

EAST FRONT 'CRACKING'; PURGE ON IN REICH

Reds Speak Of 'Debacle' Among Nazis

As Russia's armies flooded into Poland across the Upper Bug River yesterday and, by German admission, reached Lublin, 105 miles southeast of Warsaw and last stronghold before the Vistula River, Moscow observers spoke of a "debacle taking place or about to" and the Associated Press correspondent at the Soviet capital flatly asserted the German Army had "collapsed over hundreds of miles on the eastern front."

Nazi admissions of reverses must have hit Berlin with stunning effect. The Germans announced they had evacuated Pskov, opposite Latvia and Estonia and last German-held town of any size east of the pre-war Soviet border, and admitted the Russians had entered Lwow, once-powerful Nazi supply base in Southern Poland and now almost completely outflanked.

Meanwhile the A. P.'s Eddy Gilmore reported this picture of the German crack-up and Moscow's reaction:

Revolt News Hits Front?

"Skyfuls of fighter-bombers hovered over long staggering German columns, many of which have broken completely as they stumble westward—some leaderless, some not seeking leaders.

Burning sun beat down upon them and it appeared in Moscow today as if Hitler's desperate situation at home had reached the front and produced an immediate reaction.

"An atmosphere of intense excitement prevails in the Soviet capital and observers here feel that the next few days may determine the history of this front, for if Hitler and his generals fail to make a stand along the Vistula in the center of the line great things may rapidly come to pass.

"It is very apparent that the Red Army is handing the German Army a staggering defeat—so staggering, so costly in men, materials and position that even the best effort of Hitler and his loyal Nazis may not be able to stem the tide.

"The Russians are praying at this moment for the British and American armies in Normandy to go all out from this moment on, because this might spell the end."

Yanks Threaten Pisa From South

American troops, fighting their way to the River Arno yesterday entered the southern suburbs of Pisa, strongpoint on the western flank of the Germans' Gothic Line, while Eighth Army forces drove into the key communications town of Citia de Castello east of Arezzo, and moved over the northern slopes of Monte San Michele to within 14 miles of Florence.

The Germans were offering heavy opposition in Pisa in an effort to forestall the attempt of Allied armies to turn back that flank of the Gothic Line, last outpost south of the Po Valley basins.

Slight Gains Made on Normandy Front As Rain and Mud Slow Up Operations

Allied forces lashed out at several points along the Normandy battlefield in improving weather yesterday, after a virtual halt in the offensive during three days of drenching rain.

British and Canadian troops captured two villages, Eteyaux and bitterly-contested Maltot, about four miles southwest along the Orne River. Near Esquay, two miles southwest of Maltot, three German counter-attacks were beaten back.

The American sector, bogged down by heavy rain and thick mud, remained generally static, although there was slight activity near Lessay and southeast of Carentan. A small German resistance pocket was cleaned out in the Lessay area, where advances were registered against stubborn hedgerow opposition. Another force of Germans, however, was reported still holding Lessay itself.

Southeast of Carentan, American patrols crossed the St Lo Periers highway, but met heavy machine-gun fire.

The Germans, meanwhile, removed from the pressure of American attacks, were reported beginning a "scorched earth" policy over lands they fear dough-

boys may conquer. In one sector the Germans were reported shooting cattle and in another breaking up agricultural machinery for use as barriers and presumably to hinder the Norman agricultural output.

Vichy radio estimated that Gen. Montgomery now had more than 2,000,000 men, including several armored corps, in the Caen area, and added "this enormous concentration of forces foreshadows a British large-scale attack in the direction of the Falaise plains."

U. S. forces in Normandy have so far taken a total of 50,549 German prisoners, it was announced yesterday, and during the same period have buried 8,094 German dead.

It was revealed last night that Prime Minister Winston Churchill had visited the beachhead again.

29th Cited After Capturing St. Lo

WITH U. S. FORCES IN NORMANDY, July 23—The 29th Infantry Division captured St. Lo after almost continuous combat since landing in Normandy on D-Day, it was revealed yesterday.

The corps commander cited the 29th's repeated "personal and group heroism" and its "unflinching devotion to duty which overcame discomfort, fatigue and the determined resistance of a resourceful enemy."

Award of a citation to the 116th Regiment, of the 29th, for its D-Day assault was announced. The citation said the unit, originally part of the Virginia National Guard, had "successfully attacked a heavily fortified and strongly defended beach in the vicinity of Vieville-sur-Mer on June 6."

The 29th Division is commanded by Maj. Gen. Charles H. Gerhardt and the 116th by Col. Charles W. Canham Sr., of Howell, Mich.

29TH HONORS FALLEN

LACAMBE, Normandy, July 23—Officers and men of the 29th Infantry Division joined with townsfolk here today to dedicate a cemetery for the unit's dead. Maj. Harold Donovan, of Baltimore, division chaplain, officiated, and Maj. Gen. C. H. Gerhardt, division commander, led in the battle cry "29. Let's Go."

TRANS-OCEAN RECORD

New York, July 23 (AP)—A new commercial record for the Trans-Atlantic flight is claimed by Capt Edward S. Stewart. He announced yesterday that he flew an American Export plane from Foynes, in Eire, to New York in 17 hours 57 minutes. The previous record, according to the airlines, was 18 hours, 16 minutes.

AND NO GOLDBRICKING

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 23 (UP)—Pvt. George Collett so hated the thought of going overseas with the Army that he poured acid into his right ear and almost completely destroyed the eardrum. He got out of the Army all right—dishonorably discharged—and at a court martial here was sentenced to ten years' hard labor.

6,431 Heavies Fly In 'Greatest Week'

The Eighth and Ninth Air Forces joined yesterday in an assault on enemy targets in France as German radio, announcing raiders over the Northwest Reich indicated that Hitler's disintegration nation was being given no respite after a week's offensive termed officially the greatest in the history of daylight bombing.

Forces and Libs, escorted by P51s and P38s, struck airfields in France late yesterday soon after Marauders and Havocs, escorted by P47s and P51s, bombed six French air targets without loss. There was no immediate announcement of Eighth AF losses.

Taking part in the week's offensive were 6,431 heavies of the Eighth and 15th Air Forces and 5,043 fighters.

The attack eclipsed the previous record week of Feb. 20-26, when 4,236 Fortresses and Liberators in 4,796 pursuits dealt a smashing blow to the Nazi fighter aircraft industry.

STIMSON HOME

WASHINGTON, July 23—Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson has returned to the capital after visiting Italy and Normandy.

Outstanding Infantrymen, Combat And Otherwise, to Get Pay Raise

LONDON, July 23—Enlisted men in the infantry who are specially qualified by their action in combat or as experts in non-combat zones, are entitled to receive extra monthly pay of \$10 or \$5 retroactive to Jan. 1, 1944, the ETO Finance Office disclosed today.

The money probably will not be paid generally until Aug. 31, however, unless infantry units submit supplementary payrolls before that time, a fiscal officer said.

Infantrymen are eligible for the extra monthly pay—under War Department Circulars 186 and 271 this year—on the following basis: \$10 for enlisted men who have shown "exemplary conduct in action against the enemy," \$5 for enlisted men who have shown

Hitler Plot Is Sign Army Sees Defeat as Inevitable, AEF Observer Declares

As Moscow correspondents told yesterday of a "collapse" of German armies on a broad front in Poland, reports reaching Stockholm described an unprecedented purge under way in Germany, with the Nazis ruthlessly wiping out all elements suspected of participation in the plot by which they charge a group of generals sought to kill Adolf Hitler, establish a new government and sue for peace. An observer at U. S. First Army headquarters expressed the belief the revolt was a clear sign that the German military leaders knew the war was lost.

Prisoners Knew 'Something Up'

By William Stringer

Reuter Correspondent
U. S. FIRST ARMY HQ., Normandy, July 23—The German general staff has probably decided the war already has been lost and, in trying to overthrow the Hitler regime, was attempting to "save the bits and pieces of Germany," an observer here said today.

The putsch inside Germany, the observer added, has not ended and its effects likely have not yet been reflected fully in German resistance on the Normandy front.

The principal reason, it was pointed out, was because of the slowness by which news travels and probable German attempts to prevent front-line troops from realizing the gravity of the crisis at home.

The German front-line soldier "undoubtedly will be shaken and his will to carry on the struggle—except in the SS units—will be gravely impaired," he added.

German troops captured during the last 48 hours have been conscious that something is going on inside the Reich, but most were not surprised, a staff officer revealed.

All seemed to have learned by rumor and grapevine that there was an internal turmoil in Germany. None, however, appeared surprised that an attempt had been made to overthrow Hitler and his government. One prisoner—a full-blooded German—said the SS had come out on top.

Louis Hunter, Canadian Press correspondent on the Orne front in Normandy, reported yesterday that five German soldiers had crossed to the Canadian lines and surrendered, relating that "their officers had deserted after telling them there was a revolution in Germany."

Censorship Veils Events in Reich

Information reaching Stockholm yesterday indicated that "Hangman" Heinrich Himmler and his Gestapo were embarked on a "Purge in Germany far bloodier than the 'Night of the Long Knives' of June 30, 1934, to wipe out ruthlessly the opposition elements whose activities came to a head in the attempt to assassinate Hitler.

Unconfirmed reports were that up to 1,000 army officers had been executed. Jack Fleischer, Stockholm correspondent of the United Press, reported that Dr. Hajalmar Schacht, former Reichsbank president, "has been either arrested or killed—it is impossible to be sure which," and that Baron Constantin von Neurath, former Foreign Minister, had been arrested and his Wurttemberg castle seized by the Gestapo.

Tight censorship still covered details of Germany's internal strife, making it impossible to determine whether Hitler's claims that the anti-Nazi revolt had been crushed were substantially true.

Except for one rumor that violent anti-Hitler demonstrations had been staged in bomb-battered Munich, there were no reports, however, of clashes between Himmler's SS units and civilian or military bands, and it appeared that all active opposition to the Reich government had been driven underground, if it had not been smashed completely, as Nazi leaders repeatedly stressed.

In Stockholm, as in London, some observers expressed the opinion that the alleged attempt to assassinate Hitler had been arranged by the Nazis themselves as a pretext for acquiring control over the Army and disposing of dissident elements.

Although Hitler was in possession of a message of loyalty from Kluge, Army commander in France, late yesterday there were still no reports that any had been received from Rundstedt, Brauchitsch, Mannstein, Kleist or Kettel.

SIT DOWNS GET UP

HOLYOKE, Mass., July 23 (ANS)—A two-day stay-in strike at the Worthington Pump and Machinery Corp. ended when more than 600 workers walked out to look for new jobs. The employees had camped inside the factory after being told a Navy cutback order would result in their discharge.

TWO U. S. SUBS LOST

WASHINGTON, July 23 (Reuters)—The U. S. Navy announced yesterday that two American submarines, the Trout and the Tullibee, were overdue and presumed to have been lost. The losses brought the total of U. S. submarines lost since the start of the war to 27.

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Army Notes

Home, food and girls seem to be the favorite subject that occupy an American soldier in France. These are the things—in order—which drew the greatest applause and whistles from Yanks in Normandy during a movie shown in a cowbarn, which Bob Reuben of Reuter attended:

- 1—Scene of New York skyline.
- 2—Picture of a hamburger, with the "works"—relish, catsup and mustard (also a few groans intermingled with the cheers).
- 3—A pretty girl (more whistles, less applause).
- 4—Pictures of a little town in England similar to many where Yanks were billeted prior to the invasion.

Pfc James E. Rowsby, of the 90th Div., had read about it in books, but he hadn't quite believed it till it happened to him. Knocked out by a Jerry bullet, he was carried to an aid station, where he was found to be nicked only slightly. The bullet had spent itself ripping through his pocket... and the Bible he always carried there.

To Cpl. Harold Buzzell, Milo Me.; Cpl. Otis B. Smith, Rossmayne, Ohio, and Pfc Ray E. Boze, Troy, Ohio, go credit for rescuing two Royal Marines in the port of Cherbourg after their craft had struck a mine. The Marines were the only survivors of a five-man minesweeper crew.

Sgt. Phillip H. Olofson, of Pasadena, Cal., is the one-man newspaper staff who compiles, edits and mimeographs the Fourth Division's daily newsletter, "The Daily News Digest."

These things aren't funny until the day after they happen: Pfc George Kelly, of Shawnee, Okla., was slightly wounded in a field. No one knew how serious his wounds were, and Sgt. Julian Reynolds, 28, of Tifton, Ga., was worried how to get him over a hedgerow and out from under enemy fire. Suddenly the German 88s started dropping. Sgt. Reynolds looked around—Kelly was the first over the hedgerow.

Pvt. Gunther A. Boden, of New York, in his foxhole on an outpost line, heard a twig crack and detected two Nazi soldiers. Speaking his native German, he "encouraged" the enemy to come closer. They did. He pointed his gun and said in English "You're my prisoners." They were.

The 'Old Hickory' Division in France

The presence of the U. S. 30th Infantry Division in Normandy was announced for the first time yesterday by Gen. Eisenhower's headquarters.

The 30th, known as the Old Hickory Division, was originally created from National Guard units from North and South Carolina and Tennessee.

In World War I, the Old Hickory took part in three victorious drives in France—the Ypres-Lys and Somme offensives and the smashing of the Hindenburg Line. Men from every state and territory now make up the division.

The 30th arrived in Britain soon after participating in the Tennessee maneuvers in September and October of 1943.

CHAPLIN'S FIRST DIES

HOLLYWOOD, July 23 (UP)—Mildred Harris, 43 first wife of Charlie Chaplin and former actress died of pneumonia yesterday.

News From Home

U. S. Wheat Crop Biggest in 75 Yrs. Is Being Harvested

WASHINGTON, July 23—The U. S., now harvesting the greatest wheat crop in its history, will have more wheat for civilian food next year than was available in pre-war years, the War Food Administration predicted yesterday.

Despite tremendous demands by the armed services, Lend Lease and industrial users, this year's wheat supply will provide 227 pound per civilian, one pound more than last year and six more than in the five years ending in 1939. Forty-three million bushels will be saved as protection against possible shortage next year.

Agricultural experts said Alabama's 1944 cotton crop may be the states' smallest in 75 years due to damage from boll weevil and cotton lice, the crop is 36 per cent under the last 10-year average.

HOW ABOUT PFCS?

WASHINGTON, July 23 (UP)—Talk about the Army being top-heavy with generals gave Washington officials a headache so they issued a statement to show that U. S. generals command more men than generals in any other army. U. S. generals command an average of 6,278 men. The Italians are second with 5,100 men to each general. Then come the Germans with one general to 5,000, the British with one to 2,528, the Japanese with one to 2,400 and the Chinese with one to 1,000.

RADIO BAN LIFTED

CHICAGO, July 23—The song "Don't Change Horses," which was barred from the radio because it was said to have political implications went back on the air—to a certain extent. It was heard last week during the broadcasting of the Democratic National Convention after the ban had been lifted at the request of the National Committee.

ANNE UNDER KNIFE

HOLLYWOOD, July 23—Screen actress Anne Shirley underwent a serious abdominal operation yesterday, her studio reported. Doctors pronounced the operation successful and said she was resting easily.

LONG FREIGHT DERAILED

HUNTINGDON, Pa., July 23—Twelve cars of an 81-car east-bound freight were derailed in front of the Pennsylvania Railroad's main station here. No one was injured.

Americans Widen Guam Beachhead

American troops broadened their beachheads on Guam and were landing more troops against initial light Japanese resistance. Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief in the central Pacific, announced yesterday.

U. S. troops now control the main road running across the island, connecting the Orote peninsula, with its 4,700-foot air strip, with other Japanese centers on the east coast. The invaders were advancing on either side of the port of Apra, one of the finest harbors in the Pacific.

Two forces made the landings, seven miles apart. The Third Marine Division, veterans of Bougainville and the First Provisional Marine Brigade.

Naval and air bombardments softened resistance, but the Marines and soldiers were encountering stiffer opposition inland, Nimitz reported.

In Tokyo, meanwhile, the new Premier, Gen. Kuniaki Koiso, declared that Japan's war policy will not undergo any basic change and Japan will further strengthen existing ties with Germany in pursuit of the common war objective.

Koiso said Japan would maintain friendly relations with the Soviet Union and strive to avoid unnecessary provocations. The favor of neutral nations will be sought that they offer more positive cooperation to Japan, he said.

Campaigning By Truman To Free FDR

CHICAGO, July 23—While Democratic leaders sought to unite Southern factions behind the new 1944 slate of Roosevelt and Truman, the probability arose today that most of the ticket's campaigning would be done by its Vice-Presidential nominee—Sen. Harry S. Truman, of Missouri—to leave the President free to give most of his time to the war.

Though still upset by their failure to obtain restoration of the two-thirds rule and a "white supremacy" plank, Southern leaders found comfort in the defeat of Vice-President Henry A. Wallace by the head of the Senate's War Investigating Committee.

Truman was nominated on the second ballot, the first gave Wallace 429 short of the 589 majority needed for nomination and Truman 319. A stampede for Truman started at the end of the second roll call when state after state began switching to him. Final tabulation gave the Missourian 1,031 out of 1,176, with 105 for Wallace.

Before adjourning, the convention renamed all of its national committee officers, including Chairman Robert E. Hannegan, of St. Louis.

Republican National Chairman Herbert Brownell Jr. sharply criticized President Roosevelt for delivering his acceptance speech from a Pacific Coast naval base, terming it "an effort to exploit the armed forces... for a partisan speech."

Sen. Truman accepted the Democratic Vice - Presidential nomination in only four sentences. He said he appreciated "this very great honor" and would continue his efforts "to help shorten the war and win the peace under the leadership of our great President."

His brevity was typical of the mild-mannered Missourian who, at 60 prefers poker and playing the piano to making speeches. He still regards himself as a Missouri farmer.

Though a member of the Senate nine and a half years, Truman's greatest prominence has come in the last three years through his chairmanship of the Senate's "Truman Committee" to investigate the defense program.

Truman was a National Guard private who rose to captain and fought at St. Mihiel and the Argonne in the last war. He volunteered as a reserve officer in this war, but was told by the War Department he could make a greater contribution by remaining in the Senate. He is married and the father of a 20-year-old daughter, Margaret, a junior at George Washington University.

Majors & Minors

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
Detroit	4	Philadelphia	3	
Chicago	9	New York	3 (1st)	
Chicago	4	New York	1 (2nd)	
Washington	9	Cleveland	6	
Boston	8	St. Louis	4	
	W	L	PCT.	GB
St. Louis	50	40	.556	—
New York	45	40	.529	2 1/2
Boston	46	42	.523	3
Detroit	45	44	.506	4 1/2
Cleveland	44	45	.494	5 1/2
Washington	42	45	.483	6 1/2
Chicago	40	43	.482	6 3/4
Philadelphia	37	50	.425	11 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
Pittsburgh	11	Brooklyn	0	
Boston	6	St. Louis	5	
Chicago	6	New York	3	
Cincinnati	4	Philadelphia	3	
	W	L	PCT.	GB
St. Louis	58	24	.707	—
Cincinnati	47	37	.560	12
Pittsburgh	44	36	.550	13
New York	40	45	.471	19 1/2
Philadelphia	36	46	.439	22
Chicago	34	45	.430	22 1/2
Boston	36	48	.429	23
Brooklyn	35	49	.417	24

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE				
Toronto	2	Rochester	1	
Baltimore	6	Newark	4	
Jersey City	5	Syracuse	2	
Only games scheduled.				
	W	L	PCT.	GB
Baltimore	49	39	.557	—
Montreal	48	40	.545	1
Buffalo	48	42	.533	2
Jersey City	47	42	.528	2 1/2
Toronto	48	45	.516	3 1/2
Newark	46	46	.500	5
Rochester	39	53	.424	12
Syracuse	35	53	.398	14

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Minneapolis	9	Kansas City	9	
Louisville	7	Columbus	2	
Indianapolis	9	Toledo	8	
Milwaukee	St. Paul (rain)			
	W	L	PCT. GB	
Milwaukee	66	29	.695	—
Columbus	56	35	.615	8
Toledo	54	39	.581	11
Louisville	55	41	.573	11 1/2
St. Paul	49	39	.557	13 1/2
Minneapolis	35	57	.380	29 1/2
Indianapolis	28	65	.301	36
Kansas City	26	64	.289	37 1/2

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE

San Francisco	8	Seattle	1	
Hollywood	4	Portland	3	
Los Angeles	7	San Diego	6	
Oakland	6	Sacramento	0 (1st)	
Sacramento	4	Oakland	3 (2nd)	
	W	L	PCT. GB	
Los Angeles	57	49	.538	—
Oakland	56	50	.528	1
San Francisco	55	51	.519	2
Seattle	53	53	.500	4
Hollywood	52	54	.491	5
Portland	51	53	.490	5
San Diego	51	57	.471	7
Sacramento	49	57	.462	8

FRENCH TOP YANKS

A French civilian soccer team yesterday outclassed a Ninth Air Force fighter team, 4-1, in a benefit game staged on an improvised field near the Yanks' air base. Contributions from the soldiers in the crowd yielded 1,643 francs for French refugees from the Caen area. Pfc Herbert Sorter of New York, a former Stanford U. player, registered the lone American goal near the end of the first half. The French eleven scored twice in each half.

Private Breger



"Yes, I'll be yours after the war—and while you're down there would you look under the bench for my cigarette lighter?"

Chisox Clip Yanks Twice; Browns Lose

NEW YORK, July 23—Anything can happen—and usually does—in the wide open American League race and the Chicago White Sox are the new heroes of the day.

The seventh-place Chisox, only six and a half games from the top and refusing to lay down and die, rose up to slap the ears off the third-place Boston Red Sox, 5-3, Friday before walloping the second-place Yankees in both ends of a double-header, 9-3 and 4-1, yesterday at Comiskey Park.

The Chisox uprising was joyful news to the jittery, league-leading Browns who, after faltering against the Yanks, 8-2 Friday night in the final game of the "crucial" series, fell before the Red Sox yesterday, 8-4, for their second straight setback.

Home runs by Eddie Carnett and Hal Trosky plus some first class hurling by Johnny Humphries enabled the White Sox to tumble the Yanks in the first game yesterday while Ed Lopat stopped the Bombers in the second. Nick Etten homered for the Yanks in the opener and George Stirnweiss in the nightcap.

Ryba Stops Browns

Mike Ryba was the man of the hour for the Red Sox against the Browns yesterday when he went the route to outlast Jack Kramer.

Meanwhile, the Detroit Tigers let it be known they are still in the running by beating the Athletics, 4-3, yesterday for their sixth straight victory and a firm hold on fourth place—four and a half games from the leaders. Rudy York's tenth homer broke a 3-3 tie in the sixth and gave Southpaw Hal Newhouse his 15th pitching win of the campaign.

The Senators picked up a game on the Indians in the struggle for fifth place by whipping Cleveland, 9-6, behind Ray Poat and Allie Reynolds.

Pirates, Bucs Win

In the National League, the Reds and Pirates each shaved a full game from the elaborate lead enjoyed by the Cardinals by winning yesterday while the Redbirds were bowing to the Braves.

A home run by Connie Ryan, scheduled to go into the Army tomorrow, gave the Braves a 6-5 decision over the Cards, and Ira Hutchinson the edge over Al Jurisch.

The Pirates went on a hitting spree to bury the staggering Dodgers, 11-0, with Fritz Ostermueller, an old Dodger himself, pitching the Bums right into the N. L. cellar with a five-hit job. Babe Dahlgren, another ex-Flatbusher, led the attack with three blows.

In the night game at Cincinnati the Reds opened a four-game series with the Phillies by winning, 4-3, after Tommy De La Cruz turned in a splendid three-inning job of relief pitching. Tony Lupien hit a two-run homer for the Phil in the third.

Nicholson Hits Two

The Cubs climbed to within a half game of fifth place after winning two straight. The Bruins beat the Braves on Friday with the aid of Bill Nicholson's 16th homer, 4-2, and the Giants yesterday, 6-3. Nicholson clubbed his 17th circuit blow against the Giants in leading Charlie Grimm's boys to their first success of the season at the Polo Grounds. Les Fleming yielded only seven hits, four of them by big Ernie Lombardi, New York backstop.

Rib Rubs Salt On Lip's Wounds

BROOKLYN, July 23—Just before the Dodgers left their dressing room to play the Bucs yesterday, a nurse who recently returned from Hawaii stopped to deliver a message to Lippy Durochat's Comedians. "There's a boy out there who wants to know if you can use him at shortstop," she said. "His name is Pee Wee Reese."

One look at Brooklyn's current position in the National League race answers the question very well thank you.