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YANKS OPEN BRIDGEHEAD DRIVE
AMERICANS DRIVE INLAND ON MINDANAO

Tanks Sweep Over Airfield Half Mile From Beach

First Opposition On Island Light

By JAMES HUTCHESON

MANILA — (AP) — Tank-equipped Yanks swept over Wolfe Airstrip Saturday afternoon one-half mile inland from their invasion beach on the southwest tip of Mindanao Island and at last reports were driving rapidly toward important San Roque Airfield a mile and a half northwest of Zamboanga.

First opposition was light. The Japanese offered Maj.-Gen. Jens A. Doe's jungle-seasoned 41st Division troops of the Eighth Army intermittent machinegun and mortar fire but it did not slow the American advance.

The fight may stiffen near Zamboanga, edited Associated Press Correspondent Russell Brines.

BIG BOMBARDMENT

An eight day air bombardment by the 13th Air Force and a two-day naval shelling by Vice Adm. Thomas C. Kinkaid's Seventh Fleet units preceded the 21st Philippine Island invasion landing.

Zamboanga Harbor, reported AP's Fred Hampson from a bomber's eyeview, was clettered with wrecked Japanese ships and the town's larger buildings were blasted or burned.

The coastal towns of San Mateo, San Jose, Calarian and San Roque were captured in short order by the well-ordered swift advance.

Wolfe Airfield, which is 200 miles from Japanese held oil-rich Borneo Island, was one of the first military objectives of the attack. The San Roque Field, which has a 4,000 foot bomber runway, may already be in U. S. hands.

The convoy in making the 400 mile journey was unmolested by either Japanese planes or submarines.

In announcing the invasion, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in his

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Raids On Germany

Mighty U. S. Air Armada Attacks

By HENRY B. JAMESON

LONDON — (AP) — A mighty armada of more than 2,100 American warplanes slashed a wide path across northern Germany today with the main force of 650 bombers blasting military and naval installations on the Baltic Coast in direct support of the Russian armies.

The German radio declared the Pomeranian capital of Stettin and the Nazi U-boat and naval base at Swinemuende, 35 miles northeast of Stettin, were the targets.

An RAF spokesman credited Allied bombers based in Britain with laying waste to more than 450 square miles of the Ruhr.

NAVAL BASE

Swinemuende is the naval base and outer harbor for Stettin and is only fifteen miles from where the most advanced Russian troops were last reported. Red Army troops meanwhile are hammering at the gates of Stettin.

The remainder of the bomber fleet split up for attacks on railway yards behind the desolated Ruhr Valley, the Eighth Air Force announcement said.

Knocking out Swinemuende would hamper the sea supply route to the Stettin front. The rail and river links between Stettin and Berlin already are badly battered.

The total force sent out on the 20th successive day of attacks on the Reich was better than 1,350 heavy bombers with an escort of 750 fighters.

In addition to the Baltic attacks other heavies battered half a dozen towns between Frankfurt-On-Main and the Ruhr which turn out the bulk of the German war materials. They included Siegen, Betzdorf, Dillenburg, Wetzlar, Friedburg and Marburg.

B-29's Hit Nagoya

Jap Plane Plants Meet Fiery Fate

By VERN HAUGLAND

21ST BOMBER COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, Guam —(AP)—speeding over their target at only 5,000 feet altitude, 300 giant B-29s poured 2,000 tons of incendiary bombs on Nagoya, Japan's greatest warplane producing centers and third largest city, today.

Pilots said they started raging fires which converted a five-square mile area into a hellish inferno and raged unchecked hours afterward. Radio Tokyo admitted the flames burned ten hours, but claimed they were controlled by 10 A. M.

The first Superfortresses struck Nagoya just after midnight, Tokyo time — barely 48 hours after their record 2,309-ton incendiary raid on a fifteen-square mile area of Central Tokyo. Fires from Saturday's holocaust still were smouldering in the Japanese capital.

Some of the first pilots returning from Nagoya said the raid did not appear as destructive as Saturday's devastation of the heart of Tokyo. However, many saw only the earliest fires started.

The crew of Capt. Walter Timm, Milwaukee, Oregon, said they could see fires for 90 miles.

SHOOTS OUT LIGHT

Timm's B-29 flew so low (possibly 5,000 feet) that his left gunner, Sgt. Ben Moffa, Philadelphia, shot out a searchlight with 50-caliber machinefun fire. The tail gunner, Sgt. Kent J. Sprauge, Lagargesville, N. Y., and the central control gunner, Cpl. James Doolittle, Burlingame, Calif., confirmed that.

"I saw Moffa's tracers going straight down the beam from a battery of searchlights. He knocked out the middle one. It didn't come on again," said Doolittle.

With two-thirds of the B-29's back on their fields, Maj. Gen. Curtis LeMay, commander of the 21st Bomber Command, said "it apparently was a very good raid.

"All the Japs have to look forward to is the total destruction of their industries, cities and other vital targets devoted to their war effort. But one thing I want to emphasize. We are still a long way from attainment of our full strength."

Nagoya produces 40 to 50 per cent of all of Japan's warplanes and combat plane engines. That industry, vital to Japan's aerial warfare, was not the only prime target. Also in the bombed area were factories producing important railway equipment, machine tools, bearings, tanks, motor vehicles and processed foods. The city also has an important port.

Also hard hit were war-vital railroads and rail yards. The target area was a triangular sector

See NIPPON PLANE on Page 6

Reds Gird For Berlin Front Drive

Capital Might Be By-Passed

By RICHARD KASISCHKE

LONDON — (AP) — The Russians were reported carrying out a large-scale regrouping of armies today preparatory to another massive shove on the Berlin front aimed at linking up with Allied armies somewhere in the Elbe Valley in the heart of Germany.

Moscow dispatches said the Russians might by-pass Berlin as a knot of resistance in the drive to cut Germany in two and that the Elbe, which slots diagonally across Germany from Prague in Czechoslovakia to Hamburg on the North Sea, might be as important in Soviet plans for future operations as the Vistula and Oder in past and current drives.

Moscow dispatches hinted that large formations of Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky's Second White Russian Army were being shifted to the Oder from Pomeranian and Polish fronts to share the Oder battleline with Marshal Gregory Zhukov's First White Russian Army.

FRONT SHORTENED

Rokossovsky had shortened his front vastly by a hard-driving offensive in Pomerania which had reduced the German - held pocket along the Baltic east of the Oder to a 35 by 20-mile area around Danzig and Gdynia.

He was speeding his assault on these two ports with an impatience which suggested that even larger parts of his Armies might soon be freed for the climactic battle along the Oder.

Already, the Germans said today, the Russians were broadening their attacks east of Berlin. Four rifle divisions, with tank support, attacked repeatedly on a broad front between the two Oder River fortresses of Kuestrin and Frankfurt, the German radio said.

NAZI CLAIMS

Probably taking advantage of the regrouping process on the Russian side, however, the Germans claimed a number of local successes.

They declared they had smashed back over the Warthe River into the new part of Kuestrin, 40 miles east of Berlin. The Germans say a furious battle has been raging for seven days with Kuestrin as its focal point.

From Stettin the Germans also reported armored counter-attacks which knocked out 28 Soviet tanks and regained a bridgehead on the east side of the Dievenow River, a link between Stettin Bay and the Sea.

Berlin denied that the Russians had been able to gain a foothold in Altdamm, the Stettin suburb across the Oder from the Baltic port.

Moscow announced last night that Rokossovsky had thrust a spearhead to Koelin, only eight miles from the Bay of Danzig at a point which threatened to cut between Danzig and Gdynia. Koelin is eleven miles northwest of Danzig and eight miles southwest of Gdynia.

Street Fighting Flares In Munich

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Riots and street fighting occurred yesterday in Munich, birthplace of the Nazi Party, the Tidingen of Stockholm said today in a dispatch reported to the OWI. The disturbances were in connection with the observance of Heroes' Day, German equivalent of Army Day.

The newspaper gave this account:

A "marked revolutionary spirit reigned in the city." Railway traffic, post and telegraph no longer functioned. German tanks drove through the streets in an effort to quell the disturbances, which continued late last night.

Mecklenburg Casualties

(Stories Inside)

WOUNDED

Pfc. William Hellerman

U. S. FORCES CROSS RHINE AND TRAP NAZIS—The U. S. First and Third Armies have effected a trap for some 23,000 Nazis west of Remagen after the recent crossing of the Rhine. (NEA Telephoto).

High Tribunal Wa its

Court Won't Rule Now In Ward Case

WASHINGTON — (AP) — The Supreme Court refused today to rule on the validity of Government seizure of sixteen Montgomery Ward properities.

As its reason for refusing, the Court said that the review petition in the case was filed "prior to the judgment of the Circuit Court of Appeals."

This means, that the high tribunal refused to rule in the case before the Circuit Court hears arguments and reaches its decision.

BOTH WANTED RULING

The Justice Department and Ward asked the high tribunal for a speedy final determination whether President Roosevelt had authority under the War Labor Disputes Act—or the constitution—to order the Army to take possession of Ward facilities in seven cities.

The U. S. District Court in Chicago ruled the seizure was illegal. The Department filed an appeal in the Seventh Federal Circuit Court, but urged the Supreme Court to assume jurisdiction immediately so that argument before the Circuit Court would be obviated. Ward later joined in requesting the Supreme Court to take the case at once.

In another order, the court denied a request by the United States Gypsum Co. that it rule on limits of WLB powers by reviewing lower court decisions.

The company complained that lower court decisions had left it entirely without protection against "threatened unlawful action" by the board.

The U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia held recently that no statute authorized court review of WLB orders and that WLB action in notifying the President on non-compliance with its orders is merely advisory.

"Lack of any final answer by the Supreme Court to the problems involved," Gypsum told the high tribunal, "has created an intense feeling of unrest and fear on the part of the public that acts of the Government—without even the semblance of legislative sanction—will be permitted to go unchecked, and that the private citizen is to be denied access to the courts for a determination of his belief that his constitutional rights are being destroyed."

Gypsum lost in the District of Columbia appeals court in a suit seeking to enjoin WLB from taking any action to compel the firm at its Warren (Ohio) war materials plant to comply with an order requiring maintenance of union membership. The company also asked in vain for a judgment defining its rights and legal relations with respect to the order.

Commandos Raid Island

TWENTY-FIRST ARMY GROUP IN EUROPE — (AP) — A small force of British Commandos last night raided Schouwen Island, north of Walcheren and Beveland Islands off the Dutch coast, and killed several Germans before returning to base.

Bridgehead Potentiality

March To Berlin Will Be On If Airmen Get Clear Weather

By HOWARD COWAN

EAST OF THE RHINE, March 11—(Delayed)—(AP)—Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges crossed into the East Rhine bridgehead today amid a rain of enemy shelltire. One shell landed within 50 feet of the First Army Commander.

The general spent an hour inspecting the bridgehead which his soldiers were extending on the flanks while meeting rock - hard pressure in the middle. No one was injured when the shell exploded.

The Germans have not given up the idea that they can knock out the Remagen bridge. They are shelling the entire countryside in an effort to hit it but the American stuff still keeps moving across. Twice in the past 50 minutes single German planes have come down the river and made passes at the sturdy structure.

One good clear day to enable American fighter-bombers to batter the perimeter of the bridgehead would make all the difference in the world.

Hodges' forces have a powerful punch building up but the Germans must have a great deal of power moving in here to meet it. If the sun would dispel the smoke mist which drapes these hills so that Mustangs and Thunderbolts could go to work on some of these Mark IV's and 88's the march to Berlin from the west would be on.

Sooner or later this will happen and every one from rifle - toting Yanks to the generals are confident — but say the folks back home should not get too excited for a while.

The First Army does not have all the high ground it needs—a fact which the enemy realizes. That is why tanks and infantry of every description have been scraped together and thrown around it.

Meanwhile one of the most serious problems is what to do with German civilians—or at least those in civilian clothes. It is strange the number of empty Wehrmacht uniforms the Americans keep finding in the area.

The food problem is becoming acute and it is a cinch that the Army does not intend to stop the flow of ammunition and gasoline to the troops just to haul food for the Germans.

So the citizens of Erpel, Honnef, Linz and the other villages in the bridgehead may be sent over to the west bank.

Boats are busy ferrying material across the river, leaving the bridge to infantry, tanks, jeeps and other vehicles.

Foothold Over Rhine Widened And Deepened

First Co-Ordinated Attacks Since River Crossing Launched

By JAMES M. LONG

PARIS—(AP)—First Army troops, lashing out an hour before dawn today in their first co-ordinated attack since seizing their Rhine bridgehead, deepened and widened their foothold by more than a mile.

Backed by tanks and heavy artillery which had been concentrated in the bridgehead, the doughboys went into action at 5 A. M.

The thrust to the east carried beyond Ginsterhahn, three miles east of Linz and astride a valuable north-south road. The doughboys reached to within three miles of the Autobahn, a communication artery running to the Ruhr.

The bridgehead by today's gains was expanded to a depth of 4 1/2 miles and a width of eleven miles, and the Germans said the Americans had succeeded in building up their east-Rhine force to four divisions or more than 40,000 men.

Hargarten, 3 1/2 miles east of the Ludendorff Bridge, was overrun in the advance and the Americans were fighting in Hoennigen, 4 1/2 miles south of Linz, AP Correspondent Don Whitehead reported.

Slowly but steadily, streams of American arms flooded across the Rhine — much of it by the shell-raked Ludendorff bridge at Remagen and some by assault boat—in a race against German artillery still trying night and day to break the span which put the Allies onto one of the main roads to the Ruhr.

HIGH GROUND WON

Tank and foot troops won a few hundred more yards of high ground inland from the bridgehead putting into inner Germany with 274 miles of Berlin.

This squeezed the Germans back from any possible direct observation of fire on the Ludendorff bridge. Lt. Gen. Courtney H. Hodges crossed the bridge by jeep yesterday and one German shell landed within 50 feet of the First Army Commander. He spent an hour east of the Rhine. German heavy and medium guns still were firing methodically in an attempt to score a knockout hit.

Berlin broadcasts said two tank and two infantry divisions were deployed east of the Rhine between Honnef, 44 miles southeast of the Ruhr capital of Duesseldorf, and Hoenningen.

The enemy likewise said a large scale British offensive to cross the lower Rhine was imminent. Increased artillery and reconnaissance were noted in the 40 miles of smoke screened country between Emmerich and Nijmegen.

MORE BRIDGES

It was not likely that at this stage of the operation Hodges still was depending on a single bridge. Pontoon bridges could easily have been thrown across the Rhine along the stretch which Supreme

See FIRST ARMY on page 7

Yanks Hold Iwo Coast

By MORRIS LANDSBERG

ABOARD VICE ADM. RAYMOND E. TURNER'S EXPEDITIONARY FORCE FLAGSHIP OFF IWO JIMA — (AP) — Battle-weary Marines brought up tanks, flamethrowers and demolition suffer today for what may be the final assault on a long high butte in the northeastern tip of Iwo Jima where the major force of the surviving Japanese are still entrenched.

The many caves which spot the cliffs could conceal several thousand if that many survived the long battle.

After 22 days of the most bitter fighting in Marine history, the Japanese have been driven into a rugged area which roughly is about one mile deep and takes in two miles of coastline. A small pocket also remains to be cleaned up on the northeast sector but for all practical purposes the entire east coast is now held by Americans.

Two patrols of the Fourth Division, commanded by Maj.-Gen. Clifton B. Cates, penetrated to the northeast beach and found mines and boobytraps but no enemy troops.

JAPS HOLD UP

With the support of heavy artillery and Naval gunfire, Marines Sunday pushed slowly to the vicinity of the high butte where possibly the largest remaining force of Japanese is holed up for the final stand.

That the Japanese still have some heavy weapons was shown the night before when shells or rockets landed all the way to the central airfield to beyond Suribachi Crater.

Some of the heavy guns are believed to have been knocked out after they were spotted by an artillery observation post.

Many snipers are still working behind Marine lines.

Actor Chevalier Denied Visa To Enter England

LONDON — (AP) — The British Home Office said today that Maurice Chevalier, who had been booked by producer Jack Hylton for a series of shows, had been denied a visa to enter England.

Hylton first disclosed the failure in his plans for an exchange of British-French theatrical talent. The Home Office subsequently confirmed that it had refused Chevalier a visa, but said:

"As a matter of fact the visa is not closed. It is true he has been denied a visa, but there may be further developments."

Hylton said "no reason has been given and I am at a loss to understand what it should be."

Chevalier has been reported cooperated of any suspicion of collaboration with the Germans during the occupation.

Two-Minute News Roundup

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Western Front

The ever-growing threat to the Reich in the American bridehead across the Rhine is pointed up in German broadcasts. The enemy says that the First Army now has 40,000 troops across the waterway. Berlin is authority, too, for the statement that the American foothold is more than twelve and one-half miles in length.

Associated Press Correspondent Howard Cowan reveals that Lt. Gen. Courtney Hodges crossed the Ludendorff Bridge yesterday. A German shell landed within 50 feet of the First Army commander. No one was injured when the shell exploded. Hodges spent an hour east of the Rhine inspecting the bridgehead. AP's frontline reporter says that one of the most serious problems is what to do with German civilians. The food problem is acute. Says Cowan: "It is a cinch that the Army does not intend to stop the flow of ammunition and gasoline to the troops just to haul food for the Germans.

Air Warfare

Behind the German lines, Allied heavy bombers today are continuing the all-out aerial attack on the war plants and rail lines which keep Hitler's army going. Already, British and American raiders have devastated 450 square miles of Germany's once teeming industrial Ruhr Valley. The great armament center of Essen—home of the famed Krupp Munitions Works — is described today as a dead city as a result of Allied bombings.

Eastern Front

Dispatches from Moscow indicate that the Russians now are in position to launch an all-out drive on Berlin. AP Correspondent Daniel De Luca tells of a huge concentration of Soviet men and guns now being massed east of the German capital. De Luce points out that only a small chunk of territory still must be conquered along the Baltic before Marshal Rokossovsky's powerful Army will be free to join the drive on Berlin. The AP man predicts that the Russians soon will have the biggest concentration of military power available for offensive operations since the Red Banner was first carried onto German soil.

The Far East

Battle - weary Leathernecks are writing the final chapter of the battle of Iwo—the toughest campaign in 170 years of Marine history. The Devil Dogs are using tanks, flamethrowers and demolition units in an effort to wipe out the last enemy defenders.

Other American forces are digging in this morning on Mindanao —the second largest island in the Philippines. The Yanks drove inland on Mindanao against only light opposition after hitting the beaches on Saturday. Within half an hour, the Americans captured the Wolfe airstrip—thus gaining an air base only 200 miles from enemy-held Borneo.

Elsewhere in the Pacific, American Superforts have blazed another trail of destruction in the Singapore area, where the Japanese war plants were attacked today, by 40 of the big planes. On the Japanese mainland, fires continue to burn in the aircraft center of Nagoya, after yesterday's raid by 300 B-29s.

The Japanese fleet is described today as ready again for combat. Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz says, however, that the Jap navy is now so inferior to ours that the enemy must choose his own time to come out of hiding.

Americans Freed by Reds Sail for Home

MOSCOW—(AP)—Approximately 3,400 American, British and French war prisoners liberated from the Germans by the Red Army already have sailed for home from Odessa and almost 10,000 more still are awaiting repatriation, according to the Communist organ, Pravda.

Last Wednesday and Thursday 960 U. S. soldiers and 227 officers left Odessa, Pravda said.

WEATHER

Cloudy and cold with tired showers tonight, day clearing and cold.

Temperatures at 8:30 this morning: High 54, Low 34. Sun sets today at 6:18, rises tomorrow at 6:17.