

FALL OF RENNES CAPS 34-MILE U. S. DRIVE

On Other Fronts

Believe Reds Have Entered East Prussia

There were strong indications last night that Soviet armies were at last fighting on German soil in pre-war East Prussia, with armored forces of Gen. Ivan Chernyakhovsky pressing their attack near towns only three miles from the eastern boundary of the Reich province. Moscow censors early in the day permitted correspondents to speculate that the frontier would be passed by nightfall.

Soon afterward German Overseas News Agency reported the Red Army had broken through Wehrmacht defenses at Augustvo at the southern end of the front below the Suwalki Triangle, eight miles from the pre-war East Prussian boundary.

Inside Warsaw the long-suppressed Polish underground came into the open, engaged the German garrison in bitter street fighting and seized parts of the capital. Berlin admitted German outposts southeast of the capital had to be withdrawn after the Russians launched "numerous attacks from the southeast, east and northeast."

A new Soviet thrust aimed at Southern Germany was disclosed by a German radio spokesman who revealed that 55 miles north of the Lwow-Cracow railway a Russian column was striking due west from Baranov, a town on the east bank of the Vistula 100 miles upstream from Deblin and about 100 air miles south of Warsaw. Bitter fighting was reported in Latvia, where the Reds, having reached the Baltic west of Riga, began an effort to split the trapped divisions in Latvia and Estonia.

8th Army Tightens Florence Arc

Eighth Army troops threatened yesterday to encircle Florence as an Indian unit crossed the Pesa River to the west on a wide front and the arc around the southern half, less than five miles from the city, was tightened. Strong German resistance from dominating hill positions continued.

South Africans spanned the Greve to capture the town of Strada in their march on Impruneta, which the enemy holds in strength. Other British units approached Incisa, ten miles southeast of Florence.

Yanks on Guam Seize 3 Towns, Airfield

American troops on Guam have occupied the Tinian airfield, three more towns and are chasing the Japs toward the heavily wooded plateau sector in the north, while U. S. forces on Sansapor, in Dutch New Guinea, have expanded and consolidated their positions. Allied communications announced yesterday.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz said American casualties on Guam through yesterday were 1,322 killed, 4,846 wounded and 305 missing against 7,419 enemy dead.

Army Bares Part of D-Day Landing Story

1st, 29th Divs. Broke Strong Nazi Defenses East of Carentan

Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—America was told today some of the details of the bloody D-Day landings as the War Department paid official tribute to two U. S. infantry regiments which defied withering and costly enemy fire to drive through one section of Hitler's Atlantic Wall and establish a beachhead which for two days remained the Allies' principal gateway to France.

The two spearheading regiments were Virginia's 116th Infantry from the 29th Division and New York's 16th Infantry

from the First Division. The landing cost the 116th more than 800 casualties, while the 16th lost at least one-third of its assault strength.

The First and 29th Divisions were assigned to storm the beach just east of Carentan, which bristled with concrete pillboxes, machine guns and sniper nests. Moreover, an entire German division was in the same area on a manuever.

The 16th was heading for shore near Coleville-sur-Mer when it was swamped by violent seas and hurled from assault craft toward shore. The entire regiment became the target for point-blank fire from the enemy cliff positions.

Slowly the regiments regrouped. The men answered German ar-

16th, 116th Regiments, Spearheads, Suffered Heavy Losses

tillery and rifle-propelled rockets. A breach was blown in the barbed wire and the 16th poured through but at terrible cost. Lt. Gen. Omar N. Bradley said: "Individually and collectively members of the 16th Regiment turned threatened catastrophe into glorious victory for the American Army."

Infantrymen of the 116th went ashore near Ville-sur-Mer at a beach heavily fortified with barbed wire, concrete walls and land mines. The 116th neutralized cliff positions, forged through mines and routed the enemy.

NEW FINN GOVT. MAY SEEK PEACE

While Bulgaria and Rumania were reported seeking ways out of the war in the wake of Turkey's break with Germany, the Stockholm press yesterday predicted a speedy Finnish peace move by Field Marshal Mannerheim's new cabinet, which is expected to be ready for deliberations tomorrow.

A United Press dispatch from Stockholm said representatives of the Finnish peace party already had contacted Russian circles there.

A German counter-measure to Finland's action was indicated in a Finnish report that German warships have been sighted off the strategically important Aaland Islands, which lie across the entrance of the Gulf of Bothnia between Finland and Sweden, and that Nazi occupation was imminent.

The Germans might possibly try to evacuate to Finland the 300,000 troops cut off in Estonia and Latvia. UP reported. The 100,000 Germans in northern Finland and recent reinforcements in the Karelian Isthmus presented another problem to the Nazis.

Bulgarian conversations with the Russians and through neutral countries, with Britain and the U. S., were reported in a broadcast from Ankara.

Planes Paving Way for Break-Through Created Havoc Behind Enemy Lines

By Andy Rooney
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

The weight and close support of air power made possible the great break-through and the advance which followed in the last week, Maj. Gen. E. R. (Pete) Quesada, commanding general of Ninth Fighter Command, said yesterday.

"If the air force hadn't destroyed airfields, supply dumps, bridges and rail lines, and if they hadn't kept German traffic off the roads during the daytime, this break-through couldn't have occurred," Gen. Quesada said. "The Germans had left a shell of resistance instead of the real defensive line they might have had."

Indicating the extent of damage inflicted by the air forces, Ninth Fighter Command disclosed that in the seven days of the offensive, July 25 to 31, its aircraft alone averaged more than 1,000 plane sorties a day and destroyed 2,287 vehicles, 384 caterpillar vehicles (including tanks), 125 horse-drawn vehicles, and 14 locomotives; cut 46 rail lines and 33 road and rail bridges; and attacked 85 rail junctions, 38 troop concentrations, 71 gun emplacements and 12 supply and ammunition dumps.

Gen. Quesada stressed the fact it was the total over-all might of Allied air power, both strategic and tactical, that "created a condition which was unbearable in the German lines."

"The air force just scrambled things behind the German lines. An army can't stand that constant kind of disruption."

"The Eighth Fighter Command has thrown German supply routes out of order way into Germany. They have been intruding right around Berlin. We'd have been in a hell of a hole if it hadn't been for strategic air power."

If Reds Reach Berlin First —?

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3, (AP) —Washington is speculating over what will happen if the Russians get to Berlin first.

"What will happen if the first major surrender of the Wehrmacht is to the Red Army?" people are asking. "Will it make any difference in the terms to which the Germans will be subjected? And are the Russians and Anglo-Americans unanimous in their ideas about what to do with the Germans?"

The answer of informed officials today was that it will make no difference at all. Neither side will make a separate peace they say. But both the Russians and the western powers are empowered to accept Germany's surrender on behalf of all the United Nations.

Eight FWs Gang Up on Piper Cub; Result: 2 Enemy Aircraft Destroyed

Special to The Stars and Stripes SECOND INFANTRY DIVISION HQ., Aug. 3—Into the annals of aerial combat in World War II was written today the destruction of a FW190 by 2/Lt. Homer W. (Benny) Bennett and his Piper Cub.

Benny didn't shoot the Jerry plane down; in fact Benny can't quite tell, for the benefit of other Piper Cub pilots, how in hell it happened because at that moment he was trying his damndest to outmaneuver eight FWs that had ganged up on him while he was spotting for the artillery. But somehow, during the acrobatics that he put the Cub through, one of the FWs made a pass at him, missed and crashed into the ground in flames.

"We were flying at 2,000 feet," the Sioux City Ia., liaison officer explained. "The first thing

I knew '90s were swarming all around. There were two coming toward me firing and a couple more boring in from the side. I thought I was a goner."

Bennett said he turred into the first two and caused them to overshoot. "I did some dives, wingovers and some other stuff that's never been named, trying to get into the protection of ack-ack batteries. I wanted to get on the ground. That's the only safe place."

After one FW crashed another fell to the ack-ack gunners, then some P47s came to the rescue.

2/Lt. Edwin M. Maxey of Lincoln, Neb., who was with Bennett said: "I just sat there and held on to keep from being thrown out. I can't tell you all the acrobatics Benny pulled, but they did the trick. It was a magnificent job."

Yanks Reach Dinanon Main Road to Brest

American armored forces yesterday kept up the fastest movement of the war in France by a 34-mile drive southwest from Fcrtorson to capture Rennes, the original capital of Brittany and strategic center for the conquest of the entire Brittany peninsula, and a westward surge of 26 miles to Dinan, on the main road to the great port of Brest.

British and American troops near the center of the front, in the area of Vire and Villers-Bocage advanced against stronger opposition as the Germans tried to delay an eastward onslaught and possibly a major retreat to the Seme.

Germans at Paris were feverishly hurrying preparations for defense of the city and mining roads inside it, according to two French people who arrived near Vire from Paris two days ago and who saw en route what they described as a near catastrophe in the German army's retreat from the American break-through.

Stimson Hails Successes

In Washington, Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said the advance in Normandy in the last five days was the most satisfying accomplishment since D-Day, even overshadowing the swift envelopment and liberation of Cherbourg.

Gen. Montgomery, described as obviously in good spirits at his Normandy headquarters yesterday, declared "we have taken a lot of prisoners and the Allied total is now approaching 100,000 quite apart from those we have written off. We are hitting the Hun a good crack."

As U. S. tank spearheads raced deeper into Brittany a German correspondent at Field Marshal von Kluge's headquarters admitted the situation was critical for German forces there.

The American thrust westward to Lixan threatened to isolate the second largest French port, Brest, 115 miles west of Dinan, while the drive southwestward to Rennes threatened to cut off the German U-boat pens at Lorient, 88 miles southwest of Rennes, and at St. Nazaire, 60 miles south of Rennes.

Brest a Major Port

Brest, the great debarkation point for the AEF in the first World War, has a larger cargo capacity than Cherbourg. American control of both ports would allow a direct flow of war supplies from the U. S. to France; capture of Lorient and St. Nazaire would virtually end the U-boat menace in the Bay of Biscay.

No reports of any strong German opposition in Brittany were available yesterday. German power was spread thinly in large areas, after four divisions had been withdrawn in an effort to check the American push south from Cherbourg. French patriots, attacking almost continuously in the good guerilla country of central Brittany, were said to have killed at least 3,000 Germans.

American control of the whole west peninsula would give U. S. Continued on Back Page

Robots Give London One of Worst Nights

LONDON, Aug. 3—In one of the heaviest attacks since the flying bomb was introduced seven weeks ago, wave upon wave of robots roared over London and southern England last night and early today.

Some sources said the Germans apparently took advantage of heavy cloud over the Straits of Dover to launch a saturation raid. Many came in on long glides, their jet propulsion engines shut down and their only warning a high-pitched sustained whistle. Coastal observers said they appeared to be coming from a more easterly direction.

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'Somewhere in France...'

Out of every war come thousands of human interest stories, the majority of which never find their way into print. From the comments, actions and circumstances of their capture the 20,000 Germans seized by the Americans in their advance have provided many such stories.

A German infantry captain, for example, was puzzled when his U.S. doughboy-captors told him we've been expecting you all day, but he soon learned what they meant when he went to the P/W cage and found that 40 members of his company had been taken earlier and were waiting for him.

The soldiers in a Second Infantry Division regiment still are talking about the Nazi medic who took care of several Americans wounded in a fox hole all night, using his own rations and making coffee for them. The next morning he asked them to take him to the U.S. lines. He wanted to surrender to them.

1/Lt. George R. Mitchell, of Luzerne, Pa., and 2/Lt. Thomas Harris, of Big Springs, Tex., thought it was curtains when they suddenly found they were looking down the wrong end of two German rifles. They had been looking around in a house for a spot to locate a machine gun when the Nazis appeared. The Germans weren't looking for a fight. They had been looking for some Americans all day to surrender.

Another story of the same tenor is being told by Cpl. Raymond J. Myers, of Kalamazoo, Mich., who had assisted in setting up a battalion aid station outside of a house. After several hours, Myers entered the house, which the medics had believed already cleared, and found two Nazis armed with pistols and grenades. Instead of firing, the Germans put up their hands and motioned to Myers to take their miniature arsenal.

An indication as to how fast the Americans have advanced may be seen in the plight of a German medic, who had arrived in Normandy the day before his capture. The Nazi was treating his own wounded during a battle and didn't observe the retreat of the Wehrmacht. As a result, he's now in a P/W camp.

Back in 'Sioux City, Iowa, Pvt. Jack Howe was a pretty good ball player. But he pitched his best game last week near La 'Chappelle en Juger when he traded hand grenades with a German 'a hedgerow away and wiped out part of an enemy squad.

Pvt. A. C. Doebler, of Birmingham, Mich., may stand only five feet, six inches in his stocking feet but he's a tower of strength in the eyes of a lot of his comrades in the 90th Div.

After carrying a wounded buddy out of a field of combat to a highway, he learned of a second injured man near a hedge about a kilometer away. The fight was so intense it was virtually impossible for litter bearers to make the trip.

Realizing one man might have a chance to get through, Doebler went forward, reached the

second casualty and, using the shoulder-carry, managed to stagger a half mile with his burden back to the waiting ambulance.

For half a dozen summers previous to 1942, Cpl. Al Tomlinson, promising pitcher in a Minneapolis baseball league, stepped to the hurler's mound and faced the cream of amateur batsmen thereabouts. One of the chief thralls was a slugger named John Anderson.

Today Tomlinson and Anderson still face each other, but 'this time in Normandy. Their fox holes are about 60 feet apart in the same company area.

1/Lt. George R. Mitchell, of Luzerne, Pa., claims his company is more proficient in the use of captured German weapons than the Nazis themselves. In one action the unit set up nine Jerry machine guns and except for one bad feature, everything worked out fine. Other units of the Second Infantry Division thinking they were being fired on from a German position, had a tendency to send over a few shells until the matter was straightened out.

Recently a Fourth Infantry Division platoon under Lt. Jim Boezer, of Columbia, S. C., knocked out a Tiger tank. Next day Boezer went over to the spot to look the Tiger over, and he found its crew fast asleep under the wreckage.

"We've been waiting for you to come for us," the German leader said calmly, after he was awakened.

The 50th Infantry Division Military Police, under the command of Maj. Francis S. Kelly, believe in operating with or without shell fire.

Heavy enemy fire knocked a jeep out of action on a strategic bridge in a recent fight. Realizing the necessity of clearing the road for combat traffic, Pfc Ancy Johnson, of Baltimore, and Pfc Harry T. Wilkins, of Christiansburg, Va., without regard for an 88 barrage in the vicinity succeeded in getting the jeep off the bridge and relieved serious congestion on the highway.

American doughboys, dressed in fatigues they'd hand-painted for camouflage against snipers, surprised and captured a German unit commander near Pont Becord.

The Nazi officer, walking down a road met the soldiers, mistook them for his own camouflaged men and expected them to salute. The Yanks grabbed him and marched him to a prisoner-of-war pen.

ments were astride all the exit roads.

Allied tanks fought their way eastward from Vire along the road to Conde, and were about seven miles along the road near Vassy last night German forces advancing from the Conde area counter-attacked with 50 tanks near La Terrerie.

In the Caen area, German Panzer divisions were reported to be on the move westward to stem the American and British eastward onslaught, but there were indications that the movement was confused.

A German traffic snarl at Conde provided RAF squadrons with a field day, when they bombed a Panzer division which trying to move forward to plug the line, had gotten mixed up with other German vehicles retreating in the opposite direction.

BASEBALL HAILS MACK; MANAGER 50 YEARS TODAY

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3—On the afternoon of Aug. 4 1894, a slim, 31-year old scholarly gent named Cornelius McGillicuddy started a managerial career in baseball that lifted him to his present position as the "grand old man," revered by players, owners and fans.

To mark the golden anniversary of Connie Mack's entrance into the game's managerial ranks his living All American team will be present to honor him when the Athletics entertain the Yankees here tomorrow night at Shibe Park.

The team he considers best among players still alive and kicking is composed of Pitchers Lefty Grove and Walter Jodnson, Catchers Bill Dickey and Mickey Cichrane, First Baseman George Sisler, Second Baseman Eddie Collins, Shortstop Honus Wagner, Third Baseman Frank (Home Run) Baker, Outfielders Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker and Babe Ruth.

They will all pay their tributes to "Mr. Mack" during ceremonies, whereupon the ebullient Ruth no doubt will slap him on the back and boom, "Hiya, Connie, ya old so-and-so."

Mack started his baseball life as a catcher, played 14 years including 11 in the majors. His first managerial post was with the old Pittsburgh club in 1894. During his years as owner-manager of the Athletics, Mack gave Philadelphia nine American League pennants and five World Series championships.

Majors & Minors

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Philadelphia 9, Chicago 3 (1st)
Chicago 7 Philadelphia 3 (2nd)
Only games scheduled.

	W	L	PCT.	GB
St. Louis	59	42	.584	—
Boston	52	45	.531	5 1/2
New York	50	46	.521	6 1/2
Cleveland	51	49	.510	7 1/2
Detroit	49	50	.495	9
Chicago	47	50	.485	10
Philadelphia	45	56	.446	14
Washington	42	56	.429	15 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE
St. Louis 8, Pittsburgh 4
Only game scheduled.

	W	L	PCT.	GB
St. Louis	70	26	.726	—
Cincinnati	54	42	.563	16
Pittsburgh	50	41	.549	17 1/2
New York	46	31	.474	24 1/2
Chicago	42	47	.472	24 1/2
Boston	39	56	.411	30 1/2
Philadelphia	37	55	.402	31
Brocklyn	38	58	.395	33

INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE
Syracuse 9, Buffalo 2
Other games postponed.

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Baltimore	62	41	.602	—
Newark	58	40	.542	6
Buffalo	57	52	.528	7 1/2
Jersey City	52	52	.500	10 1/2
Montreal	51	52	.495	11
Toronto	50	55	.476	13
Syracuse	45	50	.438	17
Rochester	45	62	.421	19

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
Toledo 8 Milwaukee 5
Columbus 2, Kansas City 1 (1st)
Kansas City 8, Columbus 2 (2nd)
Louisville 4, St. Paul 1 (1st)
St. Paul 11, Louisville 5 (2nd)
Minneapolis 7 Indianapolis 2 (1st)
Minneapolis 6, Indianapolis 3 (2nd)

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Milwaukee	74	34	.685	—
Toledo	64	41	.610	8 1/2
Louisville	65	44	.596	9 1/2
Columbus	58	47	.552	14 1/2
St. Paul	54	47	.535	16 1/2
Minneapolis	42	63	.400	30 1/2
Indianapolis	33	72	.314	39 1/2
Kansas City	31	73	.298	41

PACIFIC COAST LEAGUE
Los Angeles 3, Portland 0 (1st)
Los Angeles 6, Portland 5 (2nd)
Seattle 5, Oakland 4 (1st)
Seattle 6, Oakland 1 (2nd)
Sacramento 3, San Francisco 2
Hollywood 7, San Diego 4

	W	L	PCT.	GB
Los Angeles	64	53	.547	—
San Francisco	62	55	.530	2
Hollywood	60	58	.508	4 1/2
Portland	58	59	.496	6
Oakland	58	60	.492	6 1/2
Seattle	58	61	.487	7
Sacramento	57	60	.487	7
San Diego	54	65	.454	11

Private Breger



"New batch of prisoners, Sir!"

News From Home

Senate Group OKs Unemployment Pay Bill for Federal Employees

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—Congressional advocates of the state rights policy of caring for discharged war workers yesterday stole a march on rivals when the Senate Finance Committee approved a bill which would bring 2,000,000 Federal employees under the unemployment compensation phase of the proposed reconversion program while states continued to control rates and standards.

The committee met in executive session less than 24 hours after Sen. Walter F. George (D-Ga.), its chairman, introduced the measure. The bill would make workers in arsenals, shipyards and other establishments eligible for the same benefits now provided by state laws and would also set up a Federal loan fund from which the state could borrow.

Meanwhile, supporters of federalized systems under which Congress would fix scales of benefits substantially higher than the present state rates, brought their measure before the Senate Military Committee.

Quick action was expected, with a hot controversy predicted when the bill reached the Senate floor.

Backers of the Federal plan propose to boost unemployment insurance rates — which now range from \$13 to \$22 weekly for periods of 14-24 weeks — to a maximum of \$35 weekly for workers who ordinarily earned \$2,400 or more annually. They also would establish federally-financed vocational training schools for idle persons, paying each student \$50 to \$100 monthly for maintenance.

TRANSIT STRIKE

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3—Philadelphia's transportation system was at a complete stand-

still today as a result of an unauthorized walkout by transit workers called when the company began training Negro employees for operational jobs. Police were called to quell disturbances throughout the city.

President Roosevelt was expected to take early action, possibly through a return-to-work appeal or government seizure. The War Labor Board asked Mr. Roosevelt to take "appropriate action."

The Navy estimated its output of war material in this area was cut by 70 per cent on account of the strike and the Army said its production was curtailed 50 per cent.

HURRICANE IN SOUTH

WILMINGTON, N. C., Aug. 3—A hurricane which Tuesday night uprooted trees, destroyed several homes and plunged this city into darkness, was reported by the weather bureau to be moving inland toward Tennessee and Kentucky with diminishing intensity. There were no immediate reports of deaths but dozens of persons were treated at hospitals.

WORK OR FIGHT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—Local and State draft authorities have been ordered to induct men over 25 who are making no contribution to the war effort. They also were instructed to sweep out of Class 1A all men over 25 whose work entitles them to deferment.

FIRST DRAFTEE KILLED

WASHBURN, Wis., Aug. 3—2/Lt. James B. Manning, first man inducted into the Army in World War II under Selective Service, was killed last month near Cherbourg, his family was informed.

FISH SQUEEZES IN, CHAMP CLARK OUT

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—Sen. Bennett Champ Clark (D-Mo.) today conceded his primary defeat by more than 21,000 votes, while almost complete returns from New York's 29th congressional District showed that Rep. Hamilton Fish, pre-war isolationist, had squeezed through to Republican nomination by the narrowest margin in his long public career.

With only one precinct out of 277 missing, Fish had a lead of little more than 3,200 votes over Augustus W. Bennet, Newburgh attorney, who also was the unopposed candidate of the Democratic and American Labor parties. The vote was: Fish 14,218, Bennet 10,997. Gerald L. K. Smith, head of the America First Party, said it was "proof you can't keep a good man down."

P63 KINGCOBRA REPLACES P39

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—The P39 Airacobra, one of the Army's most heavily-armed fighter planes now is being replaced in action by a heavier, faster and more powerful successor, the P63 Kingcobra, the War Department announced.

Revealing hitherto secret details of the Kingcobra, the department said the plane had a service ceiling of about 35,000 feet, about 5,000 feet greater than the Airacobra; a speed of close to 400 miles an hour compared with the P39's 375; and a combat radius 50 per cent greater than its predecessor. Chief changes in the new plane were in its engine rating of 390 more horsepower than the P39 and four-foot greater wingspread combined with streamlined low-drag, laminar-flow wings.

Fall of Rennes Caps 34-Mile U. S. Drive

Continued from Page 1

troops an operating base up to 200 miles wide, room in which to mount and deliver a knockout blow.

From Vire northeast to Villers Bocage a distance of about 20 miles, there was fierce German resistance, including armor which had been transferred from the Caen area to stem the 20-mile British break-through from Caumont and the American advance from the captured Ville-dieu-Percy-Tessy line.

Vire, one of the prime communications centers in Normandy, was said to be surrounded and virtually occupied by Allied forces, probably both American and British troops. Tank regi-