philippine cities of comparable size—Baguio and Legaspi on Luzon and Davao on Mindanao—remain in Japanese hands.

MacArthur reported aerial attacks against Baguio and Legaspi, and said American troops had driven closer to Baguio.

MacArthur announced that more than 300,000 Japanese had been killed in the Philippines October.

## Swift Armor ---

(Continued from Page 1)

Riggs, of New York, explained. A recon platoon of the 66th Armd Regt., they had stopped to interrogate civilians at this crossroads town to find out what lay ahead in the night.

To the left of the road a sleepy civilian, opening the door to a blackened house, said that up ahead was a bridge, prepared for demolition and guarded by six or seven German last-ditch defenders. There was a gun emplacement near the woods up ahead to the left.

### Cars Go Ahead

Riggs called a couple of his men over. "This is the way we'll work it," he said. "We'll send a couple of vehicles dashing ahead down the road to try to surprise them. Then the rest of the platoon will follow."

You waited along the road a little, and the rest of the recon moved hesitantly up. Then the rest of the armored column, half the men sleeping in their seats and the other half trying to see through the night, moved up.

You didn't ever fear how Riggs' platoon would make out. But other reports filtered back that a "column, identified transport, all lights showing," was being strafed in the road ahead.

Nothing materialized. At four o'clock the order to pull off into the fields came.

Then came the order, "Mount up on the road—we're moving east again."

By Milton Caniff

## Terry and the Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate

