

THE BEND BULLETIN

CENTRAL OREGON'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

Weather Forecast

Partly cloudy eastern part today and tonight; Thursday partly cloudy, snow flurries over mountains northern part. Not much temperature change.

Volume LIII

THE BEND BULLETIN, BEND, DESCHUTES COUNTY, OREGON, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21, 1945

NO. 66

Yanks Gain in Blazing Iwo Jima Battle

SOVIETS SHATTER LOWER BOBER RIVER LINE

Konev's Men Plunge Across Final Barrier

Reds Bolster Southern Flank for Smash Over Oder, on Road to Berlin

London, Feb. 21 (UP)—Red army tanks and infantry battled through the suburbs of Guben, one of the main strongholds guarding the southern approaches to Berlin, today after shattering the last 20 miles of the enemy's lower Bober river line.

Far to the northeast, Marshal Konstantin K. Rokossovsky's Second White Russian army pushed to within 40 miles of the great Baltic port of Danzig in advances of up to seven miles along a 30-mile front in the Polish corridor.

Marshall Ivan S. Konev's First Ukrainian army plunged across the last enemy-held stretch of the lower Bober river yesterday just below its confluence with the Oder and pressed on through 80 towns and villages toward Guben.

Vanguards drove into the suburbs of Guben, a 12-way communications hub 51 miles southeast of Berlin, after capturing Schegelin, eight miles to the east at the center of the breakthrough front.

Heavy fighting also was raging in forests east of Guben, which already was under artillery fire.

Guben guards the 23-mile gap between the Spree and the Oder rivers on the southern approaches to Berlin.

The advance carried six miles or more beyond the Oder river to within 13 miles of a junction with the first of the bridgeheads which the nazis said the First White Russian army has thrown across the Oder east of Berlin.

Tanks Knocked Out
Thirty-two enemy tanks were knocked out in the Guben area and more than 1,000 Germans killed.

Konev's campaign gradually was strengthening the southern flank of the Berlin front for a frontal smash across the Oder toward the capital, Berlin reports say. Marshal Gregory K. Zhukov incessantly was bringing up reinforcements and supplies for the climactic offensive by his First White Russian army.

Further south, Konev's forces extended their positions beyond the middle reaches of the Bober with the capture of Gurkat, 30 miles southeast of the stronghold of Cottbus, and Burau, 23 miles north of Goerlitz and 60 miles northeast of the Saxon capital of Dresden.

Tightens Noose
Konev also tightened his encirclement of Breslau, capital of Silesia. Berlin said the nazi garrison had rejected a Soviet ultimatum for its surrender.

The Second White Russian army made its closest approach to the free city of Danzig with the capture of Munsterwalde, 40 miles to the south. Szlachta, 43 miles southwest of Danzig, and a number of other towns in the Polish corridor also were captured.

Nippon Carrier Goes to Bottom
Washington, Feb. 21 (UP)—American submarines have sent a Japanese escort carrier, a large converted cruiser, a destroyer, and 22 merchant vessels to the bottom in new operations, the navy announced today.

The cruiser was believed to be an 18,000-ton converted merchant ship.

Hitler's Isolated Fortress Bombed by U. S. Airmen

Rome, Feb. 21 (UP)—American fliers raked Adolf Hitler's fortress town of Berchtesgaden with a barrage of bombs and rocket shells for the first time yesterday and they may have blasted the fuhrer's secret mountain retreat, a communique revealed today.

In a daring attack on one of the most heavily-defended targets in all Europe, a group of eight American Thunderbolt pilots soared in over Hitler's rock fortress, almost at eye level, to bomb and strafe the entire area.

First official reports on the incident said the Yanks were shooting at the Berchtesgaden railway yards. But there was a strong possibility that the fuhrer's towering palace overlooking the town also came under attack.

Area Well Protected
The raiders reported meeting a terrific storm of gunfire from the palace itself and the surrounding areas, suggesting they had turned their fire on that nazi citadel.

Hundreds of anti-aircraft batteries opened up on the Yank fliers as they dived in for the attack and nazi Death's Head elite guards blazed away with rifles and machineguns in a futile effort to turn the bombers away from Hitler's palace.

There was no immediate claim that the fortress itself had been hit, although a London Exchange Telegraph dispatch said the bombers had scored some hits.

BRANDENBURG TARGET
London, Feb. 21 (UP)—American Flying Fortresses continued their daily attacks on German today. A nazi broadcast said at least one formation was over Brandenburg, Berlin's home province.

RAF Mosquitoes dropped two-ton blockbusters on Berlin in two raids during the night, but the bulk of 1,200 British raiders concentrated on Dortmund, Ruhr railway bottleneck for the western front.

Fires visible for 100 miles were set at Dortmund, the air ministry announced.

Other RAF night targets included the Reisholz and Monheim oil refineries south of Duesseldorf.

Strategic Peak Taken By Yanks
Rome, Feb. 21 (UP)—American troops of the Fifth army, storming up precipitous terrain against strong German resistance, recaptured 5,000-foot Mount Belvedere dominating the entrance to the Pararo river valley, headquarters announced today.

The advance was aided by artillery fire and strong air support. The sector is about 30 miles southwest of Bologna.

The peak had been in German hands since November when a German counterattack pushed back the doughboys four days after they occupied it.

The troops encountered heavy mine fields as they pressed forward, capturing the mountain villages of Polla and Valpiana and other commanding features in addition to Mount Belvedere.

On the right flank, artillery and mortars effectively engaged enemy personnel and installations near Mount Calderaro.

Uruguay Makes War Against Axis Powers
Montevideo, Feb. 21 (UP)—The Uruguayan house today approved, 62-19, a declaration of war against the axis.

Powerful Union Decides to Abandon Its No Strike Pledge; New Wage Increases Granted
Washington, Feb. 21 (UP)—Labor's long-simmering revolt against government reluctance to grant wage increases broke out into the open today with the decision of the powerful Textile Workers union (CIO) to abandon its no-strike pledge.

The decision came just a few hours before the war labor board approved wage increases for 54,000 textile and 140,000 packing house workers.

WLB ruled, however, that its wage awards could not take effect until it had ironed out a dispute with Economic Stabilizer Fred M. Vinson over the question of price relief.

Jap Casualties On Luzon Put At 100,000

Trapped Nips in Manila Fight Back Stubbornly From Shrinking Pockets

By William B. Dickinson (United Press War Correspondent)

Manila, Feb. 21 (UP)—Japanese forces, with their casualties in the Luzon campaign nearing the 100,000 mark, fought back savagely from a shrinking pocket in southern Manila today against American flame-throwers and heavy artillery.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur said the "bitterest fighting" had developed as the American infantrymen slowly compressed the enemy lines and big guns maintained a steady bombardment of the ancient wall around the Intramuros sector.

The last-stand death battles waged by the Japanese was taking a heavy toll of the enemy forces. A communique reported that the Japanese casualties in the first six weeks of the Luzon campaign exceeded 92,000. In that same period, the American casualties totaled 2,676 dead, 10,008 wounded and 245 missing—a ratio of seven-to-one over the enemy.

Japs Face Death
As the trapped Japanese faced almost certain death in their hold-out positions below the Pasig river, they let loose an orgy of sadism and destruction on Filipino civilians and property.

The communique officially disclosed that the Japanese were "facing with the greatest savagery in the treatment of non-combatants and private property."

A survey showed that almost all private possessions of Filipinos were thoroughly looted during the enemy occupation and apparently taken to Japan.

In the battle around Intramuros, the Japanese reported increasing automatic and heavy weapon fire in a desperate attempt to halt the Americans who looped off another block from the southern side of the pocket.

Nests Cleared
Pushing behind flame-throwers, the Americans knocked out several machine-gun positions at the University Medical School and routed the Japanese from two other buildings on the campus.

The Americans also pushed through the Army-Navy club and the ruins of the high commissioner's house on the bay front, but ran into a steady fire from pillboxes and bunkers around the latter building. The Japanese also were raking the American positions with mortars and small arms fire in the Manila hotel.

Despite the advantage of good defenses behind strong fortifications, the Japanese were losing heavily. One report showed that the 11th airborne units alone since the Batangas landing had seized or destroyed 1227 enemy pillboxes or bunker defenses and counted 4,053 enemy dead in their sector.

Japs Uprooted
On Corregidor, bombers and fighters joined with infantrymen and paratroopers in cleaning out the Japanese from the island's rocky recesses.

Sgt. Chambers Injured on Luzon
T/Sgt. Robert W. Chambers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cary W. Chambers, Bend, and a graduate from the Bend high school, was seriously wounded in action on Luzon, on Jan. 25, his parents were notified today by the war department. Sgt. Chambers, who is a pre-Pearl Harbor soldier, was in the initial landings on Luzon, attached to the 25th division. News reports reveal that division was in action on northern Luzon.

Sgt. Chambers is one of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Chambers now in the service. Jack, a prisoner of war since the fall of Bataan, is in a Tokyo prison camp. Jim, seaman first class, is believed to be in the New Guinea area, and Mary is a cadet nurse at St. Joseph's hospital, Tacoma, Wash.

AID BILL FAVORED
Salem, Ore., Feb. 21 (UP)—The bill to provide state educational aid for veterans of world war II was reported out "do pass" by the house military affairs committee today.

American Invasion Armada Hits Iwo Jima



(NEA Radio-Telephoto) American warships (arrows) stand off Iwo Jima as lines of speeding barges speed towards shores of Jap-held outpost, only 150 miles south of Tokyo, as Marines of Fourth and Fifth Divisions began their invasion. Land mass in background is Suribachi Yama, extinct volcano at narrow southwestern end of the five-mile-long island. This picture was made from a Navy plane, transmitted by radiotelephoto to San Francisco from Guam.

American Ships of War Hurl Shells Into Iwo Jima Island

Fleet Pokes Within Easy Range of Shore Guns To Aid Marines; Flashes of Mortar Fire Seen

BY FRANK TREMAINE (United Press War Correspondent)

U. S. Pacific Fleet Headquarters, Guam, Feb. 21 (UP)—American warships poked within easy range of Japanese shore guns on Iwo Jima Tuesday to support marines slugging forward from the southern end of the island, navy Lt. Levens S. Willis of Philadelphia said today.

Willis, a former United Press reporter, spent almost three hours over the island in a photographic plane.

"Our battleships and cruisers were not more than a mile off shore," Willis said. "The destroyers appeared to be only a few hundred yards out and the fleet completely encircled the island."

"Clouds covered most of the island when we arrived about 11 a.m. Scores of dive-bombers and fighters were circling and looking for holes in the clouds through which to bomb and strafe enemy positions ahead of the marines."

Mortar Fire Seen
"We could see a skirmish line of tanks moving toward the center of the island. The marines were firing 25 to 30 mortar shells at once against the base of Suribachi Yama. You could see the flashes and then the smoke at the foot of the mountain."

"Meanwhile, the battleships just sat there off the east shore throwing shells, mostly into the central part of the island. You could see the brilliant flashes from the ships and seconds later the shells would hit. The concussion was so great it shook our plane."

Willis said thousands of marines were ashore and that they had established a line across the island between the south and central airfields.

"The east shore was littered with wrecked landing barges for a distance of a quarter to a half mile," Willis said. "We had great quantities of stores ashore but some were burning."

Bend to Honor First President
In observance of Washington's birthday, official business will be at a standstill in Bend tomorrow, with only certain federal offices and the stores being open, it was reported today.

Closed for the occasion will be the postoffice, courthouse, city hall, state highway department offices, and the banks.

Owing to the fact that for the duration of the war, most federal departments have but one holiday—Christmas—the U. S. employment service and the forest service headquarters will remain open.

Downtown streets were expected to be flag-bedecked, as well as many Bend residences, honoring the birthdate of the first president of the United States.

Marine Losses Reported Big In Grim Fight

Americans Storm 2nd Airfield on Volcanic Island Close to Japan

By William F. Tyree (United Press War Correspondent)

Admiral Nimitz' Headquarters, Guam, Feb. 21 (UP)—American marines stormed Iwo's second airfield today, by-passing the southern tip and driving toward its heart from the south in a general advance averaging half a mile along the blazing island front.

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz announced on the third day of the invasion of the island springboard to Japan that the two marine divisions had suffered 3,650 casualties—killed, wounded, or missing—up to 8 a.m. Feb. 21. One hundred and fifty of the casualties were officers.

The marine losses already were more than for the entire operation at bloody Tarawa, or the Marshalls and Tinian invasions, and were being incurred at a rate considerably higher than at Saipan or Guam.

Battle Is Tough
A communique on the Iwo battle, the toughest in the long history of the marine corps, said the two divisions were slugging forward yard by yard against heavy machine gun, mortar, small arms, and rocket fire.

Major Gen. Keller E. Rockey's fifth division hammered on the west coast of Iwo beyond the lower end of the runways of the last airfield remaining in Japanese hands. The first and main base was firmly in American hands.

At the same time Maj. Gen. Clifton B. Cates' fourth division launched a frontal assault against the field from the south and by noon was "pushing toward the center of the field," Nimitz' communique said.

The fifth amphibious corps, having secured the southern Iwo airfield, made a general advance toward the island's central airfield today," the communique said.

Gains Made
Owing to a shortage of officers, Chief of Police Ken C. Gulleck said that it would be impossible to assign officers constantly to the district, and he urged property owners to assist in the search for the rock throwers.

LT. PARKER WOUNDED
Prineville, Feb. 21—Second Lt. Laurence T. Parker, formerly with Company I and the 41st division, was wounded in action on Luzon Jan. 20, according to word received here today by his brother, Welborn Parker. Since graduating from officers' school last September, Lt. Parker had been with the 43rd division.

Use Flame Throwers
That meant that the marines were charging the Japanese strong points with flame throwers, small arms, and bayonets, in equivalent to more than the full combat strength of one of the wehrmacht's thinned divisions.

The mass surrenders were made more puzzling by the fact that mud and slush were hindering Patton's advance sufficiently to permit most of the Germans to escape eastward if they wished.

Far to the north, tough German paratroopers were putting up a different kind of battle against the Canadian First Army in the 17-mile wide Maas-Rhine corridor leading to the Ruhr valley.

Bolstered by fresh reinforcements that put elements of nine German divisions across the path of the attacking Canadian army, the nazis were throwing strong tank and infantry forces into a series of counterattacks that slowed and at some points reversed the allied advance.

Hardest Fighting Raged
Hardest fighting raged along the left flank of the Canadian drive in the Calcar area.

More Windows Reported Broken

Bend police today were under orders to redouble their efforts to apprehend vandals who in recent weeks have broken dozens of window panes in the vicinity of the high school. The latest report of damage came today from Miss Eleanor F. Brown, county librarian, who said that three more panes were shattered in the library building last night. This is the fourth raid made by the window smashers on the library, according to Miss Brown.

Window panes also have been broken on two occasions in the Trinity Episcopal church, across from the library, in the high school gymnasium and the Bend Troy laundry.

The window pane breaking seems to be confined in the same area, and officers were instructed more constantly to patrol the district in an effort to capture the vandals.

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7,000 Nazi Troops Surrender To U. S. Army on West Front
Paris, Feb. 21 (UP)—Reports of wholesale German surrenders poured in from Lt. Gen. George S. Patton's U. S. Third Army front today as the Americans collapsed another big section of the Siegfried line and advanced as much as 5 1/2 miles on a broad front.

Patton's armored and infantry columns were swinging out in front of the allied western offensive at a quickening pace along a 50-mile attack line extending down from the Pruem sector to the Moselle-Saar triangle.

German resistance was strangely spotty all across the Third Army front. At some points the nazis fought savagely and skillfully for every yard of ground. At others, sullen enemy troops were surrendering by the hundreds, quitting strong defense positions without a fight.

Field dispatches said the Third Army had rounded up almost 7,000 prisoners in the past four days.

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