

U. S. Toll Mounts To 5372

Capture of Peak Ends One Phase Of Bitter Fight

By Elmont Waite U. S. PACIFIC FLEET HEAD-QUARTERS, Guam, Friday, Feb. 23 - (AP) - Hard-fighting United States marine, who have paid the Pacific's highest price for 58 hours of battle with 5372 casualties at Iwo, wrested 546-foot Mt. Suribachi on the south tip of the island from the Japanese today.

The United States flag was raised on the crater's rim at 10:35 a. m. by the 28th regiment, signalling the end of one phase of the five-day-old struggle.

From Suribachi, whose slopes had been blasted by battleships and dive bombed by carrier planes, the Japanese had raked marine positions throughout the southern sector with deadly mortar and artillery fire.

Nimitz Tells Victory Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced the victory in a brief communique soon after one which had reported only minor advances through Thursday against fierce opposition.

The earlier communique, covering marine casualties only through 6 p. m. Wednesday, disclosed that 644 marines had been killed, 4168 wounded and 560 were missing. Since then severe battles have raged.

In the same 58 hour period, a total of 1222 enemy dead were counted.

No invasion of the Pacific war for a comparative period has cost so many American casualties. At Tarawa, previously considered the bloodiest fight of the war, marine casualties for its entire 72 hours slightly exceeded 3400.

Fighting Bitter Today's communique reported more of the same type of bitter fighting which has built up the casualty totals.

It reported gains Thursday afternoon too slight to affect the virtual stalemate which developed Wednesday.

The three marine divisions, the third, fourth and fifth, inched forward slightly on the north toward the enemy fighter base in the center of the island and constricted their lines around volcanic Mt. Suribachi on the south tip.

The Japanese launched two powerful counterattacks on the flanks of the forces attacking the airfield. Significantly, Nimitz did not specifically claim either had been completely blunted.

U. S. War Toll Past 800,000 WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (AP) Reported American casualties of World War II climbed past 800,000 today.

The compilations by the army and navy came out along with hints of impending big-scale action which indicated little if any diminution in the rate of losses.

Representing a rise of approximately 100,000 in the past month, and up 18,982 for the week, the casualty figures were rising at a rate which would raise the total past 1,000,000 within two months.

Valley Men Liberated From Philippine Isles WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (AP) The war department today announced additional names of civilians liberated in the Philippines.

They include (with next of kin): Don C. Crow, son of Mrs. Peter H. Crow, route four, Albany, Ore. Kenneth L. Gripen, son-in-law of Mrs. A. N. Poole, P. O. box 146, Monmouth, Ore.

Senate Group Shifts Work-or-Jail Penalties to Employer

By Francis J. Kelly WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (AP) The senate military committee, in approving a revamped manpower control bill today, shifted the proposed fine-and-jail penalties from industrial workers to their employers.

At the same time, the committee voted for five years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine for deferred farm workers who leave the farm without their draft boards' permission.

Almost immediately a move was started to substitute the house approved work-or-jail bill when the committee measure reaches the senate floor.

Senator Bailey (D-NC) said that if he becomes convinced he can obtain majority support for the action, he will move to displace the committee's bill with



Mt. Suribachi, an extinct volcano on Iwo Jima, has been captured by American marines. The Japs had turned the volcano into a fortress and Yanks on that strategic island had a tough time overcoming it. (AP wirephoto from U. S. navy)

IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Squire

The influence of environment on animal life is well illustrated in the report of the state game commission that since the Tillamook burn deer shot in that area weigh as much as 200 pounds, and some 300 pounds, while the general average for the coast is only 125 pounds.

The following is taken from the game commission's report:

"In this connection it is of interest to note the change in the size of the deer in the burned over area of Tillamook county since the big fire that devastated some 300,000 acres in 1939. The area was then closed to all hunting until September, 1942, at which time about two-thirds of the burned-over land was opened to hunting. Since that time hunting has been permitted in the whole area during the open season. Prior to the fire, deer in this territory have averaged along with other deer in the coast range at about 124 pounds. Since the Tillamook burn was opened, many deer taken there have weighed as much as 200 pounds and a few have run as high as 300 pounds.

"This improved condition is shown by the research findings of the commission. An analysis of the forage growing in the open in the Tillamook burn compared with the same varieties in territory not burned over, that is, in shaded areas, disclosed a marked difference in the protein content. For example, in vine maple, a favored browse of deer, there was found to be a decidedly increased amount of protein in favor of the (Continued on editorial page)

800 Yankees Killed When Nip Ship Sunk

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (AP) - More than 800 Americans perished when U. S. bombers sank a jammed Japanese prison ship off Luzon in December, a survivor revealed today.

But he said the bombing actually saved American lives, asserting that without it even more of the 1600 men jammed in the suffocating holds would have smothered. A "great number," he said, already were dead when the bombs fell.

The survivor, Lieut. George Karl Petritz, USN, 27, of Rockford, Ill., told newsmen the 1600 were packed in three tiny, unventilated holds. He said he was in the afterhold with 801 men, in space not big enough to accommodate more than 40 normally. Two smaller holds held 400 each.

'Freedom From Fear, Want For All Men,' Chief U.S. Aim

CHAPULTEPEC CASTLE, Mexico, Feb. 22 - (AP) - Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., told the inter-American conference today that an essential aim in a five-point American foreign policy program is an Atlantic charter peace of "freedom from fear and want for all men."

Stettinius, in the first review of American foreign policy since the Yalta conference, asked the other 18 countries represented here to support the ideas of the Crimean declaration and alerted them against any Nazi attempts to use the western hemisphere as a base "for an ultimate comeback."

Mexican foreign minister Ezequiel Padilla joined Stettinius in calling on the American nations

Greatest Air Blow Delivered

7000 Warplanes Pound 100 Nazi Railway Centers

By Charles Chamberlain

LONDON, Friday, Feb. 23 - (AP) - Allied air chiefs hurled an estimated 7,000 bombers and fighters at approximately 100 Nazi communications hubs yesterday in the greatest simultaneous air assault in history - a supreme coordinated blow to knock out Germany's railway system - and the attack continued into the night.

The Berlin radio said 2000 Russian planes also had battered targets along the eastern front, principally in East Prussia.

Altogether nearly 10,000 sorties were flown from the west and south before dark, but the peak was reached at around noon when through careful planning and timing explosives cascaded down at an estimated average of 100 tons a minute.

Some 30,000 airmen from seven allied air commands participated in the great obliteration raids.

The "backshot blitz" - an entirely new idea which allied air chiefs had mapped and held in readiness for a break in the weather - was spearheaded by more than 1400 Flying Fortresses and Liberators and 800 fighters of the US Eighth air force.

Two divisions of this gigantic fleet poured into Germany from the north and a third attacked from the south. Over the reich they broke up into wolf packs of up to 100 bombers each and hammered at least 24 freight yards and other rail targets in the heart of Germany during the noon hour. Eight bombers and 19 fighters were missing from this phase of the operation.

Camp Adair Hospital Gets First Patients

CORVALLIS, Feb. 22 - (AP) - A hospital train brought the newly commissioned United States naval hospital its first battle casualties today.

Capt. Paul W. Wilson, USN medical corps, said the group of more than 300 men came from the Pacific area.

The hospital, formerly the station hospital at Camp Adair and taken from the army in January, will be used for naval, marine and coast guard personnel from this area and for sick and wounded returning from war theaters.

Many of the staff - medical, dental and hospital corps officers, nurses and hospital corpsmen - have just returned from long periods of overseas duty.

The commanding officer said all types of cases, from wounds to tropical diseases, will be handled at the hospital.

Fish Unit Voted State Aid

Direct Appropriation Favored by House 52 to 6

The proposal to place the fish commission on a direct appropriation basis for support, rather than keep it dependent on poundage fees, was passed by the house 52 to 6 Thursday.

Voting "no" were Hesse, Jones, Kimberling, Lindberg, Snyder, Staples.

Most impassioned plea for the bill came from Rep. William Niskanen of Bend who said he was supporting it with considerable misgivings but that he also was anxious to see conservation measures supported, too. (Niskanen's bill to prohibit commercial fishing in coastal streams and bays, except the Columbia river, now is in the house fisheries committee.)

Large Income Cited

Rep. John Hall of Portland, in urging passage, said the bill was "necessary to save the commercial fishing industry of Oregon." The industry, he said, supported 8000 people, had a taxable investment of \$23,000,000, and brought in \$30,000,000 a year.

Rep. Henry Semon of Klamath Falls, asking regarding what appropriation would be necessary, was told by Rep. Fred A. Hellberg of Astoria that the amount would be up to the budget director and the committee on ways and means.

The fish commission last year was allotted \$20,000 in emergency funds to continue operation.

The house Thursday also passed measures for the education of veterans of World War II; increasing from \$4,500,000 to \$7,500,000 the backlog of the state industrial accident fund; raising the salaries of Marion county (15 per cent) and Yamhill county officials; validating divorce decrees which otherwise might be challenged because of residence, and allowing cities to buy surplus war goods without competitive bidding.

The senate passed but one bill - creating a game refuge in Polk county. (Legislative news pages 8 and 16.)

Stimson Hints At Big Allied Push in West

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (AP) - A broad hint that a major allied offensive on the western front is impending came today from Secretary of War Stimson.

"I may say that the officers in the war department who have recently been with our troops in that theater have been much impressed with the confidence of the entire command in their ability to carry through an aggressive campaign," Stimson told his news conference.

Among those recently in the European theater and now back in Washington is Lt. General Breton Somervell, chief of army service forces. In this connection, Stimson's next comment was interesting:

"There are no serious difficulties now regarding supplies in the forward dumps of the various armies."

'Yank' Sets Up Special Press on Saipan Isle

NEW YORK, Feb. 22 - (AP) - Yank, the army weekly, announced today it had sent a six-ton printing press to Saipan, and now was printing a new edition of the magazine especially for troops on islands newly-won from the Japanese.

It said soldiers on the islands previously had to depend on copies of the magazine flown in from Pearl Harbor.

Two Valley Soldiers Wounded in Europe

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22 - (AP) - Among Oregon soldiers wounded in Europe, the war department today listed:

Pfc. Melvin W. Brownell, brother-in-law of Mrs. Frances Brownell, route three, box 47, Silverton.

T/4 Andrew L. Penne, son of Peter Penne, route two, box 158, Woodburn.

Leathernecks Take Iwo Pillbox



American 4th division marines, invading Iwo Jima, dig in and await orders after taking a Japanese pillbox-blockhouse which was considered almost impregnable until the leathernecks came along. Note man apparently dead in foreground. This picture was made by Joe

Rosenthal, Associated Press photographer on assignment with the wartime still picture pool, who went ashore with the marines on D-day. (AP wirephoto)

3rd Army Crosses Saar; Isle Off Luzon Invaded

Triangle Conquest Complete

Patton's Forces On Loose Again, Threaten Trier

By Austin Bealmer PARIS, Feb. 22 - (AP) - The rampaging US Third Army broke across the Saar river at two points 65 miles from the Rhine today and completed a whirlwind conquest of Germany's 80-square-mile Moselle-Saar triangle as 7000 allied warplanes struck simultaneously at enemy rail life-lines.

A field dispatch said Third Army officers and men were in high spirits as they ripped across western Germany's ramparts with a speed reminiscent of their historic dash in France, seizing the fortress city of Saarburg and 29 other reich towns on a 55-mile front.

Saarburg, once a thriving city of 10,000, was deserted save for 100 aged civilians.

Trier in Sight This powerful thrust 18 miles deep into the reich collapsed all enemy resistance in the triangle and rammed a steel spearhead to a point five miles from Trier, fortified city of 88,000 population on the mountainous route to the Rhine.

While Trier's battlements came under Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's guns, artillery to the south tore at the fortified hills into which the Germans had been chased east of the Saar river. The attackers were confident the enemy soon would be driven from these new positions.

To the fury of the allied air attack - a new technique under which swarms of battle planes un-load their cargoes of destruction on communications centers - was added the shock of two other allied armies hammering at Germany's first line of defense.

Seventh Driving Forty miles southeast of the Third Army, the US Seventh Army captured two-thirds of the French gateway city of Dornbach, two miles from the Saar basin's steel city of Saarbruecken.

The Canadian First Army on the north end of the front captured Moyland and fought nearly to the edge of Calcar, bitterly-defended highway center two miles southeast and 15 miles from Wesel in the western Ruhr industrial basin.

German Oil Plant Severely Damaged

LONDON, Feb. 22 - (AP) - The royal air force announced tonight that reconnaissance of the huge Zeitz synthetic oil plant near Leipzig showed exceptionally severe damage was inflicted by an attack the night of January 16.

This Gives Idea Of Close Quarters Fighting in Manila

MANILA, Feb. 22 - (AP) - This gives an idea of the close quarters fighting which rages in sections of south Manila.

In the postoffice building, the Yanks hold all five floors - but the Japanese are in the basement.

In the Manila hotel, the Yanks are on the first floor - the Japanese are on the second and above. It is a five-story building.

The Yanks hold the city hall but the Japanese threw them out four times before they went in to stay.

3-Car Crash Sends 2 Women To Hospital

Collision of three automobiles on the Pacific highway approximately one mile north of the railroad underpass at Salem's north boundaries Thursday night sent two women to the hospital and two cars to the wreckers.

Mrs. C. E. Harrison, Oswego, driver of one vehicle, was suffering from pains in a leg she said had earlier been ill-affected by infantile paralysis. Mrs. Edith Kiecker, 535 Southeast Salmon street, Portland, riding with her, sustained injuries to both legs and a possible nose fracture, city first aid men said. The two women are at Salem Deaconess hospital.

Vernon Clementson, 1945 Southeast Yamhill street, Portland, driver of the car believed most damaged in the accident, reconstructed it thus:

Nash Frank Nolz, Salem, driving south toward Salem ahead of Clementson, seemed to slow or stop his vehicle and Clementson's car nosed into Nolz's then skidded directly across the highway. Mrs. Harrison was driving north and her car struck the Clementson vehicle squarely in the middle of its right side, caving in the heavy body and breaking glass.

The hood and grill of Mrs. Harrison's car were damaged; the rear bumper of the Nolz car was a knocked loose and the rear of the body dented, but no one in it was injured. Clementson received a gash more than an inch in length on the right temple.

Nolz denied that he had slowed down or stopped, told state police he was driving at an even 30 miles an hour. The accident occurred at approximately 9 p. m. when traffic in that sector was heavy.

Partly Cloudy with occasional light rain showers. Temperatures about the same in the mid-Willamette area, predicts U. S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem.

Tiny Strip Of Land Captured

Opposition Light; Move Will Clear Shipping Route

By C. Yates McDaniel MANILA, Friday, Feb. 23 - (AP) - Veteran Yanks of the American division invaded tiny Capul island in the San Bernardino straits just off Luzon's long southern tip on Wednesday in a move to clear the Japanese from the main shipping route from the United States to Manila.

Opposition was light. The small oval island, five miles long and two wide at the middle, commands the straight through which the Japanese sent a war fleet to harass the American invasion of Leyte last October.

It lies directly between the extensive southeastern tip of Luzon and the northern end of Samar island, which is practically in American hands. It is 260 airline miles southeast of Manila and about 325 by sea.

In Manila, meanwhile, point-blank shelling of the thick east wall of the Intramuros was intensified as first cavalry Yanks made ready for a grand assault to clean up the Japanese garrison there. Howitzers and cannon were attempting to pound an entrenchment for tanks.

Front reports said 37th division infantrymen seized the three-story city hall, near the Intramuros, after a bitter hand-to-hand fight in which the Yanks withdrew from the building four times in the face of machinegun fire before going in to stay.

ARC Official To Visit Here

Edwin Carroll, assistant manager of the American Red Cross Pacific area office in San Francisco, will be principal speaker at the annual meeting of Marion county chapter, ARC, to be held at 8 p. m. next Monday in the Carrier room of the First Methodist church.

Carroll, son of a former well known Oregon newspaperman, replaces on the program Raymond Barrows, deputy manager of the San Francisco office, who is reported seriously ill. A report of the nominating committee and annual reports will also feature the Monday night meeting.

Weather

Table with weather forecasts for San Francisco, Eugene, Salem, Portland, and Seattle, including max, min, and rain probabilities.