

# Erin Reception Of Troops Told By A P Writer

Editors Note: Rice Yahner, The Associated Press correspondent who went to northern Ireland with the first AEF contingent of this war, laid the groundwork for this assignment by covering American army maneuvers for the last several months.

A native Pennsylvanian, Yahner entered the service of The Associated Press at Harrisburg in July, 1913, later moved to the Philadelphia bureau and was assigned to the Washington bureau for the army maneuvers assignment last May.

He began his newspaper career with the Tri-State News Bureau in Pittsburgh and worked on the staff of the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times, the Pittsburgh Press and the Post-Gazette. He was born at Monaca, Pa. on Aug. 24, 1905. He is married.

By RICE YAHNER

WITH THE AEF IN NORTHERN IRELAND, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Several thousands of steel-helmeted 'Yanks —"all pepped up and rarin' to go"—landed here safely Monday as the vanguard of United States troops dispatched to Europe in the second World war.

Escorted safely by the US and British navies, their commander, Maj. Gen. Russell P. Hartle, 52, stepped ashore to the strains of "The Star Spangled Banner" and waves of cheers from those lining the docks.

After the general came First Class Private Milburn Henke, 22, of Hutchinson, Minn., whose German-born fathers' parting words were: "Give 'em hell."

Most of the huskies were from the midwest, seasoned regulars and drafted men. Women nurses also were in the convoy, and the navy described the crossing as "a routine operation."

The American troops marched down the gangplank, formed ranks under the stock-taking gaze of British, Irish, and American officials.

"Your safe arrival marks a new stage in the World war, and a gloomy portent for Hitler," said Sir Archibald Sinclair, British air minister, who welcomed them.

"Your welcome arrival here today reveals part of one great plan to smash the dictator powers wherever they may be found. Its significance will not be lost on General Tojo."

General Hartle said: "It's a pleasure to be here."

There was no flamboyant welcome. The secret apparently was well-kept, and the curious who had gathered on the docks appeared to sense the evident grimness of the stiff-lipped dough-boys who came down the gangplank.

The Atlantic crossing I made with troops on a 20-year-old ship was uneventful, broken only by well-disciplined deck drills in case of submarine attacks.

With me was Harrison (Bob) Roberts, Associated Press photographer from New York, who also was assigned to this AEF. "The navy never lost a troopship, you know," the old tars reassured soldiers making their first sea trip. No uneasiness was apparent among the men throughout the voyage.

The Irish port suddenly loomed out of the mist, and the soldiers leaped to the rails. Few ragged cheers could be heard from ashore, and also the identical strains of "God Save the King" and "America" played by the Royal Ulster Rifles' band.

As our ship drew alongside the dock this band switched to the "Star Spangled Banner." The men silently awaited their turn to land. There were few waves of the hands, orders were snapped and the men landed in the gray chill without much fanfare. That came later when the town generally got word of the arrival.

Besides Sir Archibald Sinclair, the welcoming party included Lieut. Gen. H. E. Franklin, general officer commanding the British troops in northern Ireland, Maj. Gen. V. H. E. Majend, general officer commanding the North Ireland district, the Duke of Devonport, governor-general of northern Ireland, and Prime Minister John M. Andrews.

"You are impressive examples of American military might," Sir Archibald told the troops who had drawn up and saluted the stars and stripes flying beside the union jack.

"Here perhaps you will join with us in withstanding assaults by our common enemy on this island. From here, assuredly, you will rally forth with us to carry the war into his territory and free the oppressed people of Europe."

"You have come thousands of miles across land and sea to these islands—not to sojourn among strangers but to find yourselves among friends who are grateful for your presence, and among comrades of the British fighting services who know the mettle of American soldiers . . ."

Then the band crashed into "Marching Through Georgia" as the American units wheeled and marched through the city. The stars and stripes were flying out in front, and the slight difference in uniforms—especially the distinguishing gaiters—brought townsmen swarming to the curbsides to watch the Yanks.

Windows flew up and Irish colleens hung out to shout: "Hi-yah, boys!"

The marching boys however seemed intent on the usual army question:

"When do we eat?"

Some of the Irish people did not at first realize American troops were in their midst. It was a dark, chill day, and the British sergeants who guided the Americans to their cantined did so with lanterns.

The honor of carrying the national and regimental colors ashore went to Tech. Sgt. James M. Cartwright, 22, a married man, and Staff Sgt. Paul Springer, 27, also married, who has a 1½-year-old son, "Dickie."

Asked about discipline in the army camps at home, Springer said:

"Well, some of the boys may have been playing around before Dec. 7, but they've surely settled down to business pretty quick."

That's the way Henke, the son of a German immigrant, also put it.

He showed a postcard from his father saying "give 'em hell," and said:

"This is my first trip to Europe and I don't expect to use the other half of my ticket until this job's done—then I can get back to work in my father's restaurant."

There did not appear to be any Irish-born boys in the ranks, but of course many claimed blood relations with this island. Among these were Sgt. Robert Lagen, Donald Murphy, Sgt. Robert McDermott, Corp. Thomas Purcell, Hubert Driscoll, and Corp. William Fenley.

First Lt. John Patrick Meyers said his mother was from county Cork—"but that Meyers part is German."

British soldiers crowded around the Americans when ranks were broken.

"What are the girls like here?" the Americans immediately asked.

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**Sunday Weather**  
Forecasts withheld and temperature data delayed by army request. River Monday, 3.7 feet. Max. temp. Sunday, 57, min., 43.

# New AEF Arrives Safely In Northern Ireland Seaport

## The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1854  
NINETY-FIRST YEAR  
Salem, Oregon, Tuesday Morning, January 27, 1942  
Price 3c; Newsstands 5c  
No. 262

# US Scores Great Naval Victory

## Sugar Is Available In Salem As Stores Impose Sale Limits

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Price Administrator Leon Henderson said Monday night that initial sugar rations may be restricted to no more than three-quarters of a pound a person a week.

## State May Get War Industry Development; Eccles New Task

PORTLAND, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Gov. Charles A. Sprague predicted Monday that Donald M. Nelson's appointment as war production chief would improve Oregon's chances of getting manufacturing plants and war contracts.

## Co-Op Board Unchanged

MT. ANGEL Creamery Presents New High Record at Meeting

MT. ANGEL, Jan. 26.—Members of the Mt. Angel Cooperative Creamery association at their annual membership meeting Monday, re-elected their three directors, Joe Bernat, Charles Bochler and R. J. Berning.

## Martin Sees Tough Fight With Nippon

Major General Charles H. Martin, here from Portland Monday, said he was not surprised at the Roberts' commission report in connection with the Pearl Harbor inquiry.

## Pen Prisoners Aid to Salem Bond Purchases and Pledges

Prisoners in the state penitentiary here, counted in Salem's defense bond pledge campaign.

Warden George Alexander announced that his wards had salted away \$10,900 in defense savings securities.

Klaus, associate county defense savings chairman, was progressing satisfactorily, he announced.

## US Price Bill Sent To Senate

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP) After a three-hour attack by republicans and a few democrats the wartime price control bill was approved finally by the house Monday and sent to the senate, where speedy action was forecast.

A powerful coalition led by Rep. Wolcott (R-Mich) came within 20 votes of sending the controversial measure—compromised between original senate and house bills—back to conference with instructions to revise it.

## Pan Nations Open Ports

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 26.—(AP) Nations of the western hemisphere declared the United States and its American allies non-belligerents Monday night and claimed as their own peace aims those of the United States as expressed in the Atlantic charter.

## Hirohito Hurt By Argentine News Photo

RIO DE JANEIRO, Jan. 26.—(AP)—The Japanese ambassador called on Under Secretary Mauricio Nabuco of the foreign office Monday to protest that his emperor had been affronted in Sunday's Radical, a morning newspaper.

## Wind Damage Declared Less Than That of Silver Thaw

Getting back to normal again following unusual weather—for the second time this month—Salem learned Monday that damage was not as great as that caused by the recent ice storm nor was the localized blackout as lasting.

## The Dalles Chronicle Joins AP Wire Group

THE DALLES, Jan. 26.—(AP) The Dalles Chronicle became an Associated Press member Monday, the 15th in Oregon.

## Huge Jap Invading Fleet Meets Doom In Strait Of Macassar; 33 Ships Hit

WITH THE US ARMY IN LUZON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur, as always a figure of supreme confidence, spent his 62nd birthday anniversary Monday working on immediate battle problems and future plans for an eventual democratic victory.

## US Forces in Ireland Seen As Spearhead

WASHINGTON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—The expeditionary force of several thousand American soldiers who landed in northern Ireland Monday may form a spearhead of the ultimate assault upon the inner stronghold of Hitlerism.

## Russ Threaten German Stand

LONDON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Dispatches from Russia indicated Monday night that the blizzard-braving assault of the red army northwest of Moscow is threatening the Nazi stand at Velikie Luki, 80 miles from the Latvian frontier, and virtually has sealed the doom of the Germans in the upper Volga town of Rzhev, 130 miles northwest of the soviet capital.

## MacArthur Calm, Sure On Birthday

WITH THE US ARMY IN LUZON, Jan. 26.—(AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur, as always a figure of supreme confidence, spent his 62nd birthday anniversary Monday working on immediate battle problems and future plans for an eventual democratic victory.

## Strong Dutch Forces Join In Offensive

Australia and Malaya Feel Weight of Hard Hitting Nipponese

By WILLIAM SMITH WHITE  
Associated Press War Editor

The greatest American victory at sea since Dewey sank the Spanish fleet in Manila bay 40-odd years ago still was being extended late Monday night, with the strong aid of the Dutch allies, against a Japanese invading fleet in the Macassar strait on the water approaches to Java in the Dutch East Indies.

Already, it was the greatest defeat yet suffered in the Pacific war by the Japanese enemy—a defeat more than over-balancing his loss, continued progress down the Malay peninsula upon Singapore and the rising menace of his incursions upon the outer islands of Australia's defense chain—and it fell by coincidence on a day that saw the arrival in the British isles of a second American expeditionary force.