

# 3rd Races 60 Mi. to Rhine

## Berlin Battle Renewed Along Oder, Nazis Say; Red Crossing Admitted

Marshal Gregory Zhukov's Red Army forces opened the "Battle for Berlin" yesterday, unleashing a powerful offensive on their Oder River line and driving beyond it to within 31 miles of the German capital, the Nazis reported.

The German Transocean news agency said that Zhukov's forces, which had been building up strength in the Berlin Bulge for weeks, were making strong attacks at Niederwutzen, northeast of Berlin, in their closest approach to the city.

Soviet troops in the Kustrin sector were 35 miles due east of Berlin, Transocean said. They were reported fighting five miles west of the Oder, near the town of Kietz and on the main railroad running straight into Berlin.

Russian troops also fought their way across the river and established a bridgehead at Lebus, 36 miles from Berlin and about five miles north of Frankfurt-on-Oder, another German report said.

Marshal Stalin made no mention of fighting on the central front in three orders of the day issued yesterday. Those orders reported important advances by Zhukov's northern forces, a Soviet drive in Poland to within 26 miles of Danzig, and successes in Czechoslovakia.

### Berlin Drive Reported

However, a Soviet dispatch to the newspaper Izvestia reported that "our troops are now moving on to Berlin" after breaking into German defenses on the western side of a river which was not identified.

"Over all roads leading to Berlin, fierce battles are beginning to take shape," the Soviet dispatch said.

The Germans said that Zhukov's main assault was carried out in the area of Kustrin, on the east bank of the Oder 40 miles from Berlin. The Russians have held bridgeheads

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## U.S. Clarifies French Mixup On Parley Bid

By the United Press

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The State Department today gave its version of events leading to France's refusal to join in sponsoring the United Nations Security Conference at San Francisco late next month.

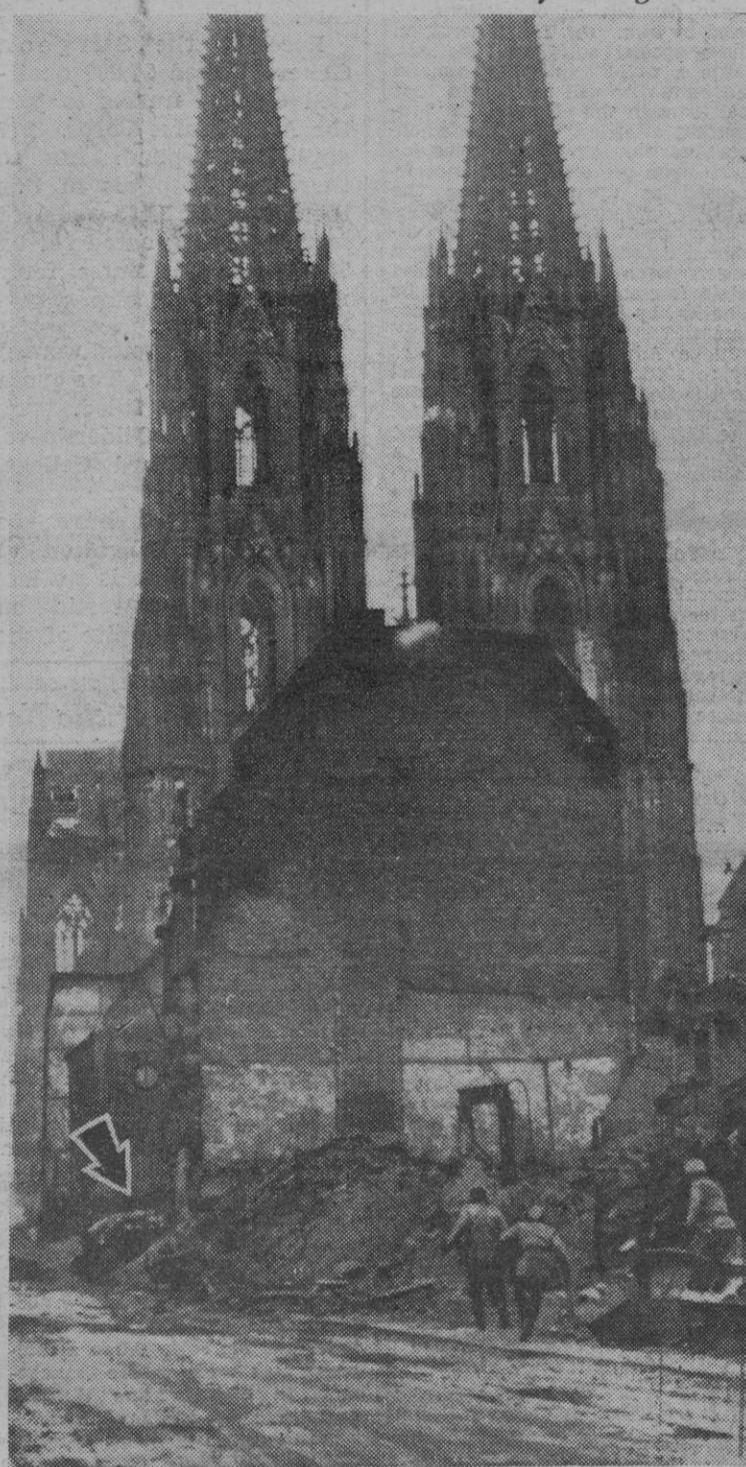
The Department's account not only denied that the U.S. can be held accountable for the French action, but made plain the fact official circles here are irritated by French suggestions that this country is responsible for ruffled relations between the government of Gen. Charles de Gaulle and the Big Three.

The Department's statement was its first comment on diplomatic aggravations which arose after France was excluded from the Big Three Crimea Conference and Gen. Charles de Gaulle refused to meet President Roosevelt at Algiers. The silence was deliberate, apparently in an effort to minimize concern over a bad matter by not talking about it.

France has agreed to participate in the San Francisco Conference, but declines to participate as an inviting power because certain conditions were not met by the

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### Combat Drama in the Heart of Cologne



Stars and Stripes Photo by Riordan

With Cologne's famous cathedral looming beyond wrecked buildings, First Army medics race cautiously down a debris-packed street to administer aid to stricken tankmen of the Third Armored Div. Moments before this picture was snapped, an American tank (arrow) was knocked out by a direct hit from a German 88.

(Other Cologne battle pictures on page four.)

## Ancient Cologne Is Dead

By Ed Clark  
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

COLOGNE, March 7.—Doughfeet and tankers who took this town last night won a great victory. They captured Germany's fourth largest city in less than two days. They also won possession of one of the world's greatest monuments to modern war.

Struck time and again by Allied bombs and finally powdered by brief flurries of U.S. and German artillery and tank fire, this one-time Roman colony, for all practical purposes, no longer exists.

In the days and weeks to come, what war did to Cologne will be described in thousands of words and hundreds of pictures. Its rubble and devastation will bring many

comparisons. Some will say that it is worse than Coventry. Some will mention Bizerte. Still others will speak of Cassino, of St. Lo.

It's simpler to describe what remains.

First of all, there is the famous twin-spired Gothic cathedral, The Dom, which stands in the heart of the inner city just west of the Rhine, chipped, gouged and scarred, but essentially still standing.

Then, in the relatively modern residential section of the town, which arcs around Cologne, there are many houses and small shops which soon will be habitable again after a little window work and a little patching. There are also many

(Continued on Page 8)

## First Army Two Miles From Bonn

### BULLETIN

The Third Army's Fourth Armored Division yesterday reached the Rhine River at a point north of Coblenz. S and S Correspondent Pat Mitchell reported from Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's headquarters that Fourth tanks reached the river at 1745 hours after a 60-mile dash in 58 hours.

The U.S. First Army, with Cologne firmly in its grasp, and the U.S. Third Army, exploiting its Kyll River breakthrough, yesterday marked the ninth anniversary of the unopposed German remilitarization of the Rhineland with powerful drives toward two important and historical cities of the Rhine River—Bonn and Coblenz, about 35 miles apart.

According to S and S Correspondent Dan Regan with the First Army, doughboys of the Ninth Inf. Div. last night were within two miles of Bonn, famous university city and birthplace of Beethoven, which had a pre-war population of 98,702.

To the south, armored units of Third Army were reported by S and S Correspondent Pat Mitchell only a dozen miles from Coblenz and the Rhine River. The Fourth Arm. Div. made advances of more than ten miles as it spearheaded the attack.

Another Patton tank drive jumped off at noon today and roared 11 and one-half miles in the first five and one-half hours, reaching the vicinity of Kelberg. This second breakthrough brought 11th Arm. Div. tanks within two miles of elements of the Fourth Arm. Div.

Indications that the German forces facing the First Army's southern flank may be collapsing resulted in a censorship blanket over the names of units and places

(Continued on Page 8)

## Admiral King Orders 84 More Warships

WASHINGTON, March 7 (ANS).—Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King has ordered construction of 84 additional warships, totaling 636,869 tons, for delivery by 1947.

These are in addition to the 288 combatant vessels on the present Navy construction program, and include large and small carriers, heavy and light cruiser, destroyers and submarines.

## Colonel Freed in Mercy Killing Of Hopelessly Trapped Flier

KUNMING, China, March 7 (AP).—An officer at an American forward airbase who fired two mercy bullets into the head of a flier hopelessly trapped in a wrecked and burning plane today stood acquitted of voluntary manslaughter.

A general court martial of seven colonels drawn from the U.S. 14th AF and associated service organizations returned the verdict after hearing ten witnesses piece together the soul-searing episode.

The defendant was a 31-year-old lieutenant colonel, commander of a fighter group, veteran of 80 air missions and ranking officer at the base. The victim was a 20-year-old sergeant gunner in a B-25 bomber.

Two other crew members of the five-man bomber were killed in the crash, which occurred Jan. 18 when the plane overshot a runway on returning from a mission against the enemy.

Three men were in the flight compartment—the pilot, co-pilot and the sergeant-gunner in the top turret. The co-pilot was killed in

his chair and the pilot was seriously injured. Both were removed as flames spread through the plane.

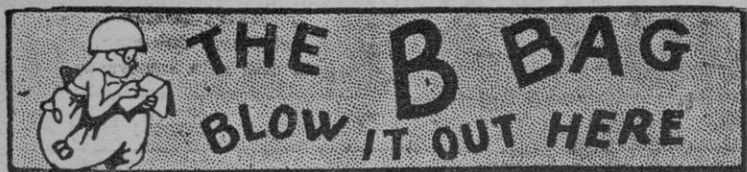
The wreckage trapped the sergeant and physicians were unable to get into position to amputate his legs.

Rescuers tried to pull the trapped man's body loose from his crushed legs, but did not have the strength. All hope of rescue had been given up, witnesses said, when the lieutenant colonel, standing off about 15 feet, fired twice at the sergeant's head.

The defense counsel, Lt. Col. John Hendren, of Kansas City, Mo., rather than base the case on the contention that the shooting was an act of mercy, brought out testimony intended to show that the defendant had acted irrationally under great emotional strain.

However, the main pillar of the defense was medical testimony that the condition of the victim's body, when it finally was recovered, left reasonable doubt that the sergeant had died from bullets rather than from burning.





**The Kids Will Love This**

I'm writing in answer to ex-schoolteacher, Pvt. P. J. Permonter's letter. He's a medic and asks what he should tell his ex-high school pupil, now a staff sergeant, as to what rank he holds and his duties.

Why not tell him you're a private (the most popular rank in the Army) and that your duty is to help save lives. Can you think of a job more important than that? My ex-college prof made no bones about telling me that he's a Pfc in an anti-tank outfit. Swallow your pride, old man, you're in the Army.—T/5 J. B. King, 47th Field Hosp.

... You are ashamed of your rank and job or lamenting your failure to advance as fast as your pupil... Tell him your rank and that you must carry bed-pans, etc.

The fact that you were a teacher entitles you to nothing in this Army except that which you deserve. I taught school for six years myself and am proud of the fact that some of my former pupils are high-ranking officers and many of them higher ranking non-coms than myself. And I will never apologize or even think of blaming the Army for my grade or my job. Being the S/Sgt's teacher does not imply that you possess the qualities of leadership that he does not have or that you are better fitted for another job in the Army outside of your hospital ward.—Sgt. N. B. F., 217 Gen. Hosp.

\* \* \*

**Messing**

Our squad of anti-aircraft was assigned to protect a bridge. We had no kitchen, but directly to our right was an airborne division's mess. . . . We were refused the privilege of eating with this mess . . . although the amount of food discarded would have been ample to feed our squad of five.

An engineer company composed of Negro members moved their kitchen in place of the airborne. They fed us willingly without the least inking of a protest.—Pfc Harry Meyers, AAA AW Bn.

\* \* \*

**Justice Before Convictions**

To Pfc Shulman, whose recent B-Bag letter stated that every accused should have trained defense

counsel and because such is not the case, the "scales of military justice are not even."

The Trial Judge Advocate is neither in theory nor fact a prosecuting attorney. His whole approach is one of truth finding. This is guaranteed by a number of factors: (a) Neither his promotion, his pay nor a political career depends on convictions secured by him. (b) The general, on whose special staff he functions, wants a well-disciplined command and knows he will not attain that goal through the efforts of a "prosecuting attorney." (c) The whole court-martial system is based as much upon protecting the innocent accused as upon convicting the guilty.

Your point about having well-trained defense counsel is common sense. Even though an accused gets a fair shake from the TJA he benefits by having able defense counsel.

Judge Advocate sections always try to secure good defense counsel for the accused and such men are usually to be found in our Army. The difficulty is that, unlike the TJA, the defense counsel has a primary military duty which prevents him from giving his best time and effort to the defense of the accused. One solution is that there be provided full-time defense counsel in the Judge Advocate General's Department. And as a matter of fact, the policy at the present time is that JAGD officers, when available, may be detailed as regular or as individual counsel in behalf of military personnel before any military court, board or commission.—Lt. Arthur Weiss.

\* \* \*

**Wolves?**

...I finally received a five-hour pass today and decided to visit friends acquired when I first arrived here. Much to my embarrassment these innocent people asked me questions only a "Nazi-minded idiot" could have put them up to. It seems that someone is continuously publicizing the U.S. Army by saying there are "cannibals" wearing the U.S. Army uniform. I am inclined to believe that either we have "Nazi propagandists," wearing the U.S. Army uniforms or maybe someone's parley-voing isn't so good. Whoever you are, brother, let's cut it out, will you?—William E. Goodson, QM., Ser. Co.

**HUBERT** by SGT. DICK WINGERT



"She's all right on water, and O.K. on land, but she ain't worth a damn in this half and half crap!"

An Editorial

A Pin-Up for Your Heart

YOU'RE looking at a very special kind of woman. A woman who gave up the things most of her sex hold dear. Comfort, clothes, security. To put on a uniform and help win the war.

Her kind of courage is rare.

Recently the Surgeon General asked 27,000 qualified civilian nurses to join the Army Nurse Corps. 277 applicants replied. And so there are hospitals in this theater where 3,000 wounded men are being cared for by 74 nurses. One nurse, forty men.

\* \* \*

The Army wants women to join the WAC. The quota has never been filled.

Virginia Gildersleeve, Dean of Barnard College, wrote:

"Since women have the vote, their obligation to serve the nation is no less strong than that resting on men. . . . But in spite of the



devoted and unselfish service of millions of women, the record has been on the whole unsatisfactory. Too many millions have been selfish and irresponsible." Space on the wall may go to the pin-ups—the gals

with the bumps and the rumps. But a spot in our heart is reserved for women like this. Nurses, WACs, Red Cross gals. Swingshifters and farm hands. Mothers and others who worry and wait and work. And mourn.

Background of the News:

Pros and Cons of the Coal Dispute

By Len Giblin

The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau WASHINGTON, March 7.—The storm clouds which have gathered over biennial negotiations between John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers and the soft coal operators of the country were piling up rapidly today as the operators indicated a determined refusal would be given to the miners' demands.

While the negotiators wrestled with wordy arguments, a resolution

Too Cold to Talk

WASHINGTON, March 7 (ANS).—The soft coal negotiations committee was delayed yesterday in holding a session because the meeting room in a hotel was too cold. When a complaint was made to the management, a United Mine Workers committee was told: "No coal."

adopted by 1,800 CIO leaders in New York called upon President Roosevelt to take over the mines to avert a strike. They declared that a coal strike now would be "a weapon made in Germany to stab our fighting men in the back."

At the same time, Fuel Administrator Harold L. Ickes warned consumers to conserve fuel, because the nation's soft coal pile was down to a 26-day supply March 1, as compared with a 32-day supply Feb. 1.

How It Shapes Up

This is the situation in the dispute:

1—A contract between the miners and operators, covering 400,000 soft coal workers and 25,000 coke and other by-product workers, expires March 31. Lewis has filed intention of calling for a national strike vote after April 1, a step which he announced was merely a technical compliance with the Smith-Connally law, requiring a 30-day cooling-off period.

2—The miners' chief demand in an 18-point list is a new one in the history of mine negotiations. Avoiding a direct assault



John L. Lewis, UMW president, discusses with his organization's top leaders tentative mine wage demands in preparation for bituminous contract talks with coal operators which began yesterday.

on the Little Steel formula, which limits wage increases to 15 percent above the level existing Jan. 1, 1941, Lewis has demanded a ten-cent-per-ton royalty to be used to build up a union fund for medical and rehabilitation service.

Seeks Pay Increases

Lewis has also asked pay for all time spent underground, including a 15-minute lunch period, with time-and-a-half after seven hours a day and 35 hours a week. Miners now work a 54-hour week. He has also asked an extra ten cents an hour for second-shift workers and an extra 15 cents an hour for third-shift workers.

The operators contend the demands would increase the cost of a ton by 65 cents and give \$3.30 more a day to each worker. They say granting the demands would raise the basic wage rate, and they cite figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to show that the miners' average weekly earnings have jumped 101.3 percent—from \$26 in Jan., 1941, to \$52.34 last October.

Lewis argues that his demands would increase per-ton costs only 18 cents, and he computes the medical fund royalty as costing the operators only four cents a ton, with the remaining six cents to be absorbed on the market.

Operators feel strongly on the royalty question, pointing out that they are already paying Federal and state taxes for medical and social services. There has been talk, however, of a compromise whereby the operators might share in the administration of the proposed fund. They estimate the cost of the fund at \$60,000,000 a year, basing it on a 1945 soft coal production of 600,000,000 tons, for purposes of wage discussion.

Lewis asserts "the industry can afford it," and he adds that the miner is determined to win his demands. He says that "the miner is certainly not afraid of the coal operator or his lawyer or his press agent or his lobbyist."

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# Ohio Flood Havoc Grows as River Keeps Rising

This Happened in America Yesterday:

## Sedition Trial to Start Again on Smaller Scale

**NEW YORK, March 7.**—The wheels of justice which rolled wearily through heaps of testimony for seven months in the mass sedition trial, and which were halted by the death of Judge Edward C. Eicher in December, will turn anew in a few weeks minus 14 defendants.

A Justice Department spokesman said only 12 will be retried, and observers think Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling, of Chicago, and Mrs. Lois de Lafayette, of Washburn, Ill., will not be among them.

Names of 15 Japanese Americans erased from the honor roll of the Hood River, Ore., post of the American Legion will be restored, as a result of National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling's intervention. Sixteen were scratched off originally, but one was dishonorably removed from the service.

### Not Even for St. Patrick's Day

**IRISH** circles in New York are disturbed because a plea for extension of St. Patrick's Day celebration March 17 past the midnight curfew has been rejected. The United Irish Counties Association which had made pre-curfew arrangements with hotels and ballrooms will appeal to the War Manpower Commission in Washington.

**BROOKLYN'S** throbbing Broadway—which, unlike Manhattan's White Way, is a market district—was crowded with eager housewives, tired husbands and foot-weary cops when 70,000 pounds of sugar went on sale at five pounds for 29 cents at the Food Fair, newest store in the Bushwick section. A near riot followed when 1,000 women descended upon the Food Fair.



Market Day—Brooklyn

**SOMETIMES,** though, people learn that there are other things in Dodgerville-on-the-Gowanus besides Red Hook gin mills, Murder-for-Money mobs, Coney Island and ball players. Top honors in the national science talent quest have gone to Edward Malcolm Koskwer, 16, and Marion Cecile Joswick, 17, both of Brooklyn. Ed has been working on scarce organic chemicals for the Army, and Marion, who says, "I became aware of the beauty of the mineral world at the age of eight," is also busy in war research.

**Beachwood, N.J.,** has a postwar present for 50 to 60 of the hometown boys in service. The town has some lots which were taken over for non-payment of taxes, and it will turn them over to the vets to start homebuilding.

**Of Bulls and Polygamy**

**IN** Utah, the Senate has passed a bill known in cloakrooms as the "polygamous bull" act. It would require one bull for every 30 instead of 40 cows on the open range. One cow-country senator argued that they ought to consider the age of the bull, and suggested responsibilities according to the bull's age. A woman senator flatly opposed the bill, saying, "Utah has outlawed polygamy. . . This will bring unfavorable publicity."

**OPA Boss Chester Bowles** says many an American at home ought to get hep to the scalping he or she is taking in food purchases. He asserts 27 percent of the nation's food stores are violating price ceilings on about 12 percent of all food items, and it's costing the home folks a billion bucks a year in overcharges. A can't-be-bothered attitude encourages violators.

### Virginia Moves Against Poll Tax

**VIRGINIANS** took a healthy swing at the poll tax by voting, 45,135 to 25,909, to hold a constitutional convention with the single aim of wiping out legislative provisions for personal registration and poll tax payments by servicemen. The State Supreme Court held that such a restricted convention was okay.

**Score one for two sailors,** who entered the constitutional field by notifying officials they had seen old *Attagenus Piceus Dermestidae*—otherwise known as the black carpet beetle—crawling over the original of the American Constitution in the Library of Congress. Attendants dropped dichloride crystals into the case to end the danger.

**THE** people of Tupelo, Miss., believe in big-hearted welcomes. When Lt. Inez McDonald, one of the Bataan angels, of nearby Plantersville, came home, they gave her 14 gold keys to the city and 22 cardboard keys, symbolic entry to 22 of Tupelo's stores, business houses, beauty parlors and restaurants. Anything she wants from the 22 establishments is hers, gratis.

**Maybe one of the Broadway lads Damon** always writes about, Harry the Horse or Louie the Lug, had fun at a meeting of the Colorado Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association, where Executive Secretary George Woods' watch was stolen while George was presiding.

**REP. Berkley L. Bunker (D-Nev.)** is wrathful about the midnight curfew, says it "plainly violates the very things our Constitution guaranteed to our people in the way of liberty," and blames what he calls "power-drunk administrative officials."

**Two hundred convicts at the Atlanta Federal Pen,** the Illinois State Pen and the New Jersey Reformatory at Rahway, are risking their lives to help science track down a drug to cure or prevent malaria among the armed forces. They're serving as human test tubes by taking doses of unknown, and possibly dangerous, drugs.

**AND** in another prison, the New Mexico State Pen, convicts flocked into the new commissary on the opening day and a long-termer, sipping at a soft drink, reflected: "First coke I've tasted in eight years, nine months and two days."

## Vinson Wins Senate's OK as U.S. Loan Chief

**WASHINGTON, March 7 (ANS).**—The Senate yesterday confirmed President Roosevelt's nomination of Fred M. Vinson to be federal loan administrator.

Acting with unusual speed, the chamber approved the appointment of the 55-year-old Kentuckian to head the \$40,000,000 RFC and allied lending agencies.

Vinson thus steps out as economic stabilization director to assume the authority which Congress stripped from the Commerce Department before confirming the nomination of Henry A. Wallace as secretary of commerce.

### Davis, WLB Chief, Is Named To Take Over Vinson Post

**WASHINGTON, March 7 (ANS).**—President Roosevelt today reshuffled his top wage-labor policy makers by naming Chairman William H. Davis, of the War Labor Board, to be Economic Stabilization Director, succeeding Fred M. Vinson.

George W. Taylor, vice-chairman of the War Labor Board since its formation in 1942 and author of the Little Steel wage formula, moves up into Davis' post as chairman.

The President thus cleared the way for an early settlement of the dispute over wage adjustments sought by labor. The dispute had locked Vinson and Davis in a tight political snarl.

Davis, 65, one of the country's leading patent lawyers, has been a key figure in the Administration's labor field.

## Lend-Lease Extension Wins Committee Okay

**WASHINGTON, March 7 (ANS).**—The House Foreign Affairs Committee yesterday approved legislation to extend the lend-lease act one year beyond the June 30 expiration date. The committee recommended that the program be "liquidated as promptly and efficiently as possible" after the war. Postwar rehabilitation requires separate consideration, it said.

## World Code of Human Rights Is Asked by Delegate Stassen

**MINNEAPOLIS, March 7 (AP).**—Enactment of a world-wide code of human rights, starting with the law, "no country in time of peace shall execute a human being without a just trial," was proposed by Commander Harold E. Stassen in a broadcast speech at the University of Minnesota.

"We ourselves should remain strong," he declared. "We should make it plain that, much as we want peace, we will fight against anyone who basically violates world justice or tries to make might right."

Stassen was recording views in advance of the United Nations Conference, which he will attend as a delegate.

His seven-point program was headed by a demand that the Allies join "to build a definite, continuing organization of United Nations, based on a justice law insured by force." Other points were:

"We, citizens of the world, have our happiness and welfare tied up with all the other peoples. . . The productive capacities and resources of America to be used for the advancement of all peoples. . . We recognize that freedom of informa-



Harold E. Stassen

## 2 of 8 Service Sons Casualties —9th Rejected

**LEHIGHTON, Pa., March 7 (ANS).**—The ninth son of Mrs. Russel McFarland today said he flunked the selective service physical examination in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., last weekend.

"I don't know why," said 18-year-old Marcus K. Smith, adding that a Navy physician cautioned him not to tell anyone for a "few days."

His 49-year-old mother, who has eight other sons serving in the armed forces—one missing in action and one wounded—said she and several Leighton residents sent telegrams to President Roosevelt requesting special consideration for Marcus.

## Taft Accuses Army of Poor Manpower Use

**WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP).**—Opposing the drafting of men for war work, Sen. Robert A. Taft (R-Ohio) today declared that the Army "is probably as inefficiently used as any labor in the United States."

Taft, joining in the Senate debate on manpower legislation, said the nation could not repay its debt to its servicemen "by installing a system of forced labor in this country."

"The Army cannot point to an efficient use of manpower," Taft asserted in taking issue with Army demands for national service legislation.

Sen. Alben W. Barkley (D-Ky.), majority leader, told the Senate either to draft a bill or admit failure.

Following Barkley's demand, the punitive measures of the Military Affairs Committee's bill—\$10,000 fine and/or one year in jail for employers who violate manpower ceilings—were cut out by a 44-35 vote. Further consideration of the bill was enmeshed in a flood of oratory.

## 5,000 Taken From Homes; Factories Shut

**CINCINNATI, March 7 (AP).**—Eight persons were dead, thousands were homeless and hundreds of war plants were shut today as the Ohio River continued to rise in one of the most disastrous floods in its history.

Federal and state authorities and the Red Cross evacuated 5,000 to 6,000 persons from both sides of the river in the Cincinnati area, and blankets and other supplies were rushed here from Fifth Service Command Hq., at Columbus.

### Planes and Trucks Sent

The Ohio State Guard mobilized 20 companies on an emergency status, while the Coast Guard sent planes and trucks to aid in communication and transportation. One of the four bridges from Cincinnati to Kentucky was closed and transit facilities within the city were suspended over some regular lines.

At Bellaire, O., seven coal mines employing 3,000 miners were closed because of the flood, and the railroad between Bellaire and Bridgeport was blocked by loosened earth.

### Greater Rise Expected

In the Pittsburgh area, steady rains have pushed the river more than three feet above the 25-foot flood stage, and the waters had risen 30 feet above the 35-foot flood stage at Cincinnati, with additional overflow expected.

The Wright Aeronautical plant outside Cincinnati, employing 25,000, was forced to close when Mill Creek, an Ohio tributary, swirled over its banks and isolated all but two roads.

## Brief Strike Settled In Gar Wood Plant; Briggs Hearing Set

**DETROIT, March 7 (ANS).**—The two-day-old Gar Wood strike of 2,000 workers was settled today, but another strike began at the Detroit Aluminium and Brass Corp. plant, where 1,000 walked out.

Meanwhile, the regional War Labor Board ordered officials of Local 212, United Auto Workers, CIO, to appear at a hearing to explain why 12,500 workers in the six-day-old Briggs Manufacturing Co. strike, were still idle.

### Operators Give Strike Notice

**NEW YORK, March 7 (AP).**—Telephone operators here, totaling 18,600, today filed notice of intent to strike after 30 days, under the Smith-Connally law. The War Labor Board in Washington had approved a \$3 weekly wage increase, but union officials ask \$5.

## Oil Shortage Hits Washington State OPA Board



Out of heating oil and refusing to grant themselves an additional supply, OPA ration board members in Kent, Wash., wear heavy winter clothing as they continue work as usual in their cold offices. L to R: Mrs. Guila Reand, Clarence Shoff, B. C. Becker and Mrs. Ralph Bliss



(Un) Mighty Midget

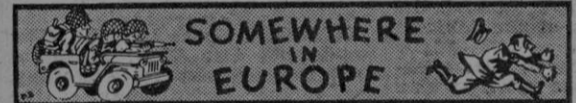
Mr. Big in Bitters Turns Out to Be Pint-Sized Trophy

By Ernest Leiser
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer
RHEINBERG, Germany, March 7.—The prize trophy discovered by Task Force Murray when it bludgeoned its way into this Rhine River town today was a multi-millionaire midget.

Souvenir-hunting doughs and tankers of the task force—Col. William Murray's composite of the 35th Inf. Div., and the Eighth Army.—thought they had been reading Dick Tracy for too long when they invaded a palatial mansion on the town square and discovered it was occupied by a superman something less than three feet high.

Big Dog, Midget Gun

GIs who took possession of the marble-halled mansion and evoked thereby the high-pitched indignation of tiny Herr Underberg found inside a giant black dog, approximately twice the size of its master and more than twice as friendly.



GIs Teutonic Accent Blitzes Pass

TWO German-language interpreters from the 161st MP PW Processing Co., T/4 Herman Nebenzahl and Pfc. Joseph Heinrich had a one-day pass to a nearby city. They didn't know it but that same day MPs in the city had been warned to be on the lookout for German paratroopers in American uniforms.

Rest Period Productive

During a recent rest period three men of the 703rd TD Bn. with the Third Armd. Div., conducted a salvage drive which produced everything from jerrikins to pairs of Messerschmitts.

Chicago Team Reunited

IN civilian days back in Chicago, Capt. Isadore E. Rubinstein, now dental surgeon for the Second Regt. of the Fifth Inf. Div., had a joint office with Dr. Sidney E. Diamond for four years.

Mail Missing? Maybe Here's the Reason

An armored infantry unit in the Third Armd. Div. had had a mail truck knocked out twice by enemy shellfire.

Tank Crew Chief Dies in Cologne Streets



Helpless to aid him, Third Armd. Div. tankmen stand over their commander as he dies after a German shell had blasted away the lower part of his leg. (Note tourniquet).



Officers of the Third take a look at the entrance to the famous Cologne Cathedral as the battle in that sector subsides. Hidden by the wrecked building at the end of the street, a Mark V tank stands knocked out by bazooka men of Company C, 36th Armd. Inf. Regt.

Eden Warns Lublin Poles Not to Persecute Opponents

LONDON, March 7 (UP).—Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden in Commons today warned the Lublin government against persecuting Poles loyal to the Polish regime in London, and announced that the Russian Government was taking steps to release Mme Arciszewski, wife of the Polish premier in London, at British request.

Germans in Cologne Hide Their Uniforms And Pose as Civilians

COLOGNE, March 7 (Reuter).—A number of the estimated 150,000 civilians still in Cologne were revealed today to have worn the uniform of the Wehrmacht or the Volksturm until a day before their capture.

War in Reich Leaving Many Without Home

By Andy Rooney
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH FIRST ARMY, March 5 (Delayed).—For the first time in two wars, German civilians are feeling the misery of being overrun by an invading army.

Hundreds of thousands of German Rhineland farmers and villagers are wandering homeless today, their houses either destroyed, occupied by American troops or in the battle area.

From churches, theaters and hospitals where German people are gathered, work detachments of German menfolk are sent out on details to gather food and water and to milk cows.

No Civilian Snipers

Germans here are accepting American occupation with strange stoicism, as though it were an event which happened at least once monthly. There have been no reports of civilian snipers and civilians have voluntarily stayed in areas in which they are put by Military Government police.

When American troops in force have left the immediate area, Germans are allowed to return to their homes so that they will be self-sufficient and can feed and take care of themselves.

The average American soldier is treating German civilians with complete indifference and without sympathy or hatred. In occupied towns, soldiers have had no complaints about telling owners to get out of their houses so that Americans could use them.

Yanks Skeptical

In Kirpen and Modrath, almost half of the population claimed to be conscripted foreign labor, but the doughs were skeptical of them, too.

"It's a funny thing," said Pfc. Walter King, of Lexington, Okla., "but they are all Poles or Russians now that we are here, and they hate Hitler and have been waiting for us to come. Haloney!"

In Kirpen there were 1,000 Germans crowded into St. Vincent's hospital. They had nothing to eat but potatoes, and almost no sanitary facilities. There was no water except what work details could bring in in tubs.

Placed in Church

The people in Kirpen are comparatively well off, however. In Sinnersdorf, five miles from Cologne, AMG officials had rounded up 300 civilians and herded them into the Catholic church in the center of town.

Forrestal on Iwo



James Forrestal, Secretary of Navy, stands ankle deep in the black volcano sands on Iwo Jima while Marines wage a bloody battle a few thousand yards away. He said 12 Japs had been killed for every dead Marine.

Merit Plaque Awarded Ninth AF Policing Unit

WITH NINTH AF ENG. COMD. —The 1294th MP Co. (Avn.) has been awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for "outstanding policing services" in the Ninth AF Eng. Comd.



By James Cannon
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH 26th INF. DIV., March 7.—William C. Whitley was ammunition before he was a soldier. Whitley enjoyed being a shell. But he is the only shell he ever liked up to now.

The T/5 from Raleigh, N.C., used to be the projectile who came out of the howitzer for Barnum and Bailey in Buster G. Gordon's human cannon-ball act.

"But I was just a dud," said Whitley, who now drives a battalion executive. "I never blew up anybody in my life."

Whitley was driving a truck in Richmond, Va., when he caught Buster G. Gordon's artillery performing at a carnival. It came to him suddenly that he was a human cannon ball who just needed a cannon to be shot out of.

"So I talked to the guy and said I'd like to take a shot at it," he recalled today. "The guy said OK and told me what was what. I climbed on the truck and slid down the muzzle of the cannon. That's all I had to do. Just lay there in the cannon and wait for them to fire."

Whitley was shot in a 60-foot arch over two ferris wheels to land in the net 96 feet away.

"I can't explain how it feels," he said. "Have you ever been in an auto accident? That's as near as I can come to it."

The man who likes the sensation of being in an auto accident twice a day had only one accident during his three seasons with the circus and carnivals. One matinee he was shot into the guy ropes and his head was cracked open. But having something wrong with your head is not unusual for human cannon balls.

House Group Starts Hearing On Global Fund

By Joe Fleming
The Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau

WASHINGTON, March 7.—American participation in a world organization, rejected 25 years ago with President Wilson's League of Nations, returned to Congress today for another judgment.

The House Banking Committee opened hearings on the Bretton Woods agreements in the first test of how far Congress is ready to go in global and economic security arrangements.

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. was called as the first witness to plead for legislation to permit this country to participate in the establishment of an international monetary fund. He said, "The program we are advocating is definitely good for the U.S."

The Bretton Woods agreements present a very simple issue—stability and order, instead of insecurity and chaos.

"The Bretton Woods agreements are a step toward the solution of the two problems which concern the American people more than anything, except the progress of our fighting men overseas."

Here in brief is what the Bretton Woods agreements mean by "international monetary fund":

- 1—Currency would be defined in terms of gold now held by all members.
2—The fund would remove progressively the barrier against international payments.
3—A revolving fund of foreign exchange would be provided to enable the member countries, in times of stress, to maintain stable exchange relations without resorting to cut-throat competition.

About The International Bank:
1—It would encourage profitable international investment in rebuilding war devastated countries and in developing national resources and industries in underdeveloped countries.

2—It would guarantee loans made by private lenders, such as banks and investment houses.

3—Each of the participating nations would purchase stock in a bank, with each member sharing in the bank's risks in proportion to the stock it holds.

Total assets of the fund would be \$3,000,000,000, of which the U.S. would subscribe \$2,750,000,000. Capital of the bank would be \$9,100,000,000, with the U.S. subscribing \$3,175,000,000. Bank members would pay in only ten percent of their subscriptions.

U.S. Clarifies French Mixup On Parley Bid

(Continued from Page 1)

other four sponsors—the U.S., Britain, Russia and China. France's chief demand was for assurance that sponsorship would not prevent her from proposing changes in the Dumbarton Oaks plan as modified at Yalta.

The State Department, through its press section, was obviously delighted to answer this question submitted by newsmen: "Reports from Paris indicated that the United States did not make clear to the Provisional Government of the French Republic the basis upon which it was conducting with France consultations in connection with the Provisional Government's joining the four other governments in sponsoring the San Francisco Conference. Will the Department comment?"

This question referred to reports published in Paris that the French did not know their reservation had to be approved by Moscow.

French Kept Informed

The Department said that on Feb. 12, one day after the Yalta conference closed, U.S. Ambassador to France Jefferson Caffery formally tendered France an invitation to join in sponsoring the San Francisco conference.

The French did not reply for almost two weeks. When the reply came accompanied by the acceptance conditions, Caffery said that the French conditions would have to be approved by other sponsoring nations.

The original French reply was transmitted immediately to Washington, London, Moscow and Chungking. Meanwhile, the Department said, Caffery kept the French Foreign Office fully informed about consultations regarding the conditions. Thus, the Department said in effect, there was no reason for France to misunderstand the fact that the other sponsoring nations had to approve the conditions.

As United Nations Heads Spoke to Mexico Parley



Secretary of State Edward Stettinius, at the opening of the Inter-American Conference in Mexico City, asks representatives of 20 American nations to adhere to the Yalta Declaration.



Mexico's Foreign Minister, Esquivel Padilla, calls for peace with Allied justice as he addresses the delegation in the Chamber of Deputies.

Dutch Ask Greater Power For Small Nations at 'Frisco

LONDON, March 7 (AP).—In outspoken criticism of the predominantly great-power character of the projected world security organization, the Royal Netherlands Government indicated last night that its delegates to the San Francisco conference would fight to strengthen the position of smaller nations.

Expressing opposition to the voting formula agreed upon by the Big Three at Yalta, a spokesman said Dutch official circles felt that smaller nations would have "considerable reluctance" to sign a pact under which any nation, however great, could "have a position making it a judge in its own cause."

The Dutch position was disclosed as diplomatic quarters in London expressed belief that France was preparing to take the lead at San Francisco on behalf of a louder voice for smaller nations in the proposed world security league.

Like the Dutch, France made clear that she would propose amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks blueprint, specifically regarding alliances and voting procedure. Other nations, including Belgium, are known to hold similar views.

The Dutch spokesman argued that big nations in pre-war years had "repeatedly attempted to buy peace by sacrificing the security and vital rights of some weaker nations."

The Dumbarton Oaks plan was drawn by the great powers and naturally would suit them, the spokesman said, but he added that the plan contained no guarantee that any "modicum of justice" would be maintained for smaller nations.

The Dutch feel that if the great powers alone are to have the right by their vote to declare coercive action against themselves unlawful, the smaller powers should receive "some form of compensation by a better definition of their rights."

Yalta Pact Declared Hemisphere Guard

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP).—The Yalta voting agreement contains sufficient protection for the principle of the Monroe doctrine, Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.), ranking member of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee, declared today.

If the San Francisco world security conference adopts this method, George added, the U.S. would have the right to permit or halt strong action by the proposed peace-preserving league in this hemisphere.

Hardwicke on Paris Stage

Sir Cedric Hardwicke, British star, is appearing in person this week in a comedy, "Yellow Sands," at the ENSA Marigny Theatre, Paris, each night through Friday. He is supported by a London company.



# Pairings Listed For Pro Cage Action Monday

CHICAGO, March 7.—Pairings were completed yesterday for the seventh annual world's professional basketball championship tournament, scheduled to be held in Chicago Stadium, March 19 through 24. Fourteen teams will compete for the \$2,000 first prize.

The Fort Wayne Zollners, National League champions, and the Sheboygan Redskins, Western Division titlists of the same circuit, drew first-round byes.

Chicago Gears closed the regular National League schedule by shattering three records in routing Pittsburgh's Raiders, 93-66. The 159-point total for both clubs was a new mark, the Gears' 93 points was another, and Stan Patrick, Chicago forward, netted 38 points for a new individual high. Patrick, former Fort Wayne (Ind.) prep ace, scored 14 field goals and ten free throws.

The first round pairings:  
March 19.—Chicago Gears vs. Hartford, Conn.; Oshkosh Stars vs. Detroit Eagles; New York Rens vs. Indianapolis Oilers.  
March 20.—Cleveland vs. Midland, Mich.; Newark, N.J., vs. Pittsburgh Raiders; Long Island Grumans vs. Dayton, O.

## Badgers to Turn Pro

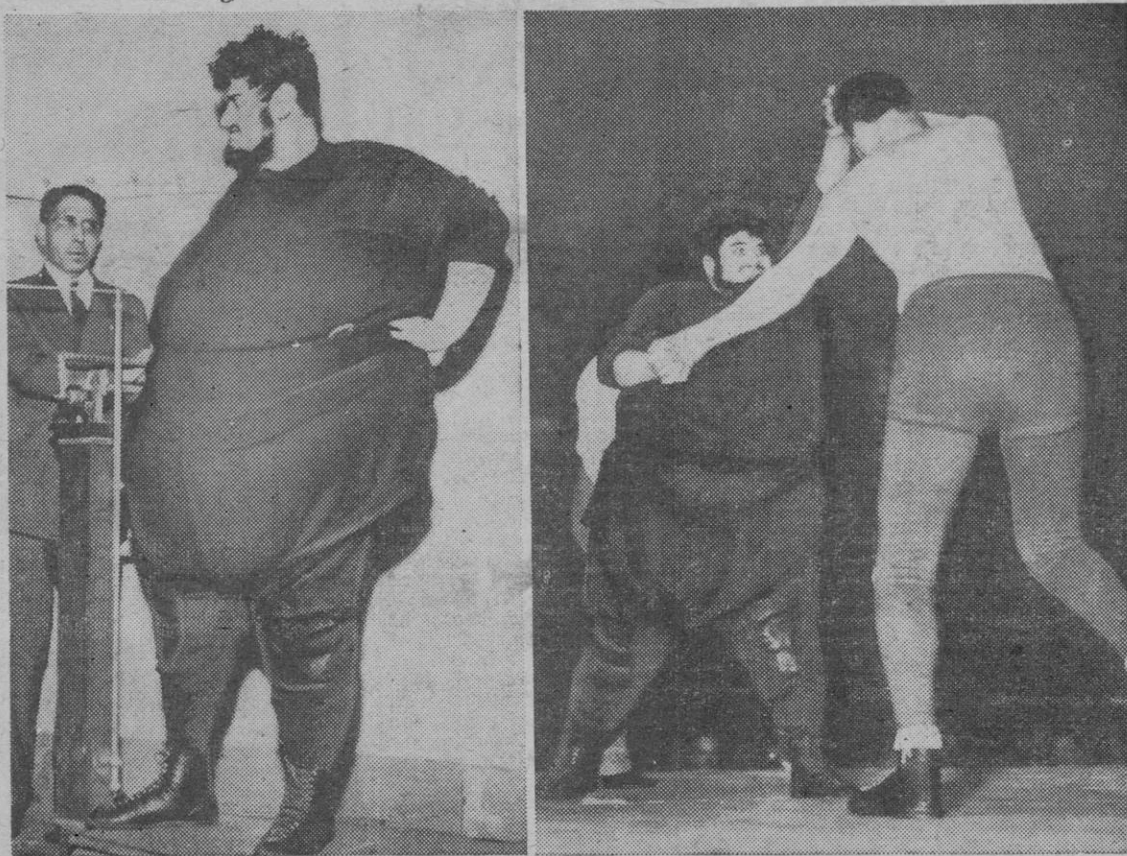
CHICAGO, March 7.—Three members of the Wisconsin University basketball team, Captain Ray Patterson, Des Smith and Art Johnson, have signed contracts to play in the professional tournament here beginning Monday. Smith will join the Oshkosh All-Stars, while his teammates have signed with Dow Chemicals, of Midland, Mich.

## AAU Bars Ufer From KC Meet

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March 7.—Bob Ufer, University of Michigan track athlete, has been barred from further participation in amateur athletics, because the Eastern AAU says he's a professional. Ufer intended to come to New York to defend his 600-yard dash title at the Knights of Columbus meet Saturday, but he was notified he's ineligible because he has a track coaching job at Ann Arbor High School.

The former Wolverine speedster said he was "amazed" at the decision because the AAU had approved his amateur standing last year when he held the same position.

## A Legitimate 4F Athlete Settles a Weighty Argument



He could be a man—or a blimp—but the above is exactly what Pat Healy, the "Irish Giant," met when he stepped into the St. Nicholas Arena ring in New York the other night. Martin Levy, 640-pounder, threw Healy in a few minutes. At the left the 29-year-old wrestler is punishing the scales.

## Hughie Devore New Grid Pilot At Notre Dame

SOUTH BEND, Ind., March 7. Hughie Devore, former Newark (N.J.) football star who later excelled at end under Knute Rockne, was appointed Acting Athletic Director and head football coach at Notre Dame yesterday, succeeding Ed McKeever, who signed last week to coach Cornell's grid varsity. Devore will hold both positions until the return of Frank Leahy, now on active service with the Navy.

Devore was co-captain of Notre Dame in 1933, his senior year, and he became assistant freshman coach at Fordham from 1935 to 1937. Later he was head coach at Providence (R.I.) College and assistant coach at Holy Cross, before returning to Notre Dame as line coach in 1942.

The New Jersey coach was selected after consideration had been given to Adam Walsh and Les Crowe, both with Notre Dame, but now on leave from Bowdoin and Xavier, respectively. Rev. Hugh J. O'Donnell, president of the University, said Walsh and Crowe would remain at Notre Dame and another assistant will be named later.

## Boryla Cracks ND Cage Marks

SOUTH BEND, Ind., March 7.—Vince Boryla, Notre Dame center, smashed two scoring records here last night as the Irish defeated Detroit University's cagers, 87-43.



Vince Boryla

In celebrating his election to the captaincy, Boryla tallied 13 field goals and five fouls, bettering by five points the 26-point mark established by Bobby Faught in 1942.

It also gave Boryla a season total of 322 points, cracking the Notre Dame record of 293, set by Leo Klier last year.

It was the local team's 15th victory in 20 games this year and the 20th triumph in as many starts against Detroit.

## Behind the Sports Headlines

NEW YORK, March 7.—Stanley Woodward, sports editor of the New York Herald Tribune, an irascible critic of sports promoters during the war, and a staunch supporter of the policies held by War Mobilizer James F. Byrnes, took a final blast at war sports the other morning before returning to duty as a war correspondent with the Navy in the Pacific. He served in the ETO previously.

In his opening paragraph, Woodward said he was glad to get away from "persons who push their little rackets in the middle of a war." He hoped that Byrnes would stand firm against "the insidious racing lobby and keep this overblown racket quiescent until the war is over." He also cautioned baseball people to stop talking about "their damned old bat-and-ball fun (BBF) and cease pointing out how much money the war effort is losing because of the abolition of the All-Star game."

Woodward finally charged baseball with "combing the brush for enough Section 8s, 4Fs, children and old men to carry its 154-game schedule."

GREENSBORO, N.C.—William "Doc" Newton, who completed a contract with South Carolina, where he coached football last year, was appointed director of physical education and head coach at Guilford College, succeeding the late Charles D. Smith. Newton previously coached at Davidson and North Carolina State.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—When Rhode Island defeated Yeshoiva last week in basketball, 130-74, it was acclaimed as a big-time college record score. However, the Jacksonville Naval Air team topped that this year, whipping Fernandia Naval, 137-50. Leo Grosjacques, former Oregon Stater, tossed in 50 points.

## Leafs Smack Bruin Sextet

BOSTON, March 7.—Ted Kennedy scored two unassisted goals, one in the second period, the other in the third, to pace Toronto to a 5-2 victory over Boston in a National Hockey League game here last night. A capacity crowd of 13,500 alternately cheered and razed the athletes.

Bob Davidson sent the Leafs ahead in the first period on a pass from Mel Hill and Kennedy netted his initial tally in the next session. Herb Cain and Bill Jennings scored early in the third period, but Gus Bodnar and Kennedy pushed the clinchers into the net midway in the period.

Pat Eagan, bad boy of the league, drew three minor penalties and a ten-minute misconduct slap for throwing his stick.

## Iowa Votes Against Post-Season Games

IOWA CITY, Ia., March 7.—Iowa's Big Ten basketball champions have voted to reject any bids to post-season tournaments, University officials said today. The players voted last night and, though the count was not announced, it was rumored to have been unanimous. Iowa had been expected to receive an invitation to participate in the NCAA tournament in New York City.

## DePaul in NYC Tourney

CHICAGO, March 7.—DePaul University, of this city, became the latest school to enter post-season basketball competition. The Demons today accepted a bid to play in the National Invitation Tournament at New York.

## Anderson Gets Lafayette Job

LOWER MERION, Pa., March 7.—Bill Anderson, former Lafayette College basketball ace, will return to his alma mater as Director of Athletics, Supervisor of Physical Education and Head Basketball coach, he revealed today. His Lower Merion High School teams have won four straight state basketball titles.

## Camilli in Outfield

OAKLAND, Calif., March 7.—Manager Dolph Camilli, former Brooklyn Dodgers' firstbaseman, has yielded that bag to 17-year-old Vic Picetti and will play the outfield, he announced today. The Oaks have 23 men working out at their Fetter's Spring camp.

## Nagy May Lose Scoring Lead

NEW YORK, March 7.—Fritz Nagy, of Akron University, finished the basketball season with 547 points, but the peculiar finish in the Northern Division of the Pacific Coast Conference, which will result in two or possibly three post-season games, may deprive him of National collegiate scoring honors.

Vince Hansen, of Washington State, is only 13 points behind Nagy. The Akron star had one game taken away when a game with Brooklyn College was cancelled at Boston when it was learned five of the Brooklyn players had been bribed.

Ernie Calverly, Rhode Island State star, has scored 478 points in 20 games for the best game average.

### The Scoring Leaders

Name	G	FG	F	Pts
Nagy, Akron	23	215	117	547
Hansen, Wash. State	34	217	100	534
Perrault, E. Washington	29	190	101	481
Calverly, Rhode Island	20	194	90	478
Hole, Rhode Island	20	199	60	458
Lewis, E. Kentucky	20	178	94	450
Henry, Rice	21	168	97	433
Mikan, DePaul	20	167	95	429
Kok, Arkansas	24	176	57	409
Otten, Bowling Green	24	164	73	401

## CAGE RESULTS

Notre Dame 87, Detroit 43.  
Oklahoma 73, Norman Navy 42.  
Sampson 63, Cortland Teachers 43.

## American Hockey League

Tuesday Night's Results

Hershey 6, Cleveland 3.  
Providence 7, St. Louis 1.



## Covering GI Sports

Pfc Proven Zano, of Kingston, N.Y., who fought professionally in the States under the name of Tommy Zano, did a remarkable job training the 11th Port boxers, who won nine of ten bouts at the Palais de Glace, Paris, Monday night. One 11th Port youngster, Pvt. Bob Booth, of Philadelphia, decided on Pfc Earl Judge, of Gary, Ind., in the most thrilling fight of the program.

VERSAILLES.—The first boxing show of the season, sponsored by the local Special Service branch, in conjunction with the American Red Cross, will be held here tomorrow night with ten bouts listed. Two fights are between Frenchmen, one an all-British affair and the others are all-American.

Cpl. Bill Bode, London, vs. Cpl. Tommy Russell, Scotland; Pfc Lloyd Findley, Los Angeles, vs. Pfc Joe Trainor, Philadelphia; Pfc John Thompson, New York, vs. Pfc Earl Judge, Gary, Ind.; Pfc Jack Murray, Conn., vs. Pfc Sal Albano, New York; Sgt. Marvin Gaebe, Pittsburgh, vs. Pvt. Charles Clark, New Orleans; Pvt. Ted Pritchard, Pittsburgh, vs. Pfc Ed Sumey, Detroit; Pvt. Bob Amundson, LaCrosse, Wis., vs. Pvt. Dave Olowitch, St. Louis; Pfc Tom Self, Hollandale, Miss., vs. Pvt. Will Feeney, Philadelphia.

OISE SECTION HQ.—Winner of 26 straight basketball games, the 1695th Engrs. defeated the 302nd Sig. Bn., 35-31. The Signalmen won 37 of 42 games played this season.





Oldest gag of the week. The professor's wife chided her hubby, "Darling, do you know you haven't kissed me for three weeks?" To which the absent-minded Prof. exclaimed, "Good heavens! Then whom have I been kissing?"

Another unsigned verse. Guess it's intended for young parents. Never slap the baby in the face. Nature provided a better place—more space.

Lt. Mark Carr tells this one. A girl in an Ohio town was leaving a theater with a woman, formerly a resident of England. They met two British sailors, and the Eng-



lishwoman asked for news of her homeland. Finally the American girl asked one of the tars what part of the Navy he was in. He replied, "Fleet air arm." The girl blushed prettily and didn't stop blushing until her friend straightened her out. She thought the British lad had said, "Fleet harem."

GI Philosophy. It is better for a soldier to get something in his eye and wink than to wink and get something in his eye.

Oddities in the news: Susan Hayward, the motion picture lovely, was heard as guest star on the Charlie McCarthy show via the American Forces Network. Less than 25 minutes later it was "Winchelled" on "Home News from the USA" that Sir Stork had delivered twins to the titian-haired actress, the wife of Jesse Barker. AFN... it's wonderful!

Many a guy gets sent to the hospital for "observation"—to observe the beautiful nurses. J. C. W.

1411 Kc AMERICAN FORCES NETWORK 2137m

Table with radio program listings for TODAY and TOMORROW, including times and program names like '1200-News', '1315-Spotlight', etc.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival: PFC. Jules Alan Wein, Stoke-on-Trent. Tova Ann, Feb. 28; Pfc. William Austin Clark, Westfield, N. J.—boy, March 2; Sgt. Frank Rule, Brooklyn—Nancy Lee, March 2; Major Walter R. Mullane, West Point, N.Y.—girl, March 3; T/Sgt Paul Kinneen, Brooklyn—Maureen, Feb. 28; 1/Lt. Samuel Wiederhorn, Philadelphia—girl, Feb. 22; Pfc. Samuel Schneider, Brooklyn—Howard Leonard, Nov. 24. S/SGT. Aaron S. Midler, Morristown—girl, March 2; Pfc. Joseph Kooman, Clifton, N.J.—Anita, Jan. 24; Pfc. Lionel Hulsey, Reno, Nev.—boy, March 5; S/Sgt. Charles S. Kildson, Haverhill, Mass.—boy, March 5; Capt. Paul Schuler, Rumford, Me.—Allan Edward, Jan. 12; Capt. Gerard I. Caffney, Danvers, Mass.—Gerard I., March 3.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features



By Al Capp



Terry and The Pirates

By Courtesy of News Syndicate



By Milton Caniff



Abbie an' Slat

By Courtesy of United Features



By Raeburn Van Buren



Dick Tracy

By Courtesy of Chicago Tribune Syndicate Inc.



By Chester Gould



Blondie

By Courtesy of King Features Syndicate



By Chic Young



Jane

By Courtesy of The London Daily Mirror



By Norman Pett





# Luzon Yanks Regroup for Final Phase

MANILA, March 7 (ANS).—The 58-day-old campaign for Luzon—it took the Japanese more than five months to conquer the island—already is entering its final phase, Gen. MacArthur said today.

More than ten Yank divisions are regrouping to go after an estimated 30,000 Japanese still holding out in widely-scattered sectors.

American troops made amphibious sorties yesterday against 17 wrecked ships in Manila Harbor, in which Japanese driven from the city had taken refuge.

### Troops Storm Wrecks

American artillery pounded the hulks. Then the troops stormed them, supported by PT boats. Once aboard, the Yanks used flame-throwers, grenades and automatic weapons to root out the Japanese.

On Luzon, U.S. troops made limited gains on the Shambu line, in the Marikina watershed, east of Manila.

Beyond the northern edge of the Luzon central plain and south and east of Lingayen Gulf, Yanks were pushing into the mountains and were driving toward Baguio.

On the Manila Bay coast south-east of Corregidor Americans struck so swiftly at a Q-boat mid-out that the American PT boat, that the enemy failed to scuttle a single boat. Twenty were captured.

On Corregidor, U.S. paratroopers have sealed off 300 caves and tunnels where a few survivors of the 6,000-man Japanese garrison still are holed up.

Planes of MacArthur's command sank a 6,000-ton Japanese freighter-transport off Formosa.

### Iwo Jima Marines Launch All-Out Assault Against Japs

GUAM, March 7 (ANS).—U.S. Marines were fighting forward today in an all-out push against an estimated 6,000 Japanese still entrenched on the rocky northern end of Iwo Jima.

The Marines, resuming their drive yesterday after a two-day comparative lull, were supported by artillery and by Army fighter planes which were operating from Iwo's southern airfield for the first time.

Small gains were achieved in the center and on the left flank of the Marine line. Squeezing the bitterly resisting enemy against the northern cliffs, the Marines moved out behind an artillery barrage that was the most intense of the campaign. But the Japanese fought back strongly.

By 6 PM Monday, 14,456 Japanese dead had been counted on Iwo. The original garrison was estimated at 20,000 men.

Thirst-crazed Japanese troops are trying night and day to break through the Marine lines in search of water. They are striking silently, not in the familiar Banzai style.

U.S. planes made another strike at Chichi Jima, in the Bonin Islands north of Iwo.

### British Sea Lord Defends Navy's Role in Pacific War

LONDON, March 7 (AP).—A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, today emphasized in the House of Commons Britain's determination to play a "full and worthy part in the speedy overthrow of the Japanese empire."

The statement came as London naval circles denounced as "pure rubbish" reports that the British Fleet was likely to prove an impotent factor in the Pacific. Alexander asserted that the Royal Navy had battleships and carriers capable of matching American warships in Far Eastern waters.

Alexander disclosed that the Pacific Fleet now included the battleships Queen Elizabeth and Valiant, the battle cruiser Renown, the French battleship Richelieu, U.S. and British aircraft carriers, several British cruisers, the Netherlands ship Tromp, and American and Dutch destroyers.

### Veteran Actress Dies

CULVER CITY, Calif., March 7 (AP).—Lucille LaVerne, 72, veteran stage and screen actress, died Sunday.

### Major Goes AWOL In Search of War

A rare case of an officer going AWOL in an attempt to get back into the war came before a general court martial when Maj. William H. Barrett was charged with being absent for 34 days, the Associated Press reported.

Testimony showed that Barrett, holder of the British DFC, U.S. Air Medal and Purple Heart, was in a reinforcement depot awaiting reassignment. After several months he fled the depot and spent a month traveling in the ETO trying to persuade commanders of various outfits to put him to work. He was sentenced to be reprimanded and forfeit \$300 pay.

## French Assert Ship Shortage Is Not Solved

The French Ministry of National Economy said yesterday that an increase in the quota of Allied ships to haul supplies for the French has not solved the shipping shortage, which still remains the basic problem in the re-supply of France.

A ministry spokesman denied reports quoted from Allied sources that a sudden reversal of the shipping situation had made available more than enough ships to carry supplies to France from Allied nations.

### Quota Increased

The shipping problem, however, has been alleviated by an increase in the quota of Allied ships allotted to haul goods to the French and by improved port facilities to speed unloading.

The quota has been increased from 31 to 36 ships for the first quarter of 1945. However, the five additional ships for this period will be deducted from the quota for April, the ministry spokesman said.

Enough supplies for France are piled on U.S. docks to fill all cargo ships allotted for this month, April and May, the spokesman said.

### Seeks Loan of Fats

Shipping has not yet been resumed between France and her colonies. To ease the fats shortage, the French government has asked Great Britain for a short-term loan of that item. This would be repaid out of fats stored in the French colonies, as soon as ships are available to transport them.

France's food situation, which hit rock bottom this winter, is brightening somewhat, the ministry disclosed, but meat will remain a critical item.

## Ancient Inner Cologne Is Dead, A Monument to Modern War

(Continued from Page 1)

small houses and shops—far enough away from the marshalling yards and the industrial sectors and the bridges—completely unharmed.

But the inner city—all that made Cologne a world center of history, culture and commerce—is gone.

Bulldozers are already at work clearing paths through the bombed and re-bombed rubble and the great mangled heaps of twisted iron and steel, bricks, stones and what used to be furnishings.

It is good the bulldozers started early. They have much work to do. Cologne was no village, no small town. Once it was a city of almost 800,000.

Offhand estimates of how many of its citizens remain run between 100,000 and 150,000. Most of these are in the outer residential ring. Those few still downtown come out of deep cellars like rats and like rats prowl through the wreckage

## Reds Renew Berlin Battle, Nazis Report

(Continued from Page 1)

there for a considerable time, according to the enemy.

At least seven Soviet attacks were thrown against Kustrin, the Nazis said. Although they claimed a defensive success, they acknowledged that there was heavy fighting in the northeastern belt of the city's defenses.

Zhukov's troops struck on both sides of Kustrin after 24 hours of artillery preparation, the Germans said. Russian forces south of the city were reported to have struck for new bridgeheads and to have attempted to widen bridgeheads already established.

The German High Command said Zhukov's aim was "to break the fortress of Kustrin out of the German defense line."

Another Soviet assault force was reported striking at the German bridgehead over the Oder east of Zehden, 27 miles northwest of Kustrin.

### Foresees All-Out Assault

"The new assault in the Kustrin-Frankfurt area is a curtain-raiser for the planned Russian all-out offensive across the Oder," said one Berlin spokesman. By German accounts, Zhukov's massed seven armies along the river for the Berlin battle.

At the northern end of the Oder line, the great Nazi port of Stettin was faced with a frontal assault by the right wing of Zhukov's force. The suburbs of the city were under fire and the great shipbuilding and commercial center already has been neutralized by Red Army drives to the north and south.

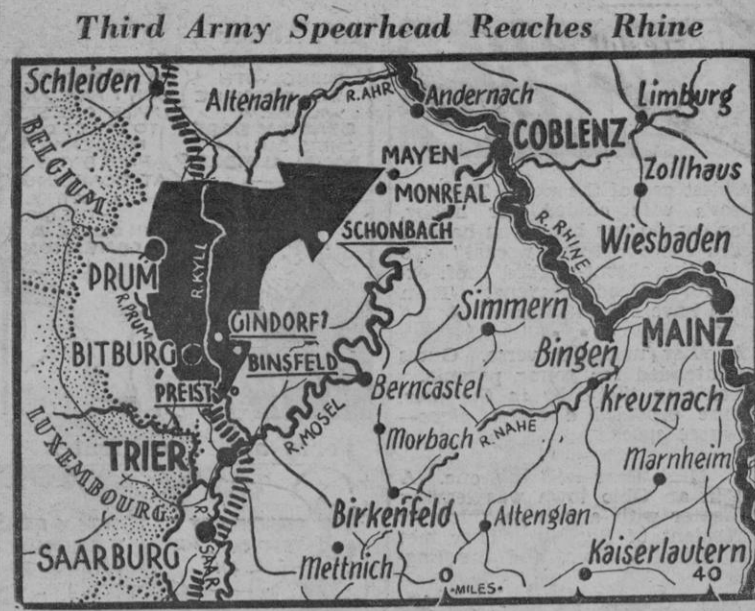
Marshal Stalin announced that Zhukov's troops had taken three strongpoints on the approaches to Stettin—Stepenitz, on the Stettin lagoon, 15 miles north of the city, Gollnow, 15 miles northeast of the city, and Massow, 20 miles east of Stettin. Gollnow is eight miles from the east bank of the Oder.

The Germans reported that Russian troops had pushed to the east bank of the Oder at Altdamm, only four miles from Stettin.

Meanwhile, Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army was pressing back the Germans in northeastern Pomerania and in Poland. In a drive toward Danzig, Stalin announced, Rokossovsky's forces captured the towns of Gniez and Starogard, the latter 26 miles southwest of Danzig.

On Marshal Ivan Koniev's front, southeast of Berlin, the Germans were fighting a bitter delaying battle to prevent Koniev from smashing through in a flanking attack against the capital.

Stalin's first order of the day announced that Marshal Rodion Malinovsky's Second Ukrainian Army, fighting through strong German resistance in the wooded terrain of the Carpathian Mountains, had captured the Czechoslovak town of Banaka Stianica, 14 miles southwest of Zvolen.



The Third Army's Fourth Armd. Div. yesterday reached the Rhine north of Coblenz after a sixty-mile advance

## Coblenz, Bonn Threatened

(Continued from Page 1)

in the entire area south of Rheinbach, Regan reported.

Some First Army units dashed ahead several miles since last night; others, in the southern sector, scored easy, impressive gains averaging five miles and in some places more than seven miles. Frequently there was only light German opposition. Mines, booby-traps and road blocks were the main impediments to an all-out sweep to the Rhine.

### Bonn Bridge Reported Out

French and Polish workers liberated by the First Army said that the bridge across the Rhine at Bonn was out. This bridge was believed to be the objective of Nazi forces retreating southward.

The Third Armored and 104th Inf. Divs. inside the cathedral city pushed through to the Rhine and cleared the few remaining snipers. All fighting within the city proper had ceased but shells still whistled overhead.

South of Cologne the Eighth Div. cleared the towns of Rondorf and Imendorf, running into a few tanks but no counter-attacks. The First Div. cleared the towns of Rornheim and Blotzdorf and took the town of Bruhl, where from 10,000 to 20,000 Cologne refugees were found. The Ninth Div. cleared Alfter and were within 1,000 yards of Messdorf, which lies three miles west of Bonn.

### Fourth Armd. Div. Advances

Between Bonn and the Mosel, tanks of the Fourth Armd. Div. were rumbling through the Eifel unchecked since their breakthrough from the Kyll River bridgehead three days ago.

After advancing 36 miles, they reached Monreal, four miles southeast of Mayen and 14 miles from the Rhine. One armored column, Mitchell reported, slashed four miles to reach a point 12 miles from Mayen.

The ten-mile-wide drive brought Patton's tanks to the Polch area, 12 miles from the Rhine and about the same distance from Coblenz.

Fifth Div. infantrymen followed up the Fourth Armd. Div. breakthrough and advanced to the vicinity of Schwartzborn, ten miles northeast of Bitburg, and Oberstadfeld, 17 miles northeast of Bitburg.

In the Fourth Armd.-Fifth Inf. Div. area, Patton's men captured a German hospital and 80 patients at Udersdorf. The 76th Div. gained up to two miles, capturing Binsfeld and Hersherforst and entering Zemmer, nine miles northeast of Trier. In the Trier area, the Tenth Armd. Div. advanced almost two miles northeast, entering Mentsdorf, three and one-half miles northeast of Trier.

North of Cologne, combined blows by the Canadian First and U.S. Ninth Armies narrowed the enemy's Wesel bridgehead to a strip eight miles long and five to seven miles deep. How many enemy divisions yet remained in the vanishing bridgehead was not revealed, but it was evident Nazis were fighting stubbornly to guard their last escape routes in the north.

Savage, see-saw fighting was raging around Ossenberg, near Wesel, S and S Correspondent Ernie Leiser reported. The 35th Inf. Div., teaming with an armored outfit, was inching toward the city despite vicious Nazi artillery fire which scorched the roads and fields in the Ossenberg area, and ripped up houses in recently-cleared Rheinberg. Reports indicated that the Germans were using up all their artillery ammunition before scurrying across the river.

### Artillery Exchanges

Elsewhere on the consolidated river front, all was tranquil except for artillery exchanges. Small pockets of resistance between Orsoy and Rheinberg were reported cleared today.

The prisoner toll for the Canadian First and the U.S. First and Ninth rolled up to 69,000. This figure did not include the Third Army prisoner figure since Feb. 1 of 34,893.

### 900 U.S. Heavy Bombers Blast Ruhr, Railroads

More than 900 escorted Liberators and Flying Fortresses of the Eighth AF yesterday followed the RAF's Tuesday night blitz on Wesel with an attack on oil refineries in the Ruhr and rail lines leading into that great German industrial area.

The American heavies' targets included three benzol plants and an oil refinery at Dortmund, 40 miles northeast of Cologne, and a viaduct and two marshalling yards on rail lines leading into the Ruhr from the east. Only one bomber was lost.

Twenty-eight P47 Thunderbolts of the Ninth AF, responding to an urgent call from the ground forces, bombed enemy troop concentrations on the left bank of the Rhine, west of Wesel, where German troops are pouring across the river 50 miles northwest of Cologne.

## 5th Army Gains 5 Miles in Italy

ROME, March 7.—Brazilian and American troops of the Fifth Army have driven forward five miles in three days and seized several mountain positions in the area west of the Bologna-Pistoia road.

Today's communique said that the limited attack, the most successful in Italy in weeks, kicked off last Saturday after heavy artillery preparation. The Yanks pushed the enemy off half a dozen mountain peaks, while the Brazilians, on their right, captured the key town of Castelnuovo. The area of attack is less than 20 miles southwest of Bologna.

Elsewhere in Italy, the situation was reported unchanged by AFHQ, although the Germans said a landing attempt by the British behind German Adriatic lines had been beaten off.